Instrument: Saxophone

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Summary (Outline form):

* + - Adjust neck strap
      * Improper adjustment can cause embouchure or air problems
    - Rotate reeds and store them properly
      * Rotate at least four different reeds and store reeds in a reed case (not plastic sleeve that they come in)
    - Select the right reed
      * Use double-cut reeds for classical music, concert band and single-cut for jazz
      * Strength is also an issue -2 for beginner and 3 for intermediate (3 ½ for middle to high school)
    - Invest in a good mouthpiece
      * Stock mouthpieces are usually too open (better for jazz than classical)
      * Have students buy good classical mouthpiece
      * Band program should buy a bari, tenor and alto mouthpiece
      * Selmer C\* is a good standard classical mouthpiece
    - Use a mouthpiece patch
      * Patch is applied with adhesive where the teeth sit
      * Makes the mouthpiece taller
      * Makes it possible to monitor the students’ pressure on the mouthpiece
    - Check the ligature
      * A one-screw cloth ligature is a good step up from two screw metal ones
      * Can take trial and error to experiment with new ones
    - Play overtones
      * Playing overtones helps students to develop air control and embouchure control
      * Also helps intonation and tone
    - Warm up
      * Warm up is important to improving tone, vibration, intonation, breath control, dynamic control etc
    - Listen
      * Students need to be exposed to the sound of classical saxophone because it is not prominent in culture
      * Otherwise they could develop a jazz tone and it is not appropriate for classical music
      * Recommending a few classical albums to listen to is a good idea
      * School could develop small library including Claude Delangle, Timothy McAlister, Arno Bornkamp, Otis Murphy, Kenneth Tse, Frederick Hemke, Eugene Rousseau, and Donald Sinta
      * Also, student should listen to jazz (like John Coltrane, Chris Potter, Kenny Garrett, Sonny Rollins, Cannonball Adderley)
    - Maintain the instrument, daily and yearly
      * Students need a swab to remove moisture
      * Can store with squares of paper towel under a-flat pad and low e-flat pad to remove residual moisture
      * Also should be taken to repair shop yearly