

ADVICE FOR INSTRUMENT CLEANING AND SAFE MUSIC LESSONS!

 **SONOR**[®]
ORFF

As the start of new school year Corona virus (COVID-19) concerns continue to determine our everyday life. As a music educator, you are once again faced with the challenge of making your music lessons student-oriented despite many requirements. For many teachers and students these are personally demanding and stressful times. It is important to focus on things that provide stability, gives us joy, and connects people together – like music.



During this time, planning proper Orff instrument use and cleaning to avoid COVID-19 surface contagion as students return to the instruments is important. The first step is to always follow the guidelines of the CDC. Additionally, the SONOR Orff team recommends the following to help you and your children resume safe music classes.



1.) SIMPLY SOAP AND WATER DOES A GREAT JOB!

The virus has an outside surface which is made up of lipids and protein which soap or detergent break up or degrade allowing the virus to break down and fall apart. A moistened cloth with soap and water is a very effective way to reduce the number of harmful bacteria and viruses by simply removing the dirt and oil to which they adhere. In addition, this is a natural product without aggressive chemicals that do not end up contributing to wastewater.



2.) YOU MIX IT - YOU CONTROL IT!

Many commercial disinfecting products contain serious chemicals. One way to avoid the balance of toxic ingredients, is to create your own disinfectant. As recommended by the WHO or the CDC, a mixture of at least 70% Isopropyl alcohol and 30% distilled water should be used. The disinfectant should be sprayed onto a cloth and afterwards wiped off the instruments with it. Remember that isopropyl alcohol is highly flammable – do not use this to disinfect while cooking or near an open flame. Also, alcohol evaporates quickly, so disinfect in a ventilated space to avoid fumes.



3.) ALWAYS DAMP, NOT SOAKING WET!

Since many Orff instruments are made of wood, moisture is naturally harmful to these materials. SONOR Orff instruments are sealed with a protective varnish coating so they can be wiped down with soapy water or a cloth soaked in an alcohol solution, the coating does not withstand extensive or aggressive cleaning. Caution is advised with use of fogging spray cleaners. This can cause moisture to settle on the wood and be absorbed. The use of cloths is always the better option when it comes to cleaning wood surfaces.



4.) IF YOU CANNOT FOLLOW THESE STEPS, CONSIDER AVOIDING WOOD AND CHOOSE PLASTIC OR FIBERGLASS

All other materials SONOR uses apart from wood are mostly impervious to commercial disinfectants. Therefore, if you have guidelines from your institution that do not allow you to clean exclusively with soap and water or an alcohol disinfectant, check if you can switch to the use of instruments such as fiberglass or metal chime bars with plastic resonators or Glockenspiels with plastic frames during this time of COVID-19. Fiberglass bars can be wiped with a cloth containing disinfectant with no material impact. Metal sound bars, bar support pins, plastic materials, and even drums with synthetic skins can be cleaned, sprayed, and immersed with no complications.



Tip: Mallet shafts can be cleaned by the students themselves with soaked cleaning tissues.

We recommend with any cleaning, to be cautious with the stamping or imprinting of bar notes or model identification. Some aggressive cleaners may loosen the imprints, so we recommend testing the respective product on an inconspicuous spot.



If you have any questions
please contact the SONOR Orff team
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**STAY HEALTHY -
STAY POSITIVE!**

The SONOR Orff team