Loving your Trombone
By
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What do I need?
- Cleaning Rod
- Snake
- Mouthpiece brush
- Soft, Non-abrasive cloths
- Cheesecloth (I prefer Home Depot cheesecloth)
- Scissors
- Slide Lubricant (Slide-o-mix, Yamaha Slide Oil, Trombotine)
- Valve Oil (Al Cass)
- Rotor Oil (Most are fine. One bottle will last decades.)
- Tuning Slide Grease (Roche-Thomas)
- Spray Bottle (Superslick)
- Distilled Water

Daily

When you are finished playing your instrument for the day;
- Take the bell section and hold the receiver facing up. Engage the valve and drop in 5 drops of valve oil. Rock the bell back and forth while opening and closing the valve to spread the oil.

- Remove the outer slide and place the inner slide in your case. With a new piece of cheesecloth in the cleaning rod, gently polish each of the outer slide tubes. Wipe the inner slide tubes clean and dry with a soft, non-abrasive cloth and immediately place back into the outer slide.

Before you begin playing for the day;
- Put 1 drop of valve oil into the valve using the same method as above.
- Take your preferred slide lubricant and shake vigorously. (These lubricants generally have two components that need to be mixed well in order to work properly.) With the slide mostly extended, continuously squeeze roughly 4 inches of lubricant on each inner slide tube. Move the slide back and forth to spread. You can also move one outer slide tube at a time so that you may rotate the tubes around each other, which will spread the lubricant most thoroughly. Spray with distilled water.

Why should I do these things every day?
Your trombone is made of metal and has one or two moving parts; the slide and possibly a valve. It is important for the long-term health of your instrument to keep these parts well lubricated and to store them clean and dry. Leftover water and lube will leave mineral deposits on your only moving part. These mineral deposits will become abrasive and eventually eat through the plating on your instrument, which will make the part work terribly and be expensive to replace.
**Weekly**
- Place a drop of rotor oil on all moving parts of the valve linkage.

**Monthly**
- With a snake and distilled water, clean the crook of your outer slide.
- With a snake and distilled water, clean the *inside* of your *inner slide tubes*.
- Remove the main tuning slide and f-attachment tuning slide and wipe off residue.
Add new *Tuning Slide Grease* sparingly and spread by independently working each tube of each tuning slide. With the tuning slides pushed all the way in, wipe off excess grease.
- With the mouthpiece brush, clean the shank of the mouthpiece.
- Put your mouthpiece(s) in a pot with water and bring the water to a boil for several minutes. This will clean the mouthpiece and kill all bacteria and germs that have built up.

**6 Months**
- Use a snake and distilled water to clean the inside of the main tuning slide and f-attachment tuning slide.

Do all of the above to your instrument, and it will last a lifetime and retain most of its value should you choose to sell.
Loving your Euphonium

What do I need?
- Snake
- Mouthpiece brush
- Valve Oil (Al Cass)
- Tuning Slide Grease (Roche-Thomas)
- Distilled Water
- Toothbrush

Daily
When you are finished playing
- Put one drop of valve oil (Al Cass) one each valve. Leave the valve caps slightly loose so they do not get stuck. Rust is very possible when living so close to the ocean.

Monthly
- With a snake and distilled water, clean out all tuning slides and valve slides.
- Remove tuning slides and wipe off residue. Add new Tuning Slide Grease sparingly and spread by independently working each tube of each tuning slide. With the tuning slides pushed all the way in, wipe off excess grease.
- With a snake and distilled water, clean out the leadpipe of your euphonium.
- Take off the bottom valve caps. Clean off all residue and build up with something like an old toothbrush.
- With the mouthpiece brush, clean the shank of the mouthpiece.
- Put your mouthpiece(s) in a pot with water and bring the water to a boil for several minutes. This will clean the mouthpiece and kill all bacteria and germs that have built up.

Yearly
- Every year or two, have your entire instrument either chemically cleaned or ultrasonically washed. Euphoniums have so many nooks and crannys it is very difficult for us to reach them. This will clean every part of the instrument. Be sure that all valves, valve slides, and tuning slides have been properly relubricated before playing.