

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO THE... TROMBONE



ASSEMBLY

- 1 Insert the mouthpiece, being careful not to jam it in. A light twist will suffice.
- 2 Hold the bell section in the left hand and the slide section in the right hand. The trombone should look like a 90 degree V when assembled correctly.
- 3 Slide the bell side and the slide side together. Apply a little pressure to get them to connect. Tighten the collar so they don't accidentally fall apart.
- 4 Keep the slide lock engaged when not playing. Try to develop the second nature instinct to flip the lock over automatically.

CLEANING AND STORAGE

- 1 Oil the long slide daily, ideally at night after the day's practice is finished. To oil the slide, take the inner slide almost entirely out of the slide chamber. Be careful not to take it completely out! Using your fingers, spread cream evenly along the inner slide. Run the slide back and forth a few times to distribute the cream evenly throughout the slide chamber. Pull the inner slide back out and spray water along the length of the slide. Put the slide back together and it is ready to go.
- 2 You may find that the slide slows down throughout rehearsal. There is no need to re-oil it at that point, just spritz some water on it (a couple of spritzes will do).
- 3 Grease the tuning slide weekly. Simply pull the slide out, rub some slide grease on it, and reinsert.
- 4 Give the trombone a bath every three months in warm soapy water, using the brushes that come in your maintenance kit, to clean it thoroughly.
- 5 When playing, water will build up inside the tubes. To release, press the water key and blow into the horn without buzzing your lips.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- 1 **PROBLEM:** The mouthpiece got stuck.
SOLUTION: Bring it in so we can extract it.
- 2 **PROBLEM:** The slides are sticky.
SOLUTION: The slides needs to be oiled (long slide) and greased (tuning slide) (see instructions above). If this doesn't fix the problem, bring it in.
- 3 **PROBLEM:** The slides are stuck.
SOLUTION: Check the slide lock to be sure that it is unlatched. If it is free but the slide still isn't moving, check the bottom of the U on the long slide for a dent. That area can be dented by setting the trombone down too hard. If there is a dent there, bring the trombone in so we can have it fixed. If there is no dent there, the inner slide could be dented; the tubes are very thin and fragile. Bring the trombone in so we can have it fixed.