

Basic Care & Maintenance of Smallpipes

General

Lightly wipe over pipes with either almond oil or bore oil if the wood looks like it is drying out, then wipe off excess.

Keep pipes in a good case at a moderate temperature. NOT NEXT TO A RADIATOR!

Never mouth blow a cane smallpipe reed...

Playing is the best form of maintenance.

Ensure joints are not loose add or remove hemp as required.

Periodically I personally wipe over the hemped joints with a bit of cork grease, available from most music shops.

Mouth blown Smallpipes

After each playing session unzip the bag and allow to dry out.

Once a year pull through a lightly oiled cloth through all internal bores, ensure pipes are dry and free of moisture before doing this and use a suitable bore oil available from most music shops.

Bellows Blown Smallpipes

Once a year pull through a lightly oiled cloth through all internal bores, ensure pipes are dry and free of moisture and use a suitable bore oil available from most music shops.

Oil the valve inside the bellows once or twice a year, bore oil is ideal for this.

A suitable leather oil can be rubbed into the leather on the bellows periodically to help keep the bellows supple.

If you require further advice please email iain@bagpipereeds.co.uk