

How to Clean a Plastic Recorder



Plastic recorders are a part of our third grade music curriculum. These recorders are inexpensive and almost impossible to break and you can clean them easily. To remove dirt, saliva, body oils and bacteria that transfer from the hands and mouth to the recorder, **it is recommended that you clean the recorder every 1 to 2 weeks** with an inexpensive cleaning solution.

Things You'll Need

Water
Dish soap
Vinegar
Cleaning rags
Toothpicks
Cotton swabs

Steps for Cleaning

1. Take the mouthpiece off of the plastic recorder by twisting it off of the base.
2. Fill the kitchen sink with enough water to submerge the recorder, using about 2 quarts hot water and 1 squirt dish soap. Pour 1/4 cup vinegar into the water to aid with disinfection.
3. Place the base and mouthpiece of the recorder in the soapy water, and let soak for 10 minutes.
4. Dip a cleaning rag in the soapy water and scrub the exterior of the recorder. Also scrub the inside and outside of the mouthpiece. Use a toothpick or cotton swab to clean small holes, openings and crevices that the cloth cannot reach.
5. Rinse the entire recorder with hot water and allow to fully air dry. Twist the mouthpiece back onto the recorder. It is now clean and bacteria-free.