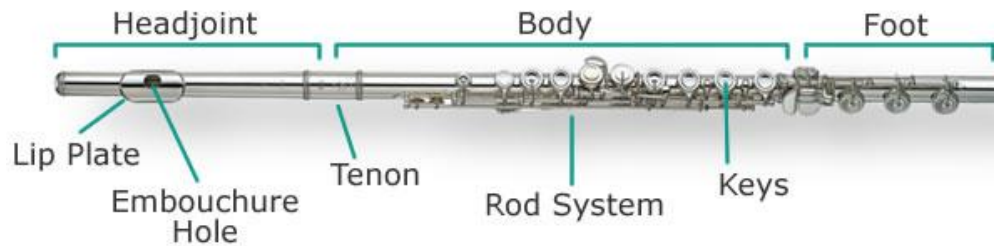




WHANGAPARAOA COLLEGE

FLUTE CARE & MAINTENANCE



Flute Assembly

1. Holding the top of the body (not the keys), attach the headjoint to the body. Do not push the headjoint all the way in. Leave about a quarter inch of room.
2. Line up the embouchure hole with the centre of the keys.
3. Still holding the top of the body, attach the foot to the body with a gentle, twisting motion. Be very careful not to bend or twist the keys.
4. The tenons work by friction and you should not use lubrication of any kind. If you are having trouble connecting them, use rubbing alcohol and a soft cloth to clean.
5. The embouchure hole should centre with the C key and the D post on the foot and the D tone hole on the body.

Cleaning and Maintenance

- Sterilise the lip plate.
- Occasionally, check the head cork placement by using your tuning/cleaning rod, which should be centred in the embouchure hole. Do not try to adjust the cork yourself.
- To clean the flute body, insert the corner of a lint-free cloth through the small hole at the top of the cleaning rod.
- Key oil can be used once a month or so, but be careful and use a small amount to avoid getting any on the pads.

GENERAL WOODWIND CARE TIPS

- No gum or soft drinks before playing. Sugar mixed with saliva builds up on the pads and causes them to stick, making it difficult to play the instrument.
- So moisture does not absorb into the pads, use an absorbent drop swab to clean out the moisture from each section before you place it in the case.
- Wipe down the exterior of the instrument with a non-treated cloth to remove fingerprints and residue.
- Do not leave a woodwind instrument in a hot car, or in your trunk. Extreme temperatures can damage your instrument.
- Do not set anything on top of your woodwind instrument, whether inside or outside of its case; this includes sheet music! Damage occurs easily when items are set on the instrument and the case is closed. The keys are often bent this way.
- Make sure the case is closed securely. Check all hinges, latches, and handles to ensure they are securely fastened.
- Never use pliers or hammers on your instrument. Improper use of household tools is a common cause of unnecessary damage to instruments.