

## Instrument Care Guide

Never try to repair an instrument yourself – take it to your instructor for inspection if you suspect it has been damaged or broken.

The Music Service will carry out any necessary repair. Where the instrument has been damaged through negligence you will be contacted and asked to cover the cost or repair or replacement.

For guitar, bagpipes and percussion maintenance, please consult your instructor.

<b>Instrument:</b>			
<b>Type of Instrument:</b>	<b>STRINGS</b>	<b>BRASS</b>	<b>WOODWIND</b>
<b>What Changes Are Required Regularly?</b>	Strings, rosin, bow hair.	n/a	Reeds, cork grease.
<b>How Often Are They Required?</b>	<p>Strings – at least once a year, and you should also always have spares. Your instructor will advise what brand is best and restring until you are taught how to do it yourself.</p> <p>Rosin – you should always have one and use it regularly to maintain your bow. Ask your instructor for advice on what kind to buy.</p> <p>Bow Hair – as and when necessary by a repairer (your instructor will advise on this).</p>	n/a	<p>With proper care, reeds can last a few weeks to months, depending on the level of practise. Talk to your teacher for recommendations of which type and strength to buy.</p> <p>Your instructor will advise when you require a higher reed strength.</p> <p>one pot of cork grease should last a couple of years.</p>
<b>Best Method to Clean your Instrument:</b>	Use a dust cloth to remove all rosin from your instrument after each practice. Doing this each time you use the instrument will maintain it satisfactorily. If additional cleaning is required your instructor will show you how to do it.	<p>Valved Brass - Oil valves and apply slide grease to slides as required (approximately once a month).</p> <p>Trombones - clean slide and apply slide cream to main slide, and slide grease to the tuning slide. Thereafter apply water to main slide as required (approximately weekly).</p>	<p>Clean your instrument of moisture after playing with rods, cloths or any other relevant cleaning item specific to each instrument.</p> <p>Mouthpieces can be washed in warm water (reeds should be removed first), but no other part of any instrument should get wet.</p>

		All Brass - Approximately four times per year, wash entire instrument out with warm water, dry, and lubricate as above. Brush the mouthpiece out regularly.	
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