Article Summary

*Equipment: Instrument (1)*

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**Article Title**: *How to Buy a Bassoon*

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**INSTRUMENT**: Bassoon

**Magazine or Journal Title**: Children’s Music Workshop Online (website)

**Summary:**

1. Brief history about the bassoon
2. Developments of the bassoon
   1. Fingerings changed
3. Theobald Boehm and other innovators of the nineteenth century developed key systems that made key systems easier for woodwind instruments
4. Today, not many people have accepted these new developments
   1. Bassoon and Oboe players have not really accepted this
   2. The flute and sax have been greatly improved with their fingering systems under the guidance of Boehm
5. Elaboration on some of Boehm’s developments
6. French or German system
   1. German system is known as the Heckel system
   2. French system is known as the Buffet system
7. How hard is it to play bassoon
8. Acquiring your first bassoon
   1. Many beginning bassoonists are able to buy their own instrument because of the initial cost.
   2. A student should consider buying their own instrument if they have been playing a bassoon for a while and are considering pursuing the instrument more.
   3. Many instruments can be very useful but will require restoration
   4. It’s much easier to just purchase a new bassoon, plus there will be many more varieties available than if they have to restore a current instrument
   5. Resources for purchasing bassoons
9. What to look for
   1. Look down the bore for scratches
      1. It should also be straight
   2. Check the condition of the pads, corks, and felts
   3. Check the cushions for the keys and the rods
10. What to expect in a new instrument
11. Every player should have a reed-case to store reeds
    1. Reeds are very expensive