

# Purchasing/Renting an Oboe

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## Considerations:

Beginner students may rent an instrument with a modified conservatory system and a plastic body. Intermediate students (who have been playing for more than two years) should rent/purchase an instrument with a full-conservatory system. The instrument should have the following keys: low-Bb and left-hand F. The instrument may be half plastic/half wood, or fully wooden bodied. Note that a wooden instrument will require more care but will allow the student to develop a more professional sound as they progress.

Oboes depreciate over time. A new instrument, properly cared for and played regularly in school or a youth orchestra should last an average of 7-12 years. A used instrument's lifespan will vary but should last an average of 5-10 years. These can be elongated somewhat with good care and upkeep. A new instrument will need to be broken-in in a specific manner which I will discuss with the student.

## For Rental:

An instrument may be rented through:

Music&Arts (<https://www.musicarts.com/oboes>)  
L&L Music Shop (<https://llmusicshop.com/services/rentals/>)  
Forrests Music (<https://www.forrestsmusic.com>)  
Midwest Musical Imports (<https://www.mmimports.com>)  
RDG Woodwinds (<https://rdgwoodwinds.com>)

The benefit of renting an instrument is the rent-to-buy programs. Through these programs, your monthly rental fee goes towards the eventual purchase of the instrument. You may be able to trade up as your student progresses as well. This is a good option if your student is not ready to fully commit to purchasing an instrument.

## For Purchase:

\*Oboes should *not* be purchased through FaceBook Marketplace, eBay, Amazon, or any second-hand instrument not sold through a woodwind shop. It is impossible to verify the condition of the instrument and these avenues do not typically allow for a trial period.\*

Instruments to consider:

Beginners:

Fox Model 300 (priced around \$3,499.00)  
Fox Renard Artist Model 335 (priced around \$3,867.00)

Intermediate Students:

Fox Model 450 (priced around \$5,999.00)

Loree AK (priced around \$7,799.00) Advanced Students:

Loree AK (priced around \$7,799.00) Loree Royal (priced around \$9,399.00)

An instrument can be purchased through the following woodwind shops:

Aria Double Reeds (<https://www.ariadoublereeds.com/used-instruments/>)

Carlos Coelho (<https://carlosoboe.com>)

Noelle Drewes (<http://www.ndrewes.com/sale.php>)

Forrests Music (<https://www.forrestsmusic.com>)

Midwest Musical Imports (<https://www.mmimports.com>)

RDG Woodwinds (<https://rdgwoodwinds.com>)

Many of these companies offer payment plan options. These shops also sell used instruments, these are the only places I would recommend purchasing a used instrument from.

Students should try a minimum of three different instruments. They should be brought into a lesson so that I can help determine if the instrument is a good fit/investment.

Please email/call me to discuss any specifics or questions. Navigating the rental/purchase of an instrument can be tricky and I am happy to help.