

# Clarinet

Fundamental Music Instruction

First Songs for Band



Habits of Musicianship

*This Book Belongs To:* \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome to the



## Fundamental Music Instruction



First Songs for Band – a beginner’s “starter kit”.

The goal of this book is to help the very beginning student explore the first sounds, begin a study of basic rhythmic playing, learn to play in a smooth, pleasing fashion and master several notes appropriate for this level of study, all leading to the ability to perform both on a solo level and as part of an ensemble.

To make the most progress possible, a student must find a quiet place to practice and get in the habit of truly listening to the sounds being produced. Learning to critique one’s sound is the best tool for building a lasting mastery of musicianship on every level. The music in this book is sequential from initial sounds to songs that are appropriate for the first performance to the beginnings of intermediate and advanced level ensemble materials.

If you patiently and consistently study the lessons enclosed, you will embark on a journey of musical performance that will set the tone for a lifetime of musical experience.

*Ed Kelly*, **Fundamental Music Instruction** Administrator

## Assembling Your Clarinet:

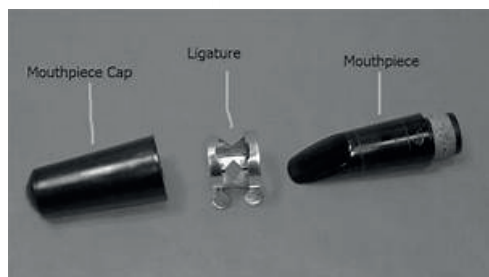


Upper Joint



Barrel

- All the corks on a new clarinet are dry. You need to grease them.
- Rub a small amount of grease on the corks of the mouthpiece, the upper joint, and the barrel (you won't use the lower joint or bell just yet)



- Twist and push the large end of the barrel onto the first joint.



- Remove the mouthpiece from the case and take off the ligature (the ligature is the metal or sometimes plastic piece that has one or two screws in it). After you grease the cork, twist and push the cork end of the mouthpiece into the barrel. The flat side of the mouthpiece should line up with the back of the clarinet (the part with the fewest keys).



## Assemble your Clarinet:

(Working with the mouthpiece)

1. Moisten the reed. Your reed should be moistened with water, or your own saliva.

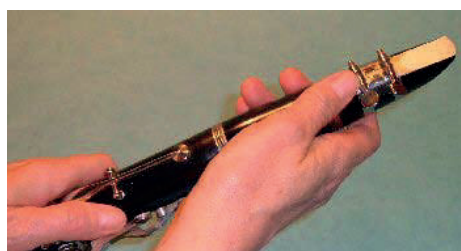


2. Put on the reed. Place the reed on the mouthpiece so the flat side of the reed is against the mouthpiece opening.
3. Ensure that the reed is vertical and aligned with the mouthpiece.
4. Slip the ligature over the mouthpiece and reed. Make sure that the ligature is low enough that it is covering the bark of the reed and not the carved part of the reed. Tighten the ligature to secure the reed's placement.

### Special considerations about the reed.

The most important part of your clarinet is your reed. When you blow air across the reed, the reed is vibrated to create your clarinet's beautiful signature sound. Thus, great care must be taken to ensure that the reed is properly moistened, and is protected to prevent cracking, chipping, or any other damage.

**Do your best to avoid touching the tip of the reed with anything - fingers, the ligature, mouthpiece cap ....**





# Making your first mouthpiece and barrel sound:

Goal: Warm, rich and focused sound that is controlled yet flexible.

Various articulations and dynamics are performed with ease in all registers of the clarinet.

1. Chin is pointed as if blowing through a soda bottle.

Take the barrel off (the mouthpiece will remain attached to the barrel for this) see picture.



2. Lower lip over lower teeth. Feel the teeth about half way between the fleshy part of the lower lip. Pressure from the bottom is necessary and good.



3. Upper teeth rest gently on mouthpiece about ½ inch from tip. "Magic Spot"  
Many players do not take in enough mouthpiece, resulting in a small and stuffy sound. Do not apply pressure from the top, this is the "biting" feeling that results in squeaks.



4. Keep head up with the clarinet at a 30-40 degree angle from body.

5. Upper lip stays firm. Cheeks will not puff out if the corners are firm. Excess tension, however, may result in air escaping from corners.

6. Do not let a loose embouchure allow the mouthpiece to move around



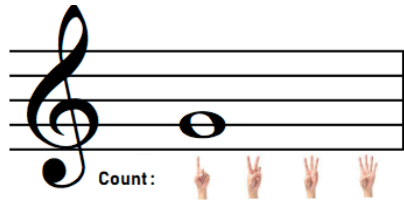
7. To check correct pressure from bottom and tongue position ("ee"), the mouthpiece and barrel when played by themselves should produce a concert F# - check yours with a piano.

The "Magic Spot" is the place you put the reed on your lip so the clarinet makes a comfortable, pleasing tone, free of squeaks.

Notes tell us how long to play and when placed on the music staff, what pitch to play

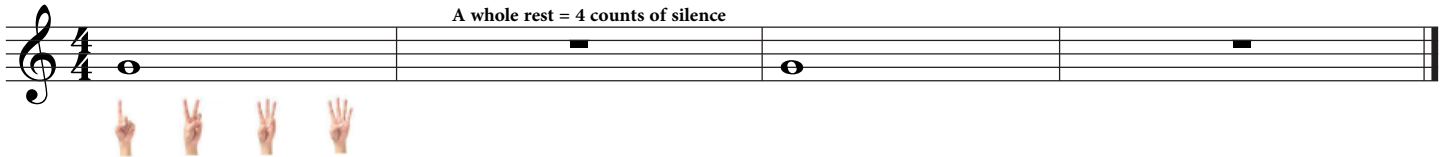


Whole Note  
"G"



G Line of  
"Music Staff"

Looong Tone G



Quarter Notes are 1 count each



Whisper "Too" as you begin each note



Play F



Read F on the Music Staff  
The "Space" below the G  
Line is for the F Note

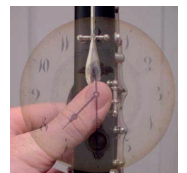
Space, the Final Frontier



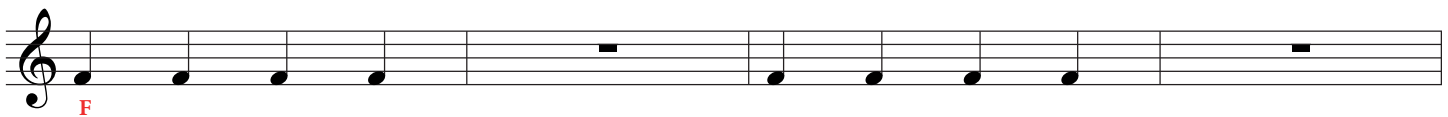
Left Hand Position - Fingers form a C



Angle of Thumb for the F Note



Thumb Fun



Again, Remember to say "Too" as the beginning of each tone. (This does not stop your airstream - think of the tongue as a dart - quickly touch the reed and quickly move it away so the airstream does not stop.)



Remember, notes tell us how long to play and when placed on the music staff, what pitch to play



E Line of "Music Staff"



E is played with the Thumb Key + the 1st Key (hole) in the Front

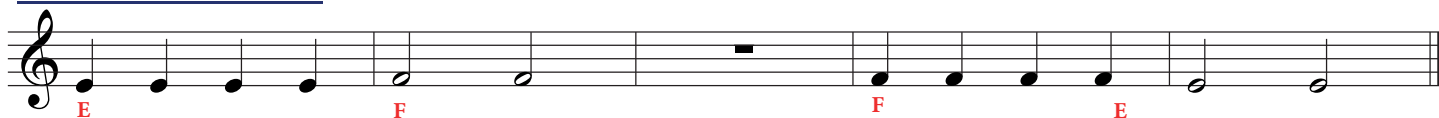


E is another Line Note - one tone lower than F (Space Note)

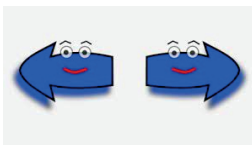


Half Notes are 2 counts each

### Forward and Backward



Try to play all 6 notes with one air-stream (Breath) - remember - the tongue motion does not stop the air-stream - it simply makes each tone sound with a clear beginning



(Play this forward the backward)

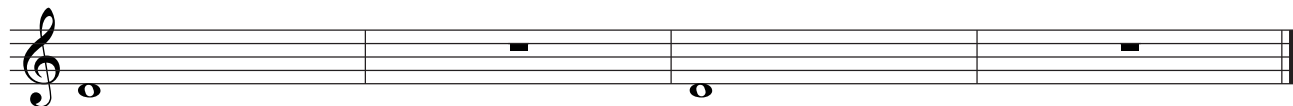
### First Song - "Rain Rain"



Try not to exaggerate the finger motion - changing from E to G should uncover the keys (holes) just enough to let the air out - keep the fingers curved just above the tone hole



D is just below the "Music Staff"

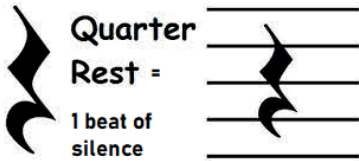


Remember - Long tone are the magic builders of musicality

### D -E- F-inately Cool



## Putting all Together



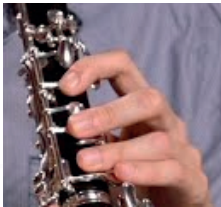
So Far we have:

- Played Whole Notes, Quarter Notes, Half Notes
- Counted Whole Rest and Quarter Rests
- Played Long Tone and Rhythms on G - F - E - D - C
- Worked on Embouchure, Tongue sound "Too", Conversational Tone

### Vitamin D

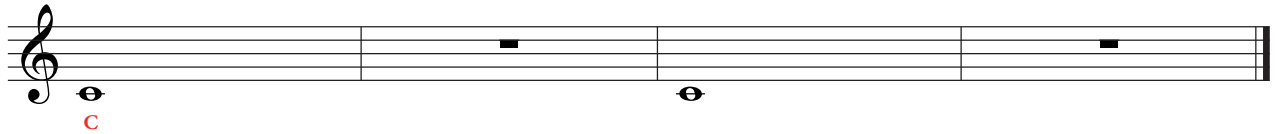
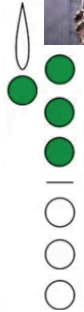


Play the 7 notes with 1 air-stream- use the "Too" sound to make the beginning of each note clear without stopping the air-stream

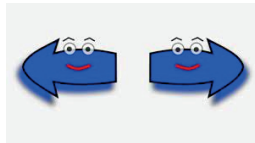
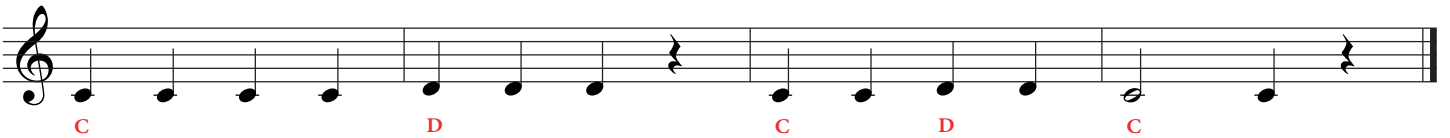


C is a small Line below the "Music Staff"

- Squeaking? Check:**
- The reed position.
  - The reed's condition.
  - Ligature placement.
  - That you're covering the holes.**
  - Embouchure.
  - Posture. (How you sit.)



### C - D or D - C?



(Try this forward the backward)  
Be careful of the quarter rest when playing it backward

### Inch Worm



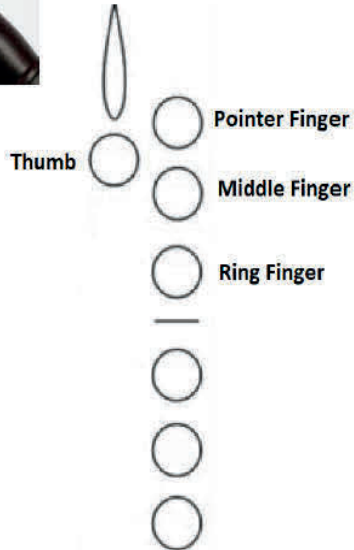




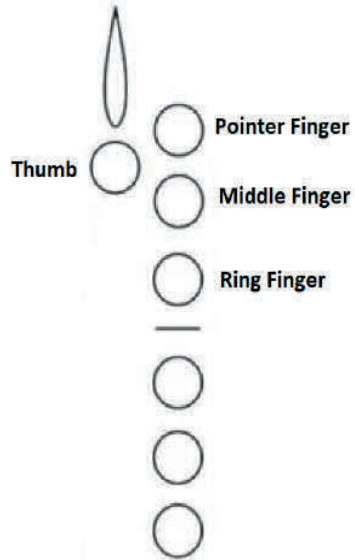
Color in the keys you will press for each note



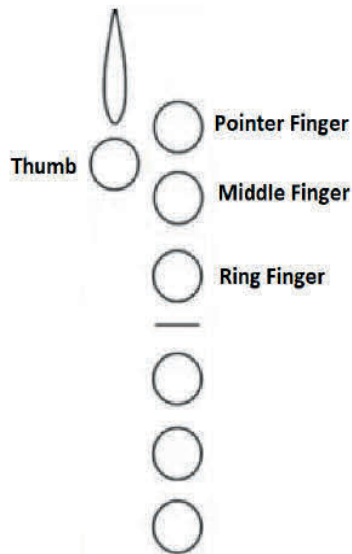
G = Open



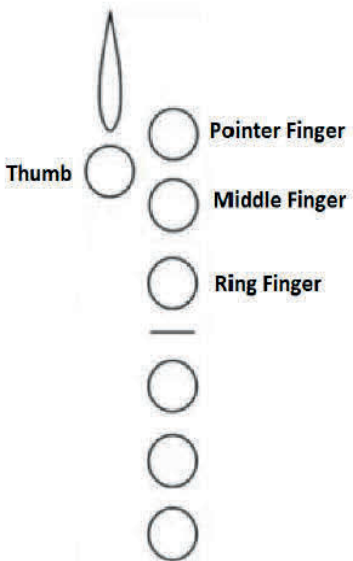
F = Thumb Only



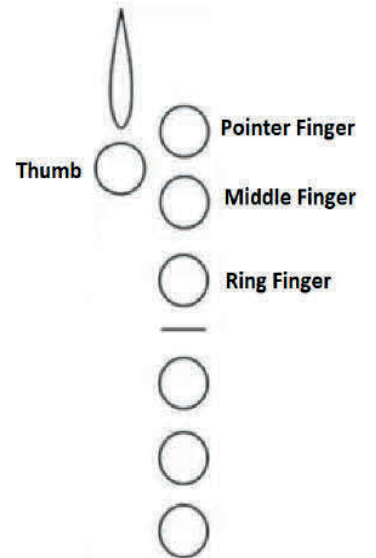
D = Thumb, Pointer and Middle



E = Thumb and pointer



C = Thumb, Pointer, Middle and Ring





# First Songs For Band

The Top portion of the page focuses on E - D and C  
The bottom of the page includes more advanced material for students who are ready

Continue to work for a smooth, Legato style with a warm, pleasing tone

## Hot Cross Buns



## Apache Warrior



## French Song



This is a repeat sign, which means to go back to the beginning and play this line again

*Legato means - Smoothly Connected*  
*Strive for smooth playing with little to no gaps in sound between notes*

This is the first time you have been asked to change from C to E in mid phrase - remember to lift 2 fingers at exactly the same time for a smooth change of notes!

# First Songs for Musicianship

Each Page will include pieces that will help develop musicality (Rhythm, Phrasing, Breath Control - support reading skills)

## Go Tell Aunt Rhodie

\*Speed - start at a medium pace and build up to a speed that will allow you to play each 2 measure phrase in one breath\*



## Ticket A Tasket





Listen to the sound of the songs you are playing.  
Is the sound pleasing and musical? Are there  
ways to make the sound more clear or steady?

### Christmas Chimes

All

### Mary Had a Little Lamb

All

### Down by the Station

All

### Gotcha Cha-Cha

All

Learning to make your own judgments about the sounds you are making will go a long way toward helping you become a polished performer!

A Curved line connecting groups of notes or measures is a "Phrase Marking" for the Legato style (Smoothly Connected) Try to play all the notes of a phrase in 1 breath - this may mean you will have to play at a fast enough speed to make this possible

## First Songs for Musicianship

### Either Or

WW + Br



# First Songs "4 Note Section"

Review F - E - D - C

Review:  
This is the F Note



## March



## Indian Song

## Half Scale



## Rockin'



"And"

Think a number when you step down.



Think "and" when your foot goes up.



## Doo Bah Doo Bah

# First Songs for Musicianship

(Swing Style)



Doo Bah Doo Bah



Doo Bah Doo Bah

C



D



E



F

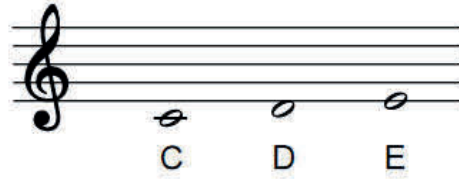




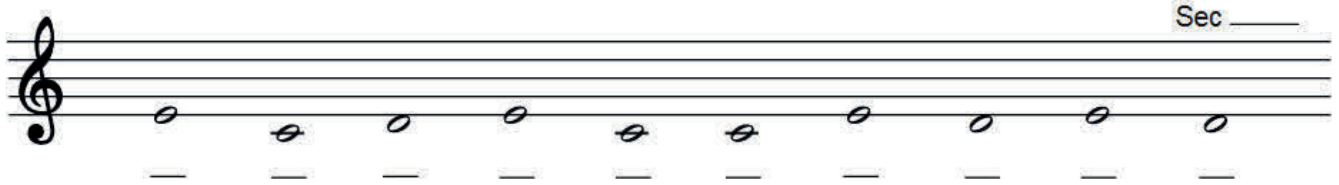


This page is a Speed Drill. The object is to see how long it takes you to correctly identify each note

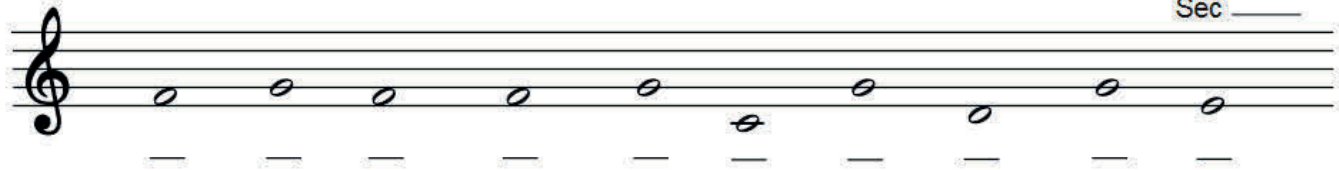
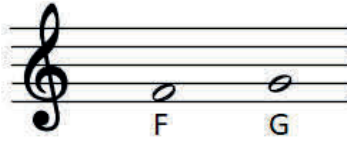
How fast can you identify these notes?



(Put down how many seconds it took you for each line)



New Notes



Here are 2 notes to try - they will be used on page 14 - Use the "Roll" technique on the next page



and



Bb is known as "B flat"

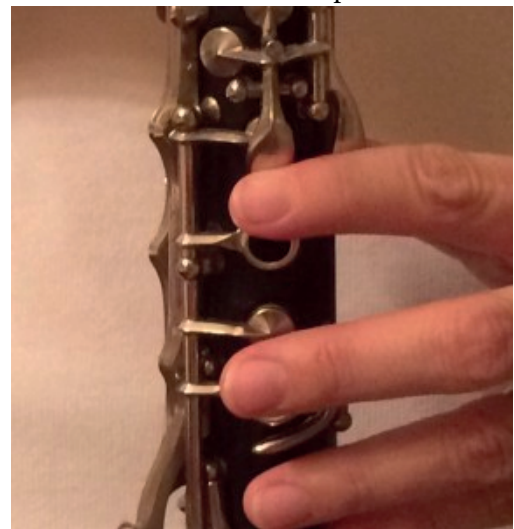
## Clarinet Technique

A useful technique for clarinetists is the "Finger Roll" - Using the curved key at the top of your clarinet (The A Key) and the long key in the back (Register key).

This is being introduced now to help prepare you for intermediate level playing. If you are ready and willing to practice, try it with the songs on the next page - otherwise simply move on to the next page and this will be taken up later.



Roll to the side of the pointer



This is a view of moving from the C note to the A key using your pointer finger

Thumb lifts slightly off the back key and presses the Register Key



Later, you will learn to press both the Back Key and the Register Key

This is a view of moving to the register key key using your Thumb

Bb starts with both the Thumb and pointer

Change to A by removing the Thumb Key

Change to G by removing the pointer



Twinkle Twinkle *Play Legato*



This is where you will use the "Finger Roll" to change from Open Key G to the A Key

*Reminder: Legato means - Smoothly Connected Strive for smooth playing with little to no gaps in sound between notes*

Winnie the Pooh



C to Bb - A - G



C to Bb - A - G

This is where you will use the "Finger Roll" to change from Open Key G to the A Key

The Blues



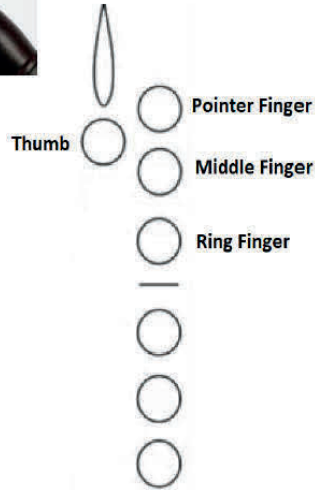




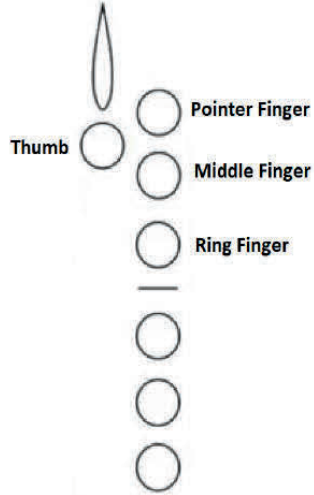
Color in the keys you will press for each note



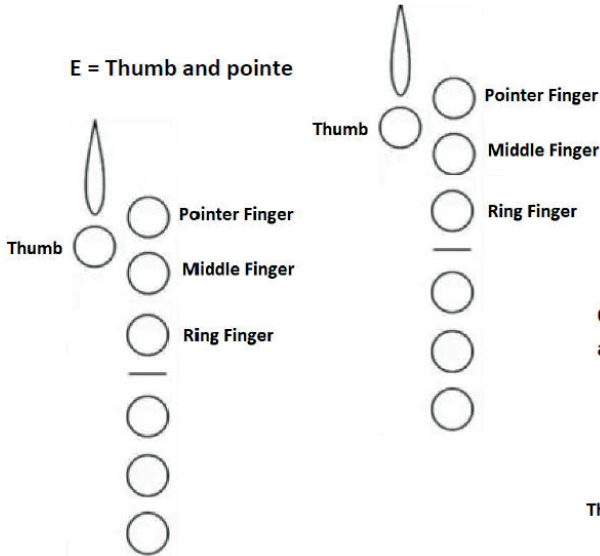
G = Open



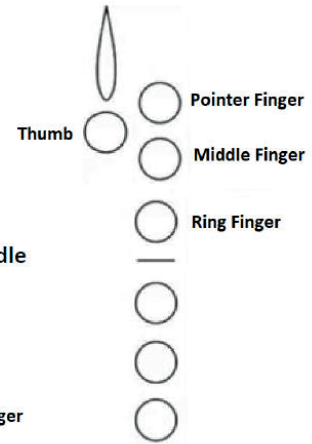
F = Thumb Only



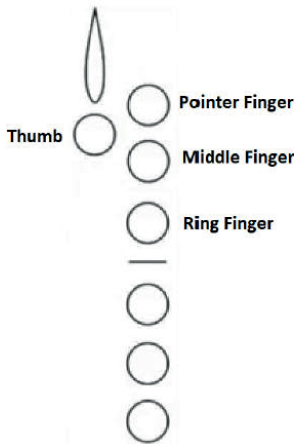
D = Thumb, Pointer and Middle



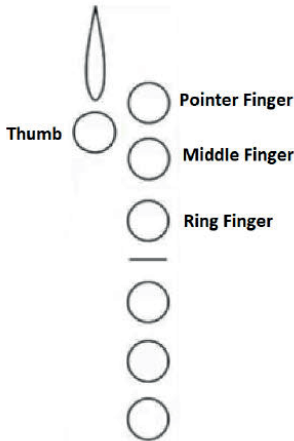
C = Thumb, Pointer, Middle and Ring



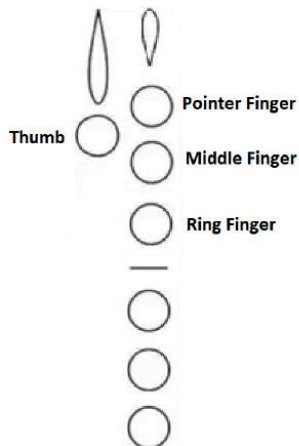
E = Thumb and pointer



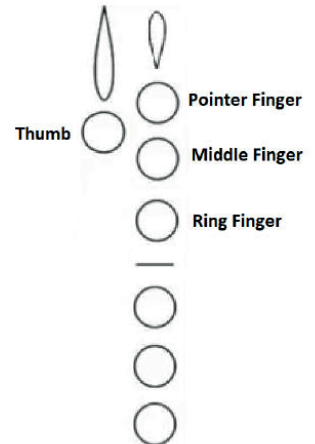
C = Thumb, Pointer, Middle and Ring



A = A Key



Bb = A Key + Register Key




# First Songs "Review 5 Note Section"

There will be several new concepts introduced in the next few pages:

(Refer back to this page as these concepts are introduced)

## New Repeat Signs;

- **D.S. al Fine** - means to start back at the "Segno" mark and continue playing until you reach the bar-line, marked with the word fine. This command stands for dal segno al fine, and literally means "[play] from the sign to the end." (segno sign ) 
- **1st and 2nd Endings** - Many times the composer will want to repeat a passage of music exactly as it was played the first time, with the exception of the final few notes or measures. In this case, the composer will use first and second endings.



## New Time Signature:

*Until Now, we have been using  
"Common Time"  
known as the 4/4 Time Signature*

## 3/4 Time Signature



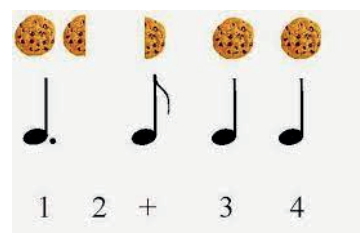
## Dotted Rhythms: Adding a **Dot** next to a note increases the length of the note by Half

Example: A Half Note with a Dot adds 1 more beat



Here is an explanation using cookies for understanding

### Quarter Notes with a Dot









Review:

### Dotted Notes

	2 beats		3 beats
	1 beat		1½ beats

New Marking: The breath mark tells you where to take a breath in a piece of music

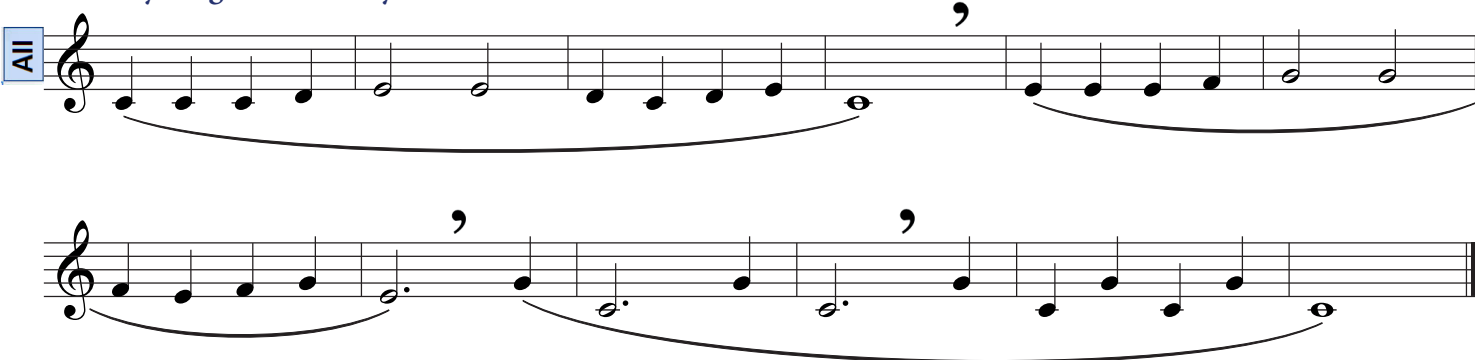


### Small World

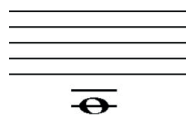
All 

Review of Phrase Markings - This making is for Legato Style playing

### Sweetly Sings the Donkey

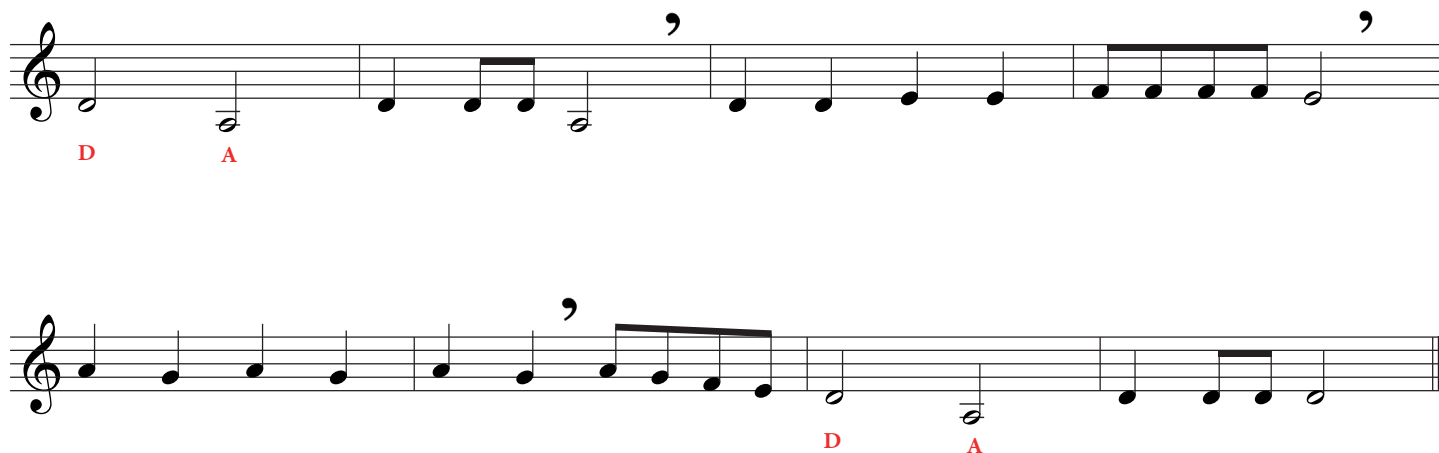
All 

The Next Note to be introduced is Low A



## First Songs for Musicianship

### Hey Yo, Nobody Home





## So far you have learned notes of the Left Hand Notes

C, D, E, F, G (plus A + Bb)

You will now be slowly introduced to the notes of the Right Hand - Starting with B, then G and on the next page, A

Playing these notes in a more advanced, musical way, requires the ability to control your breath - playing longer, smooth sounding phrases.

### Breathin' Easy

The curved line is called a phrase marking which reminds you to use 1 breath for the phrases

Musical notation for 'Breathin' Easy' in treble clef. The piece is marked 'WW + Br'. The melody consists of four phrases, each marked with a curved line (phrase marking) and a fermata. The notes are: C4-D4-E4-F4-G4, C4-D4-E4-F4-G4-A4, C4-D4-E4-F4-G4-A4, and C4-D4-E4-F4-G4.

### New Note

A diagram of a saxophone key mechanism. The top key is labeled 'B' and is shown in a depressed position. Below it are four other keys, two of which are also shown in a depressed position. Blue arrows point from the depressed keys to the musical notation below.

### Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho

Musical notation for 'Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho' in treble clef. The piece is marked 'WW + Br'. The melody consists of two phrases, each marked with a curved line and a fermata. The notes are: C4-D4-E4-F4-G4-A4, C4-D4-E4-F4-G4-A4, C4-D4-E4-F4-G4-A4, and C4-D4-E4-F4-G4-A4. A diagram to the right shows a 'Syncopated Rhythm' with notes on a staff and a drum set below it. The notes are: 1 + (2) + 3 4.

### Angels We Have Heard on High

Musical notation for 'Angels We Have Heard on High' in treble clef. The piece is marked 'WW + Br'. The melody consists of three phrases, each marked with a curved line and a fermata. The notes are: C4-D4-E4-F4-G4, C4-D4-E4-F4-G4, C4-D4-E4-F4-G4, and C4-D4-E4-F4-G4. A diagram to the right shows a saxophone key mechanism with a red arrow pointing to the key labeled 'Low G'. The diagram is labeled 'New Note Low G'.

### Good King Wenceslas

All Musical notation for 'Good King Wenceslas' in treble clef, 4/4 time. The melody consists of a series of eighth notes with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the last two measures. A fermata is placed over the final note.

### C Scale

WW Only Musical notation for the C scale in treble clef, 4/4 time. The scale is written as a sequence of eighth notes. Below the staff, three ukulele fretboard diagrams illustrate the fingerings for the notes G, A, and B.

### Cuckoo

All Musical notation for 'Cuckoo' in treble clef, 3/4 time. The melody features a series of eighth notes with rests, followed by a slur over the final two notes. A repeat sign is present at the beginning.

Musical notation for the continuation of 'Cuckoo' in treble clef, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth notes with rests, followed by a slur over the final two notes.

## First Songs for Musicianship

A diagram showing five fingers with numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 above them. Below the fingers is a musical notation example: a quarter note (1), an eighth note (2 +), a quarter note (3), and an eighth note (4 +).

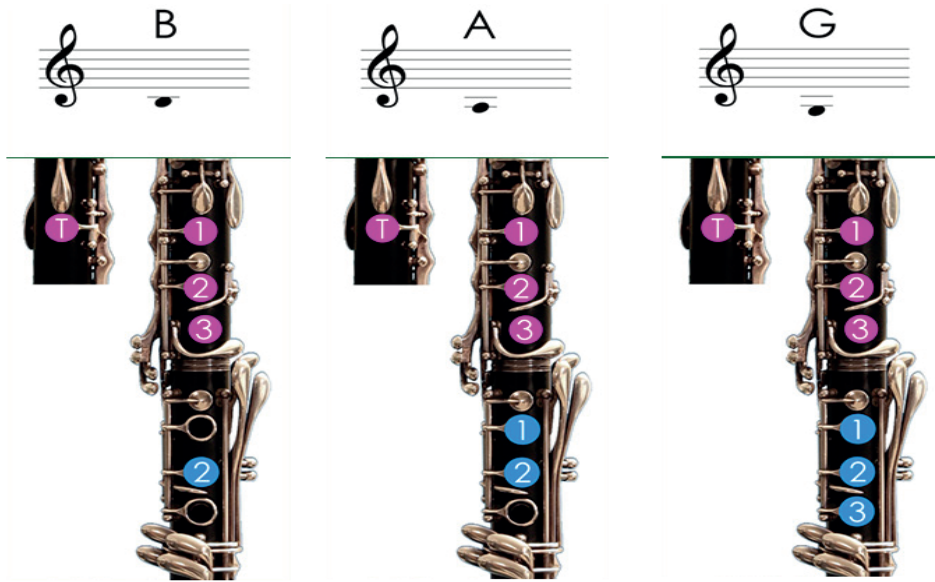
### This Little Light of Mine

All Musical notation for 'This Little Light of Mine' in treble clef, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth notes with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the last two measures. A fermata is placed over the final note.

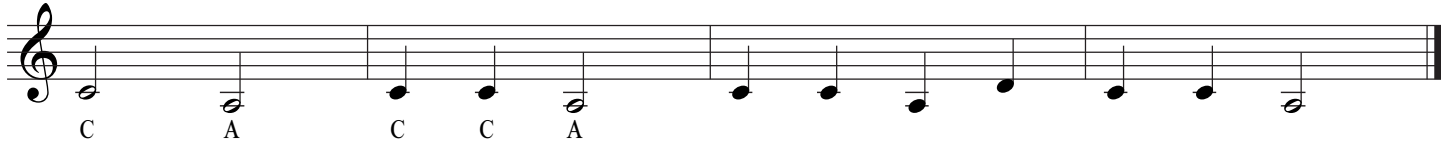
Musical notation for the continuation of 'This Little Light of Mine' in treble clef, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth notes with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the last two measures. A fermata is placed over the final note.

Musical notation for the continuation of 'This Little Light of Mine' in treble clef, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth notes with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the last two measures. A fermata is placed over the final note.

# Intermediate Music Section



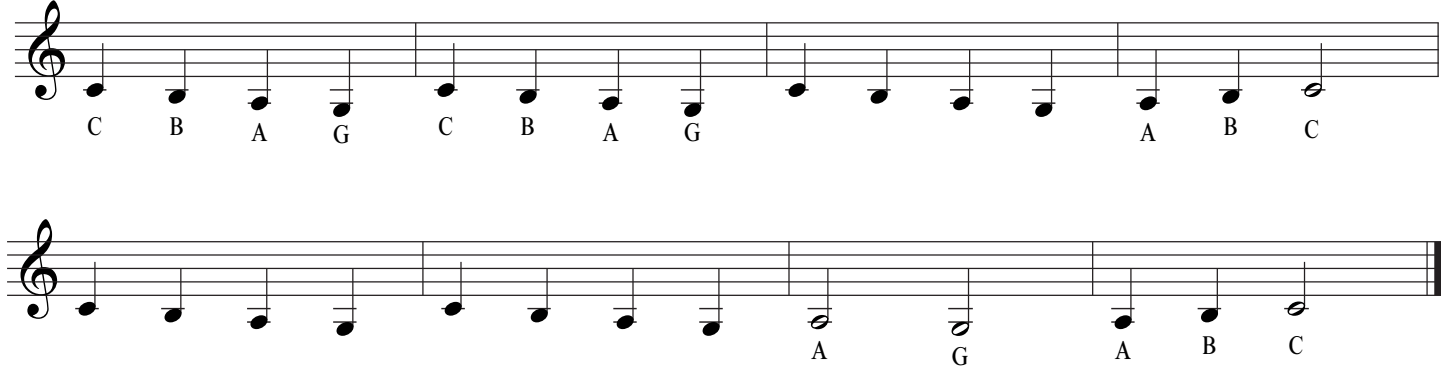
## Rain Rain



Factors that affect Tone: 1) air speed 2) tongue position and 3) grip.

Slow air = flat, unsteady, unclear sound. Fast air = vibrant, steady, clear sound.

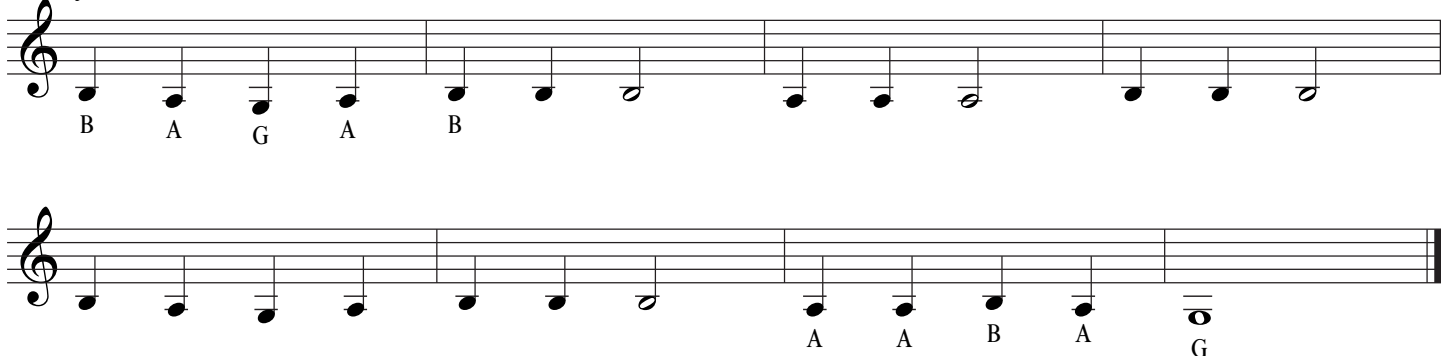
## March



Low tongue position (ah) = unfocused. High tongue position (ee) = focused.

Corners should squeeze in towards the mouthpiece. The bottom lip should be visible with slight amount rolled over the bottom teeth to cushion the reed. - pointed chin

## Mary had some low Notes



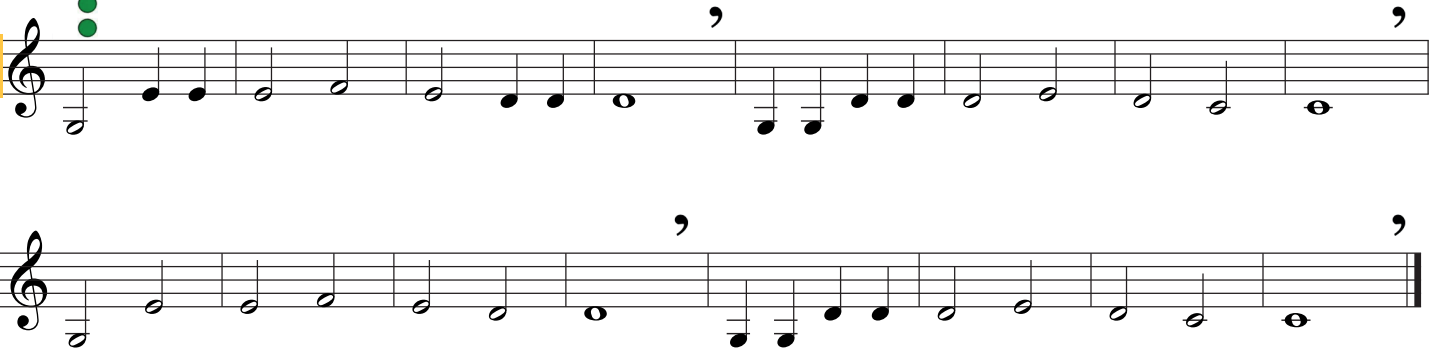
Try "Hush Little Baby" in "Cut Time" (Alle Breve)  
This will mean to play each note for half of it's  
written value (Half note = 1 Beat, Quarters = 1/2 Beat)

alla breve



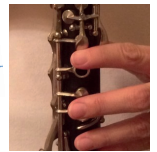
### Hush Little Baby

WW Only



### Camptown Races

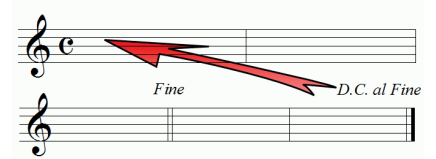
Review -  
Finger Roll to the A Key



All



D. C. al Fine is another for of repeat.  
D. C. means the Top (Da Capo)  
End at 'Fine' (finished)



### Twinkle Twinkle

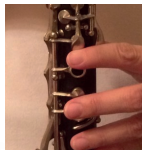
Fine

D.C. al Coda

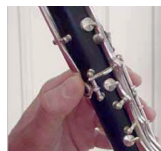
WW Only



### Good Night Ladies



+



=

All



### Whose on First

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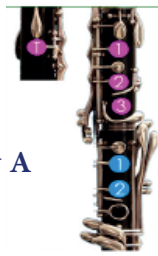




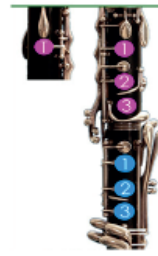
# Sing Noel



Low A



Low G



All



All



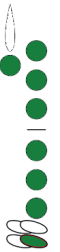
Low Bb



Right Pinky Key



All



In music, an anacrusis (also known as a pickup) is a note which precedes the first downbeat in a bar in a musical phrase.

Amazing Grace

Diff Key



New Note F# (F Sharp)



Joy to the World

Play Allegro and then "Alle Breve"

Diff Key



All

# We Will Rock You

The image displays a musical score for the song "We Will Rock You" in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff is a single melodic line. The second staff features a bass line with a consistent rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The third staff is a complex melodic line with many sixteenth notes. The fourth staff is a single melodic line with some rests. The fifth staff is a single melodic line with some rests. The sixth staff is a single melodic line with some rests. The seventh staff features a bass line with a consistent rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The music is written in treble clef.

Clarinet 1 and 2 are combined on the same part - this is called "Divisi"

All

# Holiday March

Clarinet

The musical score for the Clarinet part of 'Holiday March' is written in 4/4 time. It consists of eight staves of music, numbered 1 through 38. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and articulation marks such as staccato dots and accents. A double bar line with a '2' above it is placed above measure 34, indicating a second ending. The piece concludes with a final double bar line at the end of measure 38.

*This song introduces "Stacatto" which means short and detached*

# Italian Song

Allegro

Clarinet 1

Musical score for 'Italian Song' Clarinet 1. The score consists of five staves of music in treble clef. The first staff begins with a repeat sign. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The fifth staff includes first and second endings, indicated by '1.' and '2.' above the staff lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

# Hail the Conquering Hero

Clarinet 1

Musical score for 'Hail the Conquering Hero' Clarinet 1. The score consists of two staves of music in treble clef. The music is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes. The second staff ends with a double bar line.



# Seek Ye First

Clarinet

Also play "Cut Time" (Alle Breve)

1

## Review of Legato Style

*In the song "Seek Ye First" you will be asked to play long phrases in 1 Breath. First get comfortable with the song and then play it much faster so the 1st 10 notes are played in 1 breath*

A CURVED LINE over DIFFERENT NOTES is called A SLUR. It means play LEGATO (smoothly connected)



Slurs often divide the music into PHRASES. A PHRASE is a musical thought or sentence

# Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Clarinet 1

*legato*

*mf*

13

25

33

41

# Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Clarinet 2

*legato*

*mf*

13

25

37

# The Crusaders

Clarinet 1

1

14

27

40

53

Musical score for Clarinet 1, measures 1-53. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 2/4. The music consists of a single melodic line with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a fermata.

Clarinet 2

# The Crusaders

*(All the B's are Flats except for Bars 37+38)*

1

14

27

39

52

*(B Naturals)*

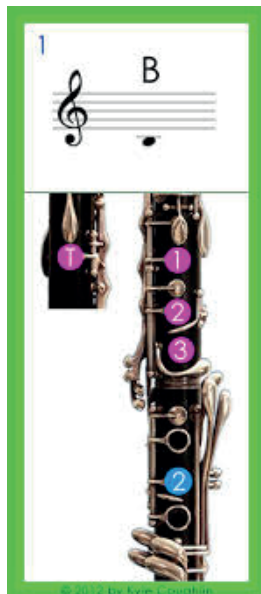
Musical score for Clarinet 2, measures 1-53. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 2/4. The music consists of a single melodic line with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a fermata. A specific instruction *(B Naturals)* is placed above the staff at measure 27.

All

# Olympic Theme

Clarinet 2

Musical score for Clarinet 2, measures 4 through 35. The score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five staves. Measure numbers are indicated above the notes. Measure 4 contains a whole rest. Measure 11 contains a whole rest. Measure 25 contains a whole rest. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 35.



*Clarinet 2 reviews the "Low Note B"*

*(a note using the 2nd finger of the Right Hand)*

# Olympic Theme

## Clarinet 1

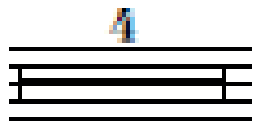
4 5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

31 32 33 34 35



*This black boxes with numbers over them means you will rest 4 measures (count 4 beats of rest for each measure - or- count to 4, 4 times)*

# I'm a Believer

Clarinet 1

Allegro

The musical score consists of seven staves of music in treble clef. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The tempo is marked 'Allegro'. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final whole note. The second staff continues the melody with similar rhythmic patterns. The third and fourth staves show more complex rhythmic figures, including sixteenth-note runs and rests. The fifth and sixth staves continue the melodic line with some syncopation. The seventh staff concludes the piece with a final whole note and a double bar line.



I'm a believer



# I'm a Believer

Clarinet 2

Allegro

