

Horn Cleaning Procedure

What you need:

1. Measuring cup (2 cup preferred)
2. 1 tablespoon of Liquid dish soap (Any degreaser)
3. Snake (plastic, not metal)
4. Paper towels (ones with hearts work best)
5. Newspaper (In case you have a bloody nose)
 - a. Leaves no residue on slides
6. Horn (no bell needed)
7. Mouthpiece (brass needed)

Step I (leadpipe):

- a. Combine dish soap with 2 cups of warm water.
- b. Remove main tuning slide. Pour water and soap mixture into the leadpipe, filling about half way.
- c. Use the snake to scrub the leadpipe.
- d. Drain water from leadpipe.

Step II (corpus):

- a. Replace main tuning slide.
- b. Mix and pour soap and water into leadpipe.
- c. Point bell into sink (IMPORTANT!). Using the mouthpiece, blow all liquid out of horn with the might of a thousand camels.
- d. Repeat steps b & c for each valve combination.
 - 0, 1, 2, 3, T0, T1, T2, T3, etc.

**Repeat each valve combination twice to loosen any debris in the horn and allowing for a deeper clean.*

Step III (rinse):

- a. Pour clean water into leadpipe being sure no soap residue is left over.
- b. Repeat steps II.c-d being sure clean water is exiting the bell for each combination before finishing.

Step IV (remove excess grease and drying):

- a. Empty horn of the remaining standing water (all the crooks).
- b. Lay out slides, crooks, and valve caps on table and begin drying the horn & crooks
- c. Use newspaper to wipe off excess grease from the outside tubes of all crooks and slides.
- d. Roll paper towels (newspaper) up and push while rotating into the inside of the tubes to wipe the inside walls of any old grease residue

Step V (Lubing it up!):

- a. Grease each crook and slide by applying a thin ring around each tube about 1/4 inch from the end of the slide. Once applied work the crook/slide into its respective place up and down smoothing out the grease evenly. Push slides all the way in.

- b. Once the horn is dried, pull out the first valve slide and place a generous amount of oil into it. Place slide back into horn all the way (with the slide pointing up). Rotate horn clockwise while wiggling valves to allow oil to flow through all valves.
- c. Place oil on the top bearing and bottom bearing as well as any linkage as needed.

Step V:

Test play your horn!

I recommend cleaning the leadpipe out in this fashion every 1-2 weeks; the entire horn should be done every 1-2 months. If kept on top of, your horn will always remain the same, eliminating another variable as to why things might not be working in your practice sessions, also cutting down trips to repair technicians.

Any questions, do not hesitate to ask!

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