

## CLARINET EQUIPMENT

INSTRUMENT	MOUTHPIECE	REEDS
<b>Selmer</b>	<b>David Hite</b> Premiere Artist Series	<b>Mitchell Lurie</b> 1.5 - 5
<b>Selmer USA-</b> CL301-311 (resonite) CL201-211 (wood)	<b>Vandoren</b> B45	<b>Vandoren trad</b> 2-5 <b>Vandoren V12</b> 2 1/2 - 5
<b>Selmer Paris</b> "Signature Series" "Recital Series"	5 RV	<b>Grand Concert Artist</b> 2.5 - 5 (comes in 3/4 strengths)
<b>Yamaha</b>	5 RV¥	<b>Oliveri</b> 2 - 5
YCLCL250		<b>Zonda</b> 2-5
YCL280	<b>Selmer</b>	
YCL450N	HS*	
YCL650	C95	
<b>Buffet</b>	<b>Charles Bay</b>	
E10, E11, E12	<b>Woodwind</b>	
C-12	<b>Gigliotti</b>	
R-13	<b>Greg Smith</b>	
Prestige	<b>Larry Combs</b>	
<b>Leblanc</b> Concerto, Esprit, LL Normandy 4, Opus Opus II, PF Big Easy Sonata Noblet 45	<b>Pyne</b> Student (\$\$\$) Professional (\$\$\$)	
<b>Artley</b>		
<b>Jupiter</b> <b>Jupiter 631N</b>		
<b>Armstrong</b>		
<b>Conn</b>		

## Buying a CLARINET: What are you looking for?

- **Price is not the only factor in a school situation.**

New instruments come in 3 different qualities, student, intermediate and professional. The question of what one should buy depends on how the level of student.

Used?

- There is always used instruments to buy. And, you will always have at least one student's whose grandparent played a particular instrument. Used instruments should generally be reconditioned or overhauled and will play as good as a new one assuming the wood is in good condition

Why Plastic?

- \* For a beginning player just starting out or playing a year or so, a plastic or resonite clarinet can certainly fit a student's need. Resonite clarinets take the wear & tear a child will give it with no problems. Generally you won't have to worry about it cracking, temperature changes, but if mishandled a plastic instrument if dropped can chip or break. o

What about the sound?

- \* The sound a plastic clarinet produces is not quite as good as a wooden instrument but, the student cannot get the full sound out of a wooden clarinet because the muscles to produce that sound are not developed yet. To put it in another way: If Larry Combs (prin. Chicago Symphony Orchestra clarinet section) played your child's clarinet, he would still sound like Larry Combs, but if your child played Larry Combs' clarinet, your child would not sound like Larry Combs.

Why Wood?

- \* For the more mature student (2 to 3 years), a wooden instrument is more appropriate. The use and care of the clarinet are not a problem as they are with a beginner. At this point we are concerned with the sound produced by the instrument, and the wood clarinet has the best sound.

Why does it cost so much?

- \* The plastic clarinet is less expensive than the wooden instrument, due to the lower cost of the plastic. The wood used in making clarinets is called **Grenadilla**. It is a very dense wood and the denser the wood the better the sound. In order to make the wood as dense as possible the wood is cut into blocks and soaked in oil. The longer it soaks, the denser it gets. A large part of the cost of the better wood clarinets is that someone has to pay for that block of wood sitting in a barrel of oil for 3, 4 or 5 years. Another part of the cost is the grade of wood used as well as the type of keys used, and of course the quality of the manufacturer.

Which Wood Clarinet?

- \* Wood clarinets come in beginner, intermediate and professional grades, of course you will sound better on a better clarinet, but you don't need a Rolls Royce to go to the supermarket. The choice depends on the use the instrument will eventually get. If the student is going to continue to study music and plans to become a professional musician or a music teacher, then the choice is to buy the best instrument you can afford. If the student just wants to play while in school and maybe join an amateur group after school, an intermediate instrument would do fine. If the student is just chugging along and likes to play, but not all that much a beginner clarinet is the answer.