



HOW TO CLEAN A CLARINET OR SAXOPHONE MOUTHPIECE?

VANDOREN PARIS > HOW TO CLEAN A CLARINET OR SAXOPHONE MOUTHPIECE?

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HOW TO CLEAN A CLARINET OR SAXOPHONE MOUTHPIECE?

You will need:

- Cold running water
- Mild soap or neutral pH cleaning gel
- Small cup of white vinegar
- Small cup of cooking oil
- A used soft toothbrush (never use an abrasive pad in case they damage the mouthpiece)
- A clean soft microfibre cloth or paper handkerchiefs (do not use kitchen towels as they are too abrasive)
- Adhesive tape and cork grease for clarinet mouthpiece

Steps:

1. Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water
2. Put on gloves and then put on protective glasses
3. Remove any mouthpiece cushion if necessary using a disposable and non-abrasive tool such as an old reed or a toothpick, then throw it all away in a closed bin.
4. For a clarinet mouthpiece, wrap the cork with adhesive tape by folding the tape over

itself at the end to make it easier to remove later.

5. Moisten the mouthpiece with cold water, inside and outside.
6. Moisten the gloves with cold water and soap without rinsing
7. Rub soap on the inside and outside of the mouthpiece for a long time using the gloves
Scrub the inside and outside being gentle around the baffle and facing
8. Scrub the inside and outside being gentle around the baffle and facing
9. Rinse the mouthpiece with cold water
10. If there are any lime deposits (beak, baffle), dip the toothbrush in a cup of white vinegar and gently rub the affected parts. Repeat several times if necessary.
11. If there are any traces of glue (beak), dip the toothbrush in a little cooking oil and gently rub the affected parts.
12. Rub soap onto the mouthpiece, gloves and toothbrush again, rinse everything making sure that you remove all traces of oil and soap on the mouthpiece
13. Dry the gloves and the mouthpiece using paper handkerchiefs that you then throw away in a closed bin.
14. For a clarinet mouthpiece, remove the adhesive tape (grease the cork)

WARNING

Never use hot water on an ebonite mouthpiece as this could result in discolouring the mouthpiece. For the same reason never put your ebonite mouthpiece in the dishwasher.

WARNING

For ebonite mouthpieces, we advise to use a mild soap or neutral pH cleaning gel to avoid discoloration.

WARNING

It is not recommended to dip an ebonite mouthpiece in white vinegar for more than 1 minute to avoid any discolouring.

WARNING

To remove traces of glue from the mouthpiece cushion, it is not recommended to use ethyl acetate or acetone based dissolvent, especially on the insert of a metal mouthpiece, which might not support it. Never mix a solvent, including alcohol, with bleach. This could result in the formation of toxic gases.



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