

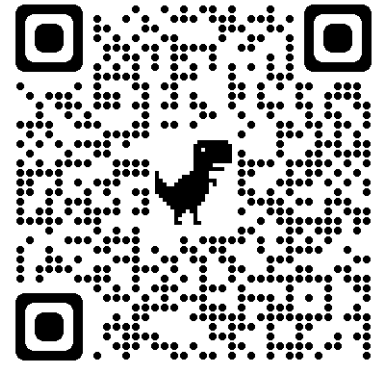
Carmel Clay Schools

Just for Clarinets



carmelbands

MY CLARINET





Throughout this book you will find QR Codes. Scan the code with your phone or device to be taken to video and/or audio that will help you learn the skill presented.

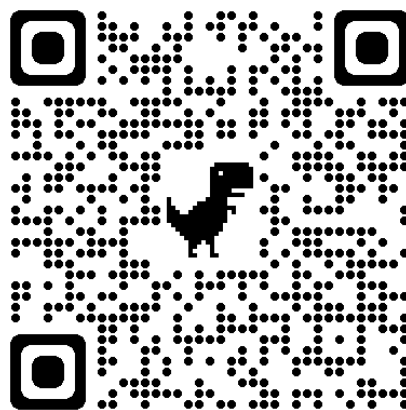
Posture is the first skill we must learn when beginning clarinet!

Perfect Posture

- Your feet should be flat on the floor. Evenly distribute your weight.
- Keep shoulders down and back. There should not be any tension in your body.
- Gently push your belly button toward your spine.
- Your head should float between your shoulders like a helium balloon.



Scan the QR Code for a video demonstrating the process of creating your best clarinet posture!



Scan the QR Code for a video demonstrating the breathing process.



Need a metronome? Type "metronome" in Google and one will pop up!

Breathing Basics

- Nothing in our breathing should cause tension in our bodies.
- When you breathe in, expand the middle of your body in all directions.
- When you breathe out, your airstream should have focus and direction. It should be constant, steady and smooth.

Four in and Four Out

Inhale				exhale				inhale				exhale				inhale				exhale			
poh				pu				poh				pu				poh				pu			
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4

Two in and Four Out

		in		out						in		out			
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4

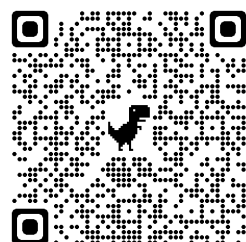
Assembly of the Mini Instrument

Soaking the Reed

- Take a reed out of your reed case and put the thin end into your mouth. Halfway through assembling your instrument, turn the reed around and soak the heel end.

Preparing Your Instrument

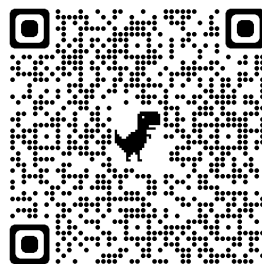
- Put a small amount of cork grease on the mouthpiece cork and rub it in with your fingers
- Take the ligature and mouthpiece cap off of the mouthpiece and set them in your case



Your reed is what creates the sound on your clarinet. If you have a bad reed, it will be impossible to get a good sound!

Here are some tips!

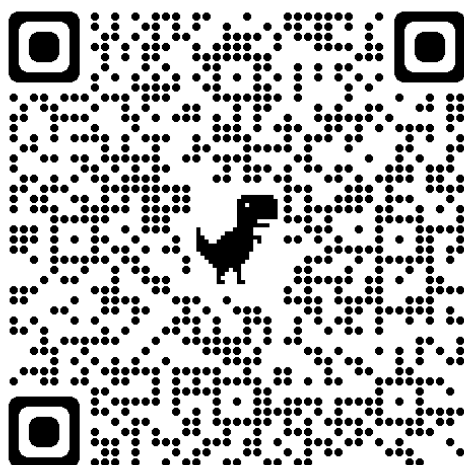
- Never touch the tip of your reed. Handle it only by the bottom, thicker part.
- Store your reeds in a reed guard. Watch the video to see how.
- Rotate your reeds. Don't play on the same reed each day.
- When you need new reeds, order Vandoren Clarinet Reeds, strength 2 1/2.



Assembly of the Mini Instrument

Assembly

- Twist and push the mouthpiece and barrel together, pushing the mouthpiece in all the way.
- Put the ligature on the mouthpiece. The ligature screw should always point to the right when you look at the opening (facing) on the mouthpiece
- Tip the ligature up and slide the reed underneath. Line the reed up perfectly as shown.
- Tighten the ligature screw until it is snug. Do not over-tighten.



Checklist:

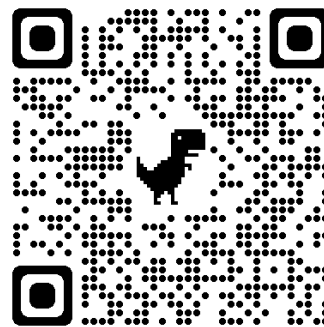
- Reed centered and straight
- Ligature between the lines on mouthpiece
- A "hair's width" of black mouthpiece visible above the tip of the reed
- Screw pointing to the right



Clarinet Embouchure

Embouchure (ahm-boo-shoor)

The formation of the mouth, lips and teeth in order to play a woodwind or brass instrument.



Clarinet Embouchure Steps

- Pretend you are putting Chapstick on your bottom lip.
- Feel for the valley in your chin.
- Mark your spot.
- Place the reed on your bottom lip at "the spot."
- Place your top teeth on the mouthpiece.
- "Hug" the mouthpiece with your lips.



Pro Tip: Practice your embouchure in front of a mirror to make sure you are getting everything correct.

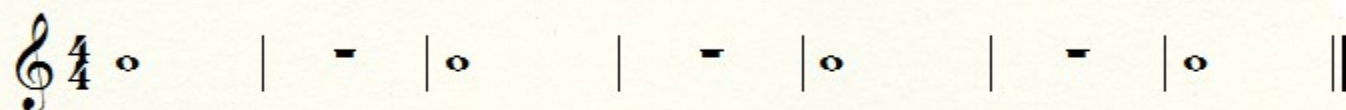
Embouchure Reminders

- Pretend you are putting Chapstick on your bottom lip.
- Feel for the valley in your chin.
- Mark your spot.
- Place the reed on your bottom lip at "the spot."
- Place your top teeth on the mouthpiece.
- Hug the mouthpiece with your lips.



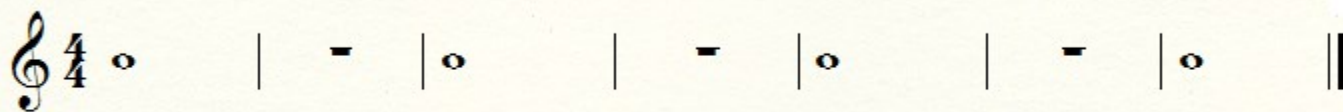
1. Mouthpiece and Barrel Practice

Hold each note for 4 full counts. Keep your air steady and smooth. Release the note on count 1.



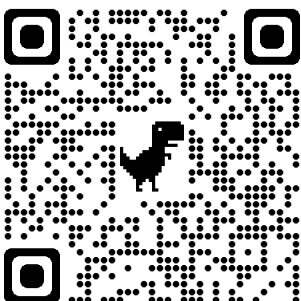
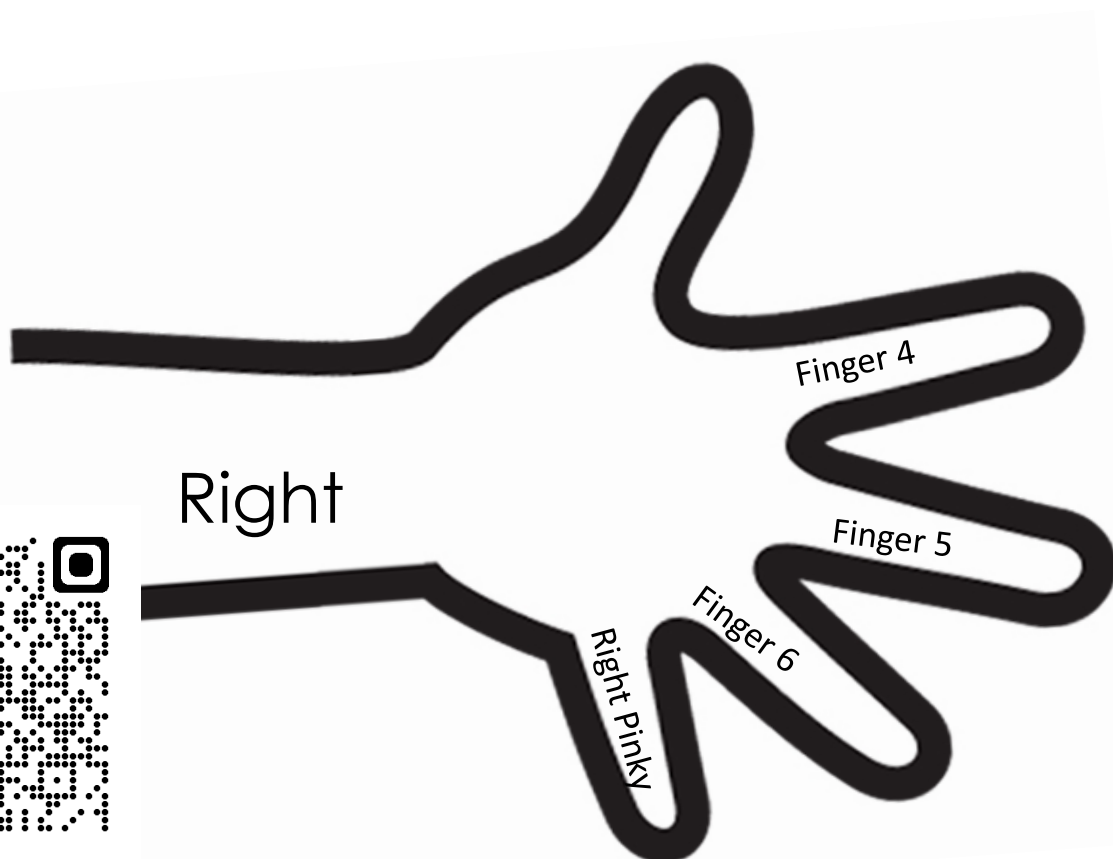
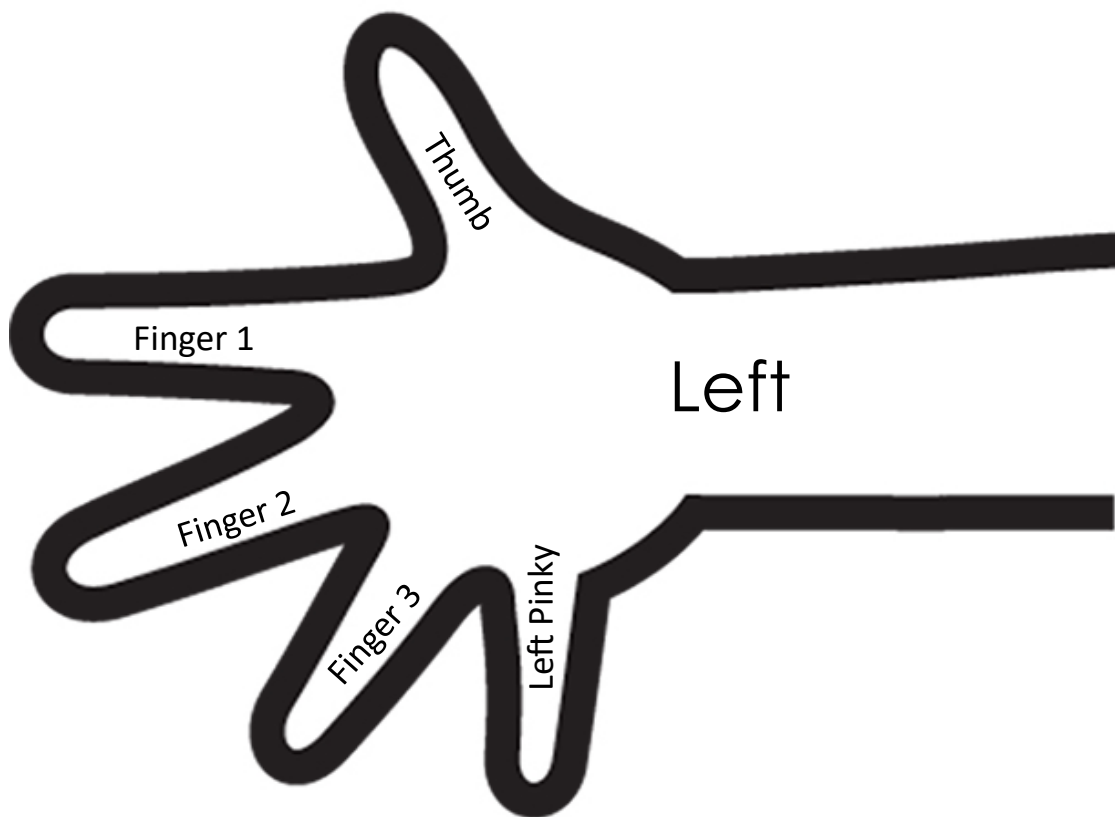
2. Half Clarinet Song

Play the same exercise on your half clarinet. Hold on to the barrel with your right hand for now.



Hand Positions and Finger Numbers

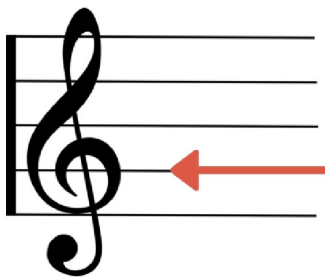
Our left hand always goes on top.



READING MUSIC



This is a staff. It has 5 lines with 4 spaces in between



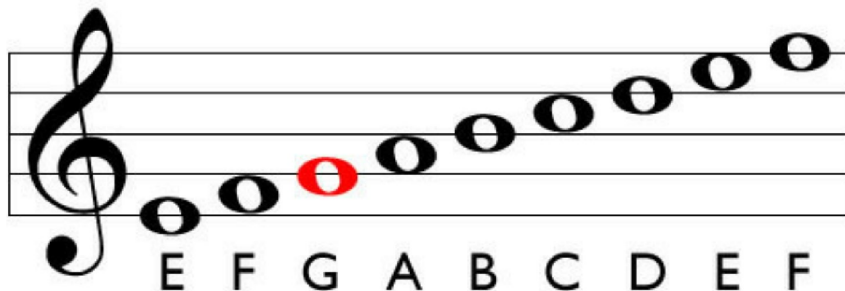
The treble clef is actually a fancy looking G. The end of the clef curls around the line named G

The music alphabet is the first seven letters of the regular alphabet.



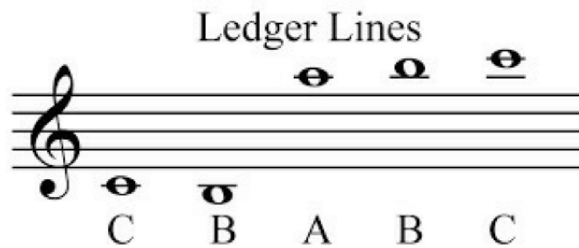
A B C D E F G

After G, we start over again at A!

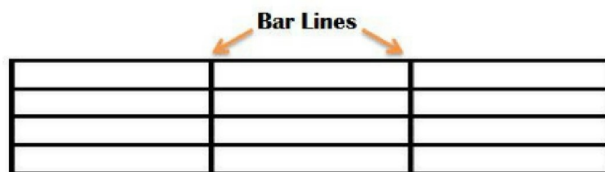


The notes appear on the staff in alphabetical order. If you can find G, you can find any other note by saying your musical alphabet forward or backward.

READING MUSIC



We can keep going when we run out of staff lines. We just add more! These are called ledger lines.



We divide the staff into measures with bar lines. Measures and bar lines help us to keep track of musical time.



A double bar line tells us that we have reached the end of the music.



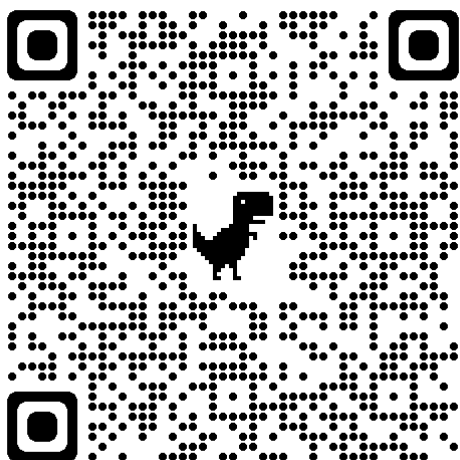
A time signature tells us how many beats are in a measure and what kind of note gets one beat.

In $\frac{4}{4}$ a quarter note  gets one beat. A half note  gets two beats.
A whole note  gets four beats.

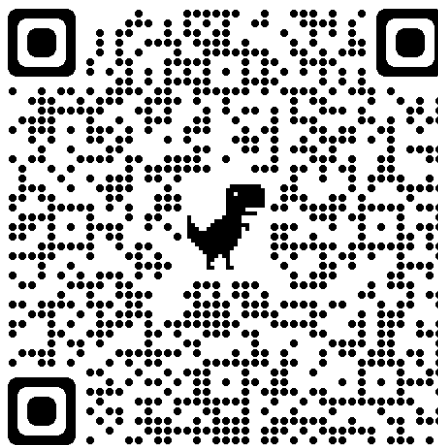
Assembling the Entire Clarinet

Your teacher will show you how to assemble your clarinet and properly hold it in class. Watch the videos for a great review when attempting this at home.

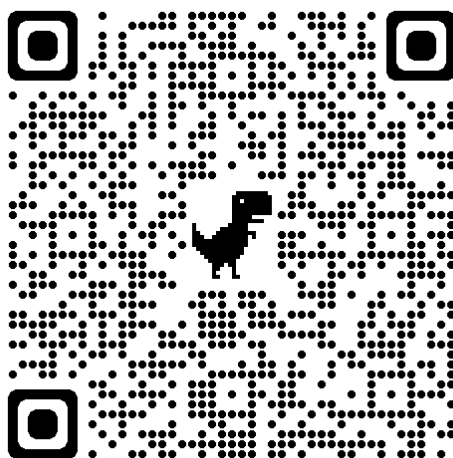
Assembling the main body
of the clarinet



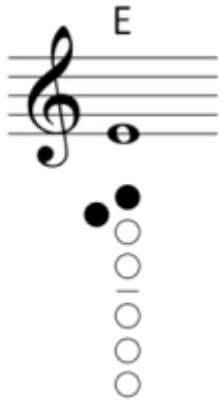
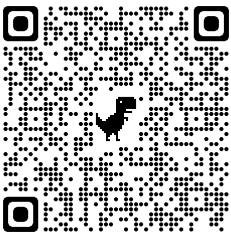
Assembling the entire
clarinet



Playing Position on the
Clarinet

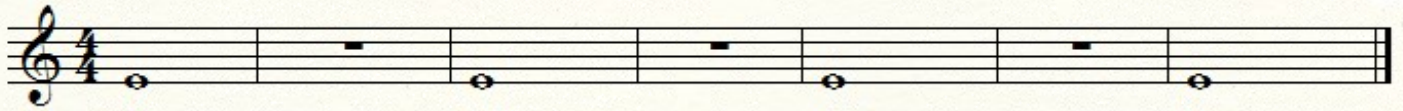


3. Play an E

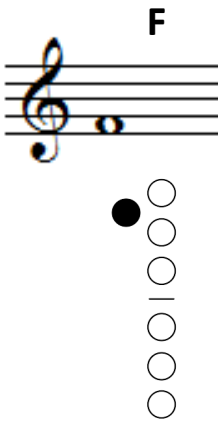
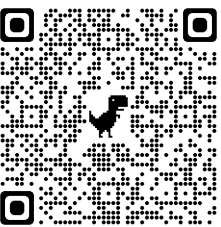


Remember to:

- Keep your air steady and smooth.
- Make sure your top teeth are anchored on the mouthpiece.



4. Play an F

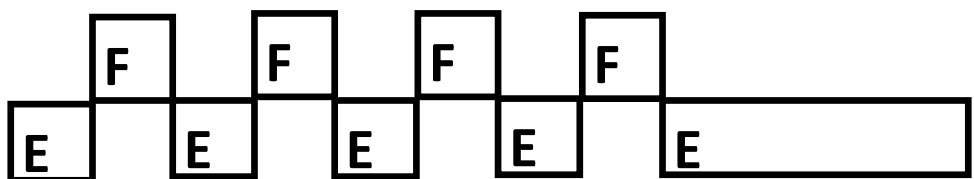
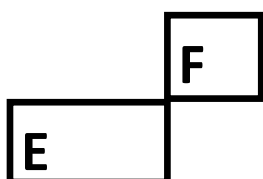
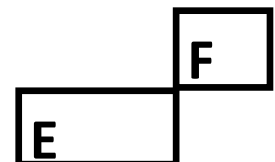
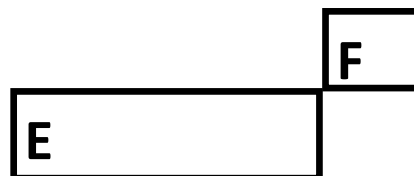
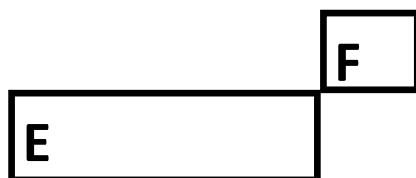


Remember to:

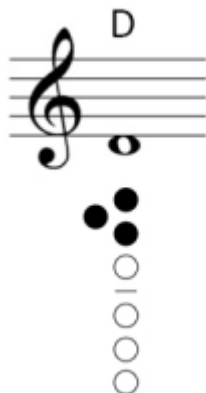
- Cover the thumb hole completely with the pad of your finger



5. The Shark! We will learn this piece using alternate notation.



6. Play a D



Remember to:

- Keep your fingers gently curved and relaxed.



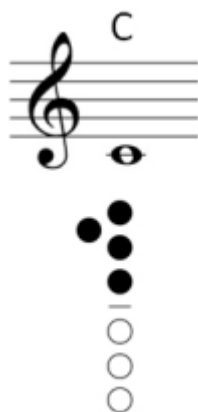
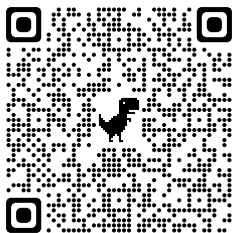
7. Playing Both E and D

How can you tell the difference between these two notes?

Move your fingers during the rests.



8. Play a C



Remember to:

- Completely cover all the holes with the pads of your fingers.
- Make sure your left thumb is half way between thumbs up and thumbs down.

Make sure to keep your eyes on the music while you play. Don't get tricked!

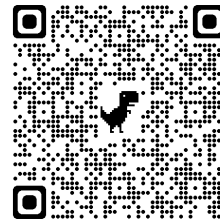


9. Moving Down and Up by Steps



Tonguing Basics

- When you tongue, nothing will change with your airstream or embouchure.
- Place the tip of your tongue on the part of the reed where the arrow is pointing.
- Blow a steady and smooth air stream
- Pull your tongue down and away from the reed and it will vibrate and make a sound.
- Don't stop the air between notes when you tongue.



10. Golf Ball Tonguing

Your teacher will show you how to “golf ball tongue.” How many notes can you play in one breath?



New Rhythms



A quarter note receives one beat.



A half note receives two beats.

11. Time to Tongue

Play this exercise on your mouthpiece and barrel.

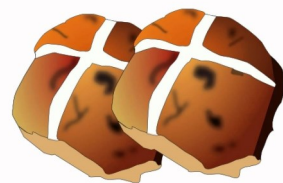


12. Clarinet Tonguing Song



13. Hot Cross Buns

Have you ever tasted a hot cross bun? Say the note names and finger the notes before you play.

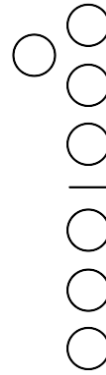
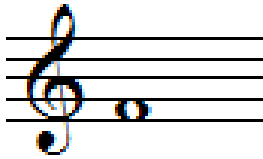


Hot Cross Buns!



14. Do you remember the fingering for F?

Color in the fingering chart with the correct fingering.



Eighth Notes receive 1/2 beat each, and are often seen in pairs. In Takadimi, these note are counted "ta-di." In band, we will count them "1 and."

15. Count with Takadimi and then use numbers.



A quarter rest gets one beat of silence



A half rest gets two beats of silence



16. We Will Rock You

Remember to tongue on every note.

More Songs to Play

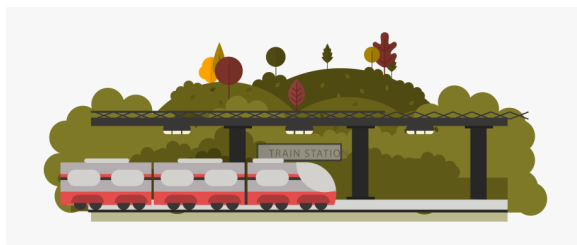
Mary Had A Little Lamb



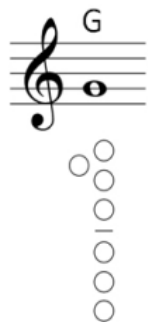
Au Claire De La Lune



Down by the Station

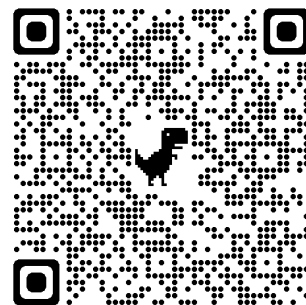


Get together with your friends and learn some songs on clarinet. Then put on a concert for your family. You can even make a video and send it to people you know who live far away!



Songs Just for Fun

If you learn just one more note, you can play even more songs! Try these for fun over the summer.



Go Tell Aunt Rhodie



Jingle Bells



Aura Lee



Love Somebody

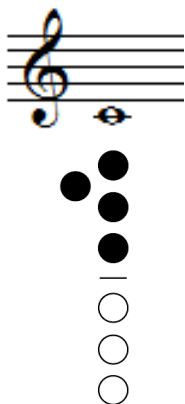


Lightly Row

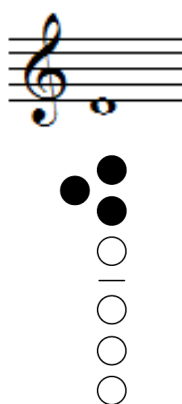


Fingering Chart for Clarinet

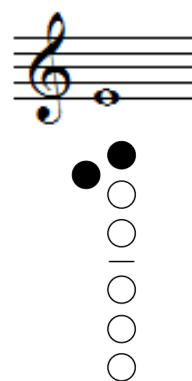
C



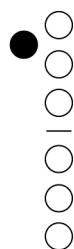
D



E



F



G

