

Summary of Services

This list contains *most* services I will provide. During my five years at Best, I did some jobs that didn't fall into neat categories on the list, but most if not all of those projects fall under the **Custom Modifications** service category. About 75% of incoming repairs default to **Clean and Service**

General Services		
Play Assessment	Check for leaks/cracks, valve alignment, stray vibrations, valve compression, obstructions, anything that falls under " <i>my horn isn't playing right and I can't find out why</i> "	Free with appropriate repair, \$35 if repair declined
Misc. Play Condition (P/C)	Tasks in this category include broken tubes, patch-making for cracks and holes, and severely stuck slides. <i>*Usually added to a clean and service ticket.</i>	\$100/hr
Dentwork	Using a combination of mandrels, rods, and dent balls, all dents can be removed from a trumpet with patience and good judgment. This charge applies to significant dents or those in hard-to-reach places.	\$100/hr charged in 15min increments
Soft Soldering	Remove old solder (sometimes involves removing additional solder joints), clean the surfaces, and solder together un-attached parts. Braces usually require dentwork in addition to soldering if broken by impact.	\$20/solder joint, often combined with Dentwork
Silver Solder Brazing	Broken sub-components require high-temperature silver solder that always requires several additional steps off of the instrument.	\$100/hr charged in 15min increments
Valve Guide Replacement	Noisy/ worn valve guides can be replaced with new metal or nylon guides individually cut for a precise, smooth fit.	\$20/piston

Trumpet (Cornet, high trumpets, mellophone)		
Misc. Play Condition (P/C)	Tasks in this category include broken tubes, patch-making for cracks and holes, and severely stuck slides. <i>*Usually added to a clean and service ticket.</i>	\$100/hr
Clean and Service (lacquer and raw brass)	Ultrasonically (or acid) clean inside and outside, scratch brush patina as needed, polish slides, minor dent work only, replace valve felts and corks, water key corks and springs only (except PVA).	\$95 plus materials
Clean and Polish (silver and gold)	Same as Clean and Service , but with added polish to remove scratches and tarnish to make silver and gold instruments bright and shiny as new.	\$125 plus materials
Lacquer Stripping	Remove the old lacquer with a chemical stripper, refinish per request, includes Clean and Service .	\$350
Full Cosmetic Overhaul	Remove previous finish, perform all dentwork and body alignment, remove all scratches, finish to bright polish, satin, or any combination, and lacquer or silver plate.	\$1200+ (consult required)
Valve Job	Refit old, damaged, or worn pistons to their casings by straightening pistons, honing the valve casings, plating with copper and nickel or just nickel, and fitting to .0005" clearance.	\$600 for three pistons
Custom Modifications	Any other modification, including custom leadpipe drawing, replacing bells, pitchfinders, custom rings, disability accommodations, etc...	\$120/hr charged in 15min increments

Horn (French Horn)		
Clean and Service (lacquer and raw brass)	Ultrasonically (or acid) clean inside and outside, scratch brush patina as needed, polish slides, minor dent work only, replace water key corks and springs, replace valve bumpers and align valves	\$300
Clean and Polish (silver, gold, and raw brass)	Same as Clean and Service but with added labor time for polishing raw brass horns to a bright-luster shine. Includes ragging and lightly machine-buffing the bell, body, and slides. <i>*Not recommended for older horns</i>	\$450
Rotor Bearing Service	Remove excessive vertical and horizontal clearance to silence noisy rotors on old, worn, or damaged valves.	\$150 for four rotors
Lacquer Stripping	Remove the old lacquer with a chemical stripper, refinish per request, includes Clean and Service .	\$600
Full Cosmetic Overhaul	Remove previous finish, perform all dentwork and body alignment, remove all scratches, finish to bright polish, satin, or any combination, and lacquer or silver plate.	\$1800+ (consult required)
Valve Job	Refit old, damaged, or worn rotors to their casings by building up plating and hand lapping for precision fit.	\$800 for four rotors
Custom Modifications	Any other modification, including custom leadpipe drawing, replacing bells, pitchfinders, custom rings, disability accommodations, etc...	\$120/hr charged in 15min increments

Trombone (Tenor, Bass)		
Clean and Service (Bell Section only)	Ultrasonically (or acid) clean inside and outside, scratch brush patina as needed, polish slides, minor dent work only, replace water key corks and springs, replace valve bumpers and align valves	\$60(Straight) \$100(1 valve) \$120(2 valves) plus materials
Clean and Polish	Same as Clean and Service but with added labor time for polishing raw brass horns to a bright-luster shine. Includes ragging and lightly machine-buffing the bell, body, and slides.	\$90(Straight) \$130(1 valve) \$150(2 valves) plus materials
Slide Job	A basic Slide Job includes cleaning the insides and outsides of inner and outer slides, polishing all slide bearing surfaces, checking all slide dents, and straightening all tubes.	\$90
Slide Rebuild	Rebuilding a trombone slide includes all of a Slide Job in addition to complete disassembly of the inner and outer slides. All slides are checked individually for straightness and any dents/deformities. It's then carefully reassembled with perfect alignment and spot-lacquered as needed. <i>*Recommended for significant dentwork on the handslide crook</i>	\$175
Rotor Bearing Service	Remove excessive vertical and horizontal clearance to silence noisy rotors on old, worn, or damaged valves.	\$35/valve
Lacquer Stripping	Remove the old lacquer with a chemical stripper, refinish per request, includes Clean and Service .	\$900
Full Cosmetic Overhaul	Remove previous finish, perform all dentwork and body alignment, remove all scratches, finish to bright polish, satin, or any combination, and lacquer or silver plate.	\$1500+ (consult required)
Custom Modifications	Any other modification, including custom leadpipe drawing, replacing bells, pitchfinders, custom rings, disability accommodations, etc...	\$120/hr charged in 15min increments

Middle Brass (baritone, euphonium, alto horn)		
Clean and Service (lacquer and raw brass)	Ultrasonically (or acid) clean inside and outside, scratch brush patina as needed, polish slides, minor dent work only, replace valve felts and corks, water key corks and springs only (except PVA).	\$160(3v) \$200(4v/compensating) plus materials
Clean and Polish (silver and gold)	Same as Clean and Service , but with added polish to remove scratches and tarnish to make silver and gold instruments bright and shiny as new.	\$260(3v) \$325(4v/compensating) plus materials
Lacquer Stripping	Remove the old lacquer with a chemical stripper, refinish per request, includes Clean and Service .	\$350
Full Cosmetic Overhaul	Remove previous finish, perform all dentwork and body alignment, remove all scratches, finish to bright polish, satin, or any combination, and lacquer or silver plate.	\$1200+ (consult required)
Valve Job	Refit old, damaged, or worn pistons to their casings by straightening pistons, honing the valve casings, plating with copper and nickel or just nickel, and fitting to .0005" clearance.	\$600 for three pistons
Custom Modifications	Any other modification, including custom leadpipe drawing, replacing bells, pitchfinders, custom rings, disability accommodations, etc...	\$120/hr charged in 15min increments

Tuba (Piston, Rotor, 3v, 4v, sousaphone)		
Clean and Service (lacquer and raw brass)	Ultrasonically (or acid) clean inside and outside, scratch brush patina as needed, polish slides, minor dent work only, replace valve felts and corks, water key corks and springs only (except PVA).	\$225(3v, piston) \$250(4v, piston) \$300(3v, rotor) \$325(4v, rotor) plus materials
Clean and Polish	Same as Clean and Service , but with added polish to remove scratches and tarnish to make silver and gold instruments bright and shiny as new.	\$350(3v, piston) \$375(4v, piston) \$425(3v, rotor) \$450(4v, rotor) plus materials
Rotor Bearing Service	Remove excessive vertical and horizontal clearance to silence noisy rotors on old, worn, or damaged valves.	\$150 for four rotors
Lacquer Stripping	Remove the old lacquer with a chemical stripper, refinish per request, includes Clean and Service .	\$200+ Clean and service
Full Cosmetic Overhaul	Remove previous finish, perform all dentwork and body alignment, remove all scratches, finish to bright polish, satin, or any combination, and lacquer or silver plate.	\$2500+ (consult required)
Valve Job (piston)	Refit old, damaged, or worn pistons to their casings by straightening pistons, honing the valve casings, plating with copper and nickel or just nickel, and fitting to .0005" clearance. <i>Honing casings requires removing the valve section from the rest of the instrument, so compromises of cost and time must be considered.</i>	\$300/piston (consult required)
Valve Job (rotor)	Refit old, damaged, or worn rotors to their casings by building up plating and hand lapping for precision fit.	\$1000 for four rotors
Custom Modifications	Any other modification, including custom leadpipe drawing, replacing bells, pitchfinders, custom rings, disability accommodations, etc...	\$120/hr charged in 15min increments