

## **Instructions for shipping a horn**

Because horns are an odd shape and fragile, care must be used when packing and shipping to avoid damage. It is more likely that the horn will arrive safely, and that the shipping company will honor any insurance agreement if the instrument is packed properly, should damage occur in transit. It is recommended that you insure the instrument, either for 25 to 50% of, or it's full value, to cover the cost of any necessary repair and loss of value resulting from damage during transit.

Most horns, with or without case, will fit in a dish barrel box (sometimes called dish pack) with enough room to spare for sufficient packing material. It is a double walled cardboard box, 18"x18"x28". Dish barrel boxes can be purchased from U-Haul or other sources.

If shipping a horn in a case, take the time to support the horn within the case. Small cell bubble wrap works well for this.

1. The mouthpiece end of the leadpipe is particularly vulnerable. If there is room, pack bubble wrap around the end of the mouthpiece so that if the box is handled roughly, the leadpipe has some cushioning before it can bump the edge of the case compartment.
2. Another vulnerable area of the horn is the valve slide section. Especially on Geyer wrap and Knopf wrap instruments, there is not a lot of bracing between the valve slides and the outer portion of the horn. Packing small pieces of bubble wrap between the underside of the valve slides and the case can help support the valve slide section.
3. If the horn can shift within the case, fill any extra space around the horn with bubble wrap to cushion the horn.
4. If shipping a detachable bell horn, be sure that the bell cannot contact the body of the horn. If there is room, a sheet or two of bubble wrap between the bell and body can help isolate the two components, but do not stuff the case so full that it is hard to close.
5. Make sure that any accessories (mouthpiece, mute, valve oil) are packed in a way that they cannot come in contact with the instrument. - either in a separate compartment that cannot open when the case is closed, or individually wrapped and padded.

If shipping a horn without a case, wrap the horn with several layers of bubble wrap (large bubble). If the bell is detachable, wrap each component separately, so that there is at least 2 to 3 inches of padding between the bell and body when they are in the box.

Use either bubble wrap or packing peanuts to isolate the case or wrapped horn in the center of the box. There should be a minimum of 2 to 3 inches of padding all around the case or wrapped horn.

Include your name and address, as well as a list of contents and destination inside the box.

Please note: These directions are guidelines that we use when shipping horns. They do not guarantee that your horn will arrive at the destination safely. Morse Instrument Repair assumes no liability for damage incurred during transit, or for damage claims denied by your carrier.