

MUTES FOR BRASS INSTRUMENTS

TOM CROWN TROMBONE MUTES

In order to make a mute playable throughout the entire trombone range the mute must be in proportion to the size of the trombone bell. People with small hands or young players might, therefore, have difficulty in handling this mute, particularly in fast mute changes. I am including instructions and cord so that such players might facilitate the handling of this mute by tying a simple hand-hold on the end of the mute.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TYING CORD HAND-HOLD

(1) Tie a knot at one end of cord so as to form a lasso loop to fit over mute: Tighten this around cone section of mute about 1 inch above where cone section is joined to end of mute. (With the Tenor Trombone Cup Mute, this loop should be parallel to the edge of the cup.) Draw end of cord across large end of mute and tie (2) to section of loop directly opposite first knot. Return cord to center of large end of mute and tie knot (3). Return cord at right angle and tie knot (4) halfway between the first two knots of lasso loop. Return cord to center of large end of mute, double over and continue to opposite side of lasso loop and tie knot (5). Return end of cord to center and tie knot (6). Make a right angle turn with cord to first knot on lasso loop and tie final knot (7) leaving an added final finger loop (8) if desired.

The finished hand-hold should consist of a single strand loop around the cone section, and four double strand cords knotted in the center of the base of the mute offering a convenient way to hold the mute or to remove it from the bell.

