

How To Oil Your Trumpet/Baritone/Tuba Valves

Parents, please read and help your 4th graders - they have never done this before

You ***MUST*** use musical instrument valve oil to oil your trumpet, baritone, or tuba! It is called "Valve oil". Any other type of oil you have in your home will RUIN your instrument. You can purchase valve oil for musical instruments on Amazon at either of these two links:

<https://www.amazon.com/Venture-104-Valve-Oil/dp/B003BHFKRM/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Blue-Juice-BJ2-Valve-Oil/dp/B0002FOGFI/>

Here are two Youtube instruction videos to watch:

Video 1. How to oil valves: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hkTxCI2TGvY>

Video 2. How to fix your trumpet if no air blows through the trumpet after you oil it, here is how to FIX it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vio4u7ywiqA>

Our Step-By-Step instructions: (if your child is in 4th grade please do this with them)

1. Only remove and oil one valve at a time - if you take out more than one, and mix them up, your trumpet will not play correctly.

2. Don't unscrew the very top of the valve button, but just under that, you need to unscrew the "valve cap".

3. Once unscrewed, lift the valve up and it will come out of the trumpet. You only need 2 or 3 small drops of oil. You want to add oil on the smooth silver part of the valve, near the "holes" in the valve, but do not squirt oil directly into those holes.

4. When you are done adding oil, putting the valve back into the trumpet correctly is the trickiest part. If you don't put them back in correctly, your trumpet will not make sound, so you will need to take the valve out and try again.

Looking at the valve, you will see one or two "valve guides" (small plastic or metal tabs), and when you put the valve back in your trumpet, those "valve guides" need to click perfectly into place. If you look into your trumpet where you had taken out your valve, you'll see inside the trumpet where that small "valve guide" needs to line up. *Many trumpets have a number on the guide (a 1, 2, or 3) and that number usually faces towards the mouthpiece when you put your valve in correctly, so you can look for that to help you.*

5. Put the valve back into your trumpet. Try blowing into your trumpet and make sure you can still blow through it. If yes, then you're good to go. If not, try Step 4 again. If you need help, look at Video 2 above.

