

Buffet Clarinet Comparison

Buffet instruments are widely thought to be the best clarinets among clarinetists worldwide. The models described below are the standard Buffet intermediate and professional models and are known for their excellent tone and craftsmanship. The two models listed here also hold their value better than other brand models should you wish to resell the instrument at a future date.

Buffet Crampon E-12 Intermediate Bb Clarinet

In 2013, Buffet released its E-12f (often called the "E-12") intermediate model Bb clarinet. This replaced the E-11 intermediate model Bb clarinet, though many of the E-11 instruments are still available for purchase and are a great buy when purchased used. The E-12 is not only a replacement for but also an upgrade to the E-11 model, and has a few new features that make it worth purchasing new if you have the resources to do so. This superior intermediate model will serve most students through college and beyond.

The features of the E-12f include:

- Intermediate Bb clarinet
- French body with an acoustic bore
- Barrel, body and bell made of unstained granadilla that is treated and lacquered
- Silver-plated keys
- *Leather key pads provide a better seal
- Adjustable thumb rest provides comfortable positioning for the player
- *Blue steel springs and threaded & mounted key posts mean for a more durable mechanism
- *Backpack case with carrying strap and plenty of room for storing supplies

* upgraded feature from the E-11

Buffet Crampon R13 Professional Bb Clarinet

The R13 clarinet is considered by many to be unparalleled in its tone, resonance, and craftsmanship. The design of the instrument and hand-selected granadilla wood create better focus and add more "ring" to the tone, and the quality of the key mechanism is durable and high-functioning.

- Professional Bb clarinet
- Poly-cylindrical bore for less resistance and easier air flow
- Barrel, body and bell made with hand-selected unstained granadilla wood
- Choice of nickel or silver-plated keys (silver is more expensive and tarnishes, but looks nicer)
- Superior quality double fish-skin pads provide an excellent seal
- Adjustable thumb rest provides comfortable positioning for the player
- Blue steel French-style springs
- Undercut tone holes