



ClariNotes



Mouthpieces and Ligatures Choosing Proper Equipment

Clarinet Mouthpieces

- [Pyne Bel Canto](#) (\$399)*
- [Rico Reserve](#) (\$99)
- [Vandoren M15](#) (\$80)
- [Pyne Polycrystal](#) (\$50)
 - Great for young students upgrading their mouthpiece for the first time.

Ligatures

Regular: The screws are on the front of the mouthpiece.

- [Vandoren Optimum](#) (\$70)
- [Bonade](#) (\$17)

Inverted: The screws are on the back of the mouthpiece (Remember, you always tighten the ligature with your right hand)

- [Charles Bay](#) (\$40)*
- [BG](#) (\$50)
- [Rovner](#) (\$35)

What do I play on?



Pyne Bel Canto Mouthpiece

Bay Medium Ligature



“DON’T JUST PLAY WITH WHAT CAME IN THE CASE!”

The single most important piece of equipment you should upgrade, which will give you the most noticeable improvement in tone, intonation, and resonance is not your clarinet, but instead the mouthpiece. The mouthpiece, reed, ligature, and barrel, have the greatest effect on how you sound and how you feel as a player. The mouthpiece and ligature that come with a clarinet when you buy a new instrument, even professional-quality instruments, are merely basic and beginner in quality. There are hundreds of types of mouthpieces and ligatures on the market. Clarinetists are always interested in what is new and innovative in the world of mouthpieces. The above models are what have worked for me and would be a good place to start. Make it a habit in your clarinet life to try new equipment as you strive for your perfect sound.

About This Newsletter

My intention for this newsletter is to offer tips and techniques for teaching and playing clarinet. Feel free to contact me with topics or questions.

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