



BRASSWIND REPAIR

GENERAL BRASSWIND OVERHAUL PREPARATION

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REMOVE SLIDES FROM THE INSTRUMENT

- Specific techniques may have to be employed for the removal of frozen slides.
- Remove all sub-assemblies (e.g. water keys) from the slides and place all small parts in a vial for safe-keeping.
- Inventory and place all slides and small parts in the repair tray.

REMOVE VALVES FROM THE INSTRUMENT

- Disassemble valves to their basic components and save all corks, felts and springs in a vial for future reference.
- Wrap the individual valve pistons or rotors in a soft cloth or paper towel for protection; place them in the repair tray.

PLACE ALL LACQUERED PARTS IN THE LACQUER STRIP

- Most repair shops use the cold type lacquer strip (methylene chloride solution), however, a hot caustic lacquer-strip may be used in the absence of a cold strip.
- Caution should be exercised when placing finger buttons or keys fitted with plastic inserts, as these may be dissolved in the cold strip solution.
- ALWAYS use protective eyewear, apron, and gloves when performing this and any other operation involving toxic and/or dangerous chemicals.

RINSE THE INSTRUMENT AND PARTS THOROUGHLY

- Remove all traces of stripping solution and lacquer residue from the instrument and parts with running water.
- In the case of plated instruments which may not require stripping, these instruments should be rinsed with warm water at this time.
- Thoroughly scrub the inside of all slides, tubes, and the bore of the instrument with a flexible bristle brush.

BRIGHT-DIP ALL METAL PARTS

- For best results, this step is performed immediately after stripping and rinsing the instrument and all parts.

- Specific chemicals are prescribed for the bright-dipping of each alloy: chromic acid for the brass and nickel alloys, sodium cyanide or potassium cyanide for the silver and silver plated instruments.
- DO NOT place silver or silver plated instruments in chromic acid as they will turn bright red!
- The purpose of this step is to remove all superficial oxides (corrosion) only. Usually, an immersion time of 10 to 15 Seconds for brass instruments in chromic acid is adequate. Leaving them in the bright dip beyond this short duration may jeopardize the precision fit of the valves and slides radically.

RINSE THOROUGHLY

- Rinse the body and all parts thoroughly in warm running water.

DIP PARTS IN ALKALINE SOLUTION

- This step is designed to neutralize all acids that may remain in pockets, like the bell rim, rolled tone holes, ferrules, and other soldered components. Without neutralizing these pockets of acid, blemishes will surely appear later under the lacquer (acid bleeds).

RINSE THOROUGHLY

- Again, rinse all components thoroughly with warm running water.
- Blow-dry them with compressed air, inside and out.
- Inventory and return the body and all parts to the repair tray.

STRIP PLATING AS REQUIRED

- Usually, only nickel-plated and chromium-plated instruments require stripping prior to surface preparation. Consult with your plating provider to be sure.

EVALUATE DENT REMOVAL AND SURFACE PREPARATION

- The general condition of the instrument and the extent of physical damage, will determine the extent of unsoldering, repair, and subsequent reassembly of the instrument.