SMITH-WATKINS BRASS

We're a small business working from a converted barn in North Yorkshire, England.

We've been making custom brass instruments since 1985 with the ultimate satisfaction of hearing our instruments played live, on the tv and radio - with styles varying from Big Band and Military Band to Symphony.

Our instruments sell because of their quality and attention to detail. We’re not interested in 'trendy' designs, 'bling' or added 'magic' - just high quality traditional features which stand the test of time and hours of playing in the hands of professional musicians.

We believe that producing a successful instrument relies on three simple rules:
- Making the best compromise of musical qualities to suit the individual player
- Ensuring a good build to last for many years
- Providing reliability and excellent service to all our customers

We have used our scientific background to understand the complex nature of brass instrument acoustics. In this scientific spirit, we publish our work on the Internet and guarantee that our products are free of pseudo-acoustics, mysteries or magic to help promote them.
B-FLAT CORNETS

SOLOIST CORNET

“IT'S THE BIZ FOR US - SUPER STUFF!”

In 1999, the Soloist cornet with interchangeable leadpipes was ‘granted Millennium Product status by the U.K. Design Council after scrutiny by a panel of leading figures from business, design, science and culture’.

**FEATURES**

- **Choice of 3 bore sizes: .460”, .464” or .470”**
- **Choice of 9 interchangeable leadpipes**
- **1st & 3rd slide triggers**
- **Lightest valves available**
- **Brass valve guides**
- **Monel pistons**
- **Brass inner and outer slides**

**BENEFITS**

- Select a cornet to suit individual playing requirements
- Enables matching of the leadpipe to the style of music and the environment
- Enables fine tuning adjustments
- Quicker and more responsive action
- For positive location as expected by professionals
- Hard wearing and non-corrosive for a longer life
- For smoothest action

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

- Use these notes for guidance in conjunction with the published chart.
- Playing can become harder/stuffy with an instrument combination which is too large or too small.
- A large pipe often makes the sound darker; a smaller pipe can make the sound brighter.
- Other pipes are available, but are only recommended after consultation.

**ARTISTE CORNET**

The Artiste cornet is identical to the Soloist except that the chosen leadpipe is permanently fixed to the instrument.

**PROFESSIONAL CORNET**

The Professional Cornet is identical to the Soloist except that the K2 leadpipe is permanently fixed to the larger (.470”) bore instrument.

Mouthpieces and mutes not included.

B-FLAT CORNET LEADPIPES

The cornet leadpipes are based on these three shapes. G2, for example, is slightly larger than G0, G4 is larger than G2, etc.

**G SERIES**

These pipes have a crisp, bright sound. They are particularly useful for upper register work or, used in conjunction with a large mouthpiece, can ride over a large ensemble.

| G0 | Smaller pipes for players who require a lighter sound with ease of playing. |
| G2 | A larger pipe for the same ease of playing but with a fuller sound. |

**K SERIES**

The K series gives the same ease of playing as the G series, but with a mellower sound. Due to their versatility these are a popular choice with Soloists and Tutti Cornet players.

| K0 | Smaller pipes for a lighter sound. |
| K2 | A slightly larger pipe. A good all-round pipe, ideal for Soloists or Tutti players and suitable for use in ensembles of all sizes. |
| K4 | A large pipe suitable for Soloists or Tutti players with good stamina. |

**T SERIES**

These pipes give a dark round sound, particularly in the low register. These are ideal for Soloists.

| T0 | Slightly smaller than the T4. Popular pipes among Principal players. |
| T2 | |
| T4 | A large pipe for those players with smaller mouthpieces or who require a darker sound. Also useful for Lower Tutti players. |

**G SERIES**

- These pipes are designed for upper register work.
- They can also ride over a large ensemble.

**G0**

- Smaller pipes for players who require a lighter sound with ease of playing.

**G2**

- A larger pipe for the same ease of playing but with a fuller sound.

**G4**

- Slightly larger than the G0. Ideal for upper register work.

**K SERIES**

- These pipes are designed for general use.

**K0**

- Smaller pipes for a lighter sound.

**K2**

- A slightly larger pipe. Ideal for Soloists or Tutti players.

**K4**

- A large pipe suitable for Soloists or Tutti players with good stamina.

**T SERIES**

- These pipes give a dark round sound, particularly in the low register.

**T0**

- Slightly smaller than the T4. Popular pipes among Principal players.

**T2**

- |

**T4**

- A large pipe for those players with smaller mouthpieces or who require a darker sound. Also useful for Lower Tutti players.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

- Use these notes for guidance in conjunction with the published chart.
- Playing can become harder/stuffy with an instrument combination which is too large or too small.
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- Other pipes are available, but are only recommended after consultation.
WHY CHOOSE LEADPIPES?

Looking at the instrument as a whole, the bore holds a certain amount of energy, maintained solely by the player, but this is gradually lost through the bell and leadpipe. If the loss is too great through an excessively large bell and/or leadpipe the player will become fatigued and no resonance is possible. Conversely, if the bell and/or leadpipe are too small the instrument would become harder to play and little sound would radiate.

Somewhere in between these extremes there will be an optimum balance for the size of bell and leadpipe for each player, according to his/her embouchure and mouthpiece set-up and playing environment e.g studio, orchestral, quintet, theatre pit etc.

For this reason, we use a set of finely calibrated interchangeable leadpipes in our trumpets and cornets so that the individual player can find their own ideal combination. If the leadpipe and bell are combined in one 3D chart, we can see that the perfect combination would be at the peak.

It is our aim to find this point for all our customers!

FULLY-FLIGHT CASE

Supplied with all B-flat cornets

“...a case that is nigh on indestructible”

4BARSREST.COM REVIEWS

TESTIMONIALS

MILITARY BANDS INCLUDE:

Royal Marines  Welsh Guards
Royal Artillery  Light Division
Royal Air Force  US Army
Blues & Royals  Yorkshire Police
King’s Division  Band of The Rifles

‘Half our cornet section loves our Smith-Watkins horns. The other half of the section is jealous!’

Bennett Konstans, David Letvin, Gary Wooley, Beth Cooper & Matt Goeke

‘Most outstanding section’

– Smith-Watkins Cornets

2013 Grade A Champions

‘Band of the Year’

‘I play a Smith-Watkins because it matches my ideas for sound. It blows really easily throughout the range and I love it!’

Best soloist and principal cornet awards

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