

OBOE

**T H E**  
**LET'S PLAY**  
**BAND**  
**METHOD**

***Edited and Arranged by Derrick Maxey***

**Special thanks to:** Grayson Switzer, Designer, Emily Jones, Designer,  
J.J. Johnson, Percussion Contributor, Daniel Lenzer, Bassoon Contributor  
Instrument fingering font from MusicTeacherTools.com

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# Getting Started



## Assembling Your Instrument

Start soaking your reed in a small container of water. Hold the upper section near the top away from the keys and the lower section near the bottom. Try not to apply pressure to any keys or rods and twist the two sections together so that the bridge key of the top section is over top the bridge key of the lower section. Holding near the top of the upper section, grab the bell with your other hand and hold down the bell key. Twist the bell onto the lower section. Line up the bell bridge key with the bridge key of the lower section.

## Holding Your Instrument

### *Right Hand*

Your right thumb should rest under the thumb rest at the base of the nail with the ball of the thumb pressed against the instrument. The right pinky should rest lightly on the C key and the remaining fingers will rest with the balls of each finger centered over each tone hole.

### *Left Hand*

Your left thumb should be positioned right below the octave key. Your left pinky finger will lightly rest on the B key with the remaining fingers falling naturally over the tone holes with balls of the fingers centered over each hole. Let your fingers curve naturally.

## Getting A Sound

- Make sure to start soaking your reed in a small container of water before you start assembling your instrument.
- Place the tip of the reed on the center of the bottom lip, then push your lip in with the reed just enough so your lower lip is over your bottom teeth.
- Roll your top lip over your top teeth and close your mouth around the reed. Your lips should act as a cushion around the reed. Never touch your teeth to the reed.
- Your reed should be far enough in so it just barely touches your tongue.

## Playing Position

Many athletes have learned there is a proper way to approach the plate or the free throw line for the highest probability for success; it's the same way when playing an instrument! The following strategies have been proven to ensure the highest probability of achieving the fullest and richest tone quality on your instrument:

- Keep both feet flat on the floor
- Keep your shoulders down and relaxed
- Think about sitting up straight and making yourself as tall as possible

***Bring your instrument up to you,  
don't slouch down to reach your instrument!***



## Air Support

Your instrument is a *wind* instrument. The air you put into the instrument is the key ingredient to the best possible sound. Take each breath in slowly and steadily through your mouth, not your nose. When you breathe out, keep your mouth and throat open and relaxed. Think about using “warm” air. Practice exhaling warm air onto your hand as if you were trying to fog up a window or mirror.

## Instrument Care

- Remove the reed and carefully blow out any extra condensation before returning it to the reed case.
- After carefully twisting apart the upper and lower sections, put a weighted swab through the lower section and pull it through the bell before returning each section to the case. Repeat with the upper section.

# Let's Play!

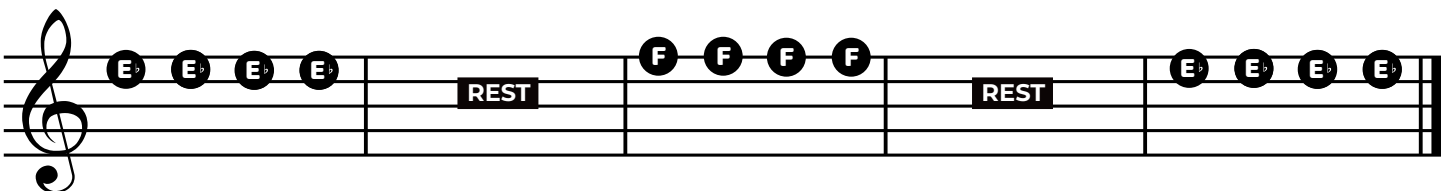
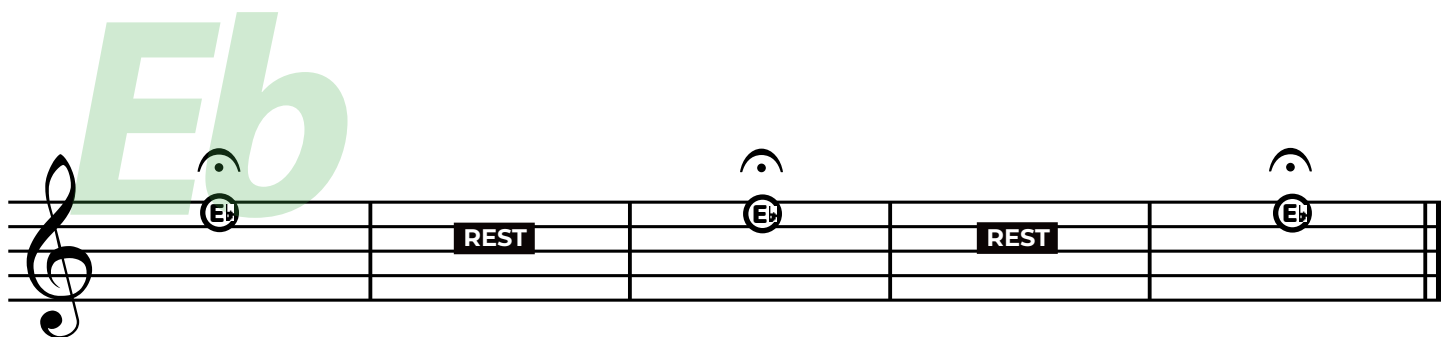
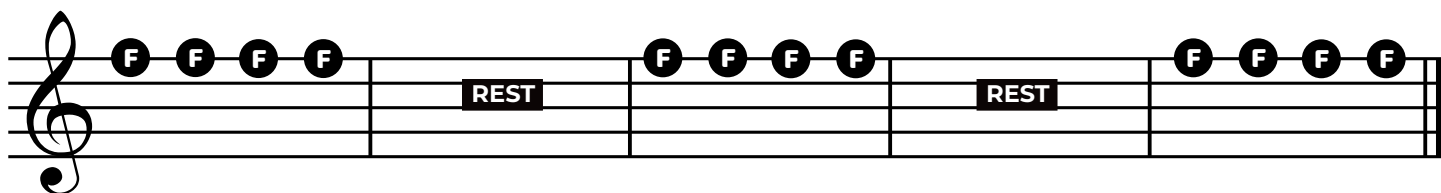
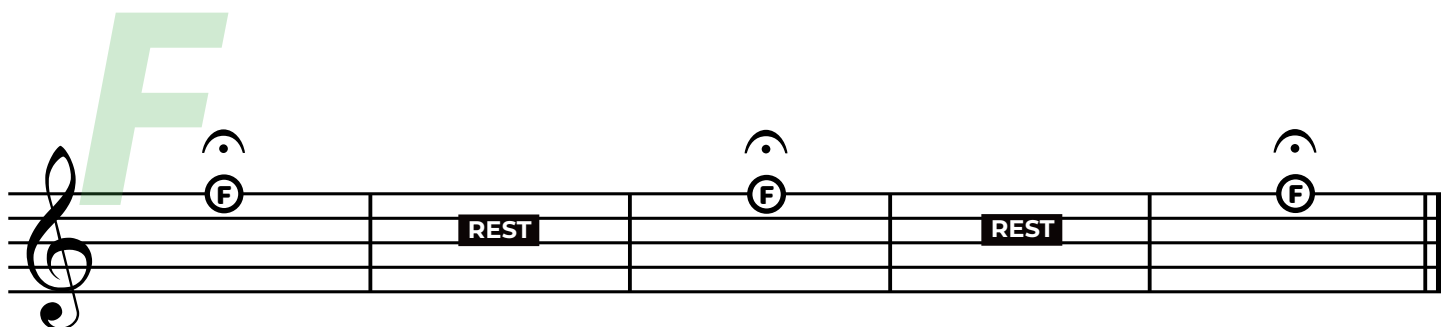


## *fermata*

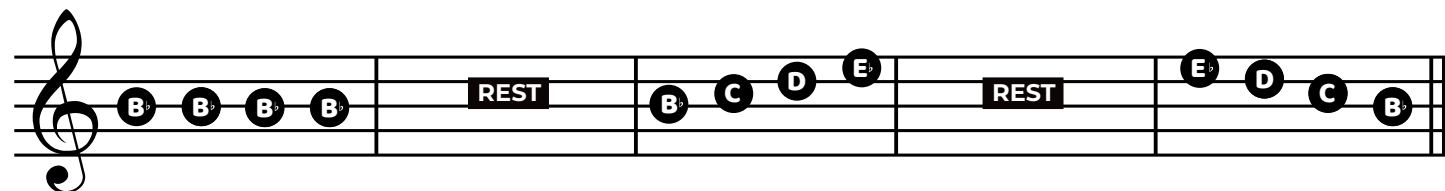
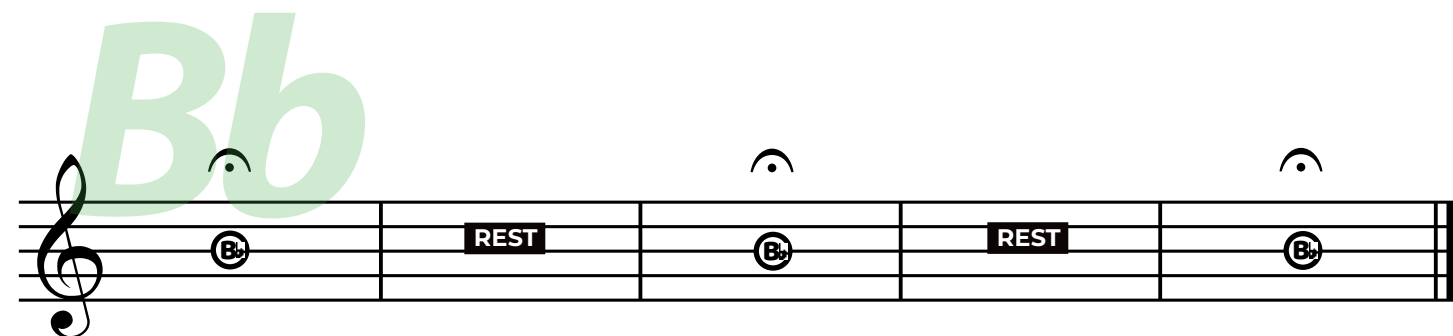
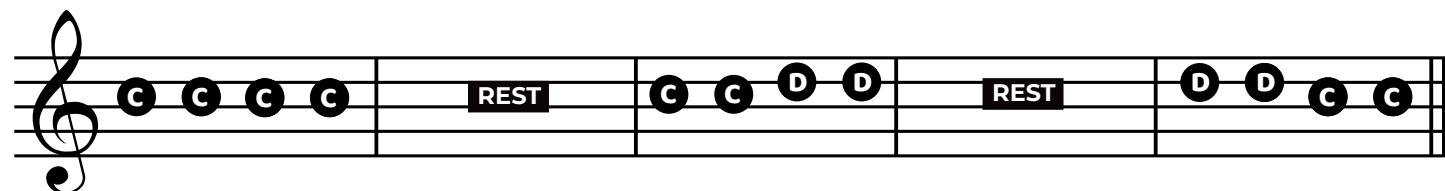
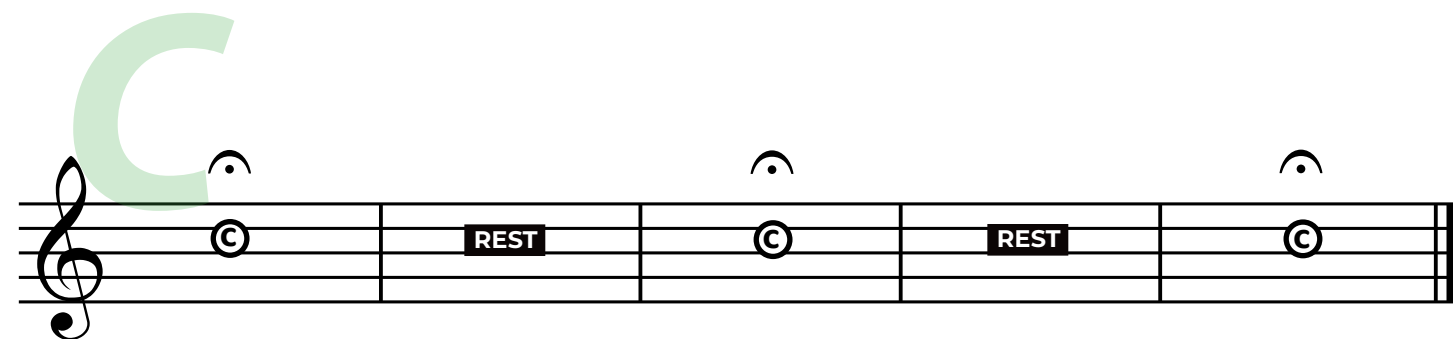
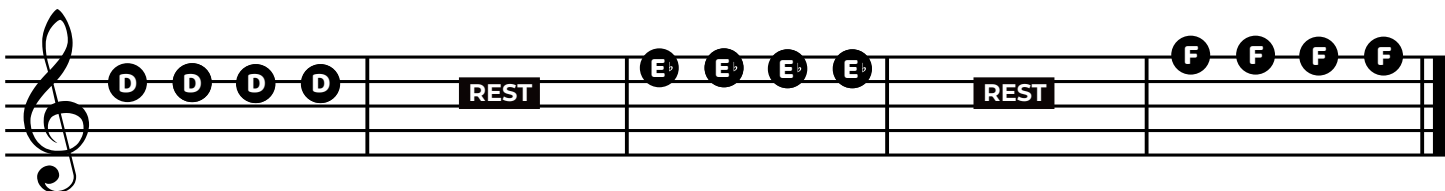
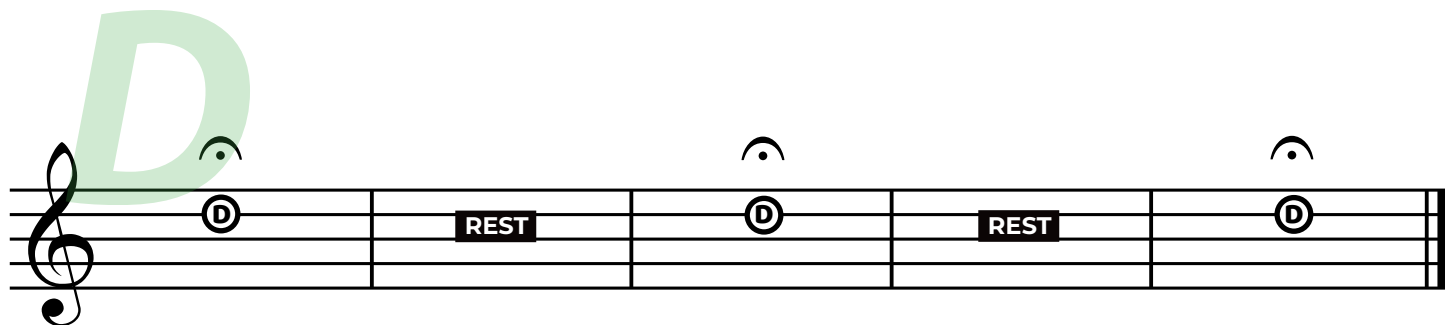
“Keep holding the note until  
your conductor indicates  
for you to stop”

## REST

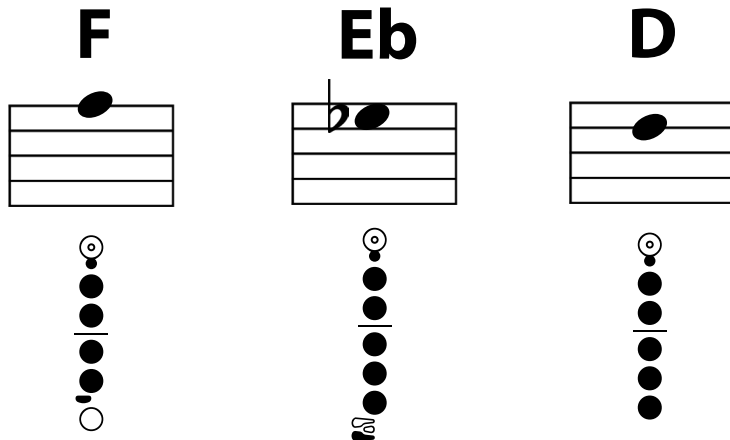
For a musician, a rest isn't a break,  
we're always counting or watching the  
conductor to see when we get to play again!







# Fingerings



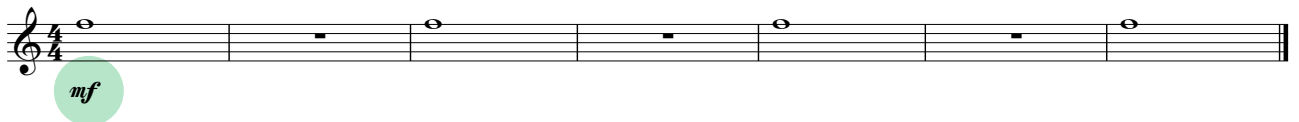
*mf*  
**mezzo forte**  
 "medium loud"

## music theory

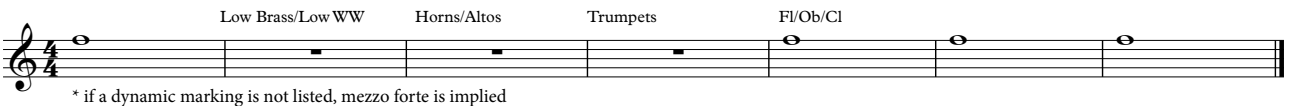
 **whole note**  
 sustain sound 4 beats

 **whole rest**  
 count 4 beats rest

### 1 Lift Off



### 2 Around The Room



### 3 Stargazing



**repeat sign**  
 go back to the beginning,  
 or another repeat sign

### key signature



an accidental can appear before the  
 note, or at the beginning of the line  
 in what's called the 'key signature'

## 4 Oracle



## 5 Interstellar



## 6 Memory



## 7 Three Note Funk



### Herbie Hancock



Herbie Hancock is an American pianist that during his time with the Miles Davis Quintet, started playing jazz piano like no one ever had before. He was one of the inventors of a new subgenre of jazz called "**Post-Bop**."

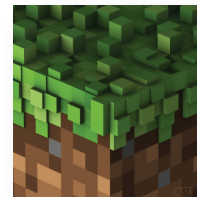
**"Watermelon Man"**  
 by Herbie Hancock



### "Subwoofer Lullaby"

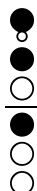
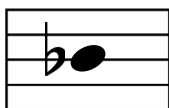
from the Minecraft Soundtrack

Get extra practice playing **whole notes** and the note "**Concert D**" by scanning the QR Play Button below.

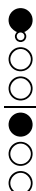
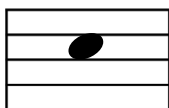


# Fingerings

**Bb**

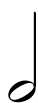


**C**



*mp*  
mezzo piano  
“medium soft”

## music theory



**half note**

sustain sound 2 beats



**half rest**

count 2 beats rest

8

### Au Claire de la Lune

Welsh Folk Song



9

### Cardiff By The Sea

French Folk Song

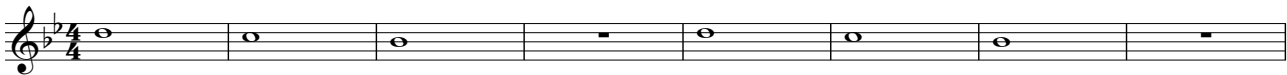


*mp*

10

### Hot Cross Buns

English Folk Song

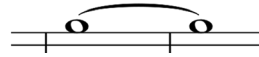


**time signature**

**4** beats in a measure  
**4** quarter note gets the beat

**Ties**

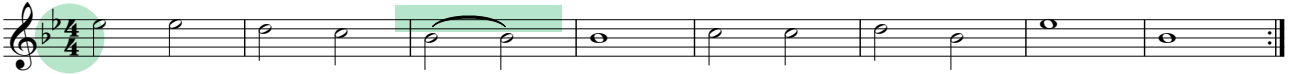
combines the values of two notes. Don't tongue the second note



11

**Country Walk**

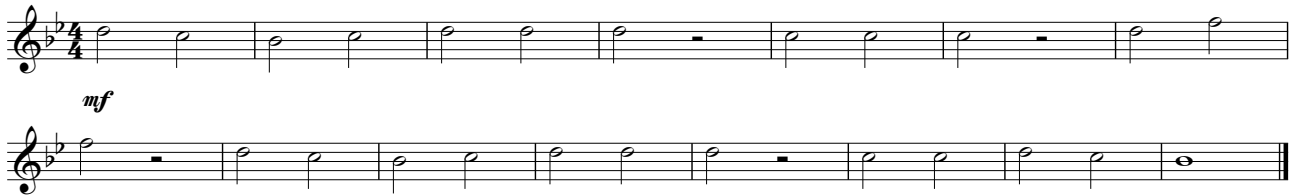
French Folk Song



12

**Merrily We Roll Along**

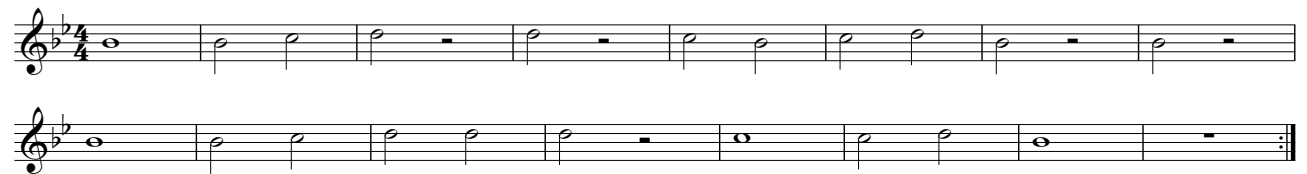
Charlie Tobias



13

**Down By The Station**

Traditional

**Ola Gjeilo**

Ola Gjeilo is a Norwegian composer and pianist currently residing in Manhattan. He is primarily a choral **composer**, meaning he writes pieces of music to be sung by choirs. He is best known for his works "Dreamweaver" and "The River".

**"Still"**  
by Ola Gjeilo

**"Hey Ya!"**

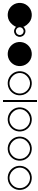
by Outkast (2003)

Get extra practice playing **half notes** and the notes **"Concert C and Bb"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# Fingerings

**A**



**G**



**breath mark**  
the best spot to take a deep  
breath through your mouth

***p***  
**piano**  
“soft”

## music theory



**quarter note**  
gets 1 beat



**quarter rest**  
count 1 beat

14

### Stodola Pumpa

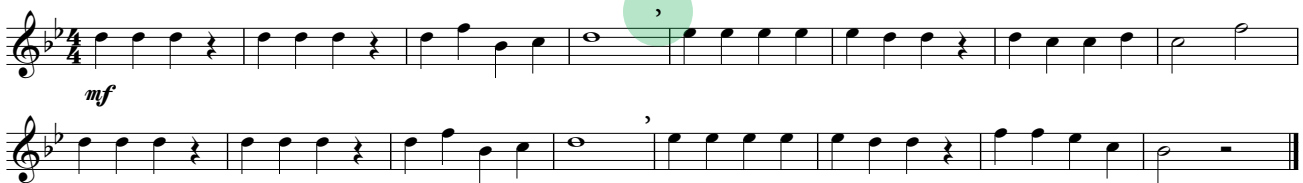
Czech Folk Song



15

### Jingle Bells

James Lord Pierpont



16

### Go Tell Aunt Rhody

American Folk Song

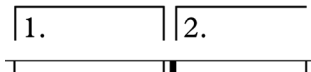




**fermata**

hold the note out longer

**1st and 2nd Endings** some repeats indicate a different ending to play for each time through



17

## Jasmine Flower

Chinese Folk Song



18

## Surprise Symphony

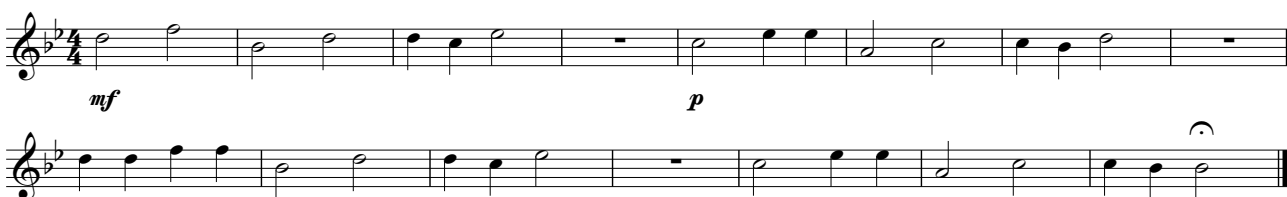
Joseph Haydn



19

## Mary Ann

Jamaican Folk Song



## The Kronos Quartet



The Kronos Quartet is a string quartet based in San Francisco. A **quartet** is a musical ensemble consisting of four musicians. Kronos has been in existence since 1973 and has had over nine hundred musical pieces composed for them.

**"Lux Aeterna"**  
by The Kronos Quartet



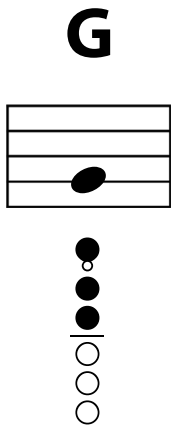
## "Look What You Made Me Do"

by Taylor Swift (2017)

Get extra practice playing **quarter notes** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# Fingerings



*pp*  
*pianissimo*  
 “very soft”

## music theory



*cresc.*

**crescendo**  
 gradually get louder



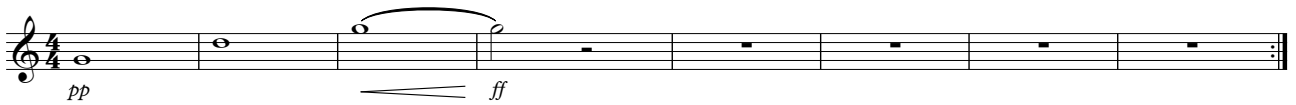
*decresc.*

**decrescendo**  
 gradually get softer

20

### Also Sprach Zarathustra

Richard Strauss



21

### Ha'Kyo Jung

Korean Folk Song



22

### Rondo alla Turca

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



23

### Good King Wenceslas

Finnish Folk Song





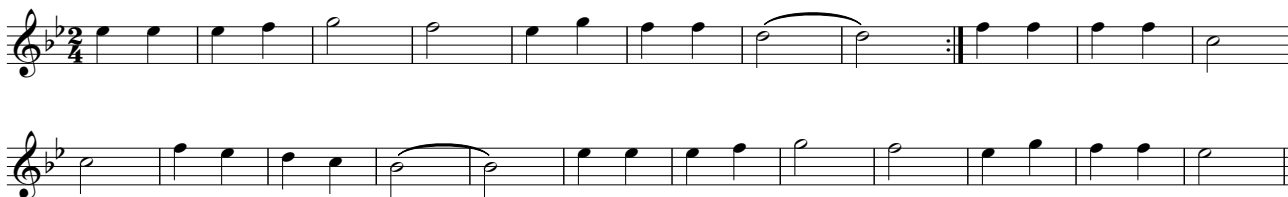
**pick up notes**

notes that happen  
before the first full  
measure

24

**The Bridge At Avignon**

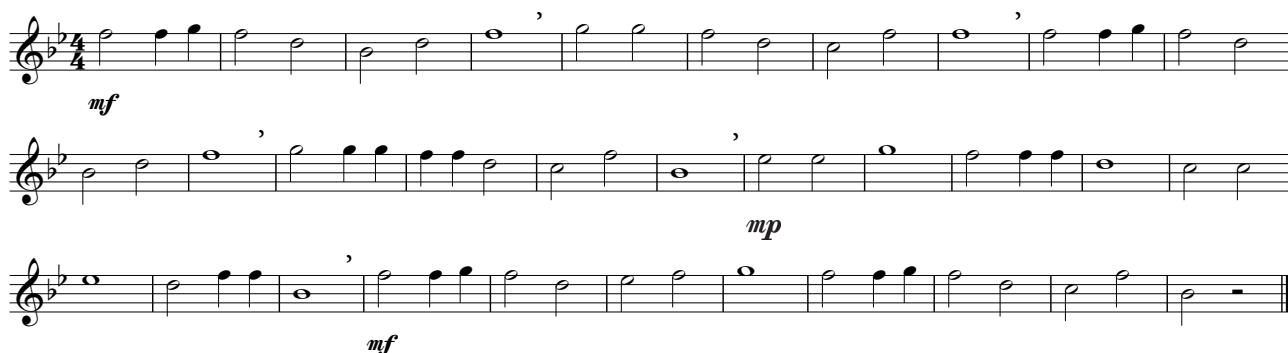
French Folk Song



25

**Up On The Housetop**

Benjamin Hanby



26

**A Tisket A Tasket**

American Folk Song

**Aretha Franklin**

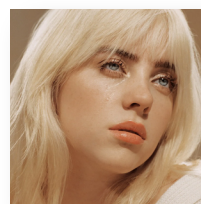
Aretha Franklin was a vocalist and pianist who is still regarded today as the "Queen of Soul." **Soul** is a style of music that combines elements of gospel, rhythm and blues and jazz and became popular in the U.S. in the 1950s and 60s.

**"A Tisket A Tasket"**  
by Aretha Franklin



**"You Should See Me In A Crown"**  
by Billie Eilish (2019)

Get extra practice playing **quarter notes** and the note **"Concert G"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:

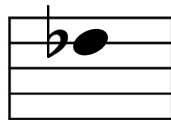


# Fingerings

**Ab**



**Db**



**C**

**"common time"**

another way of  
indicating  $\frac{4}{4}$  time

## music theory

### "accidentals"

- flat** lowers the sound of the note
- sharp** raises the sound of the note
- natural** cancels out a sharp or flat

27

### Mary Had A Little Lamb

American Folk Song



28

### Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

James R. Murray, words by Emily Clark Huntington Miller



29

### Love Somebody

Joan Whitney, Alex Kramer



## time signatures

$\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{4}{4}$  **beats in a measure**  
**quarter note gets the beat**

**tempo** - how fast or slow to play

**Andante**  
slow

**Moderato**  
medium

**Allegro**  
fast

30

### Dredyl, Dredyl

Israeli Folk Song



31

### London Bridge

English Folk Song



32

### Amigas

Hispanic Folk Song



\* if a tempo marking is not listed, Moderato is implied

## "Duke" Ellington



Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington was a **prolific** jazz composer, meaning he wrote a great number of jazz compositions, many which are still considered 'standards' today. The "Duke" helped propel jazz to being regarded on the same level as classical music.

### "Mood Indigo"

by Duke Ellington



### "Carol of the Bells"

by Transiberian Orchestra (1996)

Get extra practice playing in  $\frac{3}{4}$  time and the notes "Concert Ab and Db" by scanning the QR Play Button below:



**3** *beats in a measure*  
**4** *quarter note gets the beat*

*ff*  
**fortissimo**  
 “very loud”

## music theory

**eighth notes** *two eighth notes  
fit equally into  
each beat*



1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +



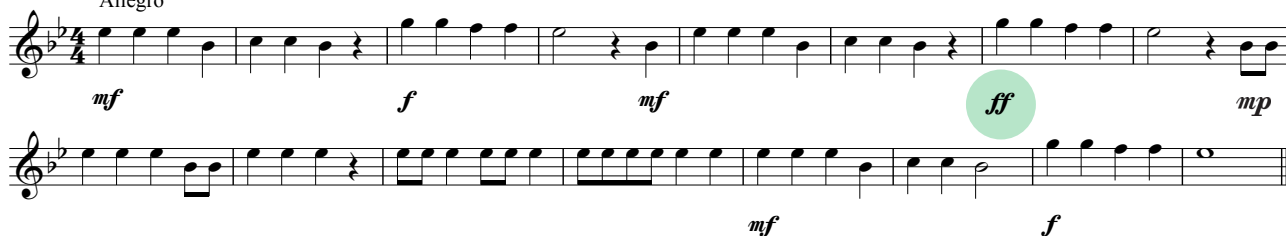
**“Cantaloupe Island” by Herbie Hancock**

**33**

**Old Macdonald**

*Allegro*

British Folk Song

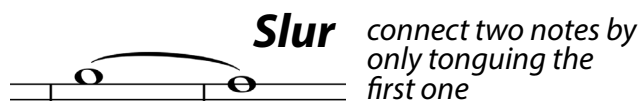


**34**

**Ezekial Saw The Wheel**

African American Spiritual





35

**Bonjour Mes Amis**

French Folk Song



36

**Chiapanecas**

Mexican Folk Song



37

**Goodbye Old Paint**

Charley Willis

**Miles Davis**

Miles Davis was an American trumpeter and bandleader that became one of the most influential figures in 20th century music. Throughout his career he continued to innovate and find new ways to play the trumpet and compose music.

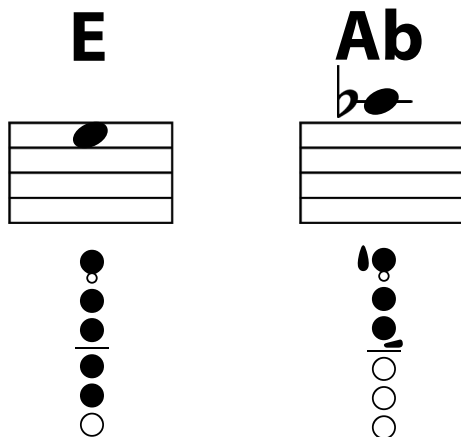
**"All Blues"**  
 by Miles Davis

**"We Will Rock You"**  
 by Queen (1977)

Get extra practice playing **eighth notes** and the notes **"Concert Ab and Db"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



## Fingerings



*sfz*  
*sfortzando piano*  
 “attack the note forte  
 and hold it piano”

## music theory



### **dotted half note**

when a dot is placed beside a note it adds  
 half the original value to the note.  
 Dotted half notes get 3 beats.

38

### Theme from Symphony No. 1

Johannes Brahms



39

### Roses

Hispanic Folk Song



40

### Oranges and Lemons

English Folk Song



**triplets**

three notes that are  
playing evenly  
within one beat

**articulation** - a special way to play a note

**tenuto**  
long

**staccato**  
short

**accent**  
emphasized

41

**"Spring" from Four Seasons**

Antonio Vivaldi



Allegro

*mp*

42

**It Had To Be You**

Isham Jones



*sfz* *sfz*

43

**Minka, Minka**

Ukrainian Folk Song



Allegro

*f*

**Samuel Barber**

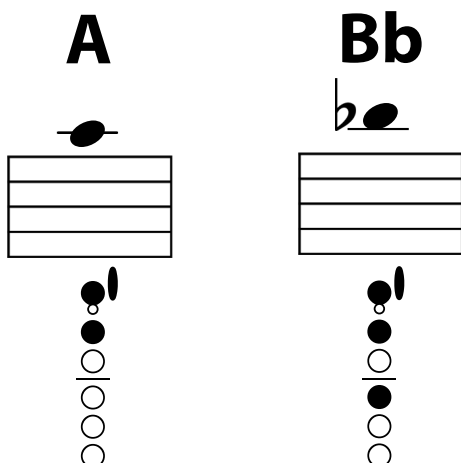
Samuel Barber was one of the most celebrated American composers of the 20th century. While many composers of the time were experimenting with new harmonies, Samuel chose notes in his compositions that more reflected a 19th-century harmonic understanding.

**"Adagio for Strings"**  
by Samuel Barber**"Star Wars Theme"**  
by John Williams (1977)

Get extra practice playing **triplets** and the note **"Concert High Ab"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# Fingerings



*eighth rest*  
rest half a beat

## music theory



### ***eighth note runs***

When multiple eighth note pairs occur in a row they can be barred together but they maintain the same rhythm and timing. Keep your air going!



## ***"Maiden Voyage" by Herbie Hancock***

44

### ***Twinkle Twinkle Little Star***

English Folk Song



45

### ***"Morning" from Peer Gynt***

Edvard Grieg



46

### ***Frere Jacques***

French Folk Song





47

**Academic Festival Overture**

Johannes Brahms



48

**Lo Yisa Goy**

Israeli Folk Song



49

**Skip To My Lou**

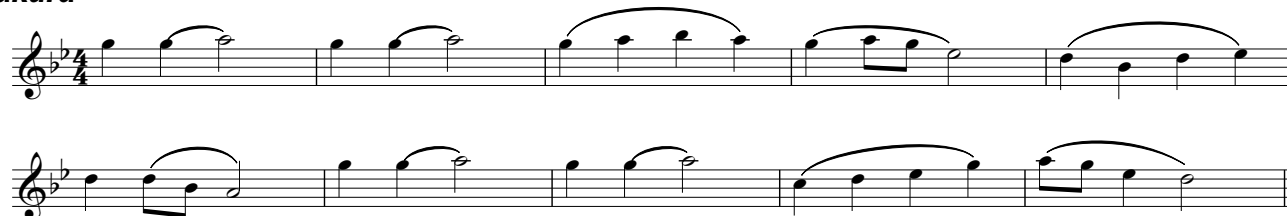
American Folk Song



50

**Sakura**

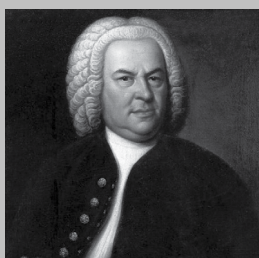
Japanese Folk Song



51

**Musette**

Allegro

**Johann Sebastian Bach**

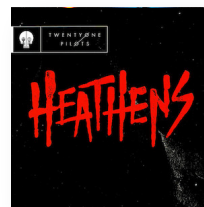
Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and probably the most recognizable composer of the Baroque Era. The **Baroque Era** was the musical time period in Western Music between 1600-1750 and happened right before the Classical Era.

**"Musette"**  
by J.S. Bach



**"Heathens"**  
by Twenty One Pilots (2016)

Get extra practice playing **eighth note runs** and the note **"Concert High A"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



## "syncopated" rhythms

rhythms that emphasize  
the "& count" or weak beat



*fp*  
**forte piano**  
"attack the phrase forte  
and continue at piano"

## music theory

### dotted quarter note



Just like dotted half notes, a dotted quarter gets an extra half of the original value. Getting one and a half beats puts the note or rest after it on the "up" beat or "& count".

53

### Tzena, Tzena

Jewish Folk Song



54

### San Sereni

Spanish Folk Song



55

### Prince Of Denmark's March

Henry Wood



56

### Little Donkey

Eric Boswell



57 **Ode To Joy**58 **Arirang**

Korean Folk Song

59 **New World Symphony**

Anton Dvorak

60 **Kum Ba Yah**

African American Spiritual

61 **Hey Ho, Nobody's Home**

English Folk Song

**Bette Midler**

Bette Midler is an American singer and songwriter who made her motion picture debut in the 1979 film "The Rose". Her recording of the title song became a chart hit and helped propel her award-winning career in showbusiness of over half a century.

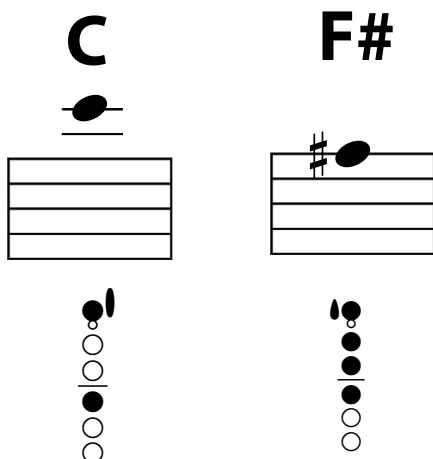
**"The Rose"**  
 by Amanda McBroom

**"Married Life"**  
 from the Up Soundtrack (2009)

Get extra practice playing **dotted quarter notes** and **syncopated rhythms** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# Fingerings



## D.C. al Coda

D.C. or "da capo" al Coda means to go to the beginning and then go to the Coda. After playing the measure that says "To Coda" jump to the measure with the Coda sign.

62

### The Charleston

Allegro

James P. Johnson

To Coda



63

### Aloha Oe

Lili'uokalani



64

### Loch Lomond

Scottish Folk Song



65

**Maple Leaf Rag**

Allegro

Scott Joplin



66

**El Juego Chirimbolo**

Spanish Folk Song



67

**Rock A My Soul**

African American Spiritual



68

**Give My Regards To Broadway**

Allegro

George M. Cohan

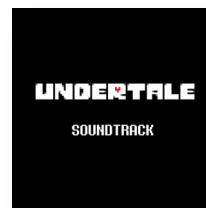
**Billie Holiday**

Billie Holiday was a celebrated jazz and swing vocalist who would influence pop singing for decades to come. Her vocal style was greatly influenced by the sounds of jazz instrumentalists.

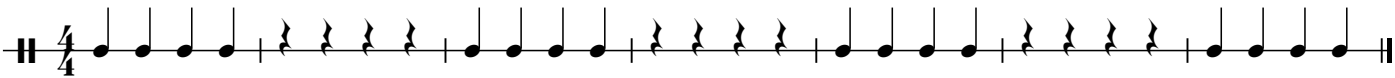
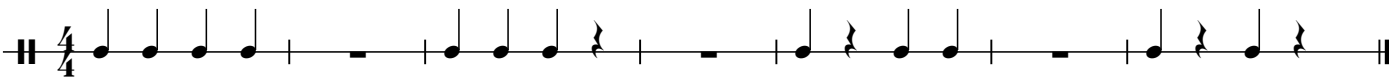

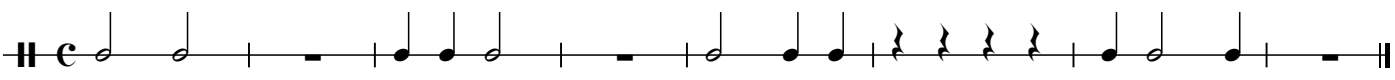






**"God Bless The Child"**  
 by Billie Holiday

**"Megalovania"**  
 by Toby Fox (2015)

Get extra practice playing advanced **syncopated rhythms** and **Concert High C** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# Rhythm Reading

- 1 
- 2 
- 3 
- 4 
- 5 
- 6 
- 7 
- 8 
- 9 
- 10 

# 5 Note Scales

## D Major Scale



## G Major Scale



## C Major Scale



## F Major Scale



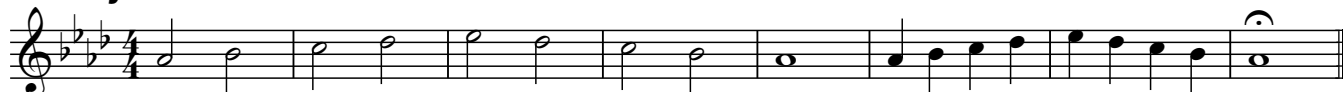
## Bb Major Scale



## Eb Major Scale



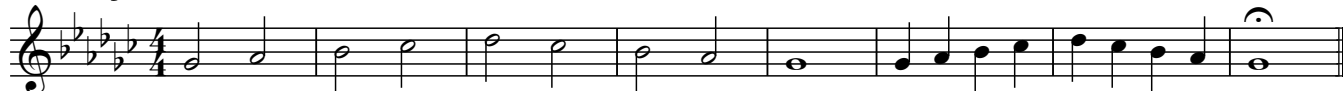
## Ab Major Scale



## Db Major Scale



## Gb Major Scale



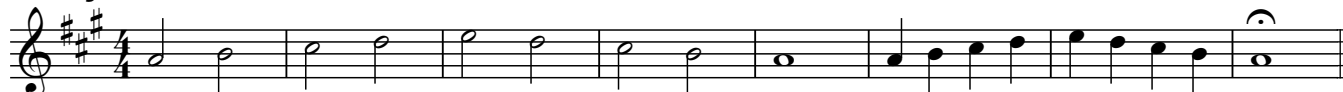
## B Major Scale



## E Major Scale



## A Major Scale

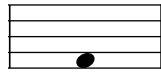


# Oboe Fingering Chart

**E**



**F**



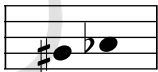
**F# Gb**



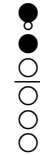
**G**



**G# Ab**



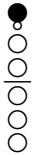
**A**



**A# Bb**



**B**



**C**



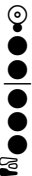
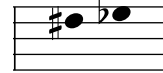
**C# Db**



**D**



**D# Eb**



**E**



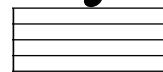
**F**



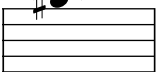
**F# Gb**



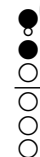
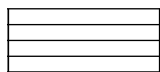
**G**



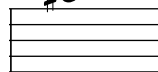
**G# Ab**



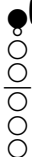
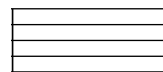
**A**



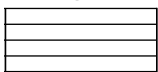
**A# Bb**



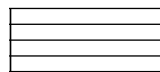
**B**



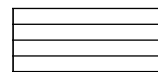
**C**



**C# Db**



**D**



**D# Eb**

