

BASSOON TIPS

courtesy of



ASSEMBLING THE INSTRUMENT

- ▶ Take care to avoid bending keys and rods during assembly.
- ▶ Using a gentle twisting motion, first insert the wing joint into the boot joint. Then insert the long joint into the boot joint. Fox bassoons have a mark on the wing that should be lined up with a mark on the boot.
- ▶ Insert the bocal, lining up the vent hole with the whisper key pad. If there is a whisper key lock, make sure it is unlocked to avoid damaging the pad.
- ▶ Put a bassoon reed on the end of the bocal.

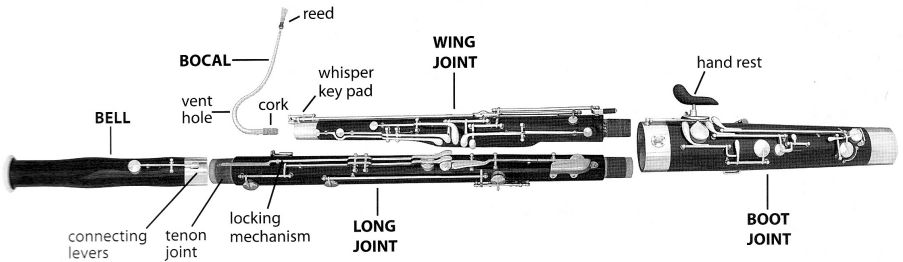


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CARE & MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Avoid eating or drinking (anything other than water) immediately before or while playing the instrument, or brush your teeth first.
- ▶ Use swabs to remove moisture from inside the instrument when you are done playing.
- ▶ Remove the reed after playing and store it in a reed holder or food-grade plastic container.
- ▶ Store the instrument in its case when not in use.
- ▶ Send the instrument to the Ellis Music repair shop at least once a year for routine maintenance.
- ▶ If you have a wooden bassoon, avoid extreme temperature/humidity levels and have the instrument professionally oiled once a year.

REED NOTES

- ▶ For beginners, a medium-soft (or soft) reed will be easiest for producing a sound. As you gain experience, consider using a stiffer reed for improved tone.
- ▶ Common bassoon reed strengths are: soft, medium-soft, medium, medium-hard, hard.

HELPFUL ITEMS TO HAVE

- Reeds
- Reed case
- Reed soaking canister
- Cork grease
- Swabs
- Seat Strap



Questions?
Contact Ellis Music
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