

## **CARE AND CLEANING OF THE FLUTE**

1. No attempt should be made to polish the flute. A small, clean, soft cloth should be kept with the case. This should be used to wipe off the instrument after playing inside and out. To remove dust underneath the keys and rods, use a small camel's hair brush or Pipe (chenille) cleaner.
2. Keep the tenon of the head joint clean and dry so that it fits easily into the body of the instrument. Wipe the tenon joint off of the body of the flute so that the foot also fits on easily.
3. Swab the instrument after playing. Using the cleaning rod and cloth, cover the tip of the rod with the cloth and swab each section of the instrument well. Any fabric that does not leave lint will work for the cleaning cloth. Web swabs should not be left in the case, but may be tied to the handle of the case or left out to dry first.

## **CARE AND CLEANING OF THE CLARINET AND SAXOPHONE**

1. After each use, remove the reed, wipe it dry, and place it in a reed guard. Swab out the mouthpiece with a cloth. Do not try to scrape any crust that may have formed, but soak the mouthpiece (up to the cork) in vinegar for a couple of hours. Use a piece of cloth or a mouthpiece bush to clean the mouthpiece. Once a week or so, wash the mouthpiece out with mild soap and warm water, being careful not to get the cork wet. Rinse and dry.
2. Never put water into the instrument. Swab the instrument after playing to remove moisture. Be careful with the weights of swabs so that the inside of the instruments are not scratched.
3. Any dust or foreign matter that collects on the outside of the instrument should be removed with either a small camel's hair brush or a pip cleaner. Wipe the instrument off with a soft, clean cloth. Wipe off the keys with a cloth, too. Do not use any polish on the instrument, as polish damages the pads.
4. The instrument should be completely taken apart when put away for any length of time. The ligature should always be loosened on the mouthpiece, and the reed should always be kept in a reed holder. The mouthpiece cap should be kept on the mouthpiece to protect the tip. The end plug should go in the top of the body of saxophones to protect the bar of the octave key.
5. Cork grease should be used as needed on the tenon corks so that the parts fit together easily. Cork grease should also be used on the cork of saxophone necks. Cork grease should not be used on the metal end of the neck that fits into the body. Instead, a cloth should be used to wipe the end of the neck off to keep it clean in order for it to fit properly. Use a soft, clean cloth to wipe off any excess cork grease from the body of the instrument.