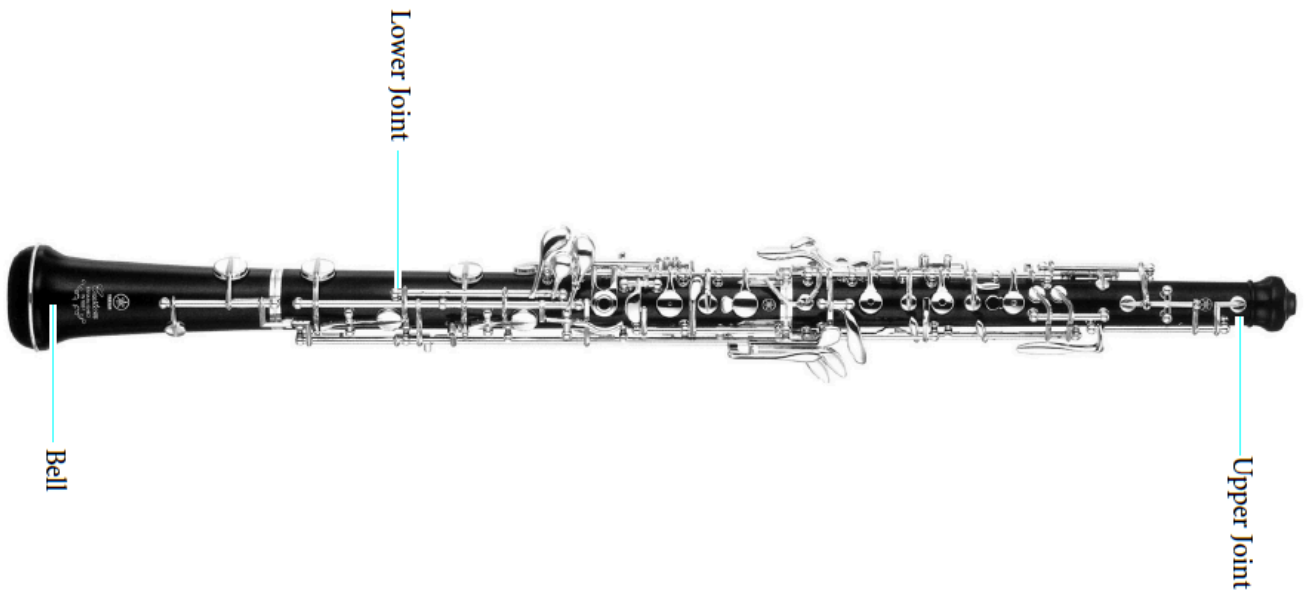


# Instrument Care: Oboe

## Parts of the Oboe



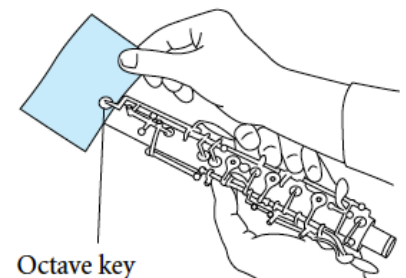
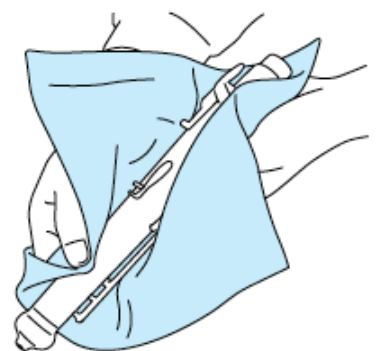
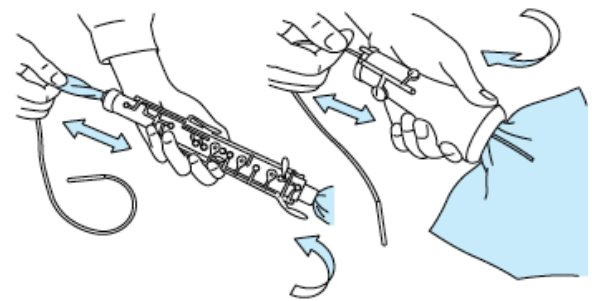
### Equipment:

Oboe cleaning swab, cork grease, soft rag, Q-tips, reed case

### Daily cleaning:

After playing:

- 1) Dry reed between fingers or with a cloth and put it in a protective case.
- 2) Use the swab to clean in inside of the main body. Turn the instrument upside down and carefully pull swab through starting at the bell (like a funnel). This can be done either with the instrument still put together or each piece by itself.
- 3) Disassemble each piece and wipe off any moisture in between the pieces. The joint sections in particular tend to collect moisture. Check corks often and grease when necessary. Dry the joints carefully with gauze or rag.
- 4) When the pads are wet, place a cleaning paper between the pad and the tone hole and press the pads lightly to completely remove the moisture. In particular, the octave tone holes tend to collect moisture, which should be removed as soon as possible.



## Monthly:

Wipe down outside of instrument with a soft, dry cloth. Be careful not to damage the keys or other parts.

Use Q-tips or a tone hole cleaner for tone holes to clean tone holes and hard to reach areas underneath keys. Be careful not to damage or move the straight metal springs.

Check all corks for grease. Dry corks become brittle and break and require professional repair immediately. Use Q-tips to clean between/inside joints to remove grease build-up.

**Failure to complete daily cleaning will result in a foul smelling instrument that will not play well. Professional repair and cleaning will be required.**

**NEVER PUT THE BODY OF INSTRUMENT IN WATER!**

***School-owned instruments will be professionally cleaned and adjusted regularly. If your own instrument has not been adjusted in a long time, please take it to a music store. Ideally Woodwind instruments are adjusted every 6-12 months. An out-of-adjustment instrument will make it almost impossible to play.***

