

# Horn Maintenance

## Daily Maintenance

- Oil valves daily, weekly, bi-weekly depending on the age and condition of the mechanism.
- Oil in three places on the horn:
  1. under the cap – remove cap and place a few drops in the center of the valve
  2. back of the valve – place a drop in the crevice on the valve stem
  3. inside the slides – put several drops inside the first valve slide, return to the horn, and work oil through all the valves
- Grease the frequently moved slides (those used to empty water) every week or two weeks, as needed. Grease all other slides every three months. Do not use alternate lubricants other than good quality slide grease.
- Clean mouthpiece weekly with a horn mouthpiece brush and anti-bacterial soap. When sick with cold or flu, wash the mouthpiece after every use. Do not boil the mouthpiece.

## Bath Time

- Equipment needed:
  1. Large tub or shower
  2. Two towels
  3. Grease-cutting detergent (such as Dawn dish detergent or the like)
  4. Horn snake
  5. Mouthpiece brush
  6. Slide grease
  7. Valve Oil
- Procedure:
  1. Remove all slide and soak in a sink of warm soapy water.
  2. Wet leadpipe snake and run through leadpipe twice.
  3. Place a few drops of detergent in the horn through the bell.
  4. Fill horn with warm water by holding bell under shower head or filling bell with water in the tub.
  5. Work soapy water through horn. Wiggle valves. Rinse thoroughly. Remove all water.
  6. Dry horn and oil horn in the three places described above.
  7. Clean old grease from slides with soft toothbrush and grease-cutting soap. A commercial cleaner for removal of slide grease can be used. Dry slides.
  8. Grease slide and slide them completely into slide sleeve. Remove excess grease.
  9. Clean mouthpiece.
  10. Adjust slides to normal setting and TUNE HORN. Horn will play differently after cleaning. Therefore, do not bath horn right before a performance.