



Caring for your Bat

Preparation, care & maintenance for your Gunn & Moore bat

Oiling:

For Natural finish (untreated) bats:-

Before use, apply a light coat of raw linseed oil (bat oil) to the face, back edges and toe with the fingers and palm of the hand. Avoid oiling the splice area.

3 or 4 further light coats should be applied to the face, edges and toe at about weekly intervals. Clean the bat using fine sand paper before each application. Repeat occasionally if the bat is very dry.

After oiling lay the bat flat for a few hours.

For bats with a cover on the face:-

Apply oil as described above, but only to the back, uncovered edges and toe.

For polycoated bats:-

No oiling is required, however, during play the polycoating will wear from the toe area and the exposed willow should be lightly oiled as described above.

Knocking In:

All Gunn & Moore bat faces have been expertly pressed to provide an optimum resilient playing surface and do not need further pressing. However, the face, especially the front edges, will be further improved and its useful life prolonged by careful 'knocking-in' with an old leather cricket ball, or a specially designed Gunn & Moore bat mallet.

A few words of caution: take great care when knocking in the edges and toe as hitting too hard may crack the willow - take your time and be patient! The blade should be knocked in on the face of the bat including the edge of the face but not on the sides of the blade, the underneath of the toe or back of the blade.

Playing In:

After knocking-in, the bat should be used to hit short catches and/or "throw-downs" with an old, good quality cricket ball. It is advisable to initially avoid use against a new ball in either nets or a match.

Maintenance:

To maintain your bat in peak condition we recommend you to follow this simple advice.

Don'ts:-

- Don't expose to extremes of temperature
- Avoid prolonged spells in Car Boots/Trunks/Interiors
- Don't over-oil. It is more dangerous to over-oil than to under-oil. Over-oiling adds weight, spoils driving power and may cause rot.
- Don't ever, ever stand the bat in oil.
- Don't allow the bat to become damp.
- Don't misuse or treat carelessly off the pitch, for example at nets, or in changing rooms.
- Don't use cheap hard balls. These will damage the bat.
- Don't continue to play with a damaged bat; this will aggravate the damage to a point where the bat may be beyond repair.

Do's:-

- Do prepare the bat carefully
- Do store the bat in off-season in a cool dry atmosphere away from excessive heat or damp.
- Do re-oil the bat after any prolonged period of non-use: it's particularly important to remember to do this prior to using in pre-season indoor nets.
- Do inspect the bat regularly for damage in play and repair promptly.