

Arne Schwarzholtz

Clarinet

Basics

incl. CD



>> *Beginners course for the clarinet.*

>> *Songs and exercises.*

>> *Music theory basics.*



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Clarinet

Basics

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Preface

Since its invention in the late 17th century, the clarinet has established a solid position in various musical styles. Whether it's a classical symphonic orchestra, where it's been at home since the so-called Mannheim School (in the middle of the 18th century), or the classical chamber music, in military music or wind music in general, in jazz music and folk music of various countries and styles – the clarinet plays an important or sometimes even leading role everywhere, in the ensemble or as a solo instrument.

Its wide range, huge dynamic spectrum, flexible tone and smooth technique are some of the clarinet's strong features, which make it the all-rounder among the wind instruments.

Another tip:

If this book helps you getting starting with playing the clarinet, you will probably want to continue studying with a teacher. I can only suggest this because learning a wind instrument without any competent instruction is very difficult. A good teacher can spare you a lot of detours, time and frustration.

This booklet wants to give you a small insight into the world of clarinet playing. It is purposely limited to the low register and the basics of playing technique and tone. Where this journey will take you is wide open as of yet – the clarinet provides numerous possibilities.

The only known method insuring success when learning a musical instrument is regular practice (daily at best). Come up with a practicing routine and reserve 30-40 minutes every day for the instrument. This is the only way to make progress. Don't get discouraged if you cannot proceed that quickly once in a while. Persistence will pay off!

Now have fun with your new hobby, the clarinet.

Arne Schwarzholtz

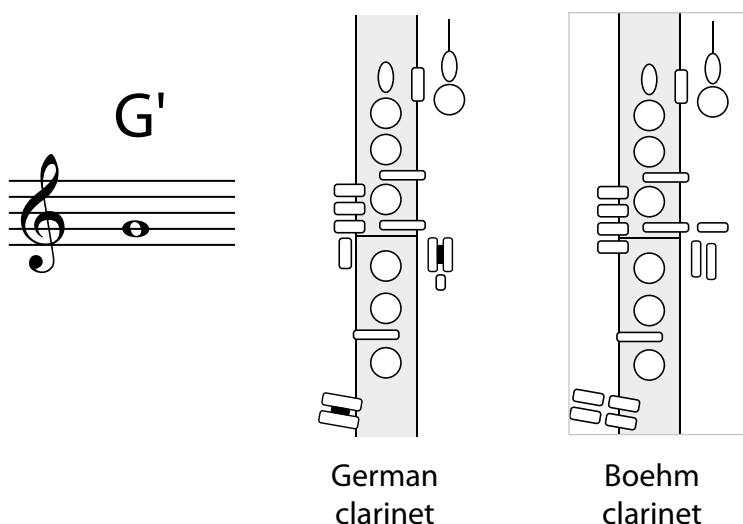
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Unit 1

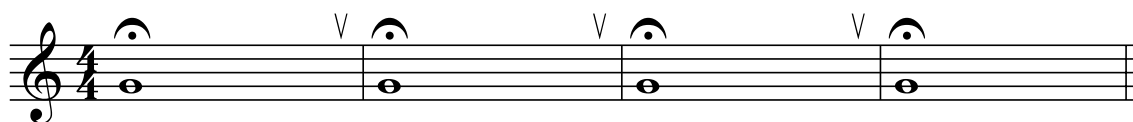
The first note: G



To produce this tone, take the following steps one after another:

1. Place your upper incisors on the first third of the mouthpiece.
2. Close your lips around the mouthpiece so that the lower lip is resting on the mouthpiece. For the proper lip position, imagine the pronunciation of the word "wind".
3. Inhale deeply into the belly. Always breathe through the mouth by slightly lifting the upper lip from the mouthpiece. Lower lip and teeth keep their position.
4. Place the front part of your tongue lightly against the tip of the reed from below.
5. Press air from your diaphragm.
6. At the same time pull your tongue back from the reed quickly. For this, imagine pronouncing the syllable "DAAA"
7. Try to hold the sounding tone as long as you can.

Exercise 1



V = Breathe at this point.

☉ = Fermata: This tone is held longer than its rhythmic value.

Exercise 2



Count: 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 etc..



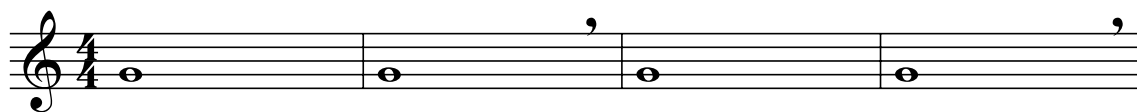
Blow the different note durations with a soft tongue (DAA). The musical term for this kind of attack is **portato**.

Always breathe after a longer note (half or whole note).

Other than that, let the air simply pass through. A small part of the tongue touches the reed at the tip. Attack means there is a minor tongue movement up and down. But the most important task of the tongue (besides the attack) is to guide the air into the gap between reed and mouthpiece! Pay attention to a good sound.

Use a metronome to be rhythmically accurate!

One note



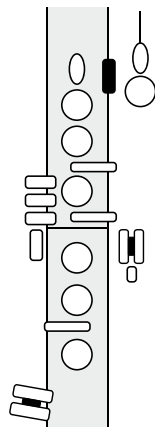
Unit 8

Naturals

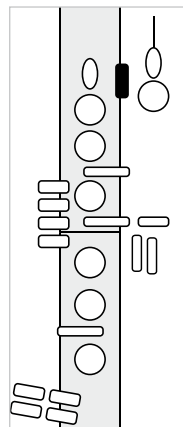
The natural, which looks like a hash or number sign, cancels an accidental. In our example, G[#] becomes G and A^b becomes A. The next bar line cancels both accidentals and naturals.



New note: G[#]/A^b



German
clarinet



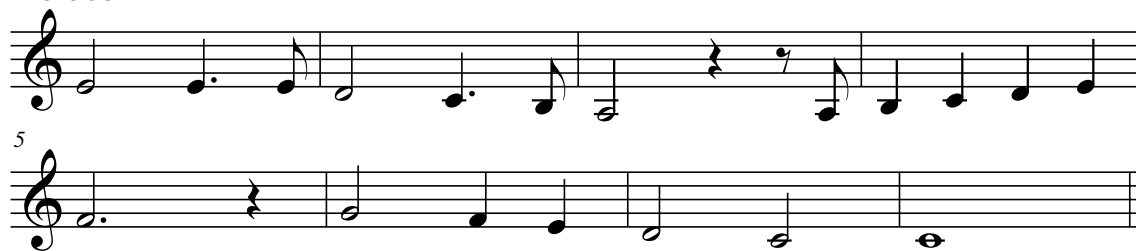
Boehm
clarinet

Finger exercises unit 8

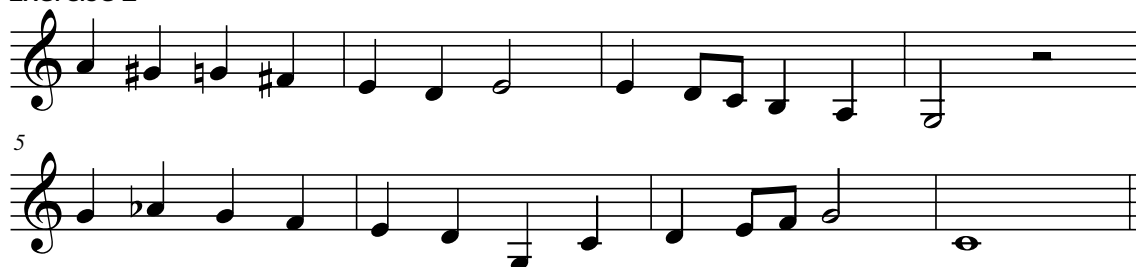


Exercises unit 8

Exercise 1



Exercise 2



The melody of the next piece starts with a pick-up measure, this time an **eighth note**.

Liebestraum



Franz Liszt (1811-1886)



CD-Tracklist

Track	title	page
1/2	One Note	15
3/4	Hanschen Klein	19
5/6	Donguri koro koro	23
7/8	Aura Lee	25
9/10	Jingle bells	32
11/12	Hark! The herald angels sing	33
13/14	O come all ye faithful	35
15/16	Liebestraum (F. Liszt)	37
17/18	Scarborough Fair	39
19	Menuett (Jean-Baptiste Lully)	44
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