

Rdg's official guide to breaking in a new clarinet



(1)

Never blow warm air into a cold instrument!!!

Let it warm up to room temperature, either on its own or by warming it with your hands or under your arm.

(2)

Play the instrument only 20-25 minutes at a time during the first week

This does not mean 20-25 minutes per day, it means that the instrument can be played several 20-25 minute sessions throughout the day, leaving at least two hours between sessions.

(3)

Gradually increase the playing time to 30 minutes, 35 minutes, 40 minutes, etc., until the maximum playing time is reached. The more gradually you increase the playing time, the better for the instruments!

(4)

MOST IMPORTANTLY --- SWAB! SWAB! SWAB!

RDG, Inc. recommends using a cotton swab, (included with each new instrument), every five minutes of playing time, in the beginning. You cannot swab a new clarinet too much!

(5)

Opinions vary greatly on the subject of oiling the bore. RDG, Inc. suggests oiling the bore with a feather no more than twice a year. Use the oil sparingly in order to avoid damaging the pads of the instrument