Before first playing of the instrument, **important**: Especially in the winter, when you get the frula out of the cold van of some post office service, frula in the cold weather becomes very cold, and the metal rings increase this cold impact on the wood of the instrument. All in all, it is important that you leave frula for 30 minutes to be in the room, on the table (not close to heat, or radiator, or stove), in normal room temperature, so that the wood becomes acomodated, with temperature for playing.

Flute maintenance - User guide

<u>IMPORTANT:</u> Since you bought a brend new flute, it should be played very gradually. This means that for the first 5 days you play it just 5 minutes a day, then for the next 10 days you play it just 10 minutes a day, and for the next 15 days you can play it for 15 minutes a day. Finally, after 30 days of such gradual playing, you can increase the playing on your frula. In this way your frula will become a very nice instrument with stable performance possibilities. This is very important so do as we suggested in this instruction. When a person buys a car, for example BMW, although it can go 250 km/h with no problem, still it is suggested that one should gradually make the increasing of the speed in the first month.

- 1.) Flute protect from sun, strong heat sources (stove, radiator, etc.), water sprinkling or falling into any liquid (as well as any kind of heavy moisture in the air), then from too cold environment (to prevent forming of ice on flute), etc. Today in houses and apartments, living room is often connected to the kitchen. Because of high evaporation of water from the stove while cooking, in this area there is heavy moisture in the air. It also refers to a situation where you would put flute in closed bag without air, so it could get moldy. So, flute loves moderate conditions, and all extremes are not good for its maitenence and later performance-playing on it.
- 2.) Flute carefully guard against dropping, impacts or crushing. You should always keep your instrument in a oblong bag or in a box. The bag must be such that you can close it, and box should also be such that you can close it in order to prevent flute from falling and crushing. Thus instrument should always be kept no metter if it is stored or taken away with you, or by someone, somewhere. It is even better, if you are able to create a cardboard box, or even better box made from wood and to hold your instrument in box like that.
- 3.) Flute is like wine. As time goes by, it is getting better, the wood dries and vibration during playing becomes more and more pleasant to the ear. It is necessary to play flute regularly, since playing gradualy improves sound quality.
- 4.) Be careful not to damage the cork, hatch at the mouthpiece and edge of flute, because these are most sensitive parts. It is flutes mini equipment for sound production. The intervention on the holes can be done somehow, but it would be very complicated to fix problems with cork. Never try to push and remove cork from the flute! It is not necessary, and if by any chance it happen to drop (and this is only possible if flute became so dried because of storaged in bad condition), then it is necessary to entrust flute to an experienced flutes repairman, who could be able to perform an intervention and reinstall cork in the flute.
- 5.) We have chosen to reduce maintenance to the optimal level. The most important thing is to protect flute from too much heat, cold, moisture, dropping, impacts or crushing. The important thing for tunable frulas, that are consisting of two separate parts, is the idea that you have to separate completely these parts every 10 days. This is so in order that frula does not stick its two parts together too strong, and later it is very difficult to separate them. The joint between metal and wood is generaly problematic in woodwind instruments. Metal has a tendency to expand in heat, wood also but lesser. All in all the best thing, if you encounter such problem that frula cannot be separated-tuned in the middle. Please, do not force it. Leave it for a while that weather conditions and pressure loosens. Try to put some pig grease, on joint, or some WD40, or some oil for weapons or machines (since it is not leaving some remnents while in use, but it just greases the surface).
- 6.) You can clean hatch at the mouthpiece with a softer cardboard (as of box of cigare is made of). You can cut cardboard and clean a hatch with it just a little bit of movement. This cardboard will also absorb moisture from inside of flute which is also positive side effect. Do not use any kind of wood, and certainly not something metallic, like a knife, nail, screwdriver or something similar. Do not use any kind of plastic or thoothpicks. All that can make contusion at the hatch. If the hatch at the mouthpiece is disrupt only for hundredth of millimeter flute tuning can be disrupted and in worse case scenario flute itself can be ruined. In this case, it is not possible to fix flute otherwise then to send it to a repairman. But after removing of cork and it's return again, flute can rarely be as good as with it's original position of cork.
- 7.) After eating, before you start to play the flute, you should rinse thoroughly your mouth with water and brush your teeth from food leftovers. It is recommended that you do not play flute at least 20 minutes after meal because in the meantime, you can feel a residual piece of food and remove it from your mouth. This is very important because if piece of food enter the flute and stick to the inside wall of it, and gets dried, it will become obstacle, so the flute may become ill tuned and it will never sound as good as it should.
- 8.) All customers expect that their new flute sound and appearance is excelent, but later, just a few preserve and maintain their instrument with care, as it should be done.

Best regards, **Dragan Jovanović**owner of "FRULA.INFO"
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