

John Keal Music Company Instrument Cleaning Standards

Our dedicated and detailed Repair Technicians at John Keal Music Company have been working closely with our chemical suppliers and have stocked up on several EPA approved disinfectants for use on instruments as well as the store, shop and tools.

Our Repair Technicians and instrument handling staff are following the CDC guidelines by wearing masks, gloves, washing hands, disinfecting work areas and tooling after every repair. All instruments that have been serviced by John Keal Music Company are professionally cleaned and sanitized using one of our Environmental Protection Agency approved disinfectants. This includes all rental instruments and instruments in our shop for repair. Below is the specific process we use to clean and sanitize each type of instrument:

Flute:

The flute head joint is cleaned with one of our EPA approved disinfectants and left to air-dry for the extent of the instrument repair or a minimum of 5 minutes. Once the repair is finished the items are rinsed, dried, and sealed in plastic.

The bore of the remaining 2 sections of the flute is sanitized with a push through swab coated in one of our EPA approved disinfectants and then cleaned again with a dry push through swab.

The exterior surface of the flute is cleaned with a cloth sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants and then cleaned with a dry cloth before being returned to its cleaned case (See "Instrument Case" on Page 2 for further details).

Clarinet:

The mouthpiece, ligature and mouthpiece cap (if provided) are submerged in one of our EPA approved disinfectants for the extent of the instrument repair or a minimum of 5 minutes. Once the repair is finished the items are rinsed, dried, and sealed in plastic.

The bore of the remaining 4 sections of the clarinet is sanitized with a pull through swab coated in one of our EPA approved disinfectants and then cleaned again with a dry pull through swab.

The exterior surface of the clarinet is finally cleaned with a cloth sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants and then cleaned with a dry cloth before being returned to its cleaned case (See "Instrument Case" on Page 2 for further details).

Saxophone:

The mouthpiece, ligature, mouthpiece cap and end cap (if provided) are submerged in one of our EPA approved disinfectants for the extent of the instrument repair or a minimum of 5 minutes. Once the repair is finished the items are rinsed, dried, and sealed in plastic.

The bore of saxophone neck is sanitized with a push through saxophone swab coated in one of our EPA approved disinfectants, and then cleaned again with a dry push through swab.

The bore of the saxophone is sanitized with a pull through swab coated in one of our EPA approved disinfectants, and then cleaned again with a dry pull through swab.

The exterior surface of the saxophone is finally cleaned with a cloth sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants, then cleaned with a dry cloth before being returned to its cleaned case (See “Instrument Case” below for further details).

Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Baritone, & Tuba:

The mouthpiece (if provided) is submerged in one of our EPA approved disinfectants for the extent of the instrument repair or a minimum of 5 minutes. Once the repair is completed the mouthpiece is rinsed, dried, and sealed in plastic.

An ultra-sonic cleaning may be added to sanitize the interior bore of the instrument when needed.

The exterior surface of the instrument is cleaned with a cloth sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants, then cleaned with a dry cloth before being returned to its cleaned case. (See “Instrument Case” below for further details).

Percussion:

All components of the percussion kit’s exterior surfaces, including sticks and mallets, are cleaned with a cloth sprayed in one of our EPA approved disinfectants and then cleaned again with a clean dry cloth before being returned to its cleaned case. (See “Instrument Case” below for further details).

Violin, Viola, Cello, & Bass

The string instrument and bow are thoroughly cleaned with a cloth sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants, and then cleaned again with a clean dry cloth before being returned to their cleaned case. (See “Instrument Case” below for further details).

Instrument Cases

The exterior of the instrument case is cleaned with a cloth sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants, and then cleaned again with a dry cloth. Soft canvas style cases will be sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants and then dried with a clean cloth.

The interior of the case is sprayed with one of our EPA approved disinfectants and left to sit for the extent of the instrument’s repair. The case is meticulously vacuumed before returning the completed serviced instrument to its case. *Note: Any personal belongings, including reeds, that are submitted with a repair will be returned in a sealed bag along with the completed repair.*

In addition to these processes, we are strictly following guidelines from the CDC. Information from the CDC which suggest the COVID-19 virus can remain on the following instrument surfaces for the stated amount of time: Brass- up to 5 days, Wood- up to 4 days, Plastic- up to 3 days, strings- up to 3 days and cork- up to 2 days. Therefore, we will hold all repairs and rentals for those recommended times before releasing to our customers.

[Please visit the NFHS, NAFME and the NAMM Foundations website for further information about COVID-19 instrument cleaning guidelines.](#)