



WILHELM HECKEL

Heckel S-Bocals

Ongoing development of S-bocals has led to a wide diversity of products with various alloys, diameters, diapasons, lengths and galvanisations. The following designs serve as loose guidelines in determining the right S-bocal. These attributes are based on decades of experience from musicians. The compatibility of S-bocals cannot be fully established as yet. They are influenced by the musician's individuality, the instrument played and the mouthpiece used.

Base Metals

Original Heckel S-bocals are available in various base metals. This is depicted with one letter above the cork.

Base Metal	Sound Quality	Labelling above the cork
German silver, soft	Standard Type	N
German silver, hard	Harder sound than CC	Z
Gold Brass	Mellow and quiet sound for chamber and church music	G
Sterling Silver (925)	Bright and quiet sound	AG
Gold 8 Carat (333)	Mellow but direct sound	AU
Gold 14 Carat (585)	Noticeably mellower sound	14kt
Gold 18 Carat (750)	As 14kt, but more accentuated.	18kt
Palladium	Hard sound	PD



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Wall Thicknesses

Original Heckel S-bocals are available in two different material thicknesses. The standard variant has a wall thickness of 0.6 mm. S-bocals with a thinner wall thickness of 0.5 mm are labelled with an additional “D”. S-bocals with a thinner layer of metal have an overtone rich sound spectrum, along with good responsiveness and more flexibility in terms of intonation; they are however less stable and not suitable for all instruments in equal measure. The labelling of Heckel S-bocals has grown unsystematically out of the historical tradition. Usually Heckel S-bocals with thick walls are manufactured in soft German Silver (N) and hard German silver (Z). A thick walled bocal in soft metal is labelled CC; a thick walled bocal in hard metal is labelled C. With thin walled bocals the hardness labelling of the material only appears in the letters above the cork however.

Diapasons

Original Heckel S-bocals are available with the following diapasons.

Thick walled	Thin walled	Properties
C, CC	CD	Standard Type for new Heckel bassoons Well balanced Intonation, good responsiveness.
CE, CCE	CDE	Narrower on the narrow side. Increased responsiveness in the higher register.
VC, VCC	VCD	Advanced Diapason Better „tuning within itself“ for use with old Heckel bassoons and those from other makers.
VCE, VCCE	VCDE	Combination of V and E.
B	BD	Strong bellied diapason. Very light responsiveness in the high register. Bad intonation in the mid range.
BB	BBD	Light bellied diapason. Light responsiveness in the high register. Bad intonation in the mid range.



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Lengths

Original Heckel S-bocals are available in different lengths in order to manipulate the overall tuning.

00	0	1	2	3
ca. 446 Hz	ca. 444 Hz	ca. 442 Hz	ca. 440 Hz	ca. 438 Hz

Galvanisations

Non-galvanised	Specific sound of the relevant base material.
Silver plated	Pleasanter, fuller sound.
Nickel plated	Brighter sound.
Gold plated	Increased stability with Gold-Brass-S-bocals.

XL-Bocals

All original Heckel S-bocals are available in XL-Variants. With this product the Nipple (Piano mechanism vent) is modified to better responsiveness in the high register.

R-Bocals

All original Heckel S-bocals are available in R-Variants. With this product the metal is compressed more strongly and evenly which leads to better responsiveness and a wider sound spectrum. R-S-bocals are labelled exclusively underneath the cork and have no stamp.

S-Form / S-Bends

Original Heckel S-bocals are manufactured in the traditional S-Form as well as in a flat bend (English bend). Over and above this we manufacture custom made bends to order (Drawings).