Oboes &
English
Horns
fox

# History of Fox Products Corporation

Fox Products Corporation was founded in 1949 by Hugo Fox, who had served as principal bassoonist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra from 1922 until 1949. Initially, the company made bassoons and bassoon reeds, although it began making oboe reeds early in the 1950's. Reed manufacturing was later destroyed by a fire in 1974.

Mr. Fox's failing health threatened to end the young company as the 50's drew to a close. In the fall of 1960, Hugo's son, Alan decided to give up his chemical engineering career to take over the family business with his father supervising the assembly and tuning of the instruments. By 1964, however, the elder Fox was no longer able to continue, so the company began to rely on part-time bassoonists for tuning and on a group of prominent repairmen for technical guidance.

The company began acquiring competent technical people, not only to make instruments, but to train employees and to develop the crafts that were needed for double reed instrument making. The results of this were the creation of the Fox Contrabassoon in 1970 and the introduction of the Renard 330 oboe in 1974.

Development of the oboes took considerable time, due to the training time needed to develop each of the crafts. The first Fox model oboe was the all plastic Model 300, introduced in 1976, but the Model 400 was delayed until 1982, due to the need to train more people and to take the time to age the wood. The Model 333 was introduced the same year and the Model 450 came along in 1991, requested by players who wanted a plastic top joint on their otherwise wooden instrument.

The development process continued and resulted in the introduction of four models of English horns at the International Double Reed Society Conference in August 1999. Accompanying the English horns were significant improvements in the acoustics and workmanship of all Fox professional oboes, culminating in the introduction of the Fox Model 800 oboe in 2004.

Throughout its history, Fox has sought to acquire and develop technical expertise and has been receptive to modifying its instruments to suit the needs and tastes of its customers. It supplies a broad base of bassoonists around the world, and an increasing group of oboists in North America. It is becoming recognized as a standard in each of the fields it serves and has the skills and desires to preserve a long term commitment to double reed musicians.

# Oboes

## *Fox Model 800*

Select Grenadilla body with metal lined tenon sockets and silver plated posts, bands, and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Handmade full conservatory mechanism including split ring E♭-E trill key, F♯ key tab, third octave key, low B♭ vent key, left hand F, alternate C, articulated C♯, and bell key adjusting screw. Cork pads on low C and above. Adjustable Thumb Rest. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Accessories include a professional instrument case, case cover, reed and reed case, screwdriver, silk swab, and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *B-D Link, Case Cover*

## *Fox Model 400*

Select Grenadilla body with metal lined tenon sockets and silver plated posts, bands, and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Handmade full conservatory mechanism including split ring E♭-E trill key, F♯ key tab, third octave key, and low B♭ vent key. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Accessories include a professional instrument case, reed and reed case, screwdriver, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Adjustable Thumb Rest, B-D Link, Case Cover*

## *Fox Model 450*

Select Grenadilla lower joint and bell. High quality plastic resin upper joint. Metal lined tenon sockets and silver plated posts, bands, and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Handmade full conservatory mechanism including split ring E♭-E trill key, F♯ key tab, third octave key, and low B♭ vent key. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Accessories include *a professional instrument case, reed and reed case, screwdriver, silk swab and cork grease.*

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Adjustable Thumb Rest, B-D Link, Case Cover*

## *Fox Model 300*

High quality plastic resin body, hand reamed and finished by Fox craftsmen. Silver plated posts, bands and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Handmade full conservatory mechanism including split ring E♭-E trill key, F♯ key tab, third octave key, and low B♭ vent key. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Accessories include a professional instrument case, reed and reed case, screwdriver, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Adjustable Thumb Rest, B-D Link, Case Cover*

## *Renard Model 330 Artist*

High quality plastic resin body, hand reamed and finished by Fox craftsmen. Silver plated posts, bands and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Handmade full conservatory mechanism with the exception of the split ring E♭-E trill key and A♭-B♭ adjustment mechanism. Cork pads on low C and above, F♯ key tab, Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Accessories include a student instrument case, reed and reed case, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Low Bb Vent Key, Third Octave Key, Adjustable Thumb Rest, B-D Link, French-style Professional Oboe Case, Case Covers*

## *Renard Model 333 Protege*

High quality plastic resin body, hand reamed and finished by Fox craftsmen. Silver plated posts, bands and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Handmade simplified conservatory mechanism, including left hand F key, F♯ key tab, and solid (non-articulated) C♯ key. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Accessories include a sturdy plush lined instrument case, reed and reed case, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Adjustable Thumb Rest, French-style Professional Oboe Case, Artist Oboe Case, Case Covers for all cases*

# English Horns

## *Fox Model 500*

Select Grenadilla body with metal lined tenon sockets and silver plated posts, bands, and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Full conservatory system plus third octave key and low B vent key. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Each instrument comes with two standard Fox Model XL English horn bocals (numbers 2 & 3). Accessories include a double or single instrument case per customer's specification, reed and reed case, screwdriver, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Fox Model XP English Horn Bocals (Numbers 1, 2 & 3), Adjustable Thumb Rest, Case Cover for Single or Double French-style case*

## *Fox Model 510*

Select Grenadilla lower joint and bell. High quality plastic resin upper joint. Metal lined tenon sockets and silver plated posts, bands, and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Full conservatory system plus third octave key and low B vent key. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Each instrument comes with two standard Fox Model XL English horn bocals (numbers 2 & 3). Accessories include a double or single instrument case per customer's specification, reed and reed case, screwdriver, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Fox Model XP English Horn Bocals (Numbers 1, 2 & 3), Adjustable Thumb Rest, Case Cover for Single or Double French-style case*

## *Fox Model 520*

High quality plastic resin body, hand reamed and finished by Fox craftsmen. Silver plated posts, bands and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Full conservatory system plus third octave key and low B vent key. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Each instrument comes with two standard Fox Model XL English horn bocals (numbers 2 & 3). Accessories include a double or single instrument case per customer's specification, reed and reed case, screwdriver, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Fox Model XP English Horn Bocals (Numbers 1, 2 & 3), Adjustable Thumb Rest, Case Cover for Single or Double French-style case*

### *Renard Model 555 Artist*

High quality plastic resin body, hand reamed and finished by Fox craftsmen. Silver plated posts, bands and bell ring. Stainless steel arbors and wire springs. Nickel silver keys with nickel silver hinge tubing and heavy silver plating. Full conservatory mechanism (including left hand F key) with the exception of the split ring E♭-E trill key and A♭-B♭ adjustment mechanism. Cork pads on low C and above. Teflon tipped stainless steel adjusting screws. Each instrument comes with two standard Fox Model XL English horn bocals (numbers 2 & 3). Accessories include a student case, reed and reed case, silk swab and cork grease.

***Tuning:*** *Individually hand tuned to A-440 pitch at 72° F, with maximum resonance and projection.*

***Options:*** *Fox Model XP English Horn Bocals (Numbers 1, 2 & 3), Adjustable Thumb Rest, French-style professional single case, French-style professional double case, Case Cover for French-style professional single or double case*

## *Warranty*

Fox customers are entitled to a complete servicing of their Fox or Renard instruments within one year of purchase, with the customer's cost to be limited to parts and shipping charges.This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties expressed or implied.


**Fox Products Corporation**

6110 South State Road 5, P.O. Box 347
South Whitley, Indiana 46787 USA
Phone: (260) 723-4888 • Fax: (260) 723-6188
Email: Mail@FoxProducts.com
www.FoxProducts.com

**Fox Products Corporation**
6110 South State Road 5, P.O. Box 347
South Whitley, Indiana 46787 U.S.A.
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