

## How To Clean A Trombone

### Cleaning The Mouthpiece

#### 1. Soak the mouthpiece:

- If the mouthpiece is very dirty, it is a good idea to soak it in lukewarm soapy water.
- Scrub the outside of the mouthpiece. Use a damp, soapy cloth to clean the outside of your mouthpiece.

#### 2. Get the inside clean with a mouthpiece brush:

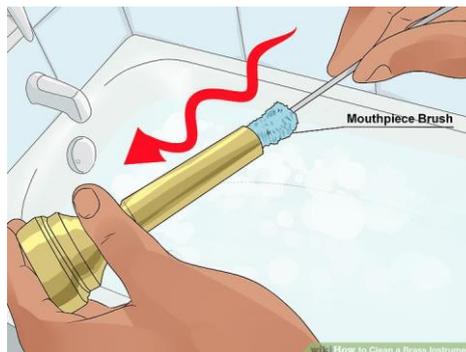
- Using a mouthpiece brush, apply soapy water first.
- Insert the brush into the mouthpiece and scrub away all the bacteria.

#### 3. Rinse the mouthpiece:

- Fill a small container with clean water. Put the mouthpiece in the water to rinse off any soap.
- Alternatively, the mouthpiece can be rinsed under the tap.

#### 4. Dry the mouthpiece:

- Dry off the mouthpiece with a clean cloth or paper towel.



### Cleaning The Instrument

#### 1. Disassemble the instrument:

- Remove the inner slide from the outer slide and any other parts (main tuning slide if it is not stuck).
- Be careful not to lose any pieces.



## Cleaning The Instrument (continued)

### 2. Clean the instrument and slide with soapy water:

- Fill a container with lukewarm soapy water. Rinse the instrument and slides in the water.
  - You can clean the inner and outer slides of a trombone with a flexible snake brush.
- a. Avoid using water which is too hot, as this could damage the finish of the instrument.
  - b. A bathtub can be used but remember to place a towel on the bottom of the tub, to avoid scratching the lacquered finish.

### 3. Use the snake brush to clean the tubes:

- a. Using a snake brush, clean the insides of all tubes **but in particular, clean the lead pipe** (this is the bit of tubing which the mouthpiece goes into).
- Do not use anything else on the instrument as it will get stuck.
  - The snake brush is a long, flexible brush that is designed for cleaning brass instruments.
  - If you are cleaning a straight section of tubing, you can use a dowel with a cloth attached to the end (like woodwind instruments).



### 4. Lubricate the instrument:

- Use trombone slide cream to lubricate the main slide if possible.
- Reassemble the instrument as each part is lubricated.
- Make sure the inner slide is inserted into the outer slide correctly.

### 5. Dry the instrument with a lint free cloth:

- After cleaning and rinsing the brass instrument, a soft, lint free cloth can be used to dry it.
- Since brass instruments see plenty of moisture during their everyday use, it is not necessary to get it perfectly dry.