Instrument: Clarinet

Magazine or Journal Title: The Instrumentalist

Citation:

Sumner, Christopher, *Clarinet Reeds and Mouthpieces,* The Instrumentalist, (Aug. 2003), Vol. 58, Issue n1, pp 50-56.

Article Title: Clarinet Reeds and Mouthpieces

Author: Christopher Sumner

Summary (Outline form):

* Choosing a reed
	+ - * Thickness and density matter
			* Hold to light to check grain
			* High school should play on 3, beginner on 1 ½ or 2
		- Getting Started
			* Make sure to soak reed
			* Soak in clean water (won’t break down reed as fast)
			* Soak newer reeds longer
			* Seal new reeds by soaking then rubbing on flat surface
		- Mouthpieces and Ligatures
			* Hard rubber and crystal mouthpieces are best
			* Evaluate on intonation, tone quality, resistance and response
			* Don’t use stock mouthpiece that comes with instrument
			* Ligature goal is to have least amount touching reed
		- Reed Placement
			* Tip should be centered
			* Top should line up with top of mouthpiece
		- Storage
			* Wipe off reed and place on flat surface
			* Can get reed cases
		- Advanced Adjustments
			* Get simple tools to fix reed problems
				+ Sandpaper
				+ Knife
			* Can improve sound