# Flute





## Rendamental Music Instruction



First Songs for Band – a beginner's "starter kit".

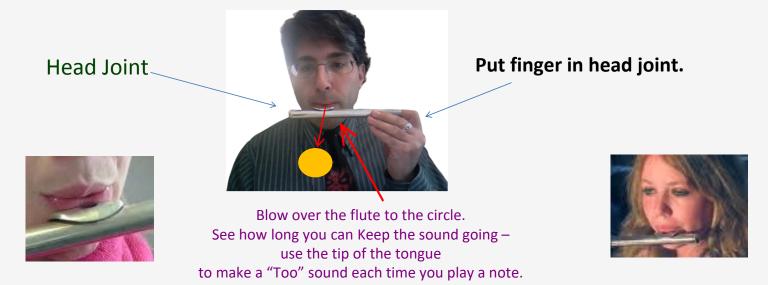
The goal of this book is to help the very beginning student explore the first sounds, begin a study of basic rhythmic playing, learn to play in a smooth, pleasing fashion and master several notes appropriate for this level of study, all leading to the ability to perform both on a solo level and as part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

### Making a Sound on the Mouthpiece (take the Head-joint our of the case)



#### Pretend this is a bowl of soup. Blow quick and cold air to cool it off.

Finding the best, most effective <u>embouchure</u> (shape of your mouth) on the flute can be tricky at first, but with a little experimentation you will be making a sound in no time.

- When playing the flute, we <u>do not blow the air directly inside the mouthpiece</u> (as we would do with a recorder or a whistle), but we are instead directing the Air-stream over the top of the embouchure hole. Perhaps in the past, you have made a sound by blowing over the top of a bottle it is the same principle as this.
- The stream of air used to create a sound on the flute should be produced from an *embouchure* approximately the size of a stirring straw from a cup of iced tea. Imagine that someone has placed a stirring straw between your lips this loosely indicates the size of the Air-stream.

#### Steps to Form the Embouchure

1. <u>Press your lips lightly together</u>. Roll the lips inward slightly, so that there is little to no pink showing (depending on size of your lips (Imagine a woman who is pressing her lipstick between her lips)



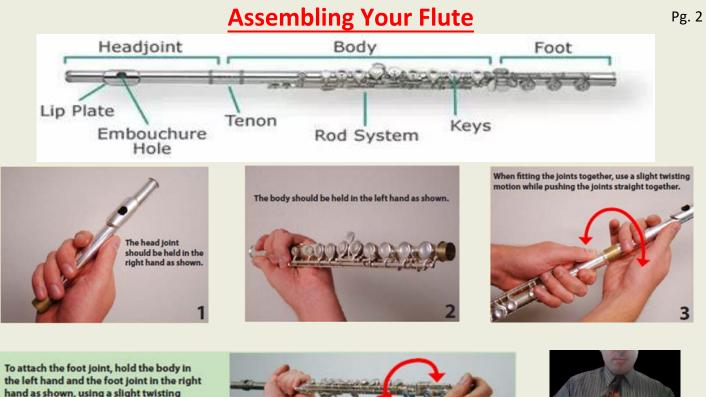
2. <u>Place the *embouchure hole* completely against your lips</u>, so that you can feel the full circle around your mouth (half on the top and half on the bottom).



3. Unroll. Roll the flute away from your lips approximately 90 degrees, so that the *embouchure hole* is now level with the ceiling but you can still feel the bottom ridge of this hole pressing on the red of your bottom lip.



4. "Spit out a watermelon seed!" Imagine you have a small seed to spit out - this may assist you in finding a good *embouchure* shape. If you achieve a sound using this method, try adding a stream of air after your initial "spit".



hand as shown, using a slight twisting motion while pushing the joints straight together.



#### Make this rod point to the CENTER of the keys!









NEVER press this key

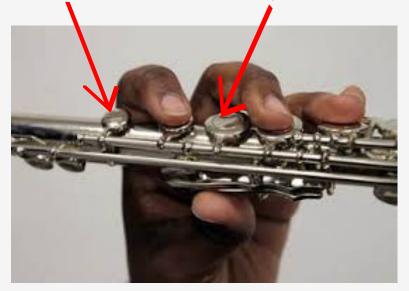
**Right Hand** 





### **Getting Started**

### Never press this 1st little key Or this key after the index finger



### Frown a little.

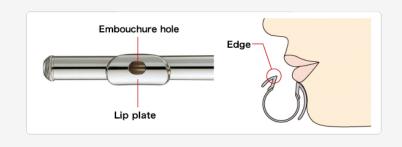


Blow over the flute, towards the circle.

The tongue hits the top of your mouth to start EVERY note. It's like saying, "tooooo", but with breath, not voice.

Pretend this is a bowl of soup. Blow quick and cold air to cool it off.

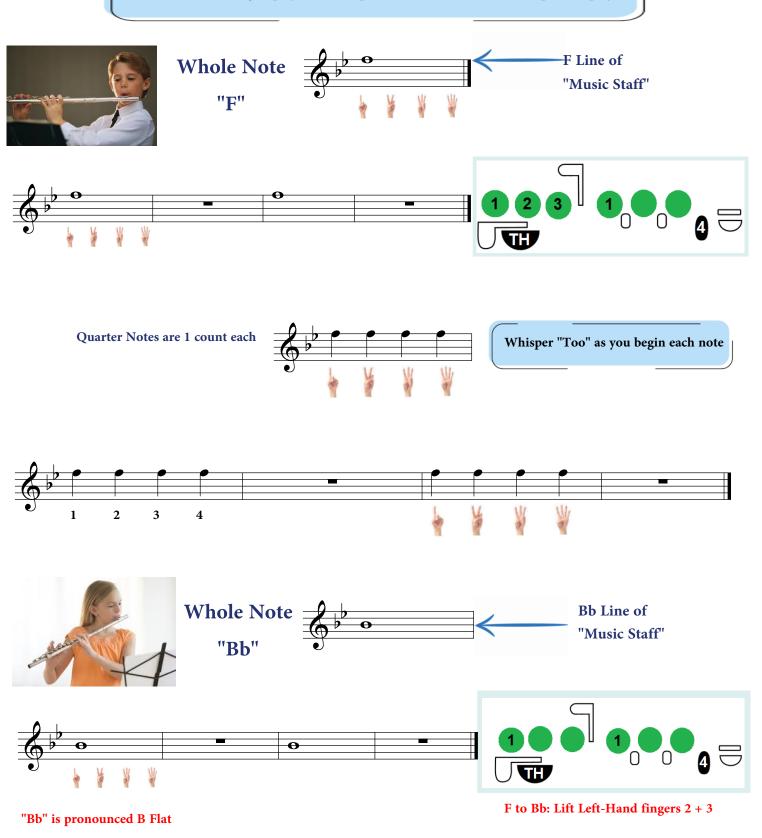






Notes tell us how long to play and when placed on the music staff, what pitch to play

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## What if that didn't work?

- Try it again several times, and try to move the *embouchure hole* to the left or right, depending on where your <u>strongest stream of air is</u> coming out.
- Experiment, experiment, experiment! As you are blowing, try moving the *embouchure hole* to the left, right, **roll in/roll out,** angle up/angle down, angle forward/angle back, etc... Take deep breaths, so that you have plenty of air to create a strong sound.
- <u>Have a look in the mirror as you attempt to make a sound</u>. Closely observe the position of the *embouchure hole* against your lips, and attempt to troubleshoot. You may notice a small pattern of condensation appear on the mouthpiece if you can create a triangular shape with this, you are almost certainly doing well.



Is Flute at the Correct angle?





Finding the "Magic Spot" takes some experimentation



Remember: Pretend this is a bowl of soup. Blow quick and cold air to cool it off.

Using a <u>consistently strong fast</u> <u>air stream</u> on all notes, both low and high, is required to develop a good tone. Use "birthday candle air", i.e. the speed of air used to blow out many birthday candles on a large cake.

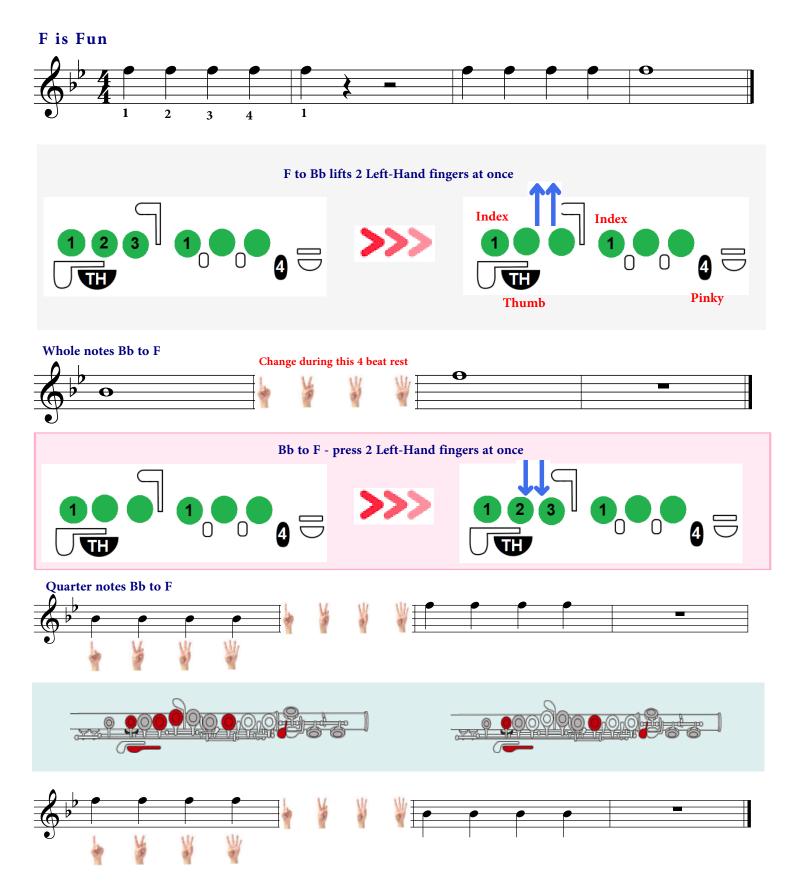




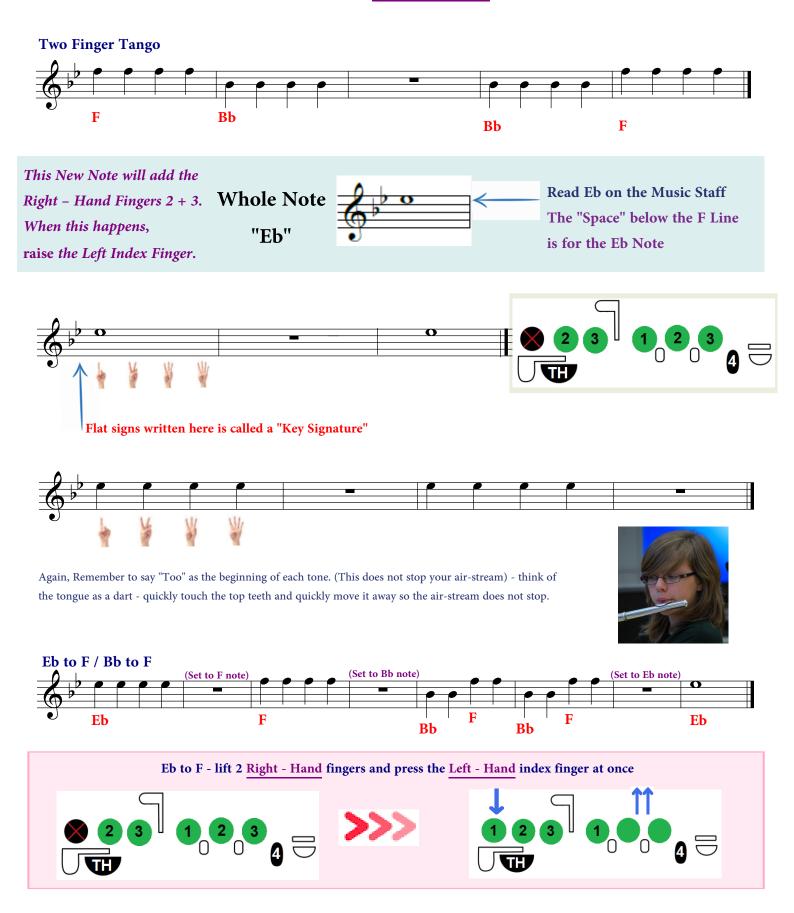
Say "Too" as if they were <u>"spitting a grain of rice off the tip of the tongue"</u>. This type of tonguing produces tone that is strong and full without an "airy" sound that is produced when the air stream is too wide.

Say "Too" slightly <u>between the lips</u> – think about touching the tip of their tongue to the top lip to start each note. When you do this, there is a small "pop" sound as the air is released.

# Once you can control the steady air-stream to sustain notes, Changing fingers to build a range of sounds is a matter of learning combinations of keys

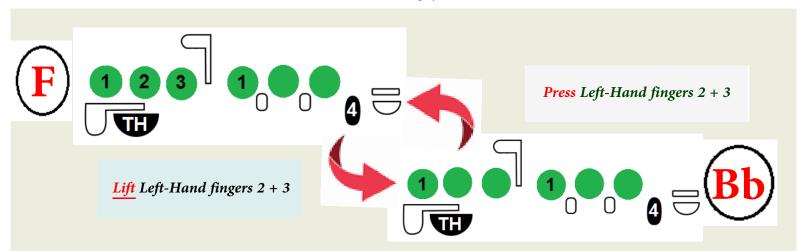


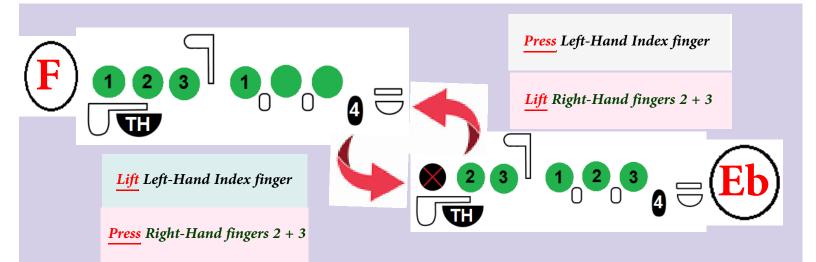
Now try changing Quarter Note F's to Quarter Note Bb's – with no rest in between – then, change from Quarter Note Bb's to Quarter Note F's with no rest in between. (Both Finger changes help you practice moving Left-Hand 2 + 3 Up and the Back down)

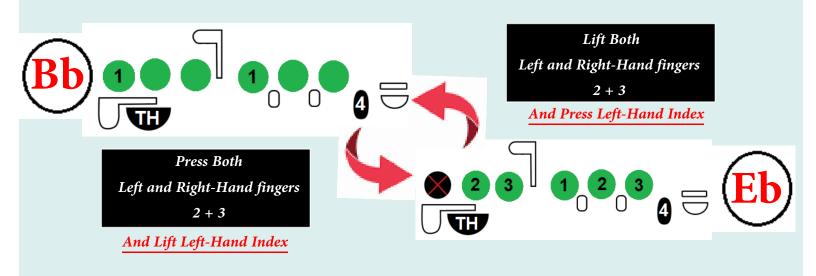


## Practice the Key combinations you have used so far:

Follow the arrow directions to play forward and Back



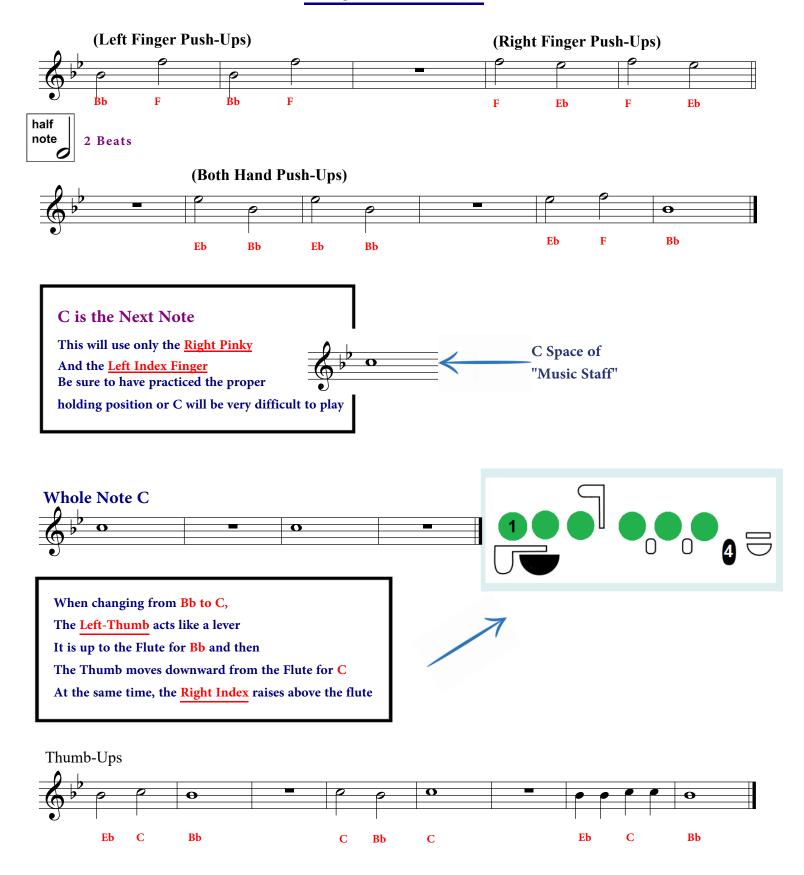


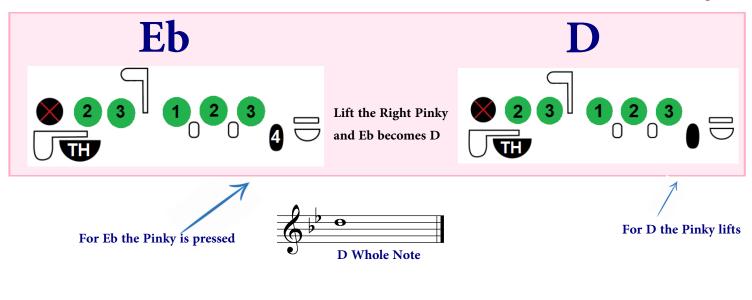


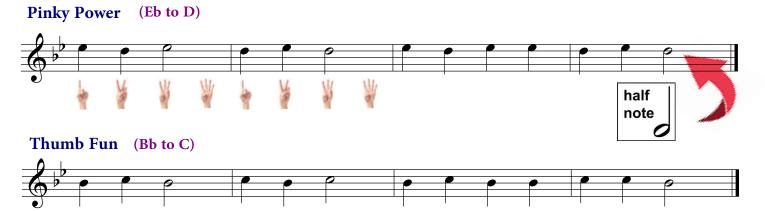


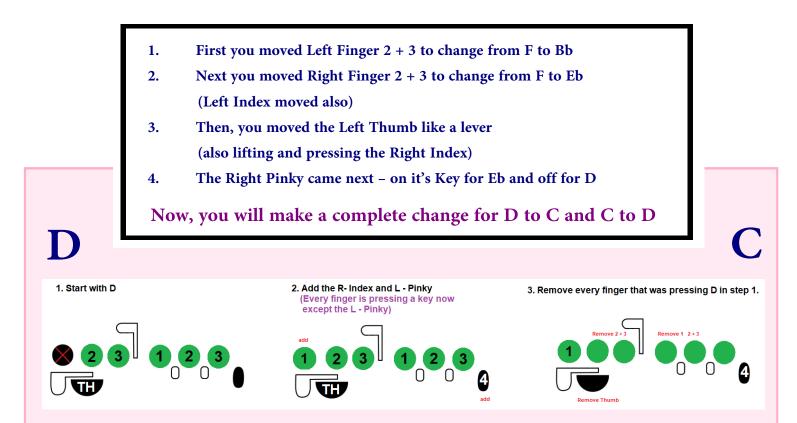


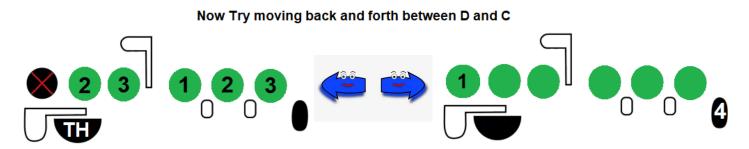
### **Finger Push-Ups**



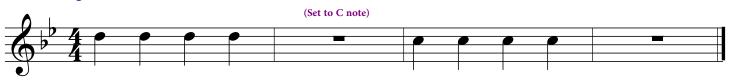




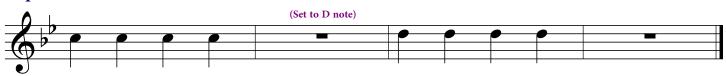




#### Washington - D. C.



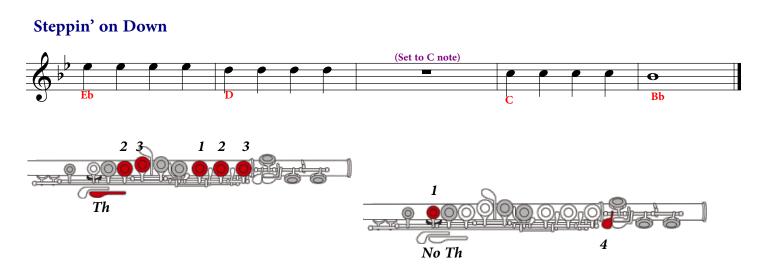
#### Mp3 or C D?



**Reminder:** Say "Too" as if they were "spitting a grain of rice off the tip of the tongue"

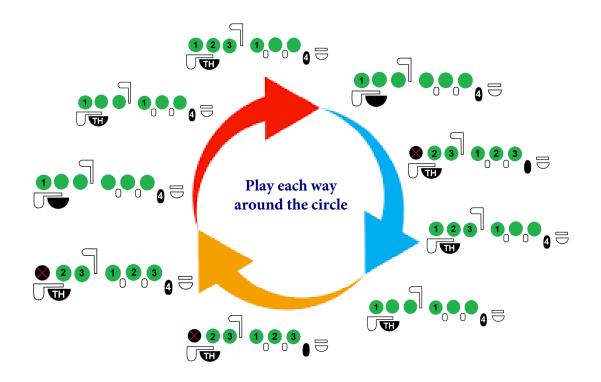


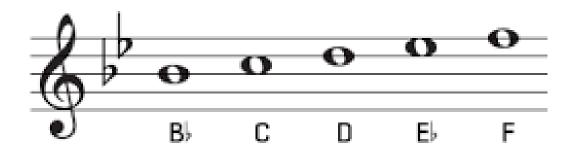
## Review Eb - D - C - Bb



## **Review and Practice**

Identify the Note (Fingering) and then Play around the circle.

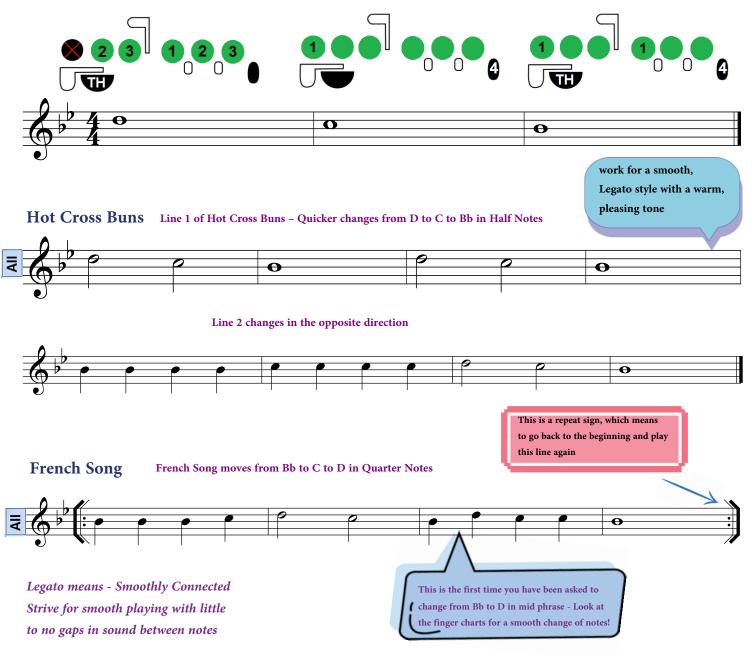




## **First Songs For Band**

In this chapter – you will begin Songs that can be played with other instruments  $f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty$ 

\*Strive for Tempo Control (evenly times Notes) and a \*clear and steady Tone



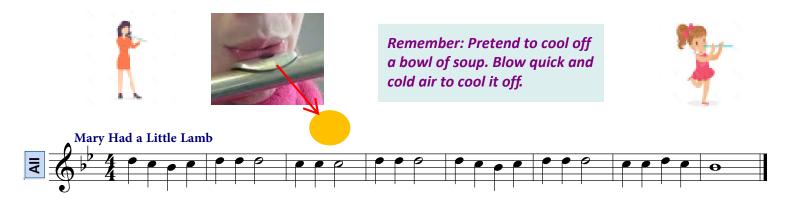
## **First Songs for Musicianship**

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

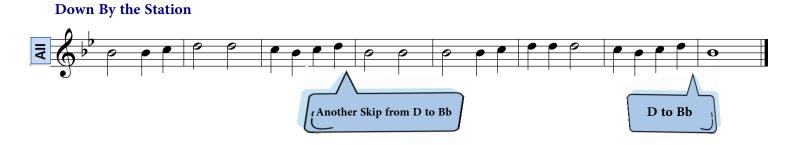


Note: the order of songs in the Flute book is different than other books – they are presented in the order that makes most sense for Flute (Same songs – different order)

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There Songs offer more practice changing from D to C to Bb - or - Bb to C to D, in Quarter Notes

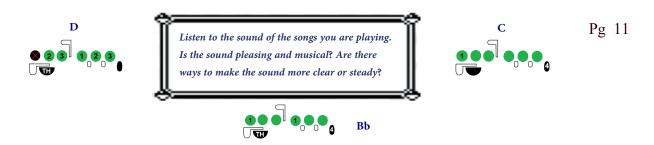


Apache Warrior



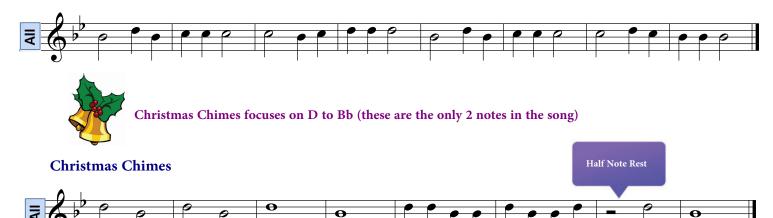
## **First Songs for Musicianship**





On the previous 2 pages, songs were written in "Steps" meaning the next note was 1 pitch higher or 1 pitch lower (1 letter name up or down) Now, there will be many "Skips" Example: Bb to D, C to Eb -or- D to F / F to D, Eb to C, D to F

Gotcha Cha-Cha Gotcha Cha-Cha focuses on the Skip from Bb to D (all other notes are "Steps")



#### Having trouble with your sound?

01. Work in front of a mirror - You'll begin to recognize the best mouth shape for yo much faster

02. <u>Head Joint Only</u> - Ditch the body and foot joint and keep it simple. This way you can isolate true mouth shape issues (as opposed to positioning errors when you hold the entire flute.)

03. <u>The Lip Position</u> - The bottom lip should be slightly flattened and the upper lip overhanging above your bottom lip (slightly) to direct the flow of air (slightly) down. Picture the stream of air hitting your bowl of soup.

04. Corners of the Mouth - Should be turned down slightly in a relaxed pout, rather than pulled back and up as if smiling.

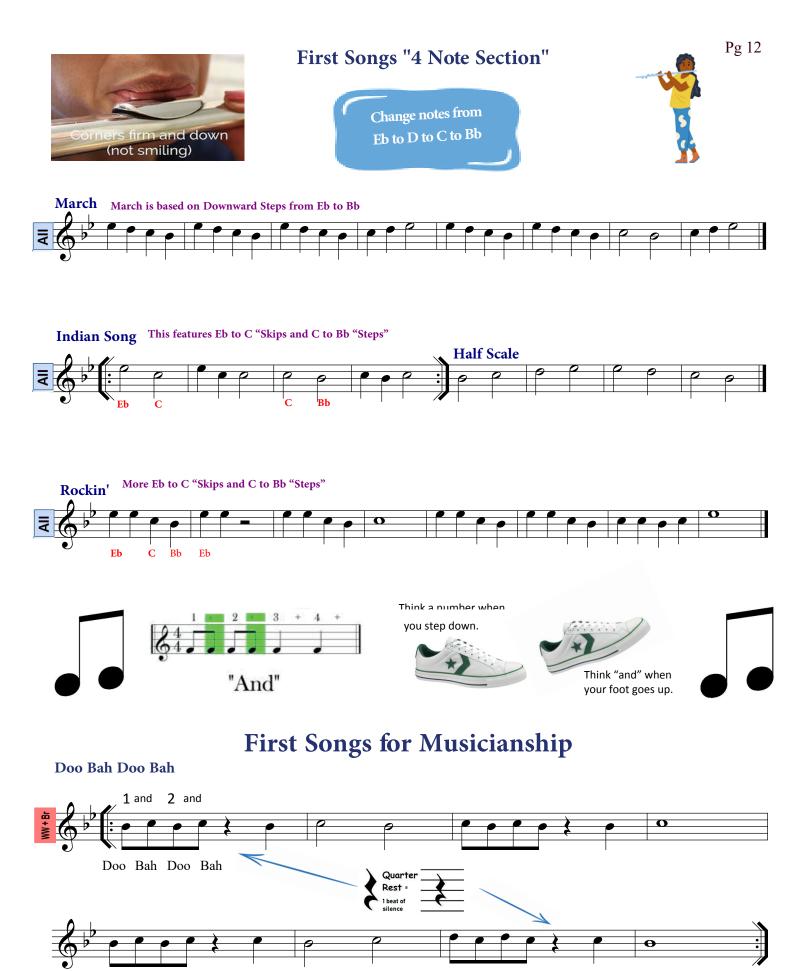
05. Middle of lips - The lips should be a squashed oval. The lips should be lightly touching so the air-stream can come from the back of the lips.

06. <u>Breath and Sounding the Note</u> - Use a fast steady stream of air - think of having a lot of birthday candles on your cake - to blow them out in one breath, you need to support the air and keep your mouth closed enough for a long drawn out breath that is focused on the candles and not wasted

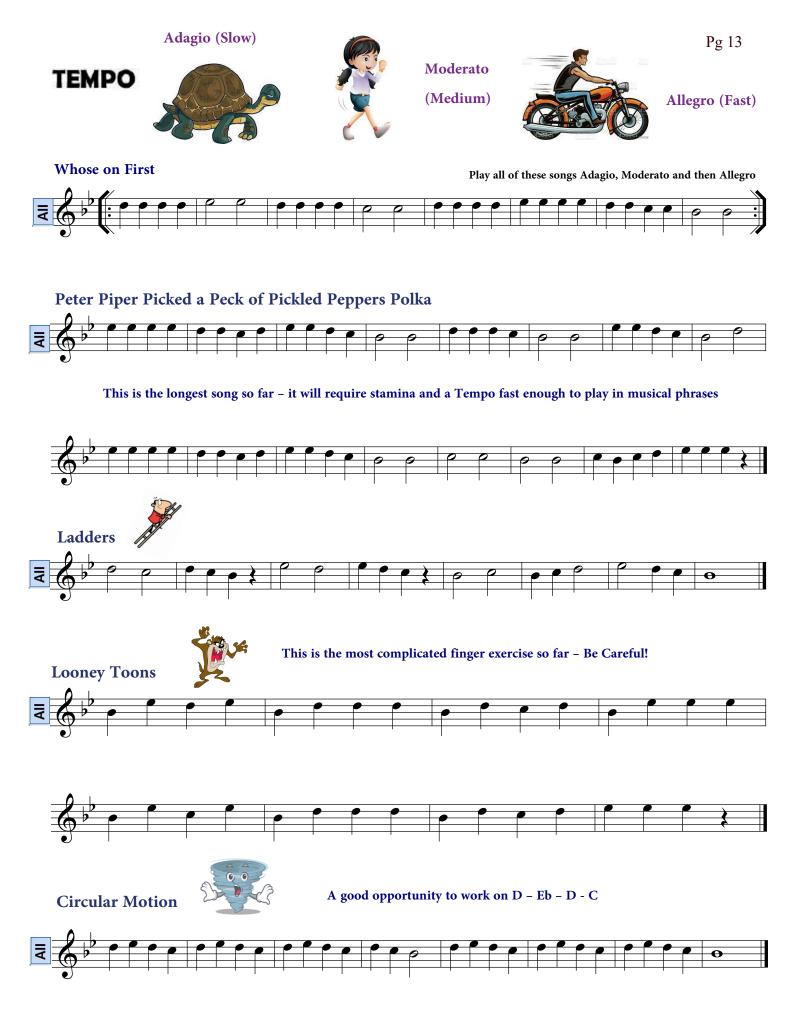


This part of the song focuses on F to D

This part of the song focuses on Eb to C

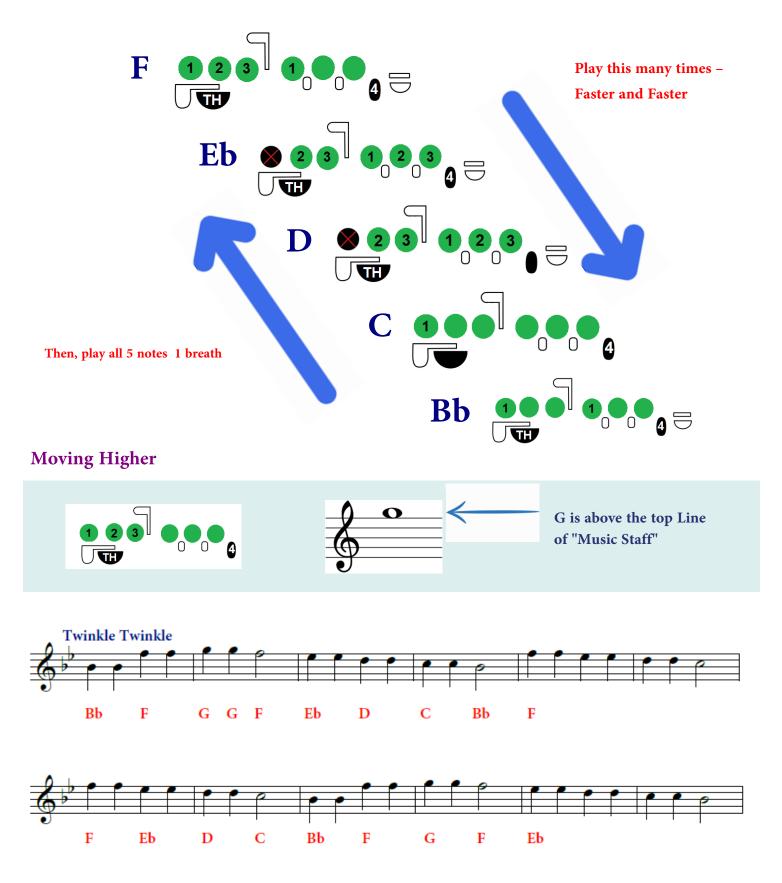


Bb to C Fingerings



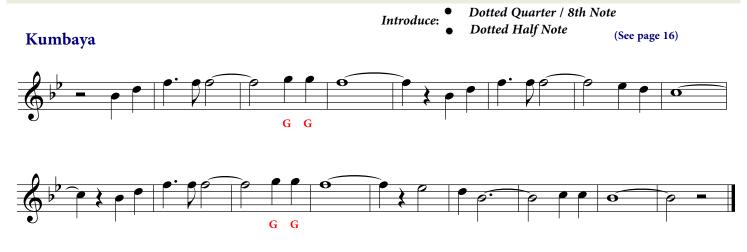
## **Review and Practice**

Identify the Note (Fingering) and then Play around the circle.

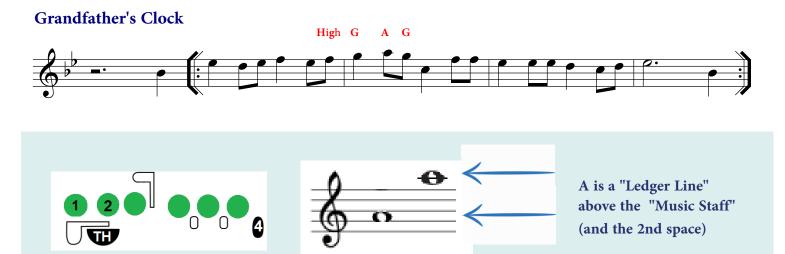


There are "Low Note" and "High Notes". This is about Embouchure and Breath Control. Low notes require an open Throated "Ahh" Sound and High Notes require an "EEE" Shape tongue, throat, and corners of the mouth.

We have been imagining a "Bowl of Soup" for focus of the air-stream. When that bowl is right in front of us the throat is naturally open and the air is focused slightly downward. If you imagine moving the bowl away a bit and "cool it off" the air is focused a bit higher, faster and "Colder"- the throat forms an "Eeee" We will begin to play High Note and Low Notes G and A



Cool, fast air for the High notes G and A







### 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)

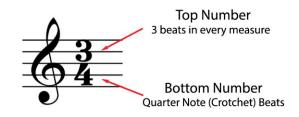
#### New Repeat Signs;

- **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 )
- Ist 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



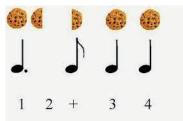
#### **Dotted Rhythms:** Adding a **Dot** next to a note increases the length of the note by Half

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

Two Beats + One Beat

Here is an explanation using cookies for understanding

Quarter Notes with a Dot

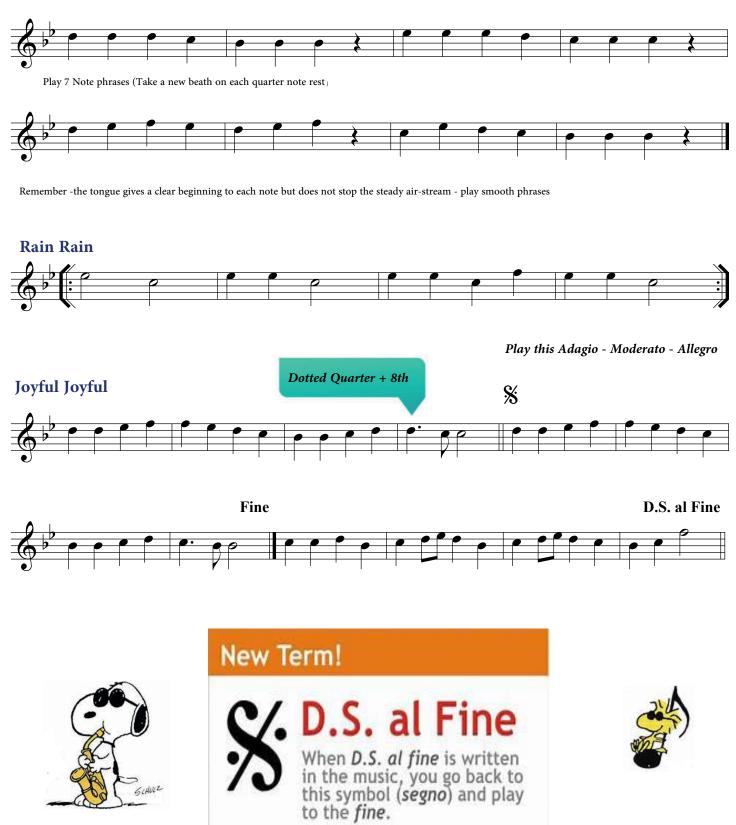


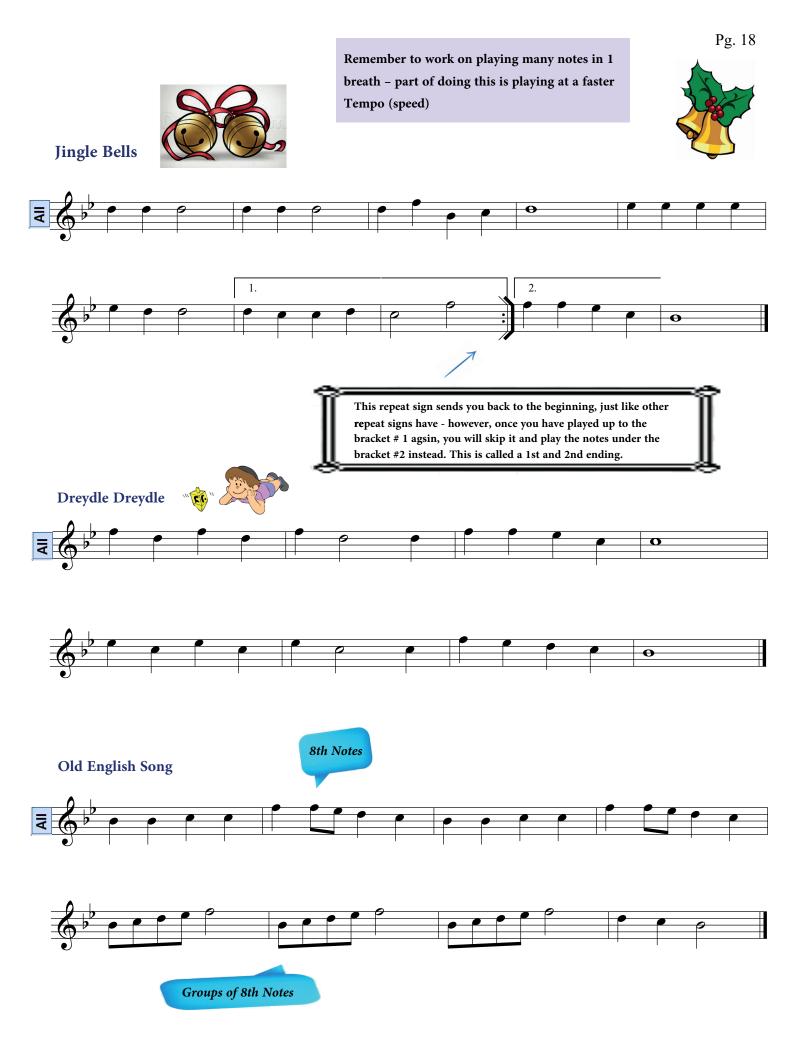
## First Songs "Review 5 Note Section"

We will begin to focus on longer melodic phrases - control the air-stream so you play even supported sounds

#### **Oats Peas and Beans**

Play this Adagio - Moderato - Allegro







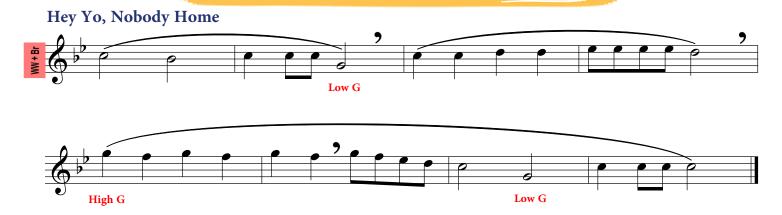
Curved lines are "Phrase Markings" - This making is for Legato Style playing



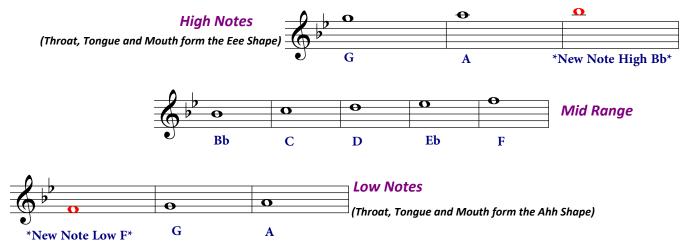


### First Songs for Musicianship

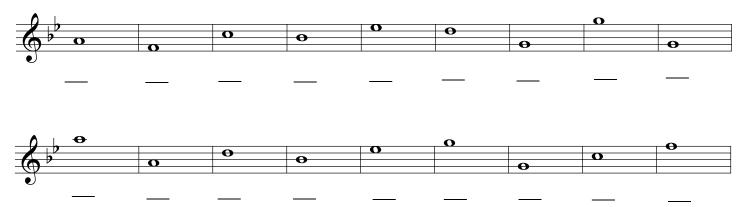
Playng Low and High notes in the same song will give you a chance to practice the Ahh Shape vs. the Eee Throat and Mouth Shape



#### Flute Note Ranges



1. Draw a treble clef at the beginning of the staff and write the letter name of each note.



A phrase marking (Legato) is a curved line connection two or more notes of different pitches.

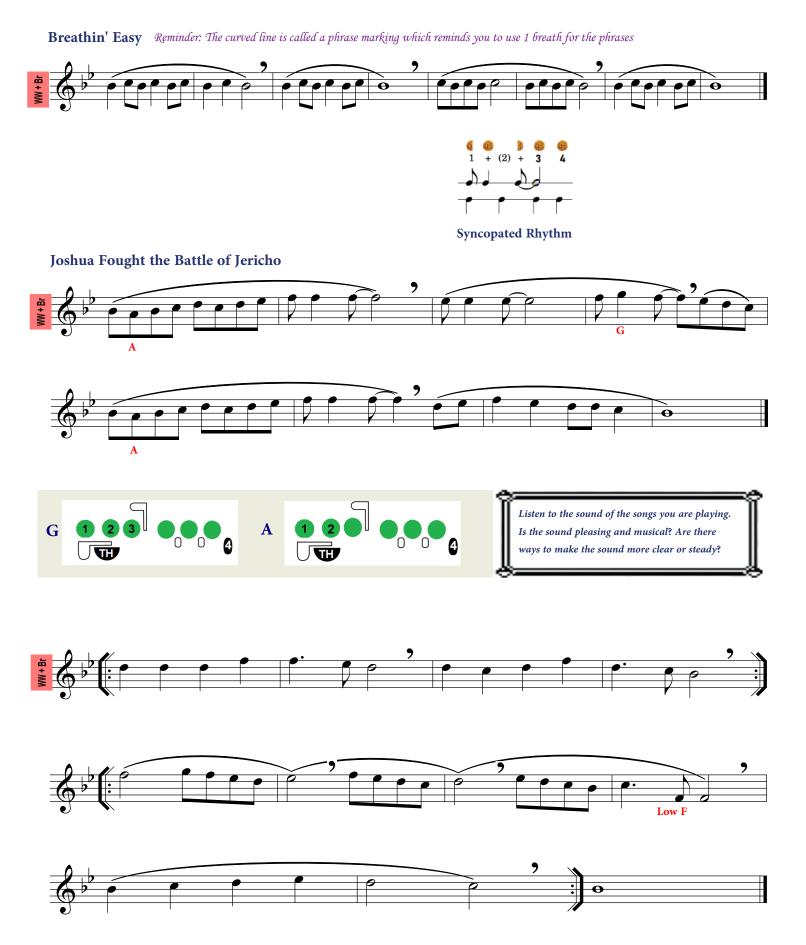
Legato passages should be played as smoothly as possible.

Legato and Ties

2. Draw in the Phrase Marking for each Dotted Line







#### **Good King Wenceslas**



**Bb** Scale

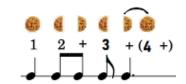


Cuckoo





### First Songs for Musicianship









# Intermediate Music Section



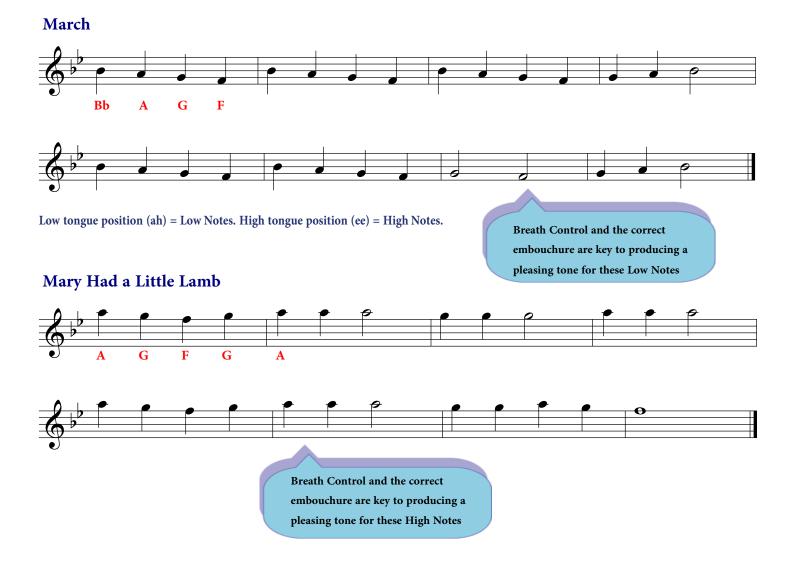
Hold the palm of your hand out in front of you and blow on it the same way you blow across your head joint. You should be able to feel whether your air-stream is large or small from how much air is hitting your hand. Experiment with expanding and tightening the focus of your airstream as you feel it on your hand. When tight, your lips should form a small pinhole. As they expand, they should move to a circle and then an oval shape.

#### Rain Rain (Mid Range Notes)



Factors that affect Tone: 1) air speed 2) Lip shape -pin hole, circle, oval 3) Tone hole placement on lip.

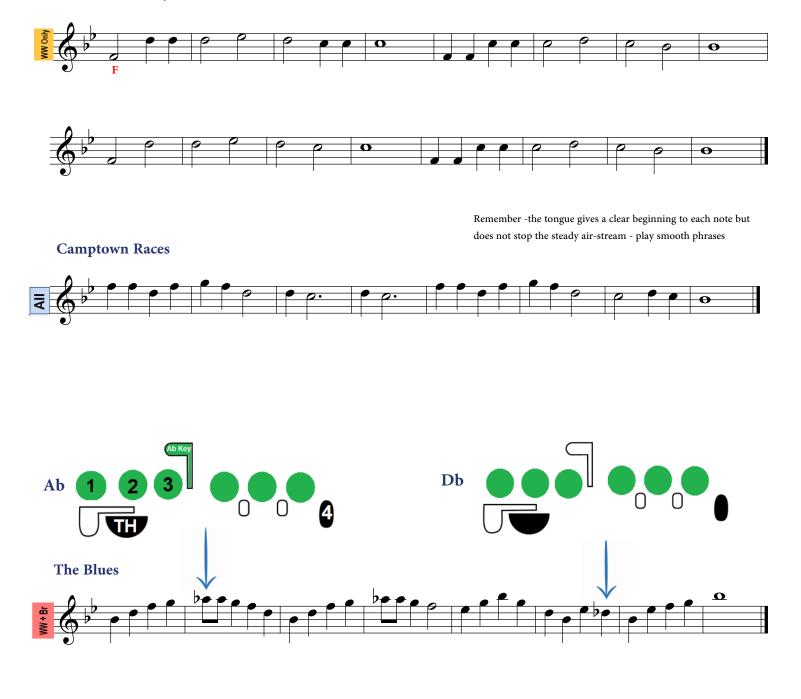
Slow air = flat, unsteady, unclear sound. Fast air = vibrant, steady, clear sound.



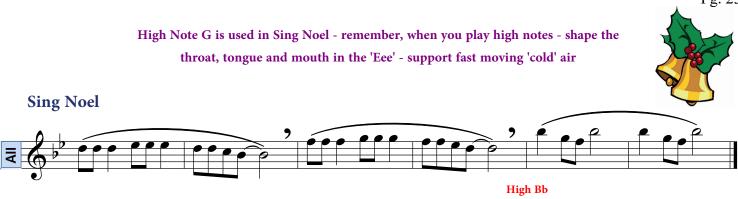
Try the songs on this page in "Cut Time' (Alle Breve) This will mean to play each note for half of it's written value (Half note = 1 Beat, Quarters = 1/2 Beat)



#### Hush Little Baby

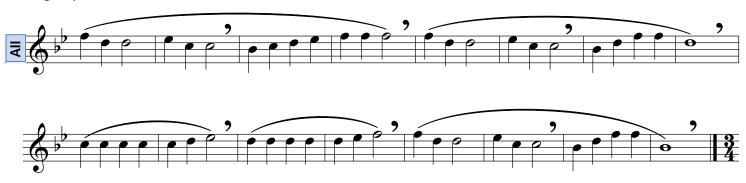






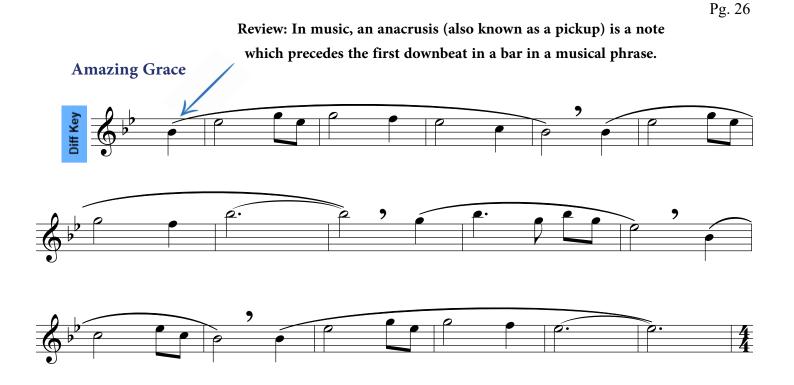
Tone, Embouchure (mouth shape) and Breath Control are primary to playing a smooth legato phrase Be sure to listen to the sound you create and adjust as needed until it is as musical as possible.

**Lightly Row** 

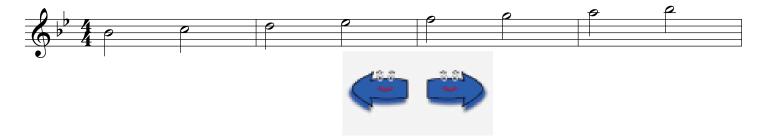


Silent Night has a wide range of notes - all the way from High Note Ab to Low Note G. This is a wonderful opportunity to work on the control needed to play Low, Medium and High Notes with an even, controlled tone. Support the air-stream with your stomach muscles so the air is always steady. Adjust the Tongue, Throat and mouth shape to match















First Songs for Band



"On Parade"

Flute 2

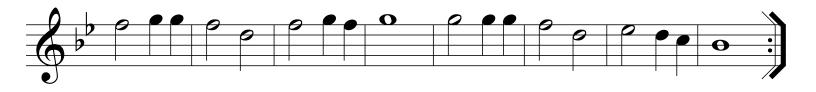






Flute 1 (to be added after learning Flute 2)







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# This song focuses on the notes Eb, D, C, Bb but then adds G and F - it is a fantastic piece for learning notes required for advanced band



**Holiday March** 

Flute



#### This song focuses on "Skipping Notes" and moves from F to D and Eb to C

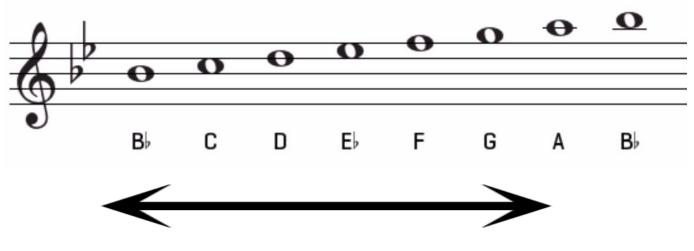


Olympic Theme





This is a great piece for expanding your rage to include High note Bb and A. You can then play a complete Bb Scale



(Play this Scale forward and backward)



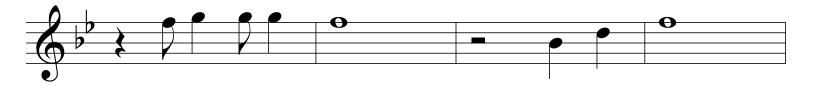
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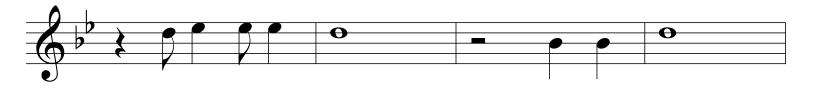


















Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

This Song uses A Natural



Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Flute 2

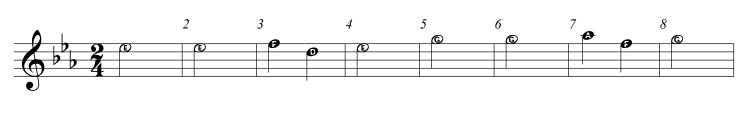


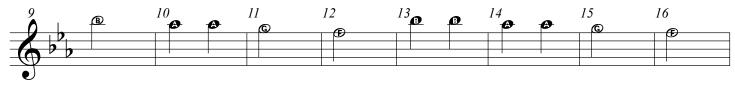


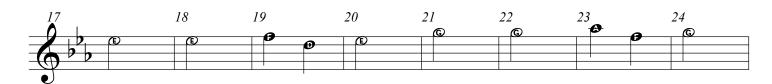
Flute

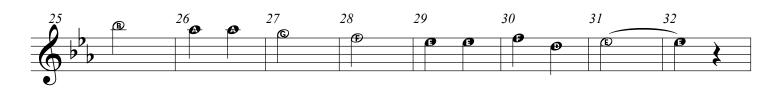
The Crusaders

This Song Uses Ab

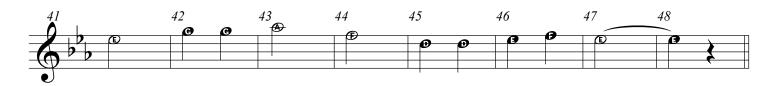


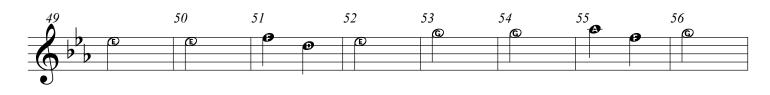


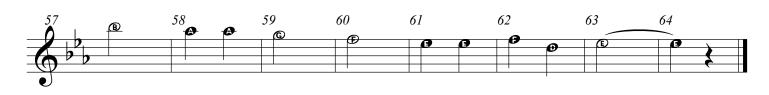












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Hail the Conquering Hero

Flute 1















Hail the Conquering Hero

Flute 2 

