



How to Care for the Oboe

Age Range:	Late Elementary, Middle School
About:	Students will demonstrate proper care and technique when assembling their instrument and putting it away.
Total Video Time:	2:54

INTRODUCTION

Oboe player Sarah Boyle Carmack will walk you through the basics of putting together your oboe and taking care of it.

[Click here](#) to play the video. (Video approx. 3 minutes)

STEP-BY-STEP instructions

- Soak your reed in a small cup while you put your oboe together.
- Take out the bell and the bottom joint and twist them together. Line up the keys so nothing bends or breaks.
- Next, put on the top joint.
- Check to see if your reed is soaked enough to play. This typically takes a couple minutes. Make a “crow” (reed sound) to make sure the reed is ready.
- Fit the reed into the top joint, and you’re ready to play.
- After practicing, carefully put away your reed.
- Swap the instrument before taking it apart.
- Disassemble the oboe in reverse order and put each piece away.
- Make sure you have at least 2 reeds in case one stops working!

[Print this](#) and keep it in your case or band folder!