

## **Good Product #1 – Solid Silver Flute**

I consider my solid silver flute to be a "good" product because of the following reasons.

The flute's entire body is made of solid silver, which makes the resonance much "crisper", clearer and gives it a "prettier" sound. However, because of the material being silver, the flute is very expensive compared to a flute made of cupronickel, for example.

The rod structure of the key mechanism is built from a unique design that is much sturdier than the more common "pin structure". In other words, instead of using pins perpendicular to the rods to hold each key mechanism onto the rods, there are concentric rods that have each key mechanism attached to an outer rod that rotates around the inner rod that spans the entire middle section of the flute. Since the key rods are all connected with inner rods, it makes it harder for the key system to distort. This is really good because it means that it resists the stress caused by assembling and disassembling the flute as well as extreme temperature changes, therefore air gaps are less likely to occur and the flute requires less frequent servicing.

Due to the rod mechanisms and their unique design, the flute also has much better tuning than cheaper flutes. This means that I don't have to work as hard during fast passages to change my embouchure (shape made by the lips) in order to correct tuning.

Another design aspect that really appeals to me is that my flute is an "open-hole" flute. This means that there are holes in the keys for more air to pass through when the key is not pressed, and for my fingers to create better resonance when the key is pressed. This also contributes to the sound of the flute.

There are some keys that are positioned slightly out of line with the rest of the keys in order to make it easier to reach them comfortably. This is really important for someone with short fingers playing an open-hole flute because if the smallest hole is left for air to escape out a particular key hole, the note won't come out at all. Having offset keys also makes a few particular notes come out clearer due to resonances inside the flute body.

In conclusion, the solid-silver is a very well-functioning product.