

Take Care! Take Pride![™]
A Video Guide to Musical Instrument Care

Instructor's Manual

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MusiCare Productions

Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of "Take Care! Take Pride!"™. This state of the art instructional video package will be a great boon to your band program and your students as well. "Take Care! Take Pride!"™ will help you teach your students many important things about maintaining their instruments and give them the opportunity to take responsibility in an important area of their life. The intention of this manual is to offer some suggestions as to how you can maximize the effect this product will have on your students and your band. We at MusiCare™ are excited about sharing these ideas with teachers and students all over the country.

About The Product

Take Care! Take Pride is an instructional video package designed to teach students how to prevent problems with their instruments by teaching them fundamental principles of instrument assembly, handling, cleaning and maintenance. The complete package consists of: 1 interactive DVD video disc, including DVD Rom which includes this manual in PDF form and PDF files for a CareCard™ for each instrument.

Objectives of the Program

In a unique and entertaining manner, Take Care! Take Pride!™, teaches students the importance of properly caring for their musical instrument. It also provides step-by-step video demonstrations of assembly and handling techniques, and daily, weekly and monthly maintenance procedures. Upon completion of the instructional process recommended in this manual, students will be able to:

1. Prevent needless and sometimes costly repairs to their instrument.
2. Reduce wasted class time due to instrument malfunctions.
3. Extend the life of their instrument by many years.
4. Play more confidently, knowing that their instrument will function properly.

Maximizing the Benefits of the Program

Instructional Design

The ultimate objective of Take Care! Take Pride!™, as with most instruction, is to change student behavior and develop new positive attitudes. We have chosen a behavior modeling instructional design as the means of reaching this objective. Research has shown behavior modeling training to be very effective in developing new skills and attitudes (McEvoy & Sporer, 1986). Behavior modeling training consists of three basic elements:

1. Providing students with video models of new behavior.
2. Allowing students to imitate and practice new behavior.
3. Providing feedback on practice efforts and reinforcing positive change.

The obvious advantage of the behavior modeling technique is its simplicity. Learning by imitation is a natural process; a process which most humans are involved in from birth.

Our recommended use of the behavior modeling technique is outlined as follows:

1. Students are presented with **learning points** from the Take Care! Take Pride!tm video presentation.
2. Students view **video demonstrations** of procedures, which are broken down into steps by learning point.
3. Students **practice** behaviors (in class where possible).
4. Students are given **feedback** and social reinforcement on their practice of new procedures.
5. Measures are taken to enhance the **transfer of learning** from the classroom to their homes and lives.

All of these steps are important to ensure maximum learning and behavior change, however, Take Care! Take Pride!tm is only able to provide steps 1 and 2 and assist with step 5 -- the rest is up to you.

Student Practice, Feedback on Practice

Woodwinds

As any musician is aware, practice and feedback are critical to the learning process. Of the procedures demonstrated by Take Care! Take Pride!tm, the woodwind assembly procedures are the most practical and most important for classroom practice and feedback. Eighty to ninety percent of damage to woodwind instruments is a result of improper assembly and handling, therefore, supervised practice of assembly procedures is essential for maximum student learning. Because of the fragile nature of woodwind instruments, cleaning and maintenance procedures should also be practiced under supervision.

Brass

Handling and maintenance principles and procedures for brass instruments are just as important, however practice of some procedures such as flushing the instrument with water are, in most cases, not practical in a school setting. Practice of procedures such as lubricating valves and slides are practical and important for students, especially if using cold cream and water lubrication for trombone.

Changing Student Attitudes

Developing desirable attitudes in students is possibly the greatest challenge any teacher will face. An initial response from band directors to our efforts to teach students how to care for their musical instrument is: "Many of the students just don't care." Research has taught us that attitude change comes easier after new behaviors have been explained to and practiced by the learner. In other words, desirable attitudes develop, as students are engaging in new behavior. Our objective then, is to provide the instruction and the incentives to get the student started in the new behavior, and let the attitudes follow.

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Transfer of Learning

The final and key phase of this instructional process is to ensure the transfer of learning from the classroom to the personal life of the student. This can be accomplished by using transfer tools, which help students, remember procedures and which reward and reinforce use of those procedures. We have provided master copies of "Care Cards" which, under your licensing agreement, can be duplicated for use in your school. We recommend printing the care cards on a durable card stock paper so that students know that is it something worth keeping. If you do not wish to duplicate these care cards yourself, you can order them from MusiCare™ Productions. "Care Cards™" should be kept in the students instrument case and provide a reference for key learning points, cautions and suggestions from the video presentation. Your words and opinions are highly valued by your students therefore, the most important elements in the successful transfer of learning will be your support, encouragement and ongoing reinforcement of care principles. The following are ideas for other transfer tools.

Transfer Tool Ideas

1. **Take Care! Take Pride! Contract:**
A contract between the student and the teacher or school to take care of their instrument. This can benefit all students and can especially benefit the school by reducing the cost of school instrument repair and maintenance.
2. "Check off"/Pass off requiring student to demonstrate proper assembly and/or cleaning procedures.
3. Instrument inspection by teacher or by informed section leaders, on a regular basis, can provide a good incentive for students to follow procedures. Special rewards can be given to those students with the cleanest best maintained instruments.
4. Parent Involvement. Involving parents in the learning process will provide reinforcement from the home as well as the school. The video instruction could take place on a parent night or parents could simply be informed of what the students are learning and recommend that they encourage students to Take Care! Take Pride! Parent involvement in the band is not only important to student progress but can benefit the band in many ways.
5. Allow adequate time at the end of rehearsal for students to do necessary clean up procedures. This does not need to take very much time and will help students form good habits. The instructor could encourage the students to use proper methods at this time.

The Presentation

To make effective use of practice and feedback sessions, you may want to pause the presentation and practice the skills just covered in the prior section. Figure 1 outlines our recommendation for the presentation flow.

Flow of the Presentation

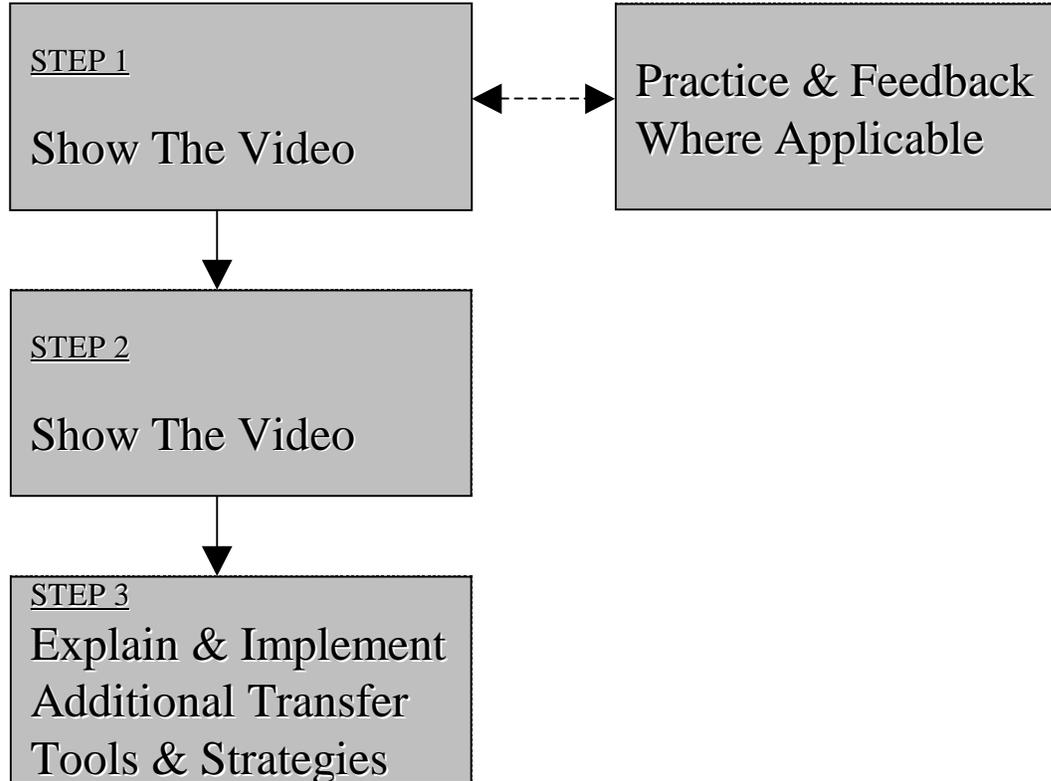


Figure 1

We are confident that if these steps are followed consistently, many benefits will come to your students individually and your band as a whole.

Presentation Options

Because of the modular, interactive design of this video production there are several options open to you in presenting it. There is a general introduction that is common to all instruments, followed by a more specific introduction relating to the specific family of instruments, next there are the specific procedures for those instruments covered, which is followed by a general conclusion that is common to families of musical instruments. Because of the design of the production you will be able to access any of these modules specifically for review or only showing procedures for one specific instrument, etc. These options could include showing the video to only the brass or woodwind sections, or showing to only students that play one particular instrument. You might even consider some special time outside of class for these options.

Assembly Procedures

There are obviously methods of assembling and handling musical instruments other than those presented in this program, however there are many advantages to the procedures prescribed in this video package:

1. These procedures have been time tested over the last 50 years by many student and professional musicians.
2. They are based on general principles that can help avoid damage even if the procedures are not followed exactly.
3. You will avoid confusing the student by only providing the models in this video presentation.

Instruments Not Specifically Covered

The general principles of assembly and handling presented in this video package can be easily applied to those instruments not specifically covered. With a little time spent considering how these general principles and maintenance schedules will apply to those instruments not covered you and your students will realize a great deal of benefit from them.

CareKits™ Inventories

Woodwinds

Flute:

- Soft Cloth
- Cleaning Rod
- Cleaning Rod Cloth (8" x14")

Clarinet:

- Soft Cloth
- Clarinet Swab
- Woodwind Mouthpiece Brush
- Cork Grease

Saxophone:

- Soft Cloth
- Sax Swab
- Sax Neck Cleaner
- Cork Grease

Oboe:

- Soft Cloth
- Oboe Swab
- Cork Grease

Brasses

Trumpet (Piston valve instruments):

- Soft Cloth
- Valve Oil
- Tuning Slide Grease
- Brass Mouthpiece Brush
- Flex Brush/Snake

Trombone:

- Soft Cloth
- Slide Oil
- Tuning Slide Grease
- Brass Mouthpiece Brush
- Flex Brush/Snake

French Horn (rotary valve Instruments):

- Soft Cloth
- Rotary Valve Oil
- Tuning Slide Grease
- Brass Mouthpiece Brush
- Flex Brush/Snake

