

SAXOPHONE CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Supplies needed: saxophone swab, soft cloth (cotton or flannel), reedguard, cotton swab or pipe cleaner, pledge furniture polish, at least 3 good reeds.

Daily

1. Remove reed from the mouthpiece. Place in a reedguard to dry.
2. Swab the body of the instrument. Do not swab the mouthpiece or the neck. Never pull the swab through the mouthpiece. Over time this will change the inside of the mouthpiece.

Weekly

1. Clean the mouthpiece in lukewarm water with a mouthpiece brush.
2. Clean out case. (Vacuum case).
3. Inspect instrument for loose screws. (Ask band director to tighten screws for you.)

Monthly

1. Clean instrument.

Yearly

1. Oil keys (ask your director about oiling your keys.)
2. If you have a maintenance agreement with a music store, it is a good idea to send your instrument to be professionally cleaned and inspected during the summer when the instrument is not being played on a regular basis.

CLEANING THE SAXOPHONE

1. Pull a swab through the entire instrument except for the mouthpiece.
2. Spray Pledge furniture polish on a soft cloth (cotton or flannel) then wipe down the outside of the instrument (especially the keys) to prevent discoloration due to handling.
3. Use a pipe cleaner, cotton swab, or a small soft brush to clean dust from under the keys. Be careful not to dislodge the keys.