

Saxophone Parts Names

Saxophones have specific names for parts, just like a car. As mentioned earlier, the removable tube at the top of the saxophone is called the neck, or sometimes gooseneck (presumably due to the "goose-like" sound produced when you blow on it with the mouthpiece attached). On the neck is a single key and hole called the octave vent. If you follow the mechanics of that key down to the body, you will find a small (usually round) platform where the left thumb rests. Just above this thumb

The saxophone body is comprised of three parts. The first length (running from the top to where the curve just starts to form) is usually referred to as the body tube or main body. This is where your fingers operate the keys. The second part is the U-shaped tube on the bottom of the saxophone called the bow.

The final part is the large flared part at the end called the bell. The two large round keys on the bell are called bell keys

On the main body of the horn towards the bottom, before the bow, is a hook-shaped piece of metal or plastic called the thumb rest. This is where your right thumb supports the weight of the horn (important: note that on most horns, the serial number and horn pitch indicator is located just below the thumb rest).

A few inches above the thumb rest is the small, metal loop where the neck strap attaches

There are two sets of keys that are grouped together: one in the middle and one down low by the bow. These are called **spatula keys**.

There is also a long, skinny group of 3 rectangular keys near the bottom right side called the **side keys**

