

Elliot Mason Custom Signature Series Trombone by B.A.C. Custom Trombones

Designed by:
Elliot Mason, Mike Corrigan

- A. Functionality/Agility
- B. Sound Quality
- C. Visual Appeal

Handslide:

The design of the Elliot Mason Signature Series Trombone started with the handslide. Most other manufactures have traditionally approached this component with only functionality in mind. For many years in the development, Mason and Corrigan zeroed in on the three qualities conceptualizing the handslide: functionality/agility, sound quality and appeal. It was equally important that the handslide itself provided a beautiful lush sound with superb responsiveness. It feels smoother and faster than any other slide ever constructed .

There are several innovative options that we built into the design of this handslide. You will at first notice that the grip of the inner handled is quite unique in appearance. The heavy cork barrels provide both incredible balance and comfortable feel along with assisting maximum energy transfer through the instrument. The fluted angle brace provides an exceptionally comfortable, ergonomic feel in the left hand.

The outer handslide brace is another area where we can provide a variety of options. Elliot helped conceptualize the 'EM Style' outer handslide brace. This brace is a very thin, solid brass bar. While it IS actually lighter, it presents the musician with the sensation of it being even lighter than it actually is!! This translates to a sense of security and control over the slide that is far superior to any other slide available. In Elliot's own words: "I feel the smaller brace enables more of the wrist and less arm movement."

A 'Medium' brace is also offered. (Similar in size to the Vintage F.E. Olds, Super Model brace). The Medium brace is smaller than the standard brace offered by other manufacturers. It provides greater control and lightweight feel. For a more traditional feel, we also offer a slightly larger brace tube upon request.

The interchangeable lead pipe concept on the Elliot Mason Signature Series, while seemingly subtle, is one of the more exciting features of the instrument. Inspired by years of Brass Instrument Modification and Customizations, Corrigan designed a completely modular concept in the way lead pipes attach to the inner handslide. First, the B.A.C. leadpipes that fit into this handslide wear a thick, fine threaded collar. This allows the lead pipe to react much more like a soldered-in (fixed) leadpipe. Second, using an innovative adaptor system, the slide will accommodate literally ANY threaded or unthreaded pipe in the world! If you have a pile of old leadpipes or desire the ability to experiment with an endless amount of them, a repair tech or factory modification will not be required. B.A.C. Adaptors are available to accommodate Shires, Kanstul, and Edwards lead pipes, as well as any friction fit pipe. Custom adaptors can be fabricated from an existing pipe for an additional cost.

The Elliot Mason Signature Series Trombone handslide comes standard as a .508" bore size. A variety of alloys are available to suit your needs. While Elliot's preference is a gold brass outer handslide with a gold brass B.A.C. Elliptical Crook, we offer yellow brass, gold brass and nickel silver outer tubes and provide yellow brass, gold brass, nickel silver, or copper crooks. We also offer .500" or .525" bore sizes upon request.

The Elliptical Crook Designed by Corrigan, provides a unique and incredibly versatile feel for the musician. Where a more squared shape crook (or dual radius) tends to lean toward a more notchy feel, it lacks the slightly more open, even feel you get from a round (single radius) end crook. Our new Custom Elliptical Crook is a beautiful blend of both worlds.

Bell Section:

The bell section of the Elliot Mason horn was the component that took the most time to develop. Over the course of the last several years, experiments with alloys, weights, bell diameters, tapers, manufacturing styles, and many other aspects were exhausted. Throughout this process, many observations by Mason allowed us to really dial in on the bell section. For any musical instrument, the bell is the most significant component to alter the voice and projection of the instrument. As we designed this component, Elliot realized the unprecedented qualities realized from enhancing the gauge and thickness of certain areas. You'll find that the Mason horn bell section carries substantial weight. This is necessary to provide the incredibly complex, lush colors this horn has to offer. Furthermore, the projections and flexibility is next to nothing!

The Elliot Mason Signature Series Trombone comes standard with a screw bell design. Not only does this provide ease of travel, it allows the musician an ability to drastically alter the sound quality and resonance of the instrument. This feature provides a modular element to the instrument to a much higher level than most 'interchangeable bells' currently available on the market. By providing various bell diameters, bell gauges, alloys and other variables, an artist can really dial into a particular quality of sound with more precision.

Certain elements of the bell section feature additional weight. Much effort was put in developing specific areas of the instrument with more mass to optimize the energy transfer of the instrument. This keeps the sound waves in the instrument rather than losing energy throughout the horn. We found the consideration of weight in these particular areas also directly influenced the complexities and color of the sound.

Tuning Slide/Neckpipe:

Throughout the development of the Elliot Mason Signature Series Trombone, we attempted a wide variety of tapers and dimensions. Our objective was to create an instrument that played superbly in tune with a rich, lush sound. One of the most unique characteristics of this instrument is the ability to have a compact, flexible, and agile feeling for the musician, while still providing a huge, robust sound. The unique and rapid tapers of the neckpipe, and tuning slide combined with the larger design of the bell taper collectively provide one of the most comfortable feeling small bore tenor trombones you'll ever play.

The attractive design of the back 'countweight' plate is meticulously hand fit to the tuning slide crook. The design is specifically intended not only to provide an attractive aesthetic, but as mentioned above was a way to function as a highly effective way to customize the balance of the instrument. By design, the plate stabilizes and preserves the energy in the horn so sound will project more efficiently out of the bell. The series of holes in the plate allows not only for the addition of extra weights, but the flexibility of placement of the weights. This allows the player to customize balance horn preference.

Nearly an entire decade went into the development of the Elliot Mason Signature Series Trombone. There are so many areas and slight nuances that were involved with the development of this very special Instrument. More points that are difficult to specifically detail and isolate that can be practically explained. One thing that we feel strongly about is that we've meticulously addressed every detail into a professional trombone. The functionality of this instrument provides a musician the ability to produce the quickest of musical passages with great ease. The colors, complexities and rich sound qualities are unmatched in the industry. The level of

customizations to realize your own unique voice is far advanced to any other horn ever produced. Last, we feel the stunning look of this horn is most certainly going to grab attention from anyone on or around the stage.

Elliot Mason Signature Series Trombone : \$5452.80

Additional Bell Flares : Starting at \$602.25

(Additional Options; Available in various Alloys, Gauges, Specs)

Additional Bell Flares: Starting at \$602.25

Leadpipes: \$143.72

Elliot Mason Sig. Handslide : \$2649.60