



# Fox Products

## Care and Maintenance for Your Maple Instrument

When cared for properly, a **maple instrument can last a lifetime**. To keep your maple instrument in the best shape possible, we recommend following a few simple steps when caring for your instrument.

- Always swab your instrument after it is played. Take extra care to make sure that there is no moisture left behind in the bell and that there is no water left in any of the tone holes.
- Wipe down your instrument with the included care cloth regularly. Cleaning off any moisture or oil left behind from playing will keep the instrument's finish looking shiny and new.
- The inside of the bell should be oiled annually.

### What's so different about maple?

**Maple is softer** than the grenadilla that most oboists are used to working with. While a grenadilla instrument can handle some bumps and dings without getting dented, the finish on a maple instrument is more likely to sustain superficial damage from objects hitting it.

**Maple is a porous wood.** This makes it more susceptible to damage from moisture than grenadilla. To prevent moisture damage and prevent leaking, the upper and lower joints of our maple oboes and English horns have a liner, much like our bassoons. The bell, however, does not have a liner. This helps give the instrument its special tone, but it does require some extra care.

Always make sure to dry the inside of the bell after playing. Additionally, the bell should be oiled annually, with a food-grade moisture-resistant oil like linseed or almond oil, to protect it from excessive moisture. Due to its porous qualities, there is no need to humidify a maple instrument unless you live in an especially dry climate.

Please call or email us with any questions.