



Trombone Care & Maintenance, Video Outline

Materials needed:

- Bathtub (or large sink)
- 2 old towels
- Liquid dish soap (grease-cutting)
- Trombone cleaning kit*
 - brass mouthpiece cleaning brush
 - trombone snake brush
 - slide grease
 - slide oil (or slide cream + water spray bottle system)

*Kits are available at any REW Music store location



Step 1 - Prepare the bath:

- Cover the bottom of the bathtub with 1 towel to protect your trombone from dents
- Fill the tub with just enough room temperature water to cover the trombone (don't put it in yet!)
- Add a few drops of dish soap

Step 2 - Taking your instrument apart:

- Remove tuning slide from bell section and place both parts separately in bath
- Main slide - Separate outer and inner slide and place both separately in bath

Step 3 - Cleaning:

- Mouthpiece (*clean weekly*)
 - Run warm to hot water in separate sink
 - Wet inside and outside of mouthpiece
 - Scrub inside mouthpiece with mouthpiece brush
 - Rinse
 - Dry with 2nd towel and put away
- Snake brush
 - Brush out tuning slide
 - Brush out inner and outer slide parts
 - Rinse

Keeping your slide buttery smooth:

- Always have slide oil in your case
- Only oil your slide with your own slide oil
- If you want to change the slide oil product you use, first clean your instrument so there is no leftover oil before using the new
- When different slide oils mix, they **OFTEN** react together and create an undesirable sticky residue
- If your slide motion still isn't smooth, bring your trombone to the repair shop. It may need to be re-aligned.

Step 4 - Reassemble Trombone:

- Drain water
- Dry outside of all instrument parts with 2nd towel
- Grease tuning slide and replace
- Carefully line up outer and inner slide of your main slide, insert inner slide into the outer slide
 - Slide lock on same side
- Lubricate slide with slide oil (or slide cream + water if you use that system instead)
 - Test slide - may require a few drops of slide oil if motion is not smooth

Do this once a month to keep your instrument in top playing condition!