

# CONTENTS

- Contents . . . . . iii
- Acknowledgements . . . . . vii
- Introduction . . . . . viii
- Brasses in General: Problems and Solutions Applicable to All Brass Instruments . . . . . 1**
  - Instrument Selection . . . . . 1**
    - Purchasing new brass instruments:* . . . . . 1
    - Purchasing used brass instruments:* . . . . . 1
  - Maintenance and Storage . . . . . 3**
    - Lubricants and Polishes.* . . . . . 3
    - Moisture Removal.* . . . . . 5
    - Temperature.* . . . . . 5
    - Assembly and Handling.* . . . . . 5
    - Storage* . . . . . 5
  - Troubleshooting. . . . . 6**
    - Stuck tuning slides* . . . . . 6
    - Stuck valve caps – top or bottom* . . . . . 6
    - Stuck piston valve.* . . . . . 6
    - Stuck mouthpiece.* . . . . . 7
    - Broken Linkage (rotary valves only)* . . . . . 9
    - Sound is very airy.* . . . . . 10
    - Replacing Water Key Corks.* . . . . . 10
    - Sound is very stuffy and hard to play.* . . . . . 10
    - No air goes through the instrument.* . . . . . 10
    - Piston valve makes a clicking noise when it goes down or comes back up* . . . . . 11
    - Piston valve will not go up and down without assistance* . . . . . 11
    - Rotary valve makes a clicking sound when it goes back and forth* . . . . . 11
    - Worn out felts or corks* . . . . . 12
    - Broken or missing water key spring* . . . . . 12

<i>Buzzing sound while playing</i> . . . . .	12
<i>Truing the mouthpiece</i> . . . . .	13
<i>Dents and bell creases</i> . . . . .	13
<i>What is a chem-clean?</i> . . . . .	13
<i>When is it time for a chem-clean?</i> . . . . .	14
<b>Basic Brass Toolbox</b> . . . . .	14
<b>Mouthpieces</b> . . . . .	15
<b>Mutes</b> . . . . .	16
<b>Tuning</b> . . . . .	16
<b>Trumpet and Cornet</b> . . . . .	18
<b>Purchasing</b> . . . . .	18
<i>Options</i> . . . . .	18
<i>Recommended student brands</i> . . . . .	20
<i>Step up instruments</i> . . . . .	20
<i>Recommended professional brands</i> . . . . .	20
<b>Maintenance and Storage</b> . . . . .	20
<i>Lubricants and Polishes</i> . . . . .	21
<i>Storage</i> . . . . .	21
<b>Troubleshooting</b> . . . . .	23
<i>Pitch</i> . . . . .	23
<i>Mouthpieces</i> . . . . .	24
<i>Cases</i> . . . . .	25
<i>Stands</i> . . . . .	26
<i>Mutes</i> . . . . .	26
<b>French Horn</b> . . . . .	27
<b>Purchasing</b> . . . . .	27
<i>Options</i> . . . . .	27
<i>Recommended student brands</i> . . . . .	29
<i>Step up instruments</i> . . . . .	29
<i>Recommended professional brands</i> . . . . .	29
<b>Maintenance and Storage</b> . . . . .	29
<i>Lubricants and Polishes</i> . . . . .	30
<i>Storage</i> . . . . .	31
<b>Troubleshooting</b> . . . . .	33
<i>Pitch</i> . . . . .	33
<i>Mouthpieces</i> . . . . .	34
<i>Cases</i> . . . . .	34
<i>Stands</i> . . . . .	35
<i>Mutes</i> . . . . .	35

<b>Trombone</b> . . . . .	37
<b>Purchasing</b> . . . . .	37
<i>Options</i> . . . . .	37
<i>Recommended student brands</i> . . . . .	39
<i>Step-up Instruments</i> . . . . .	39
<i>Recommended professional brands</i> . . . . .	39
<i>Bass Trombone – Single or double trigger?</i> . . . . .	40
<b>Maintenance and Storage</b> . . . . .	40
<i>Lubricants and Polishes</i> . . . . .	41
<i>Storage</i> . . . . .	44
<b>Troubleshooting</b> . . . . .	45
<i>Pitch</i> . . . . .	45
<i>Mouthpieces</i> . . . . .	45
<i>Cases</i> . . . . .	46
<i>Stands</i> . . . . .	47
<i>Mutes</i> . . . . .	48
<b>Baritone and Euphonium</b> . . . . .	49
<b>Purchasing</b> . . . . .	49
<i>Options</i> . . . . .	49
<i>Recommended student brands</i> . . . . .	52
<i>Recommended Step-up brands</i> . . . . .	52
<i>Recommended professional brands</i> . . . . .	52
<b>Maintenance and Storage</b> . . . . .	52
<i>Lubricants and Polishes</i> . . . . .	53
<i>Storage</i> . . . . .	54
<b>Troubleshooting</b> . . . . .	55
<i>Pitch</i> . . . . .	55
<i>Mouthpieces</i> . . . . .	55
<i>Cases</i> . . . . .	56
<i>Stands</i> . . . . .	57
<i>Mutes</i> . . . . .	58
<b>Tuba</b> . . . . .	59
<b>Purchasing</b> . . . . .	59
<i>Options</i> . . . . .	59
<i>Recommended student brands</i> . . . . .	61
<i>Step up instruments</i> . . . . .	61
<i>Recommended professional brands</i> . . . . .	62
<b>Maintenance and Storage</b> . . . . .	62

<i>Lubricants and Polishes</i> . . . . .	63
<i>Storage</i> . . . . .	64
<b>Troubleshooting</b> . . . . .	65
<i>Pitch</i> . . . . .	66
<i>Mouthpieces</i> . . . . .	66
<i>Cases</i> . . . . .	66
<i>Stands</i> . . . . .	67
<i>Mutes</i> . . . . .	68
<b>Sousaphone</b> . . . . .	70
<b>Purchasing</b> . . . . .	70
<i>Options</i> . . . . .	70
<i>Recommended student brands</i> . . . . .	72
<i>Recommended higher quality 3- and 4-valve brands</i> . . . . .	72
<i>Maintenance and Storage</i> . . . . .	72
<i>Lubricants and Polishes</i> . . . . .	73
<i>Storage</i> . . . . .	73
<b>Troubleshooting</b> . . . . .	74
<i>Mouthpieces</i> . . . . .	75
<b>Other Marching Brass</b> . . . . .	78
<b>Purchasing</b> . . . . .	78
<i>Options</i> . . . . .	78
<b>Traveling with Brass Instruments</b> . . . . .	78
<b>Glossary</b> . . . . .	80
<b>About the Authors</b> . . . . .	83