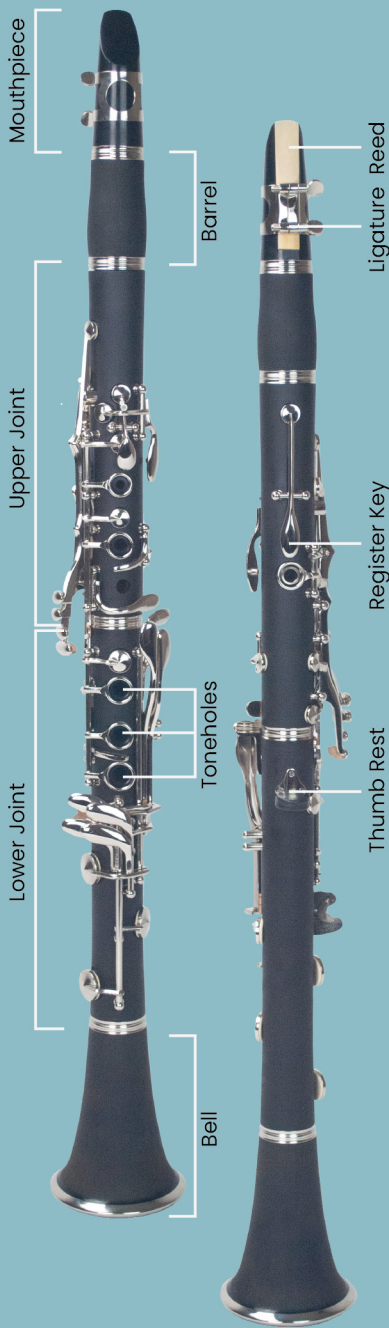




### Clarinet Parts



### Congratulations

Congratulations on the purchase of your StarQuest® student model Bb Clarinet. With proper care and maintenance your StarQuest® clarinet will give you years of optimum performance.

### Construction

The body of the StarQuest® clarinet is made from durable ABS plastic resin. The keys are power forged in nickel silver for durability and are also nickel-plated. The pads that cover the tone holes are high quality double bladder skin construction made in the USA.

Your StarQuest® clarinet is composed of 5 basic parts:

The **mouthpiece**, **barrel**, **upper joint**, **lower joint**, and the **bell**. The holes in the body are called **tone holes** and are covered with closed keys and open ring keys.

The **ligature** goes on the mouthpiece and its purpose is to hold the **reed** in place during performance. There is also a protective cap that covers the mouthpiece when the clarinet is not in use.

### Precautions

It is recommended that you take your new StarQuest® clarinet to your band teacher or private instructor before you put it together for the first time. Your clarinet comes with some retaining corks that protect the keys during shipping, therefore it is very important that these be removed before attempting to assemble the instrument for the first time. Your new StarQuest® clarinet is supplied with a reed to get you started right away. This reed is made from cane. The tip is thin and can be broken easily and care should be taken when handling the reed. A reed can last a few weeks if properly cared for. When the time comes to replace the reed, you can go to your local music store and purchase a box of Bb clarinet reeds.

As the StarQuest® clarinet body is a hollow plastic tube it is possible to break the body with excessive force. **Therefore, do not leave the clarinet out of its case when not in use.** Although the keys are made from power forged nickel silver, it is possible to bend the keys out of shape.

While assembling and disassembling the clarinet, do not use excessive force to put the instrument together. Make sure you use proper cork grease, as supplied, on all of the corked joints to ensure a smooth fit. **Do not use Vaseline or other pastes to lubricate the cork as this will cause the cork to deteriorate.** Be careful not to use too much pressure grasping the keys as this can bend them. If your clarinet receives any kind of damage – **DO NOT attempt to repair it yourself as this will cause further damage. If your clarinet gets damaged take it to a band instrument repair facility to have it properly repaired.**

### Assembling the Clarinet

Take note that the pieces of your clarinet will only fit together one way. Each time you assemble or disassemble your clarinet it is important to take care not to grasp the keys too tightly as they will bend.



### Cork Grease



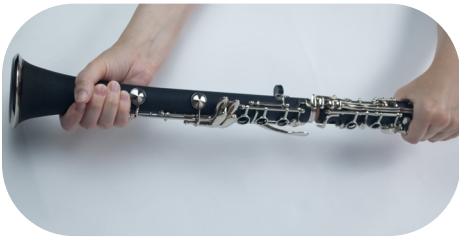
When assembling your clarinet for the first time you must use the supplied cork grease on each corked joint. Use a small amount on each cork to lubricate the cork and prevent it from drying out.

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## Joint Assembly



Once the corks are lubricated, take the bell and lower joint, one in each hand, and find the position which they assemble properly. Gently grasp each and assemble them using a twisting motion.



With the bell and lower joint assembled, take the upper joint and assemble on the lower joint using the same motion.



Please note at this point that the bridge key is aligned as shown in the picture.



With the 3 pieces now assembled, take the barrel and assemble it to the top joint.

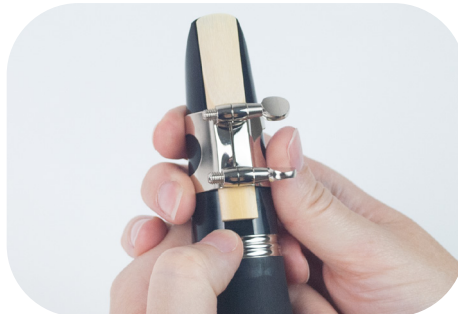


Take the mouthpiece and assemble it on to the top joint.

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## Reed and Ligature

With the clarinet fully assembled, you can now place the reed on the mouthpiece and fix it in place with the ligature.



The reed should be soaked in your mouth for a moment or so in order for it to vibrate freely. Place the flat part of the reed on the back part of the mouthpiece with the flat surface. Place the ligature over the mouthpiece and reed, careful not to damage the tip of the reed.



The screws of the ligature must be on the reed and not on the top of the mouthpiece. Once in place, gently tighten the screws on the ligature so it is securely holding the reed. **DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN THE LIGATURE SCREWS, as this will damage the reed and possibly scratch the mouthpiece.**

## General Care and Maintenance

It is very important that you do not use any polishes or other chemicals, or water to clean the clarinet. These chemicals will damage the delicate nature of the pads causing them to deteriorate and not function properly. Daily wiping with a soft, dry cloth will prevent any tarnishing of the nickel plating.

Cleaning the inside of the clarinet body can be done by using a cleaning swab available at your local band music dealer. To use the swab, while the clarinet is assembled without the mouthpiece, drop the weighted end of the swab's cord through the inside of the body. Grasp the cord from the other side and gently pull the swab through the entire length of the inside. You should do this several times to make sure that all the moisture is removed from the inside of the body.

If the swab becomes completely stuck inside the body, do not force any objects inside the body to try and remove the swab. Take it immediately to a band instrument dealer to safely remove the stuck swab. Although this is a rare occurrence it has been known to happen.

## Warranty

Your new StarQuest® clarinet is covered under warranty for one year. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship. The warranty does not cover general wear and tear, pads or springs. Due to the differing acid content in peoples perspiration, the plating is also not covered under the warranty. Please remember to use a soft dry cloth daily to prevent the plating from wearing out. Malicious damage of any kind is not covered under the warranty.

If you experience any problems with the performance of your clarinet please take it to the dealer you purchased it from for proper care and repair.

*StarQuest*®

[www.starquestusa.com](http://www.starquestusa.com)

[www.starquestcanada.com](http://www.starquestcanada.com)