

# TROMBONE TIPS

courtesy of

 **ELLIS MUSIC**

## ASSEMBLING THE INSTRUMENT

- ▶ Insert the slide section into the bell section and tighten the lock. (It does not need to be super tight... just enough to keep the slide section from moving.)
- ▶ Gently insert the mouthpiece shank into the receiver of the slide section. Avoid hitting the mouthpiece or else it may become stuck.
- ▶ When ready to play, hold onto the two slide braces and turn the slide lock to release the hand slide.

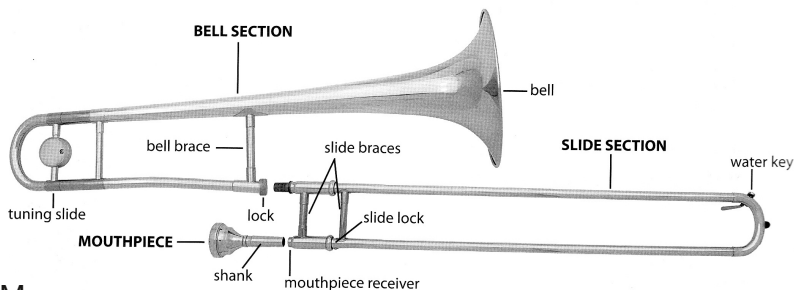


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## CARE & MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Avoid eating or drinking (anything other than water) immediately before or while playing the instrument, or brush your teeth first.
- ▶ Be VERY careful to avoid hitting anything with the slide section. Even a small dent can make it difficult or impossible to move the hand slide.
- ▶ Apply lubricant to the inner part of the slide section as necessary to keep the slide moving smoothly and easily. If it's hard to move the slide or makes a lot of noise, it probably needs repair.
- ▶ Move the tuning slide back and forth periodically and apply tuning slide grease to prevent it from getting stuck.
- ▶ After playing, open the water key and blow through the instrument to remove any moisture before putting it back in the case.
- ▶ If your mouthpiece becomes stuck, DO NOT attempt to remove it using your own tools. It will need to be removed by Ellis Music (or your music teacher if they have a mouthpiece puller).
- ▶ Clean the mouthpiece regularly in warm water using a mouthpiece brush and liquid soap.
- ▶ 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.

## ABOUT THE MOUTHPIECE

- ▶ A standard mouthpiece is included with a rental instrument, but you may wish to purchase a different mouthpiece someday depending on your needs. The shape and depth of the mouthpiece cup can affect comfortable playing range and tone quality.



## HELPFUL ITEMS TO HAVE

- Slide lubricant
- Tuning slide grease
- Brass mouthpiece brush
- Trombone cleaning rod & brush ("snake")
- Polishing cloth
- Trombone stand

**Questions?**  
**Contact Ellis Music**  
**802-234-6400**  
**[www.ellismusic.com](http://www.ellismusic.com)**