

Instrument Cleaning Care

FRENCH HORN

Online Video at: www.rockymountainmusicrepair.com/instrument-care

Daily

- Oil rotors before and after playing.
- Pull slides and empty water, carefully rotate horn counterclockwise to empty remaining water.

Weekly

- Wash mouthpiece with a brass mouthpiece brush and warm soapy water.
- Clean slides and re-grease with slide grease.
- Wipe fingerprints off with a soft cloth and Pledge furniture polish.
- Vacuum case to get rid of all debris.

Every Other Month

- Give your instrument a bath. (See reverse side)

Yearly

- Bring your instrument to a qualified repair technician for a professional rotor alignment, rotor retie and deep clean.

Cleaning Supplies Needed

- Valve Oil, Slide Grease, Brass Mouthpiece Brush, French Horn Snake, Trumpet Rod, Soft Cloth, Pledge Furniture Polish.



GIVING YOUR HORN A BATH

(French Horn)

Prep

1. Place an old towel on the bottom of your bathtub, run luke-warm water with Dawn dish soap and fill bath so that the water will cover the slides (about 2 inches of water).
2. Remove all slides from the instrument and carefully place on towel in the bath.
3. DO NOT DISASSEMBLE THE ROTORS! (this will be cleaned by a professional repair shop during the yearly deep cleaning).
4. Let the slides soak for 30 minutes.

Clean

5. Use your snake to scrub out the insides of the slides.
6. Use your snake to scrub out the leadpipe section of the horn. Be very careful to not get any other parts of the French horn wet (as much as possible).
7. Rinse everything with leadpipe and slides with clear water.
8. Let dry overnight.

Reassemble

9. Use the cleaning rod with a soft cloth to remove any residual oil from the slides and tubes (including tubes on the body of the horn).
10. Oil rotors valves with valve oil. Depress rotor paddle half way, drip valve oil into corresponding slide tube, then work oil into rotors by pressing the paddle multiple times.
11. Grease slides with slide grease and reinsert into horn.
12. Clean fingerprints and water marks from the outside with a clean cloth and Pledge furniture polish.