



## **FAQ's**

### **TESCH Band Instrument Cleaners**

#### **Classic Brass - Power Brass - Emerald Degreaser**

#### **Why are band instrument repair professionals choosing TESCH?**

We formulate health conscious, superior cleaners. TESCH Chemical Company has a proven reputation. Our products have been used and trusted for more than fifteen years by band instrument repair professionals in the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

#### **Who is Ken Skitch?**

Ken Skitch is a respected master repair technician and past president of **NAPBIRT** with more than 34 years experience repairing instruments. He advised the chemist and tested Tesch brass and metal cleaners during the formulation process. His input has been a valuable and important contribution to formulating a line of band instrument cleaners that are effective, mindful of your health and our environment.

**Can they be used to clean Brass, Nickel, Silver, Bronze and Copper?** Yes.

#### **Will they harm metal or protective surfaces/lacquer?**

No. Used as directed by trained professionals, they clean without harm to metal or protective surfaces.

#### **Will these products cause rust or corrosion to nearby tools and equipment?**

No. With less fuming and lower evaporation rates, their unique chemistry solves the problem of rust and corrosion to nearby tools and equipment.

#### **What are the health ratings for Tesch brass and metal cleaners?**

They have preferred health ratings. Technicians notice lower fumes and low odor.

**Classic Brass** MSDS (SDS) health rating 1 - slight risk

**Power Brass** MSDS (SDS) health rating 1 - slight risk

**Emerald Degreaser** MSDS (SDS) health rating 1 - slight risk

#### **What are the health ratings of other cleaners?**

Hydrochloric, muriatic, and phosphoric acid cleaners, each carry a MSDS (SDS) health rating of 3 - toxic, corrosive, extreme hazard, high risk.

#### **What is the pH of Tesch Classic Brass Cleaner?**

pH 4 acid

#### **Is Classic Brass safe to use in my ultrasonic?**

Yes. Technicians have been using Classic Brass in their ultrasonic machines compatible with acid pH cleaning solutions for many years without any harm to the machine.

#### **What is the Mix Ratio for Classic Brass Cleaner?**

**Ultrasonic** machines require a (1:12) mix ratio. For a 90 gallon ultrasonic tank; mix one 5 gallon bucket of Classic Brass into 60 gallons of water. This will make 65 gallons of cleaning solution and leave plenty of room at the top for immersion.

**Straight Dip** - mix each gallon of Classic Brass Cleaner with 6 gallons of water (1:6) to make seven gallons of solution.

#### **What is the recommended immersion time for Classic Brass solution?**

Ultrasonic cleaning - immersion time is 2-3 minutes.

Straight dip cleaning - immersion time is 3-5 minutes.

**How long does a batch of Classic Brass solution last?**

It depends on volume of instruments cleaned and usage. Even though it may still be working after several months, there are a lot of contaminants that build up over time that could inhibit the effectiveness of the solution. Your experience as a technician is the best gauge. Pre-cleaning instruments with TESCH Emerald Degreaser significantly reduces contamination of Classic Brass solution and results in fewer batch changes. This step saves money and also quickly removes the organic barriers (dirt and oils) that can inhibit the effectiveness of Classic Brass Cleaner.

**What intensity control setting should I use on my ultrasonic machine?**

Recommended intensity should be set somewhere between 50-70%

**What is the recommended temperature setting for my ultrasonic machine?**

Room temperature is recommended. The temperature of the solution will rise a bit during the ultrasonic process. This is fine. (Note: High heat can remove lacquer)

**What is the average cost per instrument to use Classic Brass Cleaner?**

Based on what technicians are telling us... an average cost is between .35 to .50 cents per instrument. This is a conservative value and depends on a few factors; how dirty are the instruments? Also, are you pre-cleaning with Emerald Degreaser?

**What is the pH of Emerald Degreaser and how do I use it?**

It has a pH of 8. Pre-clean instruments 1-2 minutes, water rinse; quickly removes the barrier of organic dirt and oils before immersion into Classic Brass solution.

**What is the mix ratio for Emerald Degreaser?**

Economical concentrate (1:128) add 1 ounce of Emerald for each gallon of water. Mix a solution of Emerald in a large plastic container or drum.

**What is "New" Tesch Power Brass Cleaner?**

Power Brass is a fast acting pH 1 acid solution used as a pre-cleaner to quickly remove heavy scale from slides and valves before immersion into Classic Brass Cleaner. It's a health conscious substitute for muriatic, hydrochloric, and phosphoric acids. This product saves valuable time cleaning. Immersion time up to one minute; check and repeat if necessary.

**What is the mix ratio for Power Brass Cleaner?**

1:4 – for example; mix 8 oz. of Power Brass into 32 oz. of water in any plastic, stainless, or glass container.

**Can Power Brass be used in an ultrasonic machine?**

No, it's formulated for straight dip ONLY. Technicians have shared they are using the "double boiler" method, or hand floating a small bowl of diluted Power Brass solution (1:4) on the surface of their ultrasonic tank, which transfers the sound waves. We advise caution as this significantly speeds the process. Do not spill Power Brass into the ultrasonic tank. Some technicians have mixed a stronger solution (1:2) and poured through a horn for severe scale.

**Will it brighten up the brass like Bright Dip?** No. Classic Brass is not a bright dip and will not artificially brighten or alter the surface appearance. It offers superior cleaning results without etching the base.

**Can these products be shipped overseas?**

Yes, Power Brass, Classic Brass, and Emerald Cleaner ship non-hazardous.

**Where can I purchase Tesch Band Instrument Cleaners?** Votaw Tool Company

Purchase online at [www.votawtool.com](http://www.votawtool.com) or order by calling (800) 894-8665

**Questions?** Contact Deborah Zehr [teschproducts@gmail.com](mailto:teschproducts@gmail.com) or call (920) 915-6771