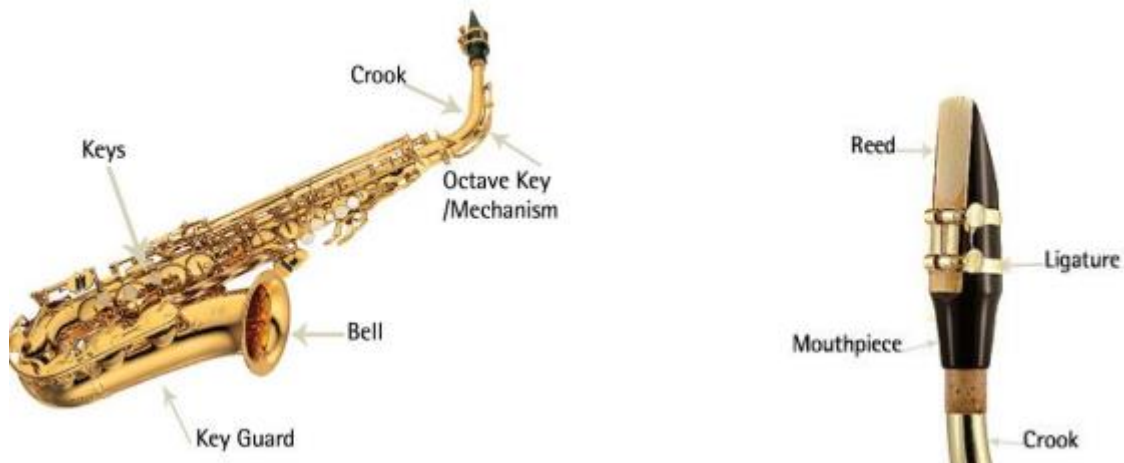


in partnership with

NORMANS
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



Caring for your Alto Saxophone

Assembly

Firstly attach (twist/push) the mouthpiece to the part of the crook where the cork is. You can use a little cork grease to make attaching the mouthpiece easier. Then, put the ligature onto the mouthpiece and place your reed between the ligature and mouthpiece (as pictured above), and tighten the screws to hold in place. Next, insert the crook into the top of the saxophone's body being careful not to apply too much pressure to the keys. Tighten the screw to clamp the crook in place.

Every Time You Play

- Ensure no food, sweets or sugary drinks are consumed just before or during play. This can leave a residue within the instrument and is usually the cause of 'sticky' pads and other problems.
- After playing, remove the reed from the instrument and put back into its cover to dry out. This will ensure that the reed doesn't warp. If the reed becomes chipped/split it is unlikely to work and will need replacing. (The life of a reed is solely dependent on how well it is looked after.)
- Use a pull through, to clean the inside of the instrument once you have finished playing. This helps to dry out the pads and keep them in good condition.
- At least once a week, wipe the instrument down with a soft polishing cloth as over time dirt build-up can cause problems with the lacquer if not cleaned sufficiently.
- You can also purchase a pad saver for your saxophone. These are inserted into the body of the instrument when not in use to absorb excess moisture, preventing unnecessary

wear/corrosion. Make sure you use a pull-through before inserting the pad saver into the saxophone, as it will not sufficiently dry out the instrument on its own.

- Check the instrument over regularly. If something looks out of place/unusual, ask the teacher to inspect it.

Common Saxophone Problems

Bent Keys - Saxophone keys can get bent relatively easily if the instrument is not handled with care, particularly the Octave Key/Mechanism.

PLEASE NOTE - BENT KEYS ARE NOT COVERED UNDER WARRANTY.

Sticking Pads – This tends to be because the pads are dirty and need to be cleaned. Put a piece of thin paper (e.g. cigarette paper) under the key, close the key and gently pull the paper out. This should remove any residue that is on the keys. If in doubt, take this to the teacher to look at.

The following items will help to keep the instrument in the best possible condition.

Reeds, Polishing cloth, Pad Saver, Sling, Cork Grease.

If you wish to purchase any of these items, please visit www.normans.co.uk or email sales@normans.co.uk