

## Edwards Instruments

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### Slide Care & Maintenance

Here at Edwards we use Trombotine on the slides and have found that it works best. Many people use Slide-O-Mix and that is ok, if you clean the slide out (with cleaning rod and cheese cloth) daily after each use. When left on the slide the Slide-O-Mix breaks down leaving a green residue that crystallizes and with time (and more applications) makes the slide feel like it has dents in the tubes even though there are none to be found.

### Weekly Cleaning

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- 1.# Get a lot of cheesecloth from your local Wal-Mart cloth dept.
- 2.# Get a good cleaning rod.
- 3.# Put cloth on rod and make sure the end of the slide rod is covered so that you don't dent the endcreek when cleaning the outer slide.
- 4.# Cloth should be snug when running through outer tubes (snug enough to generate some heat with 30-50 strokes).
- 5.# Swab the outer slide until outer tube is really warm. Switch the cleaning rod to the other tube and repeat swabbing. Put clean cheesecloth on the cleaning rod and reswab the slide until the cloth is coming out clean.
  
- 6.# After cleaning the inside of the outer slide, wipe down the inner slide with a soft cotton cloth.
  
- 7.# Reapply Trombotine to the inner slide.
  
- 8.# Spray non-aerosol lemon pledge, and distilled water on the inner slide.
  
- 9.# Put the inner slide back into the outer slide and continue playing.

### Yearly Cleaning

If you want to do a more complete cleaning and have the time continue on with these steps.

- 1.# After doing steps 1-5 above, take some Wrights brass cream (<http://www.jawright.com/>).
- 2.# Apply some of the brass cream on end of cleaning rod cloth.
- 3.# Swab the outer slide with the cleaning rod.
- 4.# Swab until the outer tube heats up and the brass cream turns black on cloth.
- 5.# Reapply clean cloth on the slide rod and repeat this process to the other outer slide tube.
- 6.# Apply clean cloth to the cleaning rod and moisten the cloth with distilled water (Tap water has fluoride and your local minerals that are not good for your slide long term, always use distilled water on your slide). The water on the cloth will help remove the left over Wrights polish from the outer tubes. Swab away with the wet cloth on your cleaning rod until there is no more polish coming out.
- 7.# Rotate cloth, or put new cloth on, moisten and swab the other slide tube until the cloth comes out clean.
- 8.# When you look into the outer tube it should be a lot shinier than it was before the polishing.

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- 9.# After the polishing fill the outer slide with warm water and cover both tubes with your fingers. Shake the outer slide and then drain the slide watching to make sure the water coming out of the slide is clean.
- 10.# After this warm bath, swab the outer slide with a clean slide rod one last time with clean cheesecloth. When the rod comes out clean then the hardest part of the slide cleaning is done.

### Cleaning the inner slide

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- 1.# Make sure you have clean hands, wash if necessary.
- 2.# Use some isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) and some soft cotton cloth to wipe down the outside of the inner slide.
- 3.# Wipe until the cloth comes clean.
- 4.# Apply trombotine to the stockings (lightly) and work it into the entire length of the inner slide tube with your thumb and forefinger. If you can see white after rubbing it in then you have used too much trombotine applied to the inner slide (remove some of the trombotine).
- 5.# Spray the inner slide tube with pledge (lemon **non-aerosol** only), and then distilled water.
- 6.# Put the outer slide back into the inner slide. You'll be amazed at how much better the slide action is after these processes.

Warnings: Be careful when swabbing to make sure to go straight in and out. Any angling of the slide rod can cause tubes to go out of line.

**Disclaimer: Edwards will assume no responsibility for accidents caused by players who attempt to do their own repairs.**

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