



Caring for your Flute

Assembly

When connecting the foot joint and head joint to the body of the flute, make sure you are not gripping the keys as this could cause them to bend. Hold the flute body at the top, where the name is engraved, and the head joint just below the lip plate, and gently twist/push together. Hold the foot joint at the base and gently twist it onto the bottom of the body. To disassemble, do these steps backwards. The diagram above shows how the joints should fit together to create the playing position.

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.
- Use a cleaning cloth and rod to clean the inside of the instrument once you have finished playing. This helps to dry out the pads and keep them in a 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 cleaning cloth and rod before inserting the pad saver into the flute, 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 Flute Problems

Bent Keys - Flute keys can get bent very easily. As they are made from such a soft metal, extra care is needed when assembling and taking the flute apart.

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.

Polishing cloth, Cleaning Cloth, Pad Saver, Cleaning Rod.

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