

Trumpet Maintenance

Although the trumpet is made from metal, it is very delicate and can easily be damaged.

1. Check that your case is strong, paying particular attention to the handle, the catches, and the hinges.
2. Be sure to keep your instrument securely in its case when it is not in use.
3. Keep your trumpet away from small children (eg. younger brothers or sisters), who might play with it and drop it.

It is essential to have **valve oil**, **tuning slide grease** (or Vaseline), a **mouthpiece brush** and a **long flexible brush** for cleaning the inside of the trumpet.

1. **Valves** should be cleaned every few days.
 - a) Remove the valves one at a time (NOT together, or they might be put back in the wrong order).
 - b) Wipe the valve clean with a rag.
 - c) Squeeze a SMALL amount of valve oil around the valve.
 - d) Replace the valve back in its casing, making sure that the valve 'clicks in' - ie. is correctly aligned.
 - e) Once a month, unscrew the caps at the bottom of the valve casing, and pull a rag through the valve casing, to clean the inside.
 - f) If your valve sticks, clean it following the steps above.

If this does not solve the problem, clean the valve thoroughly with brasso (**N.B. do not use brasso on the outside of your trumpet, as it removes the lacquer**).

2. The inside of the trumpet should be cleaned once every few months.
 - a) Remove the slides, and clean with the long flexible brush in a bowl of soapy luke-warm water.
 - b) Clean inside all the other tubes (eg. lead-pipe, and down the bell) with the brush.
 - c) Replace the slides and pour warm water down the bell. If you have a shower, use this to flush water through the trumpet, but be careful that the pressure of the water does not force any slides to pop out and get dented.
 - d) Put a little grease on the slides. If the slides are very tight, clean them with brasso, being careful to avoid putting it on the lacquered part.
3. Once a month, look through your mouthpiece. If dirty inside, clean with the mouthpiece brush.