

Dedicated and advancing students entering high school are strongly encouraged to upgrade their equipment from their beginning clarinet set up. While the beginner clarinet set up is still a viable option, some of the components will hinder a student's musical and technical progression because each piece of equipment was designed with cost and physical constraints in mind for first year clarinetist. Keep in mind that none of the equipment suggestions below are required, but do make a difference in ease of playing and artistic development.

For advancing students, each piece of equipment is detailed below with several different options to consider. Students should work with their band director or private teacher to assess which part of their clarinet set up is in most dire need of improvement and purchase equipment that improves the most glaring deficiency. Not all upgrades on this list are necessary for making a major improvement in ease of playing or improvements in technique, tone or intonation.

Most every piece of equipment on this list is hyper-linked to the manufacturers web page so product details can be studied and compared if necessary. Some manufacturers allow for direct purchasing, but for the most part all products should be tried first either at a retail store or as a demo sample from a manufacturer (especially with regard to reeds). With some products, MSRP is listed for each item though this may not be the price a trusted dealer will offer (quite often, dealers offer lower than MSRP). Other products do not require trial but are listed as items for storage, cleaning or replacement materials.

Clarinet:

- [Yamaha CSVR](#)
- [Selmer Presence](#)
- [Buffet Tradition](#)
- [Buffet R-13](#)

Mouthpieces:

- [D'Addario X0 or X5](#)
- [Behn SONO](#)
- [Vandoren M-13, M-15 or M-30](#)

Mouthpiece Patches

- [D'Addario Mouthpiece Patches \(5 pack\), .35mm thin clear](#)

Ligatures:

- [Daniel Bonade Inverted](#)
- [Rico H-Ligature](#)
- [Ishimori Gold Plated](#)
- [Vandoren M/O](#)

Reed Cases:

- [D'Addario Multi-Instrument Reed Storage Case](#)
- [D'Addario Reed Guard](#)

Reeds:

- [D'Addario Reserve](#)
- [D'Addario Classic Reserve](#)
- [Vandoren V-12](#)

Humidi Packs:

- [Bodeva 65 Percent RH 2-Way Humidity Control Pack, 8 gram](#)  
(Replacement pack for the D'Addario Multi-Instrument Storage Case)

Swab

- [Vandoren Micro-Fiber](#)

Barrel\*

- [Behn Evo Bb Clarinet Barrel](#)
- [Buffet Moennig Bb Clarinet Barrel](#)
- [Muncy Bb Clarinet Barrel, Ringless Grenadilla Wood](#)

\*Discuss with either band director or private teacher about which type of barrel is appropriate. Clarinet barrels come in different lengths to accommodate for intonation. The stock barrel length on Buffet clarinets is 66 millimeters. For students who tend to play flat, a shorter barrel is recommended (such as 65 or even 64mm). For students who play sharp, a longer barrel is recommended (67mm).