



## Oboe Care

Take extra care to prevent exposure to sudden changes in temperature and humidity.

Avoid direct, extended exposure to:

- Sunlight • Heaters • Air Conditioners

Remove all moisture after you have finished playing.

### **Assembling Your Oboe -**

- Assemble, tune, clean and lubricate your instrument for the first time under the guidance of your teacher.

### **Applying Cork Grease -**

- Applying cork grease to the corks just before assembly promotes an easy, proper fit of the joints.
- Be sure to apply an even coat on all cork joints to provide protection and extend cork life. It is a good idea to wipe off old cork grease before adding new. Joints that fit together easily need the least amount of grease.
- Attach the bell to the lower joint.
- Connect upper joint and lower joint with a gentle twisting motion. Pay careful attention to the bridge keys; they can be bent or damaged from careless assembly.
- Move the bridge keys into alignment, aligning the upper joint bridge key on top of the lower joint bridge key.

### **Handling the Reed -**

- Soak your reed in luke warm water for a few minutes. Put a small amount of cork grease on the reed cork before inserting in into the reed well. Having a spare reed or two is a good idea.
- Handle the reed gently at all times. It is more likely to crack before it wears out from playing.
- Store your reed in it's reed case but make sure it is able to dry out completely.

### **Cleaning the Body -**

- Before using the cleaning swab, be sure it is free of knots so that it will not get stuck in the oboe.
- Draw the cleaning swab through the upper and lower joints, and the bell to remove moisture. If the swab does not pull through easily, stop immediately and pull it back out the opposite end.
- For daily care, wipe the entire length of the body with a polishing cloth being careful not to apply pressure to the keys.
- Wipe down the keys, taking care not to scratch them or damage the pads.

### **Storing the Instrument -**

- The case should always be used for storing the instrument after playing and for transporting.
- Do not leave your instrument in a car, even for a short period of time.
- Only store your instrument in dry locations with comfortable temperatures.
- Do not put anything in the case that could place pressure on the instrument. To keep your instrument in optimum playing condition, have it cleaned and inspected by a qualified repair technician annually.

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