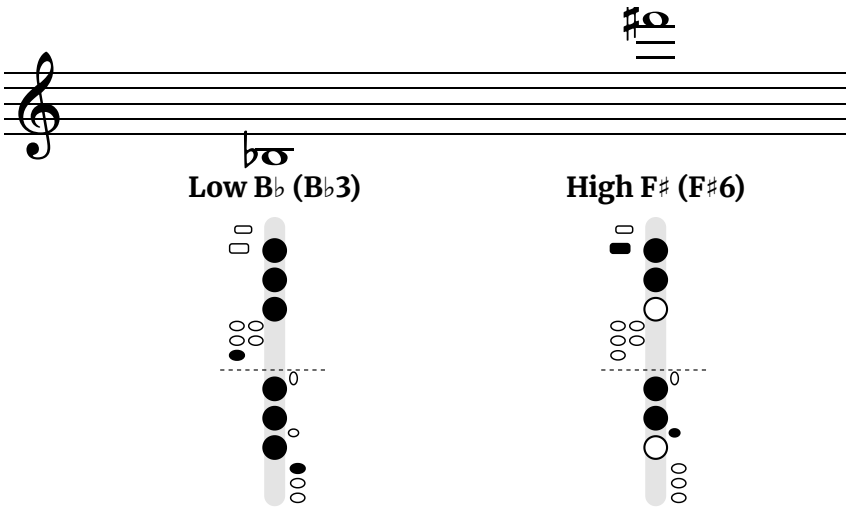
The Oboe Fingering Chart Book

Every Note from Low B♭ to High F♯, All 12 Major Scales and 28 Songs with the Fingering Under Every Note



Nathan Early

Free edition
From thefingeringchart.com, November 2026. The author gives permission to print this book and to copy it for yourself and your students. It may not be sold.

The Oboe Fingering Chart Book

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The fingerings, diagrams and teaching notes come from thefingeringchart.com, where every note can also be heard. Every fingering was checked against published oboe fingering charts.

The melodies are traditional or were first published before 1929.

First edition, 2026.

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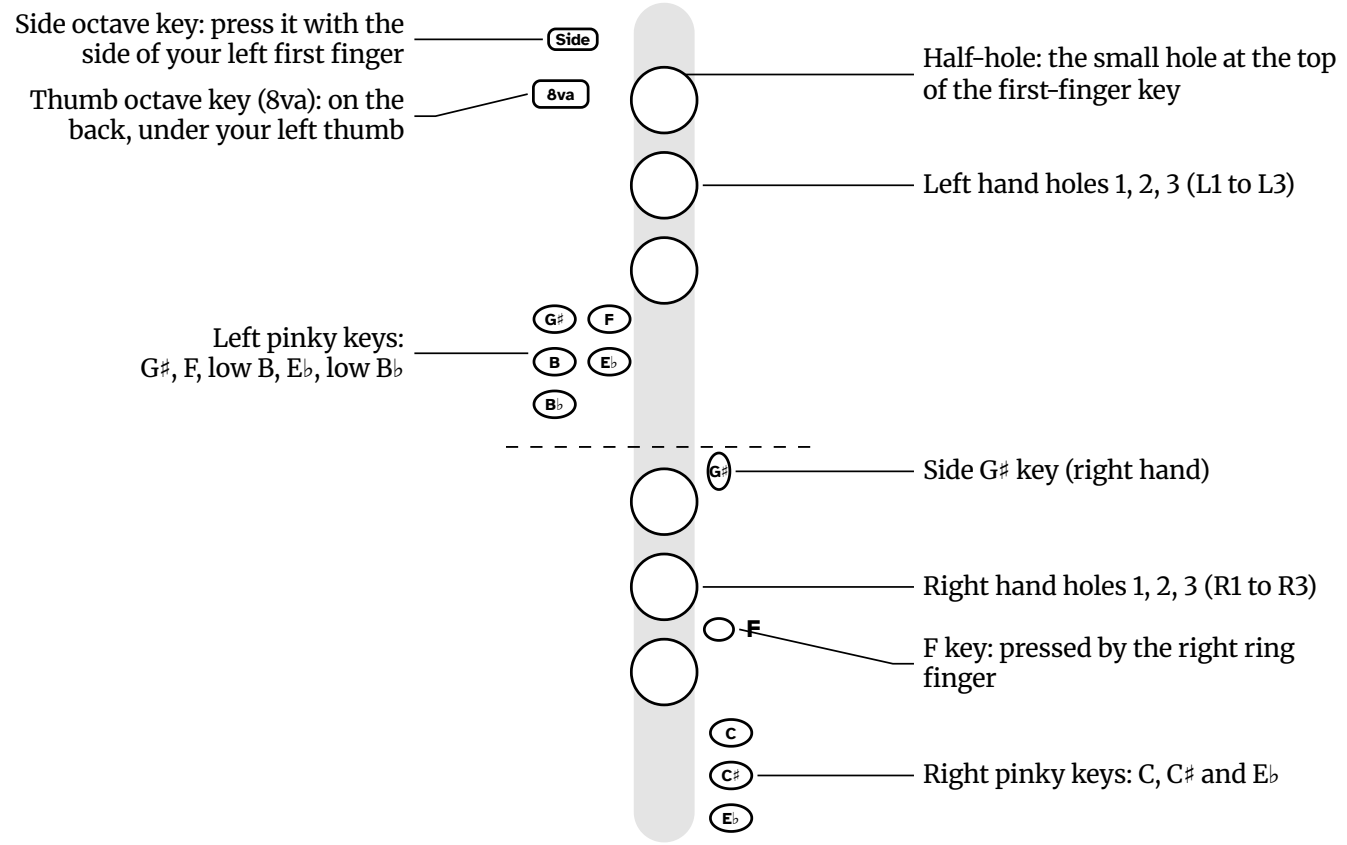
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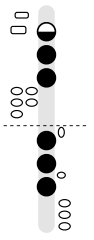
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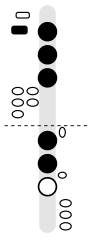
How to Read the Diagrams

Which oboe this book is for. The fingerings in this book are for a full conservatory oboe, the standard key system. Some student oboes have fewer keys, most often no left F key; a few also have no low B♭ key. Every fingering that needs one of those keys says so. The diagrams draw only the keys these fingerings use.

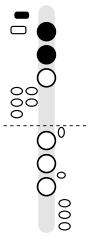




Half-hole
D5
The first circle is half black. Roll your left first finger down so the small hole at the top of its key opens. Used for C♯5, D5, E♭5 and high D to F.



Thumb octave key
E5
The lower small bar is black. Press it with your left thumb. Used for E5 to G♯5 and for high E, F and F♯.



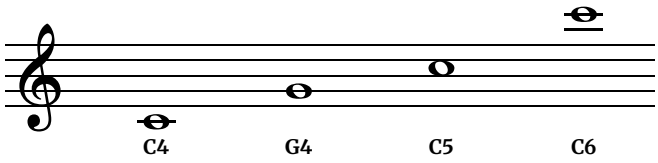
Side octave key
A5
The upper small bar is black. Press it with the side of your left first finger. Used for A5 to C6.

1. **Black means press.** Press the key or cover the hole; white means leave it up. Keys you don't need for that note have a thin outline.
2. **The six large circles are the main holes,** left hand above the dashed line and right hand below. Count them from the top of each hand, so 1 is your first finger. A few alternate fingerings call them L1 to L3 and R1 to R3.
3. **Every fingering is also written out in words,** left hand first.
4. **Oboe reads at concert pitch.** The written note is the note you hear, the same as on piano.

Reading the Music and Tuning

Note names

Notes are named with an octave number. C4 is middle C, on the first ledger line below the staff. G4 is on the second line, C5 is in the third space and C6 is on the second ledger line above the staff. A sharp and a flat that share a key, like F♯4 and G♭4, are the same note with the same fingering.



Concert pitch

Oboe reads at concert pitch: a written C sounds as a concert C, the same as on piano. So the scale names your band director calls are the scales you play, and you can read flute or violin music as long as the notes fit the oboe's range.

The song pages

Each note of the melody has its own column: the note on the staff, the key diagram under it, then the word you would sing on it. A dash in the word row means the word carries on from the note before (a slur, or a tie: a curved line joining two notes of the same pitch, played as one long note). Songs that are shown without words give the note names in that row instead. "Fingerings used in this song" lists every fingering you need, so you can practice them before you start.

Tuning

The oboe has no tuning joint, so pitch comes mostly from the reed and the embouchure. A reed that plays sharp on its own may need adjusting by your teacher. In an orchestra the oboe gives the A that everyone else tunes to. If a note is sharp: relax the lips and drop the jaw a little; pull the reed out a hair if it stays sharp. If it is flat: push the reed all the way in and firm up the air.

When a note won't behave

Half-hole notes crack. Roll the left index finger instead of sliding it, so the small hole opens cleanly. The half-filled circle on the C♯5, D5 and E♭5 diagrams shows what to leave open.

Low notes honk or won't speak. Relax the embouchure, keep the air steady, and start low B♭, B and C softly. If they still won't sound, a pad on the lower joint may be leaking, which a repair tech can check.

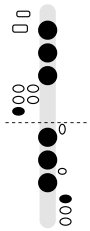
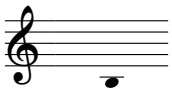
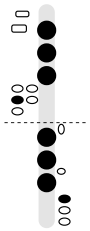
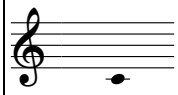
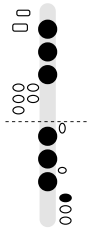
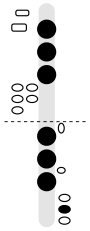
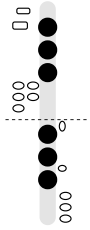
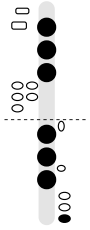
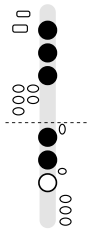
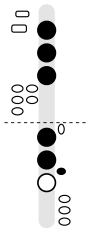
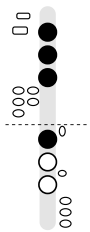
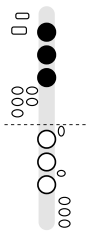
F sounds stuffy. You may be using forked F without the E♭ key on an oboe that needs it. Try regular F or add the E♭ key as page 10 shows.

High notes are flat or won't start. Check which octave key you are using. From A5 up the chart switches to the side octave key, and staying on the thumb key makes those notes weak.

The Fingering Chart: Low Notes

The six large circles are the main holes, left hand above the dashed line and right hand below, with your first finger at the top of each hand. Black means press the key or cover the hole; white means leave it up. Oboe reads at concert pitch, so the written note is the note you hear.

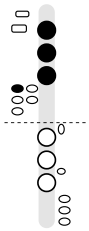
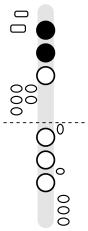
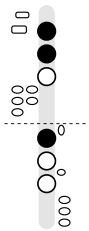
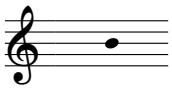
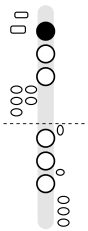
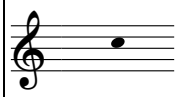
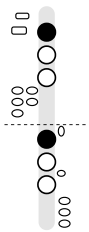
LOW NOTES

Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering	Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering
	**A♯3 / B♭3**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key. **OBOES WITH A LOW B♭ KEY**		**B3**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
	**C4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.		**C♯4 / D♭4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C♯ key.
	**D4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.		**D♯4 / E♭4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key. *Alternate: Left pinky E♭ key. See page 13.*
	**E4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.		**F4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger). *Alternates: Forked F, Forked F + E♭ key, Left F key (if your oboe has one). See page 10.*
	**F♯4 / G♭4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1.		**G4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.

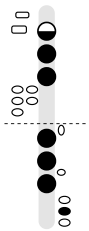
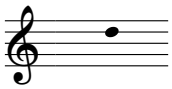
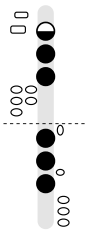
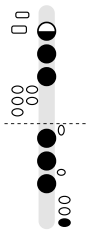
The Fingering Chart: Middle Notes

C♯5, D5 and E♭5 use the half-hole: roll your left first finger down so the small hole at the top of its key opens while the rest of the key stays down. Their diagrams show that first circle half black. None of these notes uses an octave key.

MIDDLE NOTES

Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering	Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering
	**G♯4 / A♭4**		Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: nothing down. *Alternate: Right G♯ key. See page 16.*		**A4**		Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
	**A♯4 / B♭4**		Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.		**B4**		Left hand: 1. Right hand: nothing down.
	**C5**		Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.				

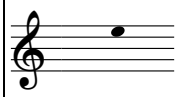
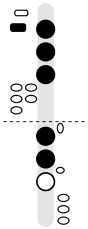
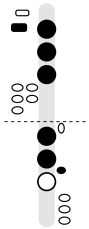
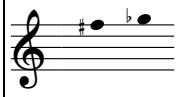
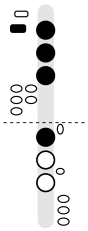
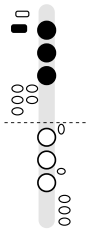
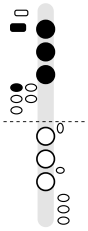
HALF-HOLE NOTES

Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering	Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering
	**C♯5 / D♭5**		Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C♯ key.		**D5**		Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
	**D♯5 / E♭5**		Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key. *Alternate: Left pinky E♭ key. See page 19.*				

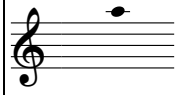
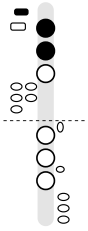
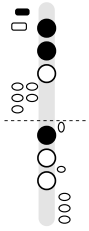
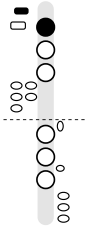
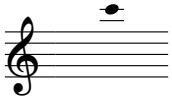
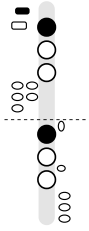
The Fingering Chart: Octave Key Notes

From E5 you add the thumb octave key, the lower small bar at the top left of each diagram. From A5 you switch to the side octave key, the bar above it, pressed with the side of your left first finger.

THUMB OCTAVE KEY NOTES

Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering	Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering
	**E5**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.		**F5**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger). *Alternates: Forked F, Forked F + E♭ key, Left F key (if your oboe has one). See page 10.*
	**F♯5 / G♭5**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1.		**G5**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
	**G♯5 / A♭5**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: nothing down. *Alternate: Right G♯ key. See page 22.*				

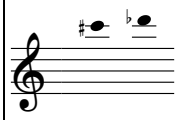
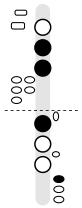
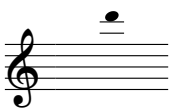
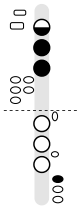
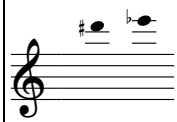
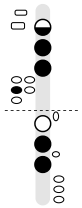
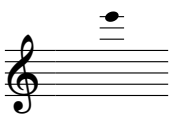
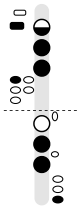
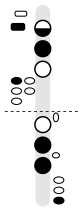
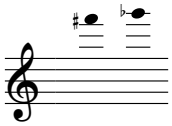
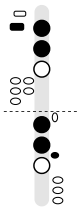
SIDE OCTAVE KEY NOTES

Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering	Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering
	**A5**		Left hand: **side octave key**, 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.		**A♯5 / B♭5**		Left hand: **side octave key**, 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
	**B5**		Left hand: **side octave key**, 1. Right hand: nothing down.		**C6**		Left hand: **side octave key**, 1. Right hand: 1.

The Fingering Chart: Top Notes

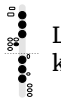
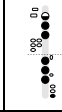
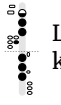
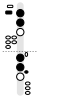
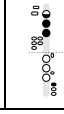
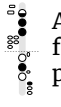
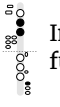
These notes are for advanced players. High D, E♭, E and F use the half-hole again, and high E, F and F♯ go back to the thumb octave key.

TOP NOTES (ADVANCED)

Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering	Note (Written Pitch)	Note Name	Keys	Fingering
	**C♯6 / D♭6**		Left hand: 2, 3. Right hand: 1, pinky C key.		**D6**		Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: pinky C key. *Alternates below.*
	**D♯6 / E♭6**		Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3, pinky low B key. Right hand: 2, 3. *Alternates below.*		**E6**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, **half-hole 1**, 2, 3, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: 2, 3, pinky E♭ key. *Alternates below.*
	**F6**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, **half-hole 1**, 2, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: 2, 3, pinky E♭ key. *Alternate below.*		**F♯6 / G♭6**		Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger). *Alternate below.*

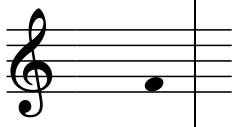
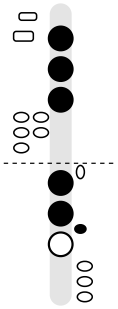
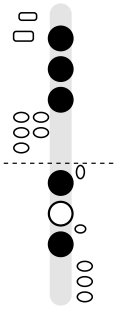
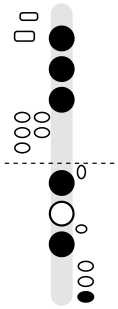
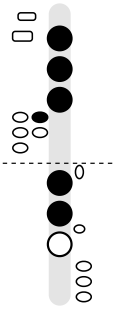
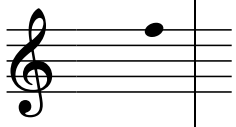
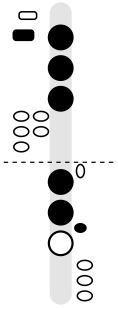
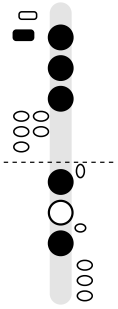
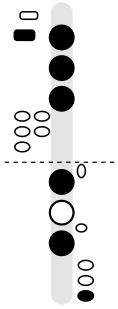
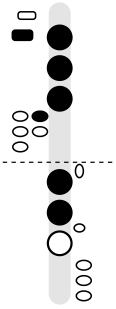
ALTERNATE FINGERINGS

These notes have a second fingering that helps next to certain notes or in fast passages. Use the main fingering unless you have a reason to change. The F choices are on page 10.

Note	Main	Alternates	Note	Main	Alternates
D♯4 / E♭4		 Left pinky E♭ key	**D♯6 / E♭6**		 Right E♭ key instead of low B  G♯ key with low C
G♯4 / A♭4		 Right G♯ key	**E6**		 Both pinky keys on the left  Short fingering
D♯5 / E♭5		 Left pinky E♭ key	**F6**		 Both pinky keys on the left
G♯5 / A♭5		 Right G♯ key	**F♯6 / G♭6**		 Left F key (if your oboe has one)
D6		 Add right finger 2 for pitch  Index finger fully off			

The Three F Fingerings

Oboe has three ways to play F. Regular F is the one to play most of the time. Forked F and left F are for moving to or from a note that uses your right ring finger, so that finger never has to slide between its hole and the F key.

	Regular F	**Forked F**	**Forked F + E♭ key**	**Left F**
	Most of the time	*Next to notes that use the right ring finger*	*Forked F on an oboe with no F resonance key*	*Same uses as forked F, if your oboe has a left F key*
 **F4** *Low F, in the bottom space of the staff*	 Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	 Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 3.	 Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 3, pinky E♭ key.	 Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky F key. Right hand: 1, 2.
 **F5** *F on the top line, with the thumb octave key*	 Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	 Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 3.	 Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 3, pinky E♭ key.	 Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3, pinky F key. Right hand: 1, 2.

WHEN TO USE EACH ONE

Regular F. Your right ring finger presses the small F key between your second and third right-hand holes, instead of covering its hole. Use it unless the note before or after F needs that finger.

Forked F. Keep your right ring finger on its hole and lift your middle finger. Use it next to notes that also use the right ring finger, such as low D and E♭, or D and E♭ with the half-hole.

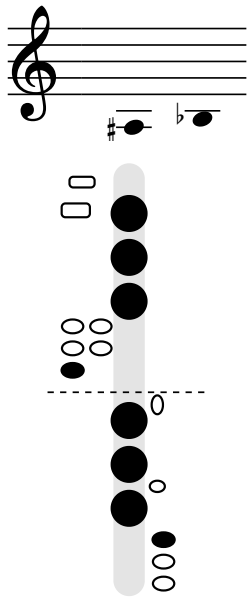
Forked F + E♭ key. If forked F sounds stuffy or out of tune, your oboe may have no F resonance key. Add the right pinky E♭ key.

Left F. Your left pinky presses the F key and your right hand plays 1 and 2. It does the same job as forked F, on oboes that have the key. Some student oboes don't.

Example: in the B♭ major scale, E♭ goes up to F. E♭ uses your right ring finger, so play that F forked, or with left F.

Low B♭ · A♯3 / B♭3

Sounds as concert B♭



The lowest standard note on the oboe is B♭, written just below the first ledger line below the staff.

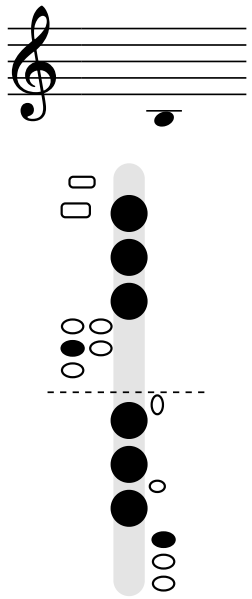
Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key. Hold down the low C key with the right pinky as well as the low B♭ key. Some student oboes stop at low B and have no B♭ key.

Half step above: B3  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: Mary Had a Little Lamb (37), Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (38), Ode to Joy (39), Jingle Bells (40), When the Saints Go Marching In (42), Up on the Housetop (46), Joy to the World (49), The First Noel (50).

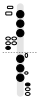
Low B · B3

Sounds as concert B



Low B on the oboe is the B written just below the first ledger line below the staff (B3 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key. Hold down the low C key with the right pinky as well as the low B key.

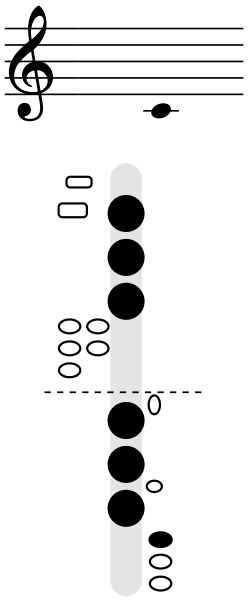
Half step below: A♯3 / B♭3  *(2 keys change)*

Half step above: C4  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Scales: B (34).

Low C · C4

Sounds as concert C



Low C on the oboe is the C written on the first ledger line below the staff (C4 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.

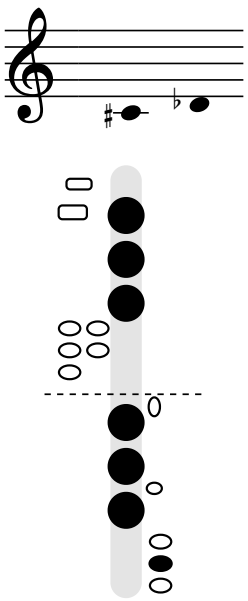
Half step below: B3  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: C♯4 / D♭4  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: Mary Had a Little Lamb (37), Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (38), Ode to Joy (39), Jingle Bells (40), When the Saints Go Marching In (42), Up on the Housetop (46), Joy to the World (49), The First Noel (50), America the Beautiful (67). Scales: C (31).

Low C♯ · C♯4 / D♭4

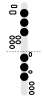
Sounds as concert D♭



Low C♯ on the oboe is the C♯ written on the first ledger line below the staff (C♯4 in octave numbers). It is the same note as D♭, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C♯ key.

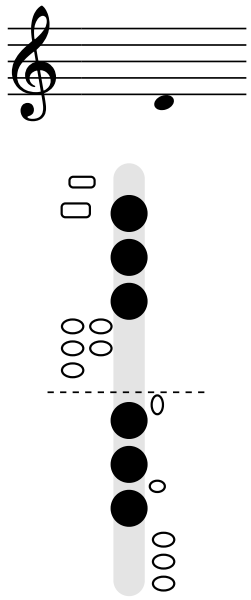
Half step below: C4  *(2 keys change)*

Half step above: D4  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Scales: D♭ (31), B (34).

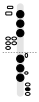
Low D · D4

Sounds as concert D



Low D on the oboe is the D written just below the staff (D4 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
Cover every hole fully; small leaks make low notes crack.

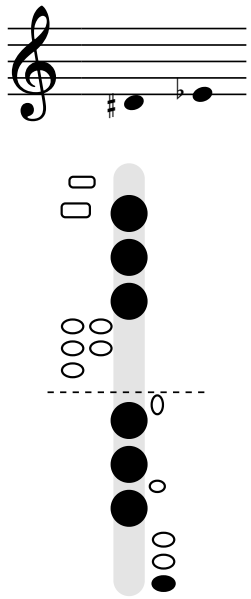
Half step below: C♯4 / D♭4  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: D♯4 / E♭4  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: Mary Had a Little Lamb (37), Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (38), Ode to Joy (39), Jingle Bells (40), When the Saints Go Marching In (42), Up on the Housetop (46), Joy to the World (49), The First Noel (50), Yankee Doodle (64), America the Beautiful (67), Battle Hymn of the Republic (68). Scales: C (31), D (33).

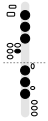
Low E♭ · D♯4 / E♭4

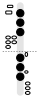
Sounds as concert E♭



Low E♭ on the oboe is the E♭ written on the bottom line (E♭4 in octave numbers). It is the same note as D♯, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
Use the left E♭ key when the right pinky is busy on low C or C♯.

Alternate fingering:  Left pinky E♭ key

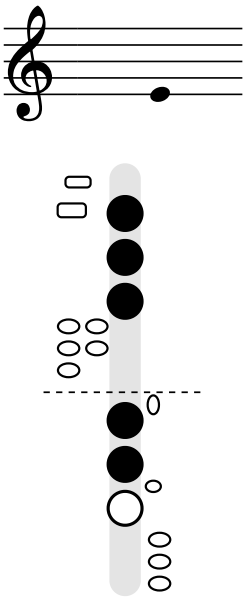
Half step below: D4  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: E4  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (38), Ode to Joy (39), Jingle Bells (40), When the Saints Go Marching In (42), Up on the Housetop (46), Joy to the World (49), The First Noel (50), Yankee Doodle (64), America the Beautiful (67), Battle Hymn of the Republic (68). Scales: E♭ (29), D♭ (31), B (34).

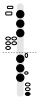
Low E · E4

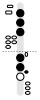
Sounds as concert E



Low E on the oboe is the E written on the bottom line (E4 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.

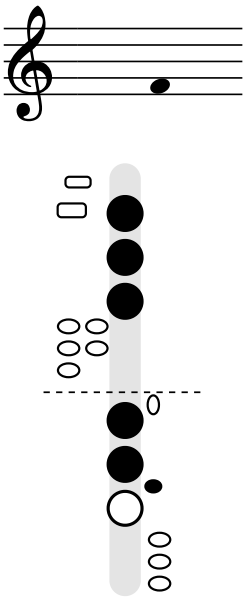
Half step below: D♯4 / E♭4  *(2 keys change)*

Half step above: F4  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Scales: C (31), D (33), B (34), E (34).

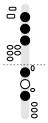
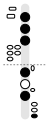
Low F · F4

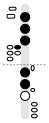
Sounds as concert F



Low F on the oboe is the F written in the first space (F4 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
Regular F: the right ring finger presses the F key instead of covering its hole. Next to notes that use the right ring finger (low D, E♭, C, C♯), use forked F, or left F if your oboe has that key.

Alternate fingerings:  Forked F  Forked F + E♭ key

 Left F key (if your oboe has one)

When to use each: page 10.

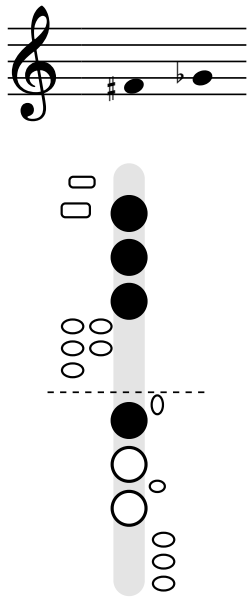
Half step below: E4  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: F♯4 / G♭4  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: every song except Hot Cross Buns (36), Deck the Halls (56), My Country, 'Tis of Thee (66). Scales: E♭ (29), F (30), C (31), D♭ (31).

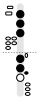
F♯ · F♯4 / G♭4

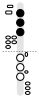
Sounds as concert G♭



F♯ on the oboe is written in the first space. It is the same note as G♭, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1.

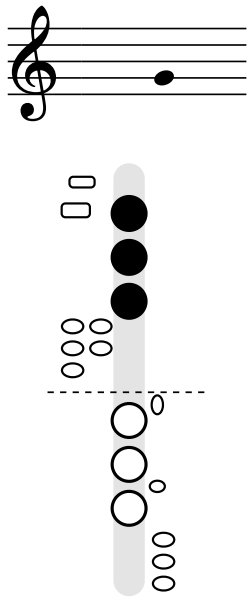
Half step below: F4  *(2 keys change)*

Half step above: G4  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Scales: D♭ (31), G♭ (32), D (33), B (34), E (34).

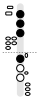
Low G · G4

Sounds as concert G



Low G on the oboe is the G written on the second line (G4 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.

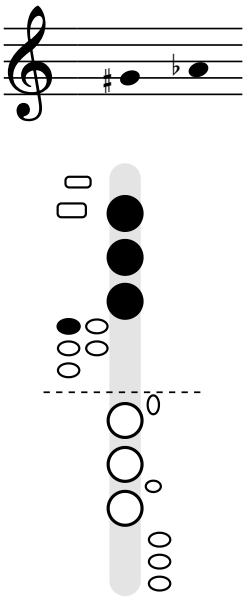
Half step below: F♯4 / G♭4  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: G♯4 / A♭4  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (38), Happy Birthday (41), Jolly Old Saint Nicholas (43), Good King Wenceslas (44), Away in a Manger (45), Up on the Housetop (46), Auld Lang Syne (48), Joy to the World (49), The First Noel (50), O Come, All Ye Faithful (52), We Wish You a Merry Christmas (55), Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (58), Silent Night (62), Yankee Doodle (64), America the Beautiful (67), Battle Hymn of the Republic (68), Anchors Aweigh (70). Scales: E♭ (29), F (30), C (31), G (32), D (33).

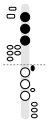
Low A♭ · G♯4 / A♭4

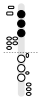
Sounds as concert A♭

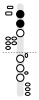


Low A♭ on the oboe is the A♭ written in the second space (A♭4 in octave numbers). It is the same note as G♯, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: nothing down.

Alternate fingering:  Right G♯ key (next to left-pinky notes)

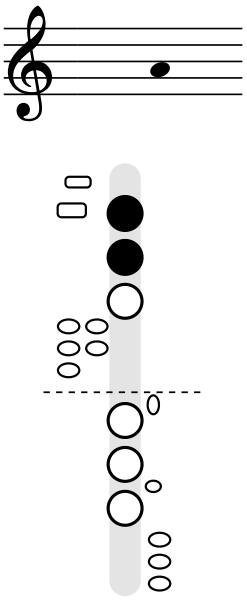
Half step below: G4  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: A4  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Scales: E♭ (29), A♭ (30), D♭ (31), G♭ (32), B (34), E (34).

Low A · A4

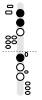
Sounds as concert A



Low A on the oboe is the A written in the second space (A4 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.

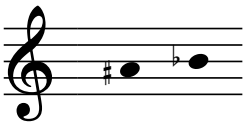
Half step below: G♯4 / A♭4  *(2 keys change)*

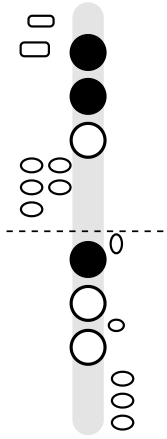
Half step above: A♯4 / B♭4  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: Happy Birthday (41), Jolly Old Saint Nicholas (43), Good King Wenceslas (44), Away in a Manger (45), Joy to the World (49), The First Noel (50), O Come, All Ye Faithful (52), O Christmas Tree (54), We Wish You a Merry Christmas (55), Deck the Halls (56), Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (58), Silent Night (62), Yankee Doodle (64), My Country, 'Tis of Thee (66), America the Beautiful (67), Battle Hymn of the Republic (68), Anchors Aweigh (70), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: F (30), C (31), G (32), D (33), A (33), E (34).

B♭ · A♯4 / B♭4

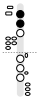
Sounds as concert B♭

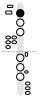




B♭ on the oboe is written on the middle line. It is the same note as A♯, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.

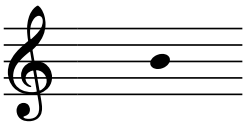
Half step below: A4  *(1 key changes)*

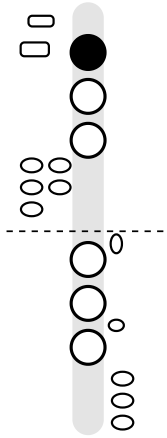
Half step above: B4  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: every song except Mary Had a Little Lamb (37), Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (38), Ode to Joy (39), Jingle Bells (40), When the Saints Go Marching In (42), Up on the Housetop (46), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: B♭ (29), E♭ (29), F (30), A♭ (30), D♭ (31), G♭ (32), B (34). Chromatic scale (35).

B · B4

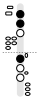
Sounds as concert B

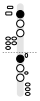




B on the oboe is the B written on the middle line (B4 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1. Right hand: nothing down.

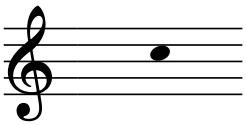
Half step below: A♯4 / B♭4  *(2 keys change)*

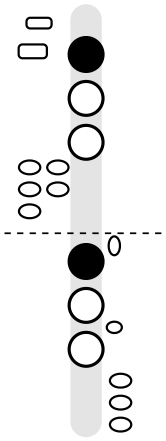
Half step above: C5  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: America the Beautiful (67), Anchors Aweigh (70), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: C (31), G (32), G♭ (32), D (33), A (33), B (34), E (34). Chromatic scale (35).

C · C5

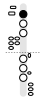
Sounds as concert C





C on the oboe is the C written in the third space (C5 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.

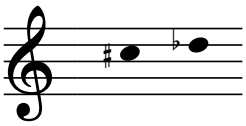
Half step below: B4  *(1 key changes)*

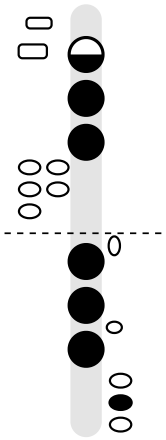
Half step above: C♯5 / D♭5  *(6 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: Hot Cross Buns (36), Happy Birthday (41), Jolly Old Saint Nicholas (43), Good King Wenceslas (44), Away in a Manger (45), Auld Lang Syne (48), O Come, All Ye Faithful (52), O Christmas Tree (54), We Wish You a Merry Christmas (55), Deck the Halls (56), Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (58), Angels We Have Heard on High (60), Silent Night (62), Yankee Doodle (64), My Country, 'Tis of Thee (66), America the Beautiful (67), Battle Hymn of the Republic (68), Anchors Aweigh (70), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: B♭ (29), E♭ (29), F (30), A♭ (30), C (31), D♭ (31), G (32). Chromatic scale (35).

C♯ · C♯5 / D♭5

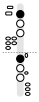
Sounds as concert D♭

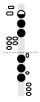




C♯ on the oboe is written in the third space. It is the same note as D♭, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C♯ key.
Slide or roll the left index finger to open the half-hole; no octave key.

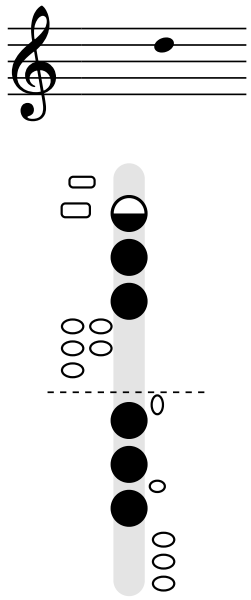
Half step below: C5  *(6 keys change)*

Half step above: D5  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Scales: A♭ (30), D♭ (31), G♭ (32), D (33), A (33), E (34). Chromatic scale (35).

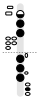
D · D5

Sounds as concert D



D on the oboe is the D written on the fourth line (D5 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
Half-hole, no octave key; same fingers as low D.

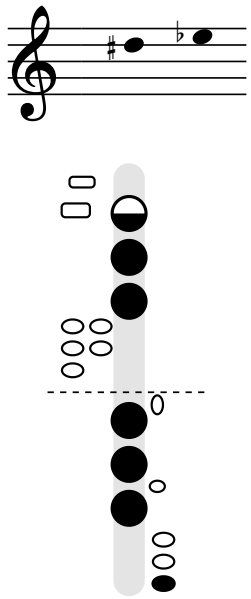
Half step below: C♯5 / D♭5  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: D♯5 / E♭5  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: every song except Mary Had a Little Lamb (37), Twinkle Twinkle Little Star (38), Ode to Joy (39), Jingle Bells (40), When the Saints Go Marching In (42), Up on the Housetop (46), Joy to the World (49), The First Noel (50). Scales: B♭ (29), E♭ (29), F (30), G (32), D (33), A (33). Chromatic scale (35).

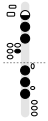
E♭ · D♯5 / E♭5

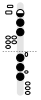
Sounds as concert E♭



E♭ on the oboe is written in the top space. It is the same note as D♯, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
Half-hole, no octave key.

Alternate fingering:  Left pinky E♭ key

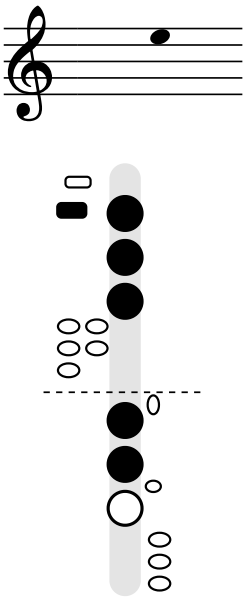
Half step below: D5  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: E5  *(4 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: Happy Birthday (41), Good King Wenceslas (44), Away in a Manger (45), O Come, All Ye Faithful (52), O Christmas Tree (54), We Wish You a Merry Christmas (55), Deck the Halls (56), Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (58), Angels We Have Heard on High (60), Yankee Doodle (64), My Country, 'Tis of Thee (66). Scales: B♭ (29), E♭ (29), A♭ (30), G♭ (32), E (34). Chromatic scale (35).

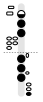
E · E5

Sounds as concert E



E on the oboe is the E written in the top space (E5 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.
Close the half-hole and press the thumb octave key.

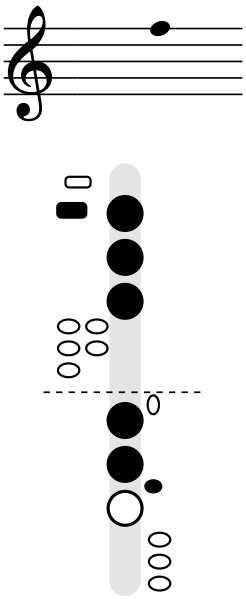
Half step below: D♯5 / E♭5  *(4 keys change)*

Half step above: F5  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: Deck the Halls (56), Silent Night (62), Anchors Aweigh (70), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: F (30), G (32), A (33), E (34). Chromatic scale (35).

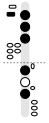
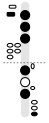
F · F5

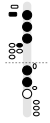
Sounds as concert F



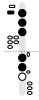
F on the oboe is the F written on the top line (F5 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
Same F choices as low F, plus the thumb octave key.

Alternate fingerings:  Forked F  Forked F + E♭ key

 Left F key (if your oboe has one)

When to use each: page 10.

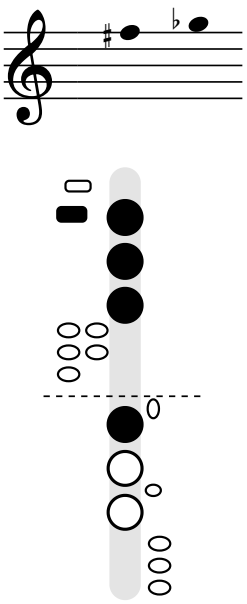
Half step below: E5  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: F♯5 / G♭5  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: Happy Birthday (41), Good King Wenceslas (44), Away in a Manger (45), Auld Lang Syne (48), O Come, All Ye Faithful (52), O Christmas Tree (54), We Wish You a Merry Christmas (55), Deck the Halls (56), Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (58), Angels We Have Heard on High (60), Silent Night (62), Taps (63), My Country, 'Tis of Thee (66), Anchors Aweigh (70), The Star-Spangled Banner (72).

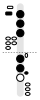
Middle F♯ · F♯5 / G♭5

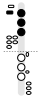
Sounds as concert G♭



Middle F♯ on the oboe is the F♯ written on the top line (F♯5 in octave numbers). It is the same note as G♭, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1.

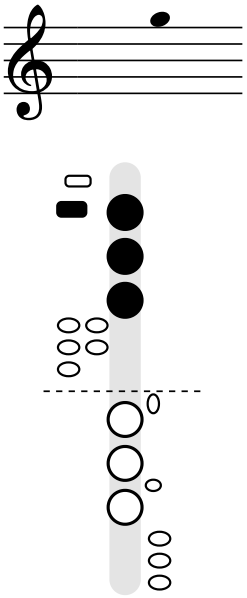
Half step below: F5  *(2 keys change)*

Half step above: G5  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Scales: G (32), G♭ (32), A (33). Chromatic scale (35).

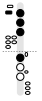
High G · G5

Sounds as concert G



High G on the oboe is the G written just above the staff (G5 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.

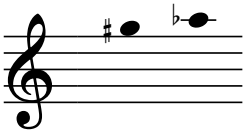
Half step below: F♯5 / G♭5  *(1 key changes)*

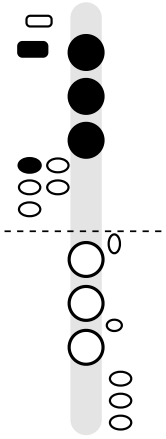
Half step above: G♯5 / A♭5  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: Auld Lang Syne (48), O Christmas Tree (54), Deck the Halls (56), Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (58), Angels We Have Heard on High (60), Silent Night (62), My Country, 'Tis of Thee (66), Anchors Aweigh (70), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: B♭ (29), A♭ (30), G (32). Chromatic scale (35).

High A♭ · G♯5 / A♭5

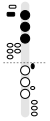
Sounds as concert A♭

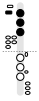


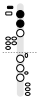


High A♭ on the oboe is the A♭ written on the first ledger line above the staff (A♭5 in octave numbers). It is the same note as G♯, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2, 3, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: nothing down.

Alternate fingering:  Right G♯ key (next to left-pinky notes)

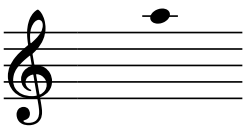
Half step below: G5  *(1 key changes)*

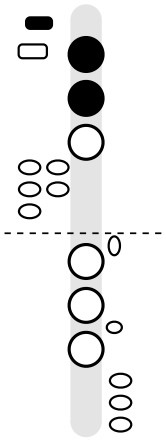
Half step above: A5  *(4 keys change)*

In this book: Scales: A♭ (30), A (33). Chromatic scale (35).

High A · A5

Sounds as concert A





High A on the oboe is the A written on the first ledger line above the staff (A5 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **side octave key**, 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
Switch from the thumb octave key to the side octave key, pressed with the side of the left index finger.

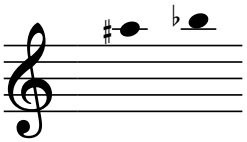
Half step below: G♯5 / A♭5  *(4 keys change)*

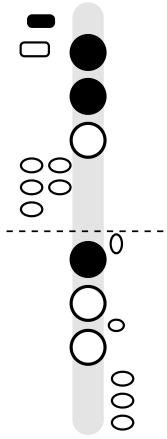
Half step above: A♯5 / B♭5  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Songs: Deck the Halls (56), Silent Night (62), Anchors Aweigh (70), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: B♭ (29), A (33). Chromatic scale (35).

High B♭ · A♯5 / B♭5

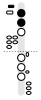
Sounds as concert B♭

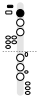




High B♭ on the oboe is the B♭ written just above the first ledger line above the staff (B♭5 in octave numbers). It is the same note as A♯, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: **side octave key**, 1, 2. Right hand: 1.

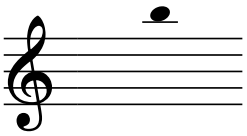
Half step below: A5  *(1 key changes)*

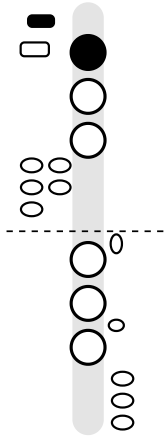
Half step above: B5  *(2 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: Deck the Halls (56), Silent Night (62), The Star-Spangled Banner (72). Scales: B♭ (29). Chromatic scale (35).

High B · B5

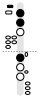
Sounds as concert B

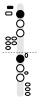




High B on the oboe is the B written just above the first ledger line above the staff (B5 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **side octave key**, 1. Right hand: nothing down.

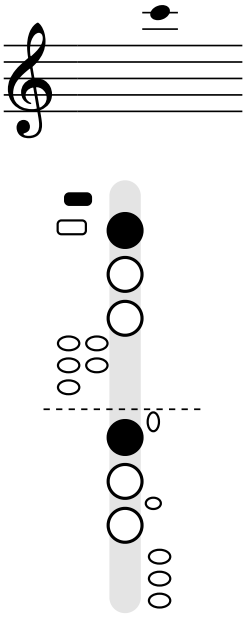
Half step below: A♯5 / B♭5  *(2 keys change)*

Half step above: C6  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Not used in the songs or one-octave scales; it is on the chart on page 8.

High C · C6

Sounds as concert C



High C on the oboe is the C written on the second ledger line above the staff.

Fingering: Left hand: **side octave key**, 1. Right hand: 1.

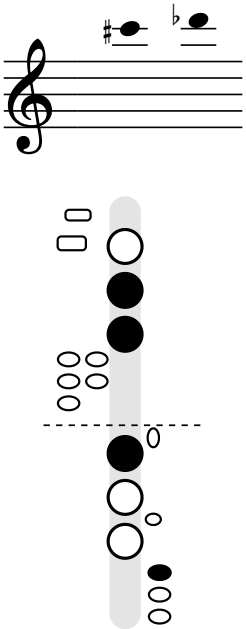
Half step below: B5  *(1 key changes)*

Half step above: C♯6 / D♭6  *(5 keys change)*

In this book: Songs: The Star-Spangled Banner (72).

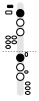
High C♯ · C♯6 / D♭6

Sounds as concert D♭



High C♯ on the oboe is the C♯ written on the second ledger line above the staff (C♯6 in octave numbers). It is the same note as D♭, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: 2, 3. Right hand: 1, pinky C key.
Lift the left index finger completely; no octave key.

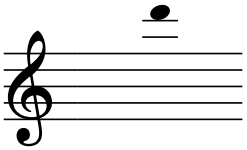
Half step below: C6  *(5 keys change)*

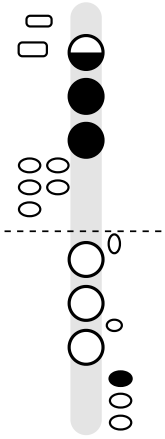
Half step above: D6  *(3 keys change)*

In this book: Not used in the songs or one-octave scales; it is on the chart on page 9.

High D · D6

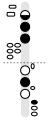
Sounds as concert D

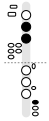




High D on the oboe is the D written just above the second ledger line above the staff (D6 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3. Right hand: pinky C key.
Half-hole open, no octave key, right pinky on low C.

Alternate fingerings:  Add right finger 2 for pitch

 Index finger fully off (helps a slur up to high D)

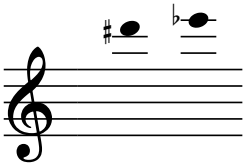
Half step below: C♯6 / D♭6  *(3 keys change)*

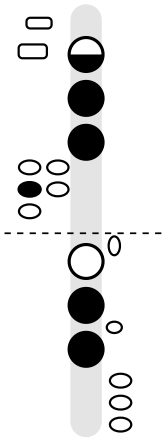
Half step above: D♯6 / E♭6  *(4 keys change)*

In this book: Not used in the songs or one-octave scales; it is on the chart on page 9.

High E♭ · D♯6 / E♭6

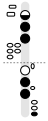
Sounds as concert E♭

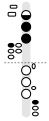


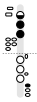


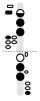
High E♭ on the oboe is the E♭ written on the third ledger line above the staff (E♭6 in octave numbers). It is the same note as D♯, so the same fingering works for both.

Fingering: Left hand: **half-hole 1**, 2, 3, pinky low B key. Right hand: 2, 3.
Half-hole open with the left pinky on the low B key.

Alternate fingerings:  Right E♭ key instead of low B

 G♯ key with low C

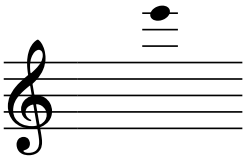
Half step below: D6  *(4 keys change)*

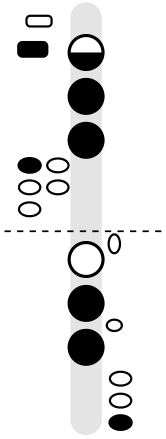
Half step above: E6  *(4 keys change)*

In this book: Not used in the songs or one-octave scales; it is on the chart on page 9.

High E · E6

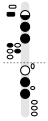
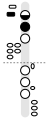
Sounds as concert E





High E on the oboe is the E written on the third ledger line above the staff (E6 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, **half-hole 1**, 2, 3, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
Thumb octave key plus half-hole; G♯ key with the left pinky, E♭ with the right.

Alternate fingerings:  Both pinky keys on the left  Short fingering

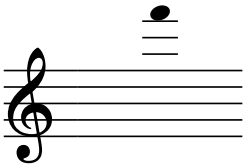
Half step below: D♯6 / E♭6  *(4 keys change)*

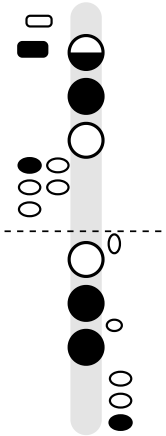
Half step above: F6  *(1 key changes)*

In this book: Not used in the songs or one-octave scales; it is on the chart on page 9.

High F · F6

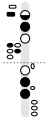
Sounds as concert F





High F on the oboe is the F written just above the third ledger line above the staff (F6 in octave numbers).

Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, **half-hole 1**, 2, pinky G♯ key. Right hand: 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
Like high E but lift the left ring finger.

Alternate fingering:  Both pinky keys on the left

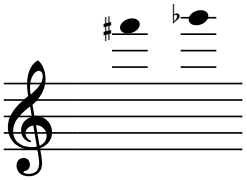
Half step below: E6  *(1 key changes)*

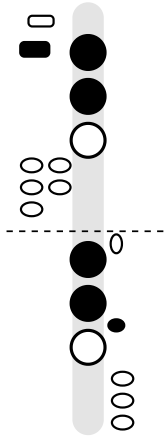
Half step above: F♯6 / G♭6  *(6 keys change)*

In this book: Not used in the songs or one-octave scales; it is on the chart on page 9.

High F♯ · F♯6 / G♭6

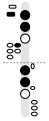
Sounds as concert G♭

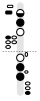




The highest note on this chart is G♭, written on the fourth ledger line above the staff. Advanced players can sometimes go higher, but notes above this vary a lot from player to player and instrument to instrument.

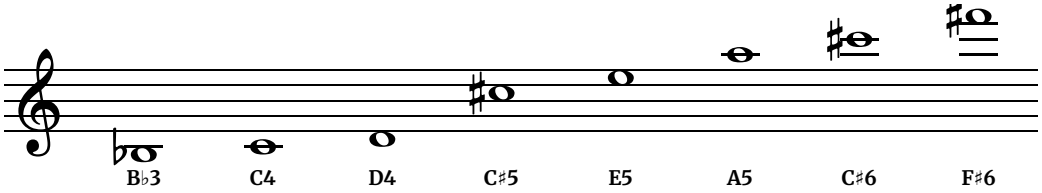
Fingering: Left hand: **thumb octave key**, 1, 2. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger). Index finger fully closed (no half-hole); like F with the left ring finger lifted, plus the thumb octave key.

Alternate fingering:  Left F key (if your oboe has one)

Half step below: F6  *(6 keys change)*

In this book: Not used in the songs or one-octave scales; it is on the chart on page 9.

Range and Where to Start



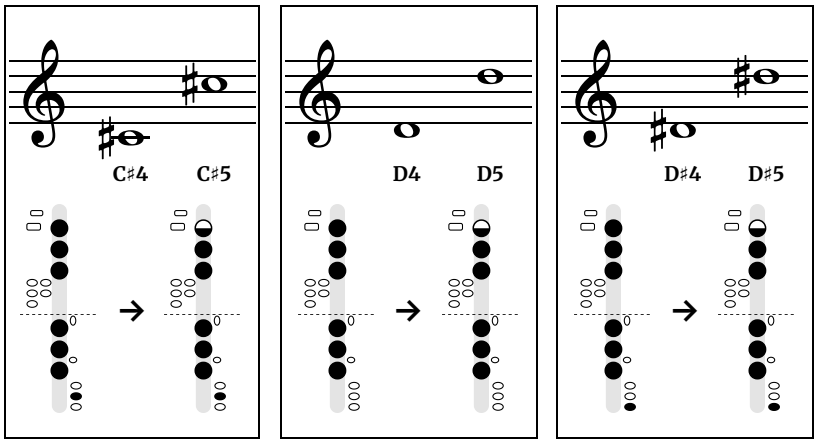
This chart covers written A♯3 (low B♭) up to F♯6. Oboe is in C, so the written note is the sounding note: B♭3 sounds at about 233 Hz. A few student oboes stop at low B and have no B♭ key, which the chart marks on low B♭. Notes from C♯5 to E♭5 use the half-hole, then the thumb octave key takes over from E5, and the side octave key starts at A5. Most band books start with concert B♭, C, D, E♭ and F, the same five notes as the rest of the band. Played in the staff, D and E♭ are half-hole notes, so oboists meet the half-hole early.

C♯5 to E♭5 use the half-hole. E5 to G♯5 use the thumb octave key. A5 to C6 use the side octave key. The top notes, C♯6 to F♯6, are marked Advanced on the chart.

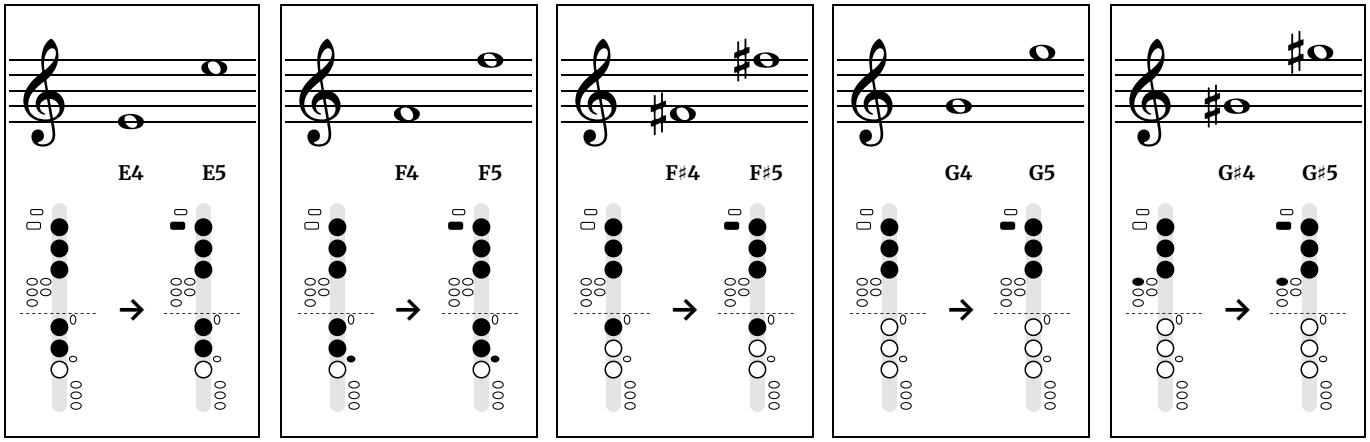
Same Fingers, One Octave Apart

Many oboe notes use the same fingers as the note an octave below. Only one thing is added: the half-hole, the thumb octave key or the side octave key. Learn the low note first, then add that one key or roll.

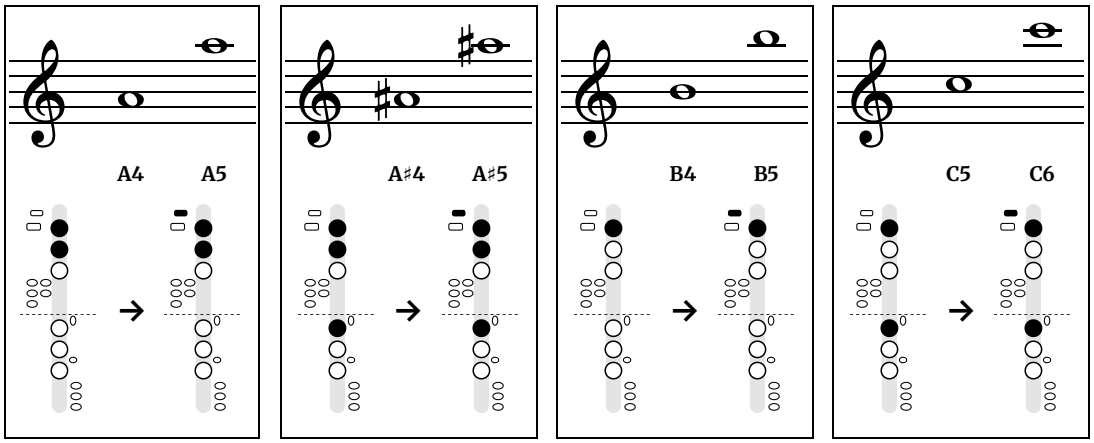
ADD THE HALF-HOLE



ADD THE THUMB OCTAVE KEY



ADD THE SIDE OCTAVE KEY



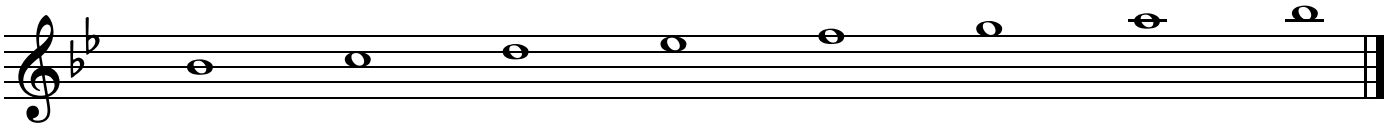
Only main fingerings are shown. Sharps are named here; each is also its flat (C♯4 is D♭4). F5 has the same three F choices as F4 (page 10), each with the thumb octave key added.

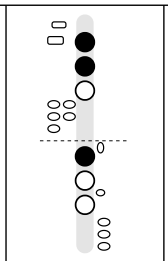
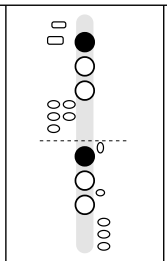
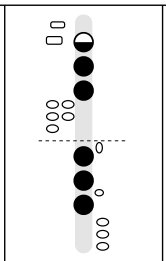
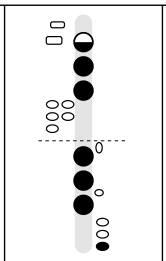
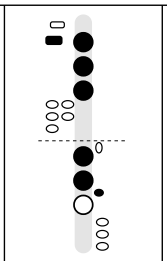
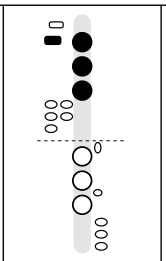
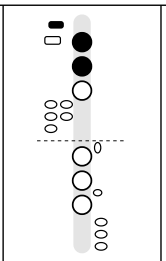
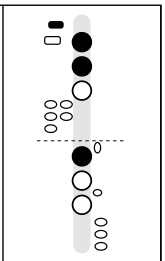
The 12 Major Scales

Each scale is shown in the octave that sits most comfortably on the instrument. They are in the order school bands usually learn them.

B♭ major

When the band plays concert B♭ major, you play B♭ major too (2 flats in the key signature).

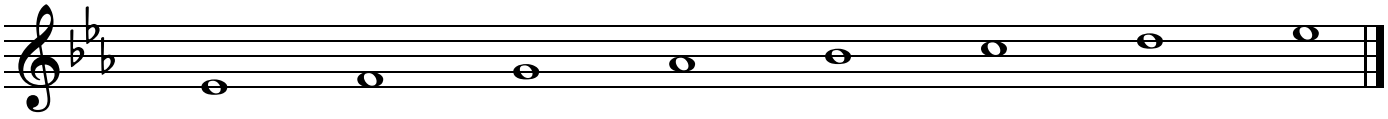


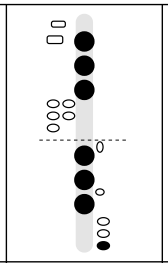
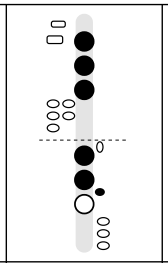
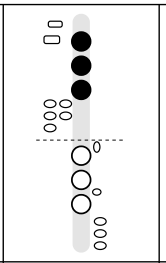
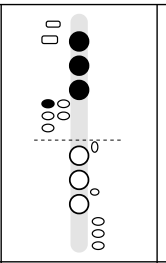
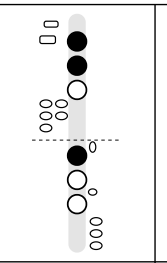
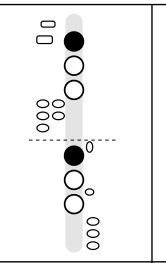
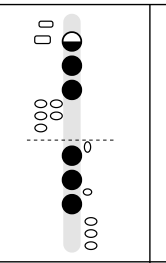
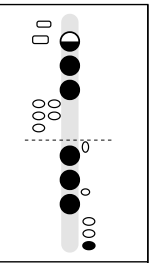
KEYS								
NOTE	B♭4	C5	D5	E♭5	F5	G5	A5	B♭5

E♭5 to F5: play this F forked, or with left F, so your right ring finger does not have to slide (page 10).

E♭ major

When the band plays concert E♭ major, you play E♭ major too (3 flats in the key signature).



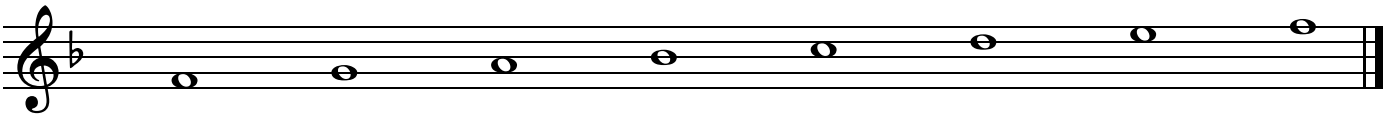
KEYS								
NOTE	E♭4	F4	G4	A♭4	B♭4	C5	D5	E♭5

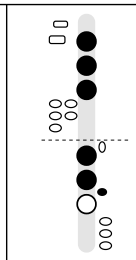
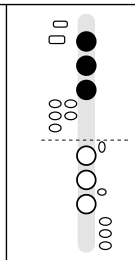
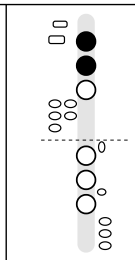
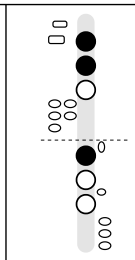
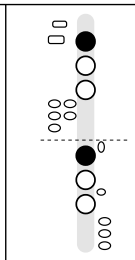
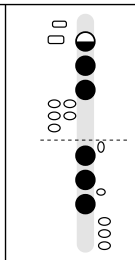
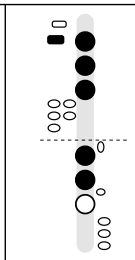
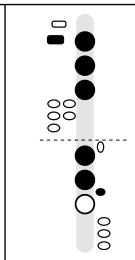
E♭4 to F4: play this F forked, or with left F, so your right ring finger does not have to slide (page 10).

Free at thefingeringchart.com

F major

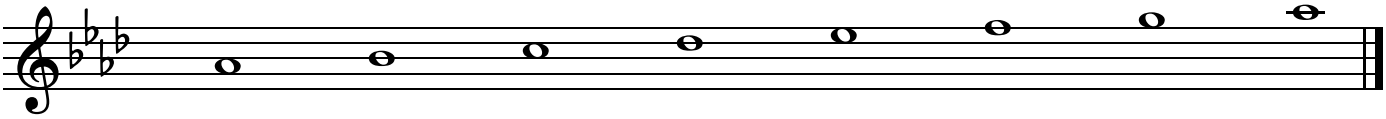
When the band plays concert F major, you play F major too (1 flat in the key signature).

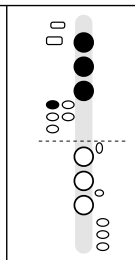
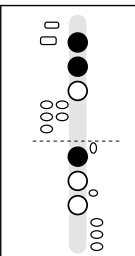
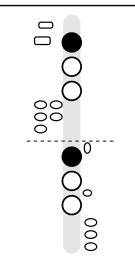
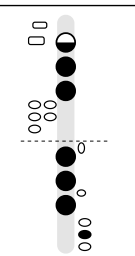
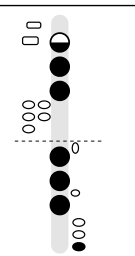
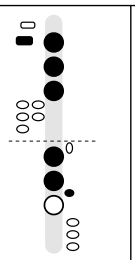
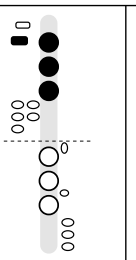
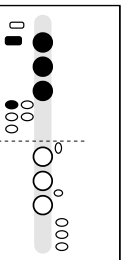


KEYS								
NOTE	F4	G4	A4	B♭4	C5	D5	E5	F5

A♭ major

When the band plays concert A♭ major, you play A♭ major too (4 flats in the key signature).

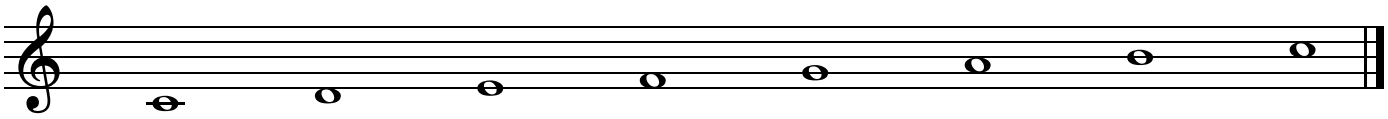


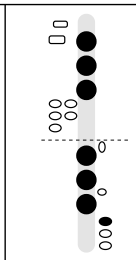
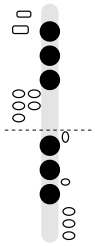
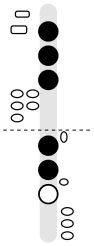
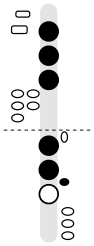
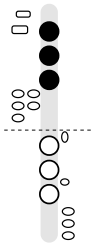
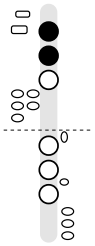
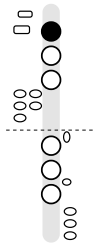
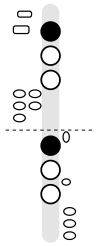
KEYS								
NOTE	A♭4	B♭4	C5	D♭5	E♭5	F5	G5	A♭5

E♭5 to F5: play this F forked, or with left F, so your right ring finger does not have to slide (page 10).

C major

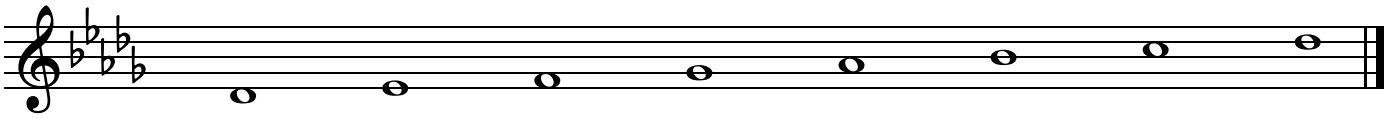
When the band plays concert C major, you play C major too (no sharps or flats in the key signature).

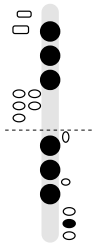
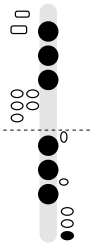
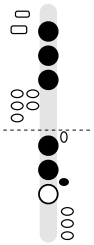
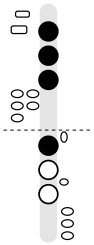
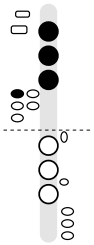
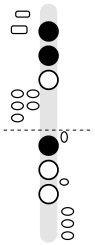
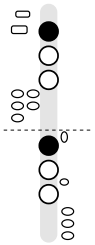
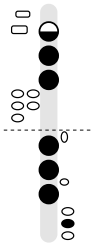


KEYS								
NOTE	C4	D4	E4	F4	G4	A4	B4	C5

D♭ major

When the band plays concert D♭ major, you play D♭ major too (5 flats in the key signature).



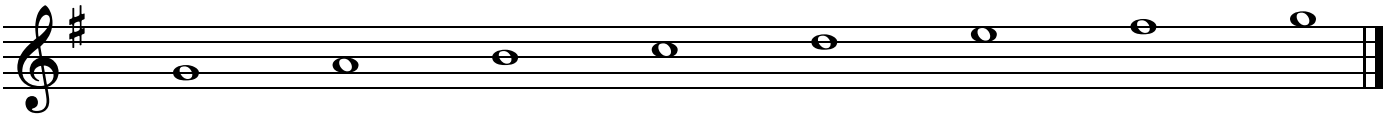
KEYS								
NOTE	D♭4	E♭4	F4	G♭4	A♭4	B♭4	C5	D♭5

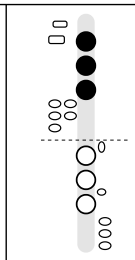
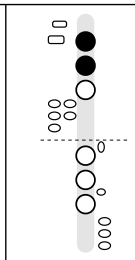
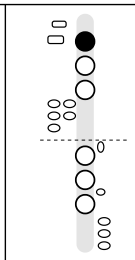
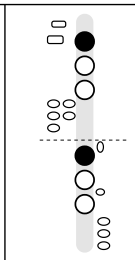
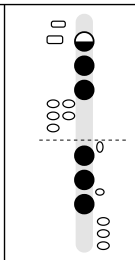
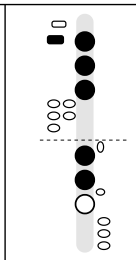
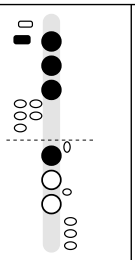
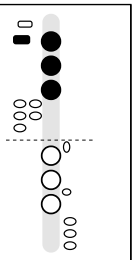
E♭4 to F4: play this F forked, or with left F, so your right ring finger does not have to slide (page 10).

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G major

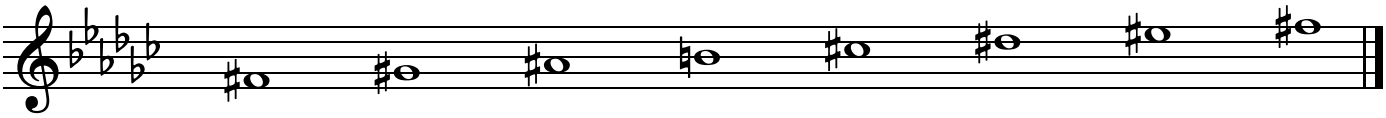
When the band plays concert G major, you play G major too (1 sharp in the key signature).

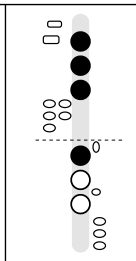
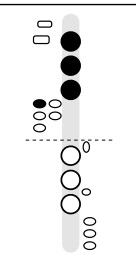
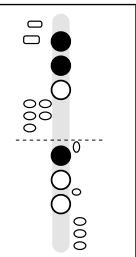
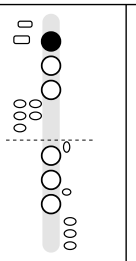
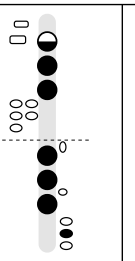
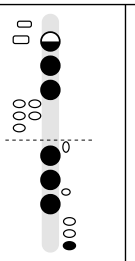
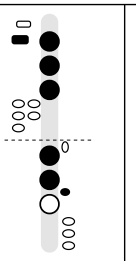
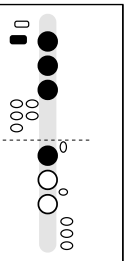


KEYS								
NOTE	G4	A4	B4	C5	D5	E5	F♯5	G5

G♭ major

When the band plays concert G♭ major, you play G♭ major too (6 flats in the key signature).

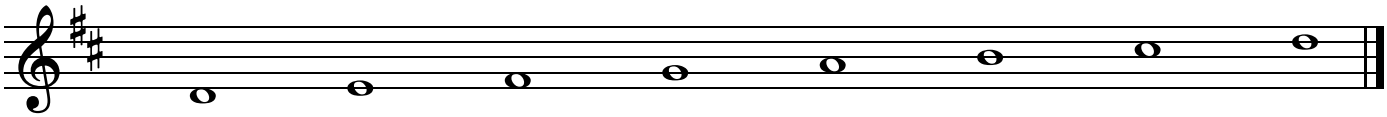


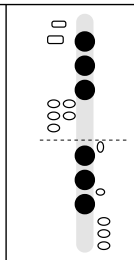
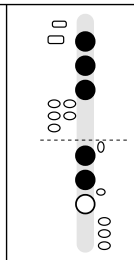
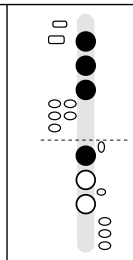
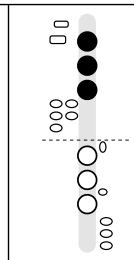
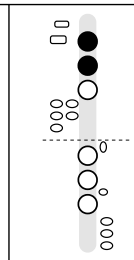
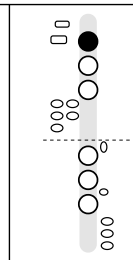
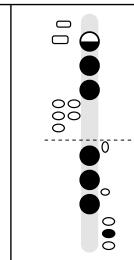
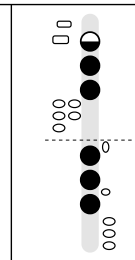
KEYS								
NOTE	F♯4	G♯4	A♯4	B4	C♯5	D♯5	E♯5	F♯5

E♭5 to F5: play this F forked, or with left F, so your right ring finger does not have to slide (page 10).

D major

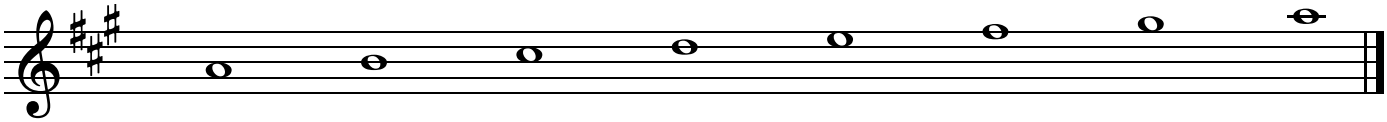
When the band plays concert D major, you play D major too (2 sharps in the key signature).

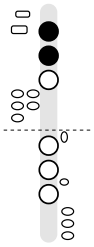
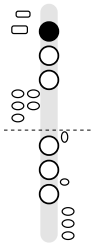
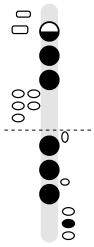
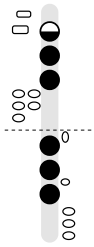
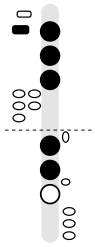
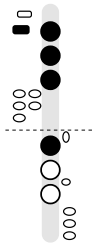
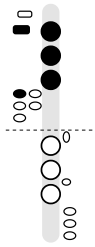
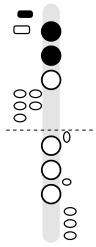


KEYS								
NOTE	D4	E4	F♯4	G4	A4	B4	C♯5	D5

A major

When the band plays concert A major, you play A major too (3 sharps in the key signature).

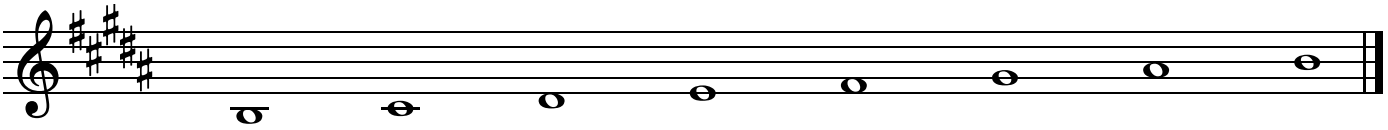


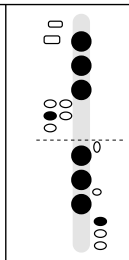
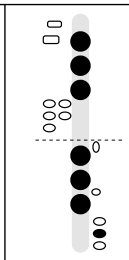
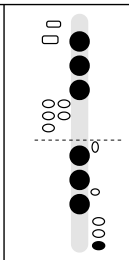
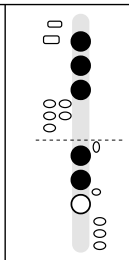
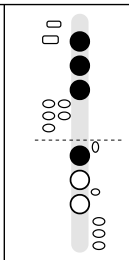
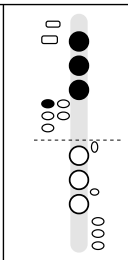
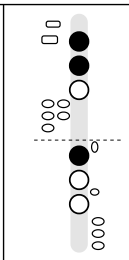
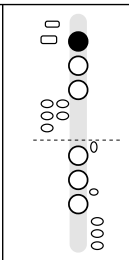
KEYS								
NOTE	A4	B4	C♯5	D5	E5	F♯5	G♯5	A5

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B major

When the band plays concert B major, you play B major too (5 sharps in the key signature).

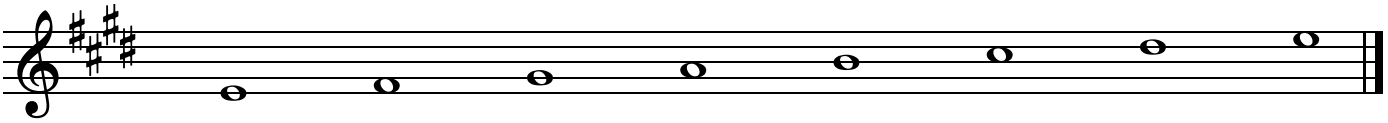


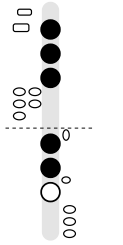
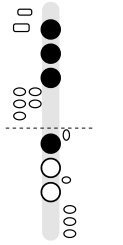
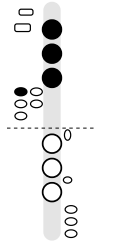
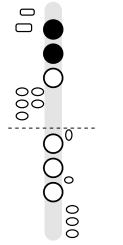
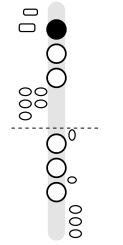
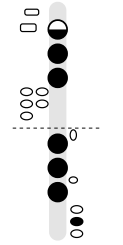
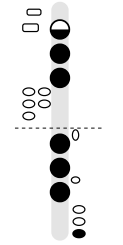
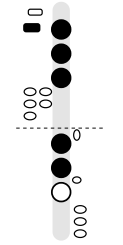
KEYS								
NOTE	B3	C♯4	D♯4	E4	F♯4	G♯4	A♯4	B4

B3: Hold down the low C key with the right pinky as well as the low B key.

E major

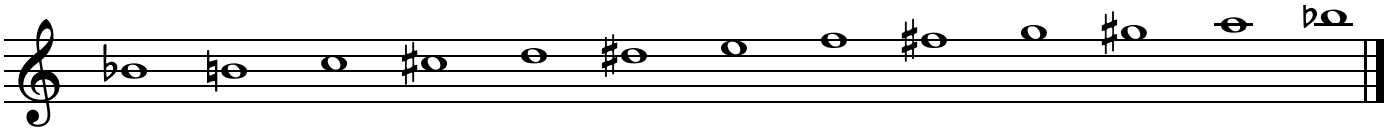
When the band plays concert E major, you play E major too (4 sharps in the key signature).

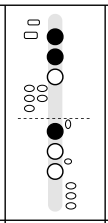
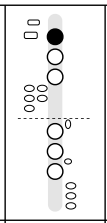
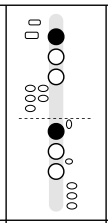
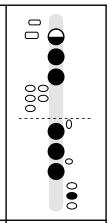
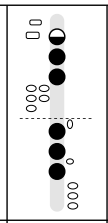
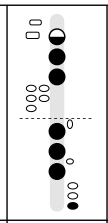
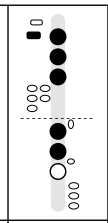
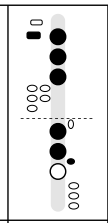
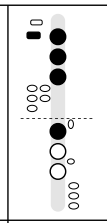
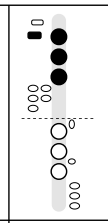
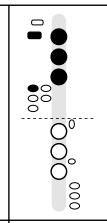
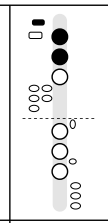
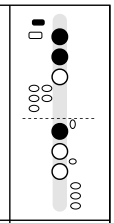


KEYS								
NOTE	E4	F♯4	G♯4	A4	B4	C♯5	D♯5	E5

The Chromatic Scale

All twelve notes from B♭4 up to the next B♭, one half step at a time. Going up, the in-between notes are written as sharps; coming down they are usually written as flats (A♯ going up is the same note and fingering as B♭ coming down).



KEYS													
NOTE	B♭4	B4	C5	C♯5	D5	D♯5	E5	F5	F♯5	G5	G♯5	A5	B♭5

How to Practice a Scale

Play it slowly enough that every note is correct the first time, with a metronome. Tongue each note, then slur the whole octave in one breath. Raise the tempo only after three clean runs in a row.

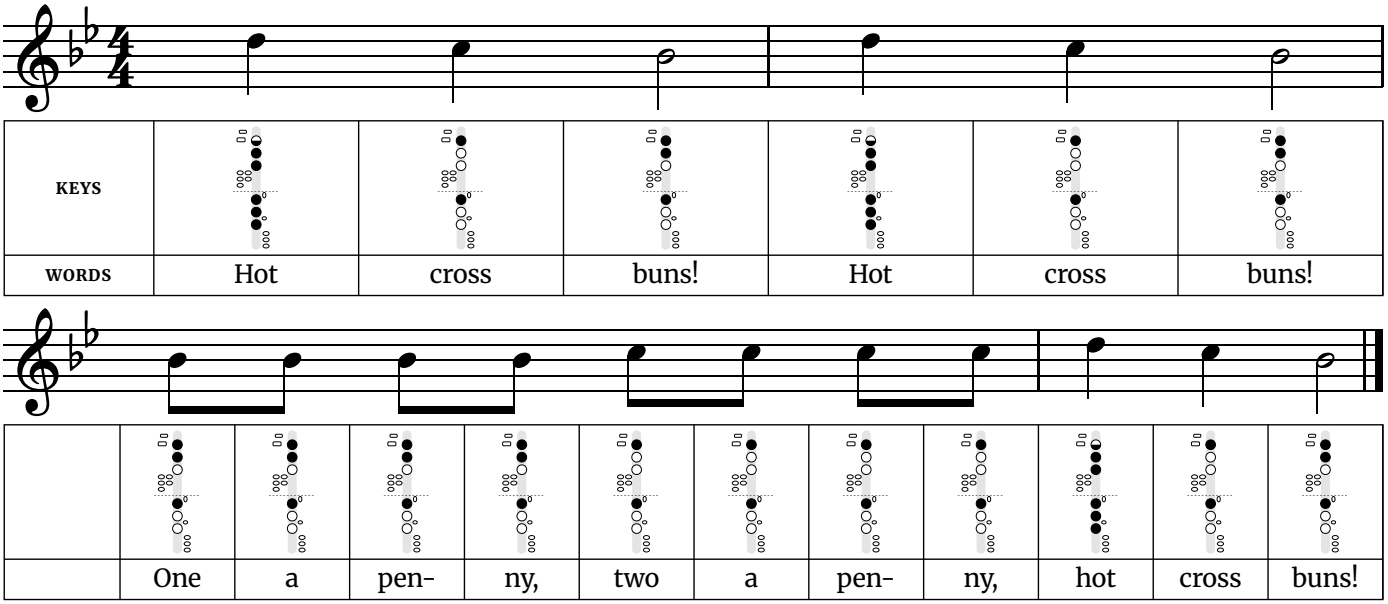
Which Scales First

Learn concert B♭ major and E♭ major first, then F major and C major. The oboe reads at concert pitch, so the names match the band's. One oboe tip for F major and B♭ major: plan your F fingering before you start the scale. Going up through E♭ to F in B♭ major usually wants forked F or left F, because regular F would make the right ring finger slide.

Free at thefingeringchart.com

Hot Cross Buns

Written in B♭ major (oboe plays at concert pitch) · 4/4 time. A three-note song most band and recorder books start with.



Fingerings used in this song
B♭4 — Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
C5 — Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
D5 — Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.

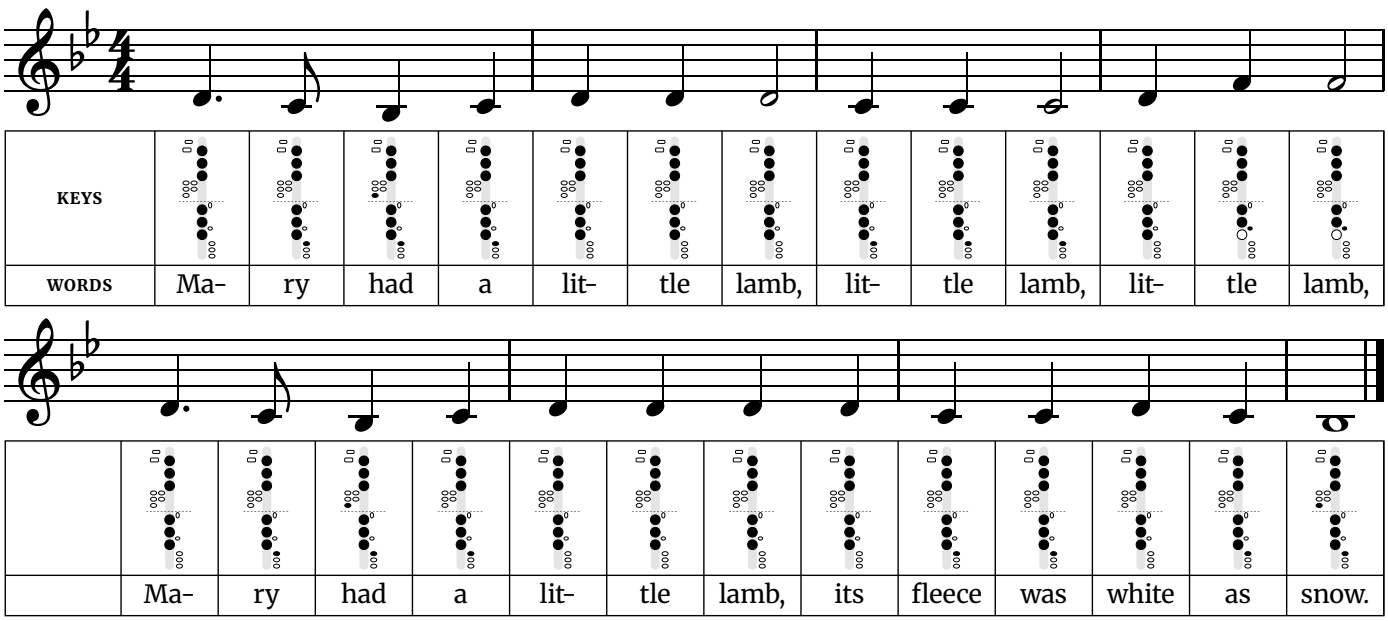
Tip: The widest jump is a major third, from B♭4 to D5. Every phrase walks down three notes and back. Use it to get clean finger changes between neighboring notes before you worry about speed.

Hardest finger change: Going from D5 to C5, 5 keys or holes change. Move all the fingers together, and keep them close to the instrument so nothing has far to travel. Practice just those two notes back and forth, slowly, before playing the whole line.

Traditional English street cry; the words were printed in 1767.

Mary Had a Little Lamb

Written in B♭ major (oboe plays at concert pitch) · 4/4 time. Uses four notes next to each other, plus one jump up.



Fingerings used in this song
B♭3 — Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
C4 — Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
D4 — Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
F4 — Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

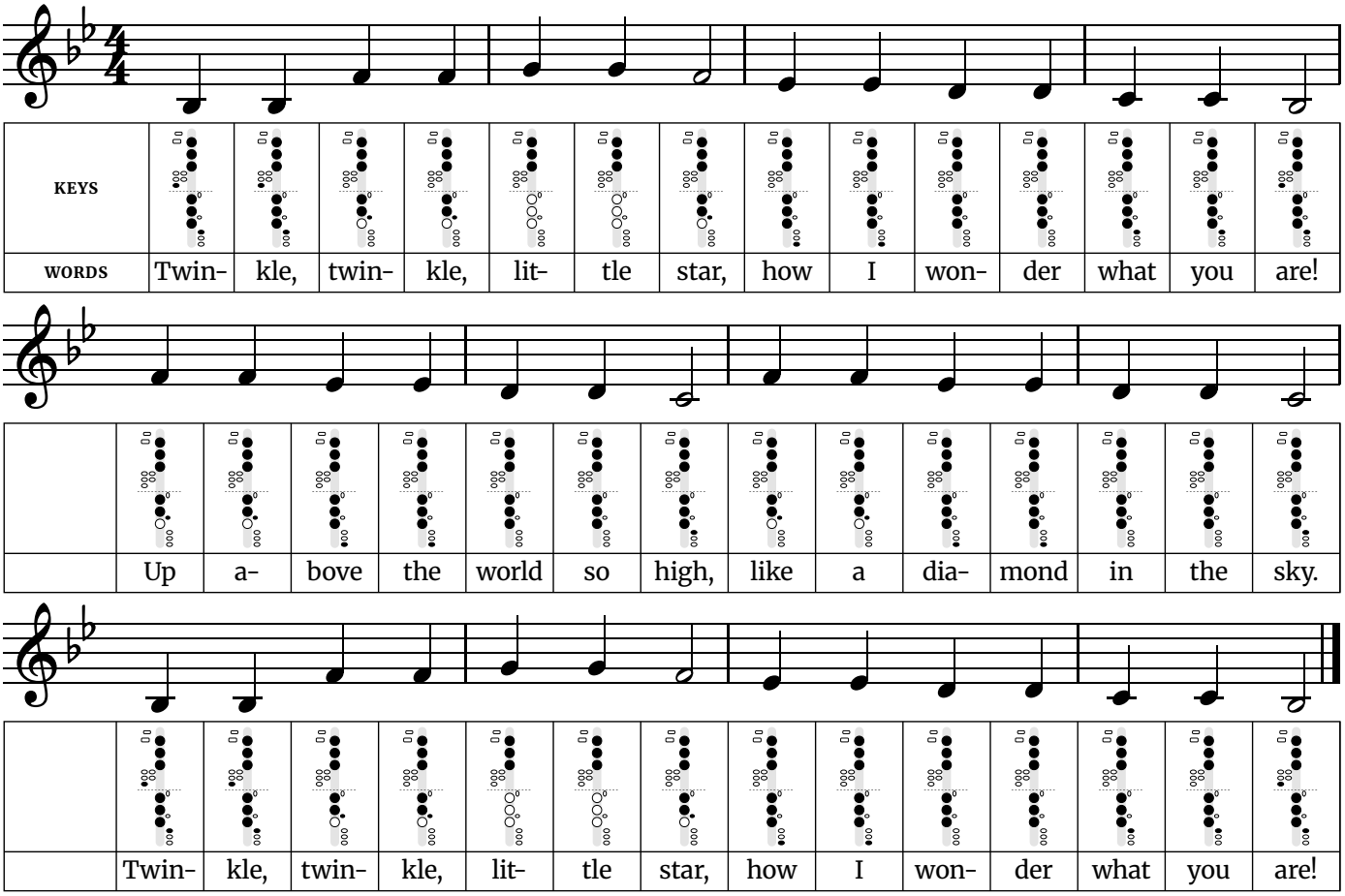
Tip: The widest jump is a minor third, from F4 to D4. The tune adds one note to Hot Cross Buns and repeats a single pitch several times. Keep the repeated notes even, tonguing each one without stopping the air.

Hardest finger change: Going from D4 to F4, 2 keys or holes change. Move all the fingers together, and keep them close to the instrument so nothing has far to travel. Practice just those two notes back and forth, slowly, before playing the whole line.

Words: Sarah Josepha Hale (1830). Music: traditional American.

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Written in B♭ major (oboe plays at concert pitch) · 4/4 time. Six notes of the major scale, with a leap from the first note to the fifth.



Fingerings used in this song
B♭3 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.

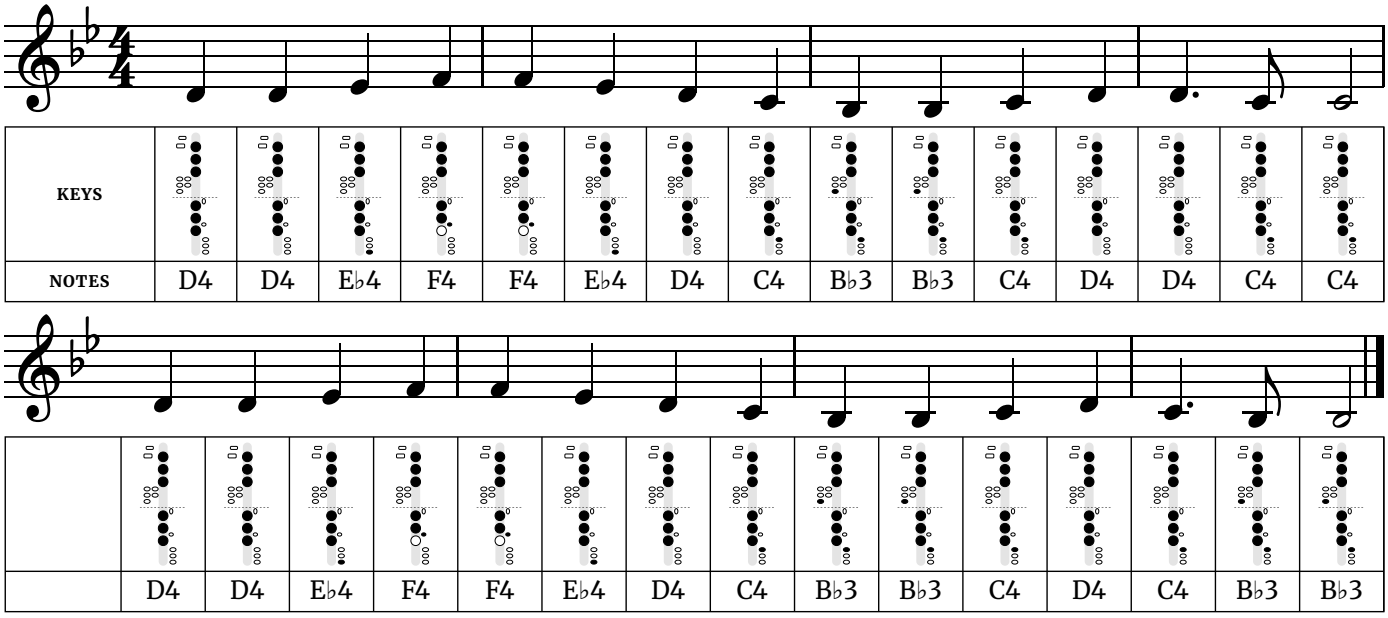
Tip: The widest jump is a fifth, from B♭3 to F4. The opening jump is a fifth, the first real leap in this set of songs. Hear the second note in your head before you play it, then come down the scale one step at a time.

Hardest finger change: Going from B♭3 to F4, 4 keys or holes change. Move all the fingers together, and keep them close to the instrument so nothing has far to travel. Practice just those two notes back and forth, slowly, before playing the whole line.

Words: Jane Taylor (1806). Music: the French song "Ah! vous dirai-je, maman" (1761).

Ode to Joy

Written in B♭ major (oboe plays at concert pitch) · 4/4 time. Beethoven's melody from the Ninth Symphony, using the first five notes of the scale.



Fingerings used in this song
B♭3 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

Tip: The widest jump is a whole step, from F4 to E♭4. Almost the whole melody moves by step, which makes it a good test of even fingers. Watch the rhythm at the end of each phrase, where one note is held longer.

Hardest finger change: Going from E♭4 to F4, 3 keys or holes change. Move all the fingers together, and keep them close to the instrument so nothing has far to travel. Practice just those two notes back and forth, slowly, before playing the whole line.

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, from the Ninth Symphony (1824).

Jingle Bells

Written in B♭ major (oboe plays at concert pitch) · 4/4 time. The chorus, using the first five notes of the scale.



Fingerings used in this song
B♭3 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

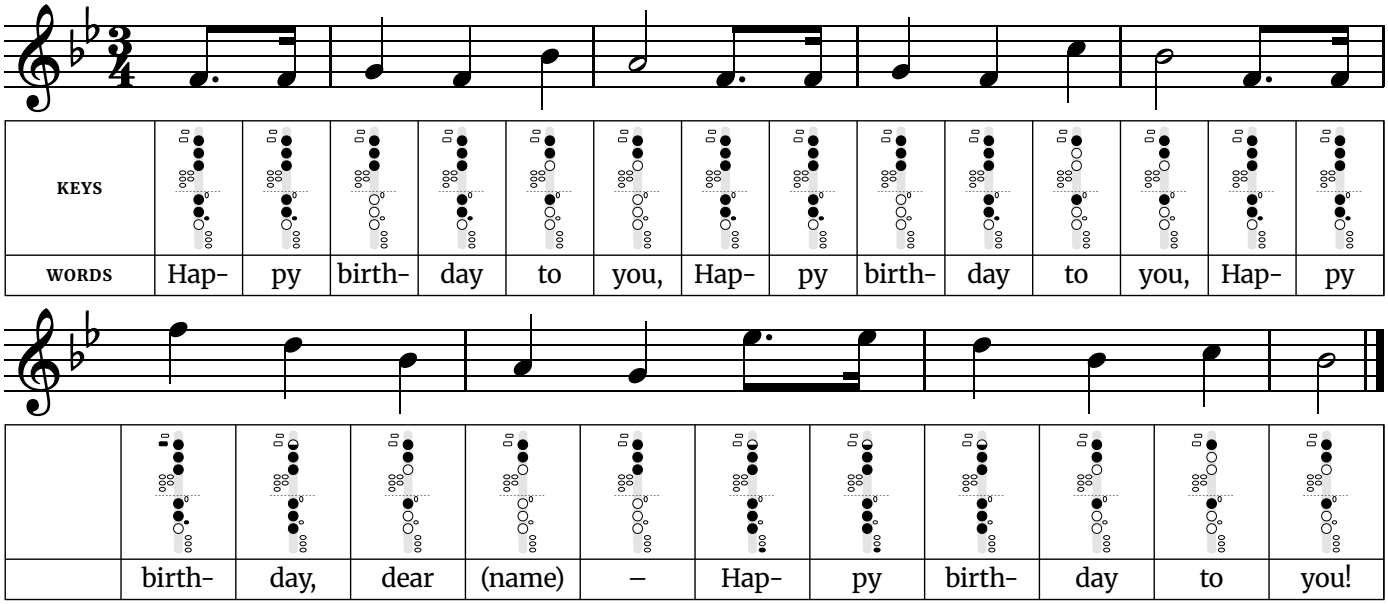
Tip: The widest jump is a fifth, from F4 to B♭3. The chorus repeats one note three times in a row more than once. Light, short tonguing keeps it bouncing; heavy tonguing makes it sound like marching.

Words and music by James Lord Pierpont (1857).

Easy Songs

Happy Birthday

Written in B♭ major (oboe plays at concert pitch) · 3/4 time. Covers an octave, from the low fifth up to the high fifth.



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

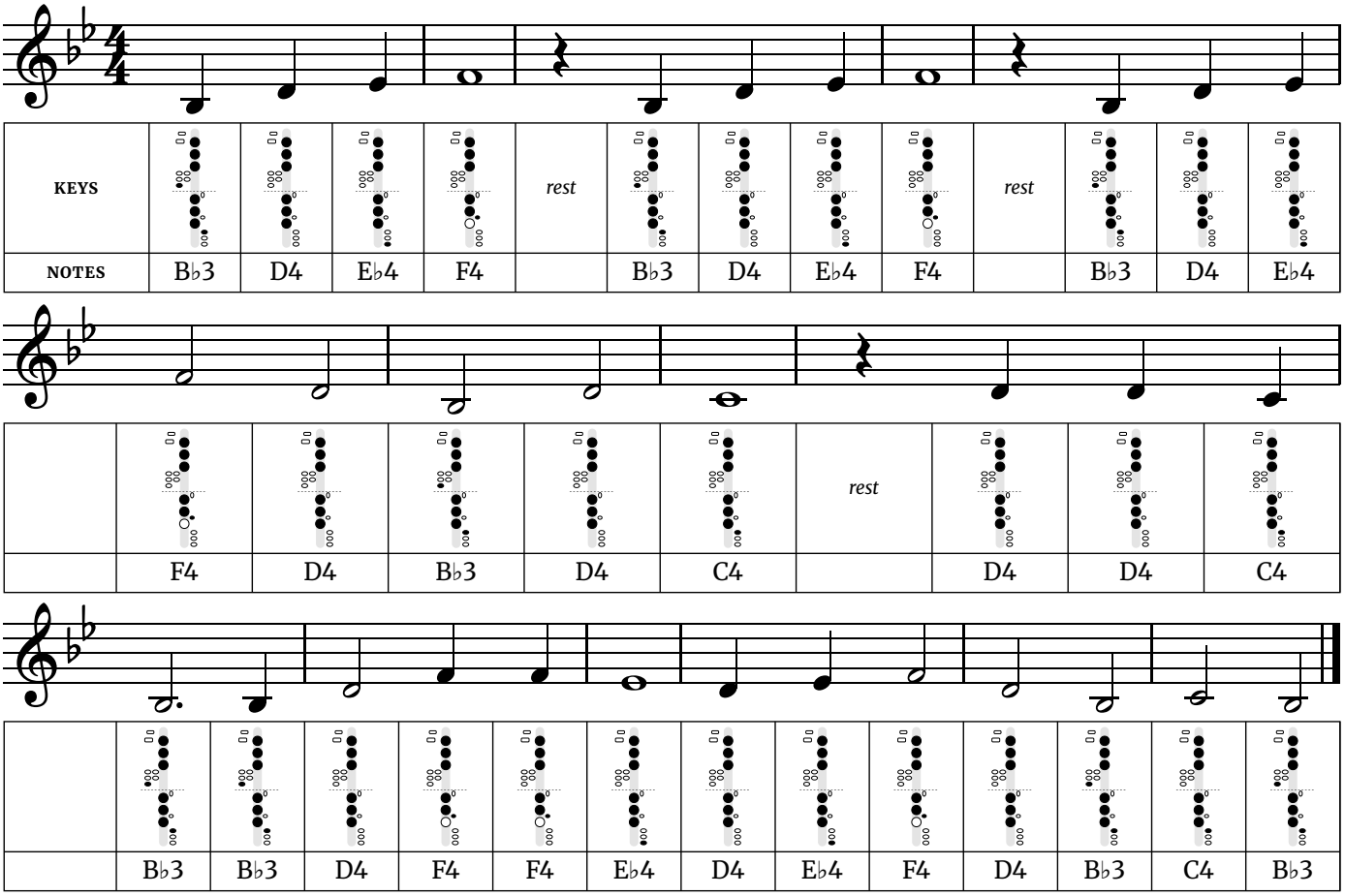
Tip: The widest jump is an octave, from F4 to F5. The third phrase has the widest leap in this set, an octave. Practice the two notes of the octave on their own, slowly, before playing the phrase.

Hardest finger change: Going from G4 to E♭5, 5 keys or holes change. Move all the fingers together, and keep them close to the instrument so nothing has far to travel. Practice just those two notes back and forth, slowly, before playing the whole line.

Music: "Good Morning to All" by Mildred J. Hill and Patty Smith Hill (1893). Words: traditional.

When the Saints Go Marching In

Written in B♭ major (oboe plays at concert pitch) · 4/4 time. A classic for brass, built on the first five notes of the scale.



Fingerings used in this song
B♭3 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

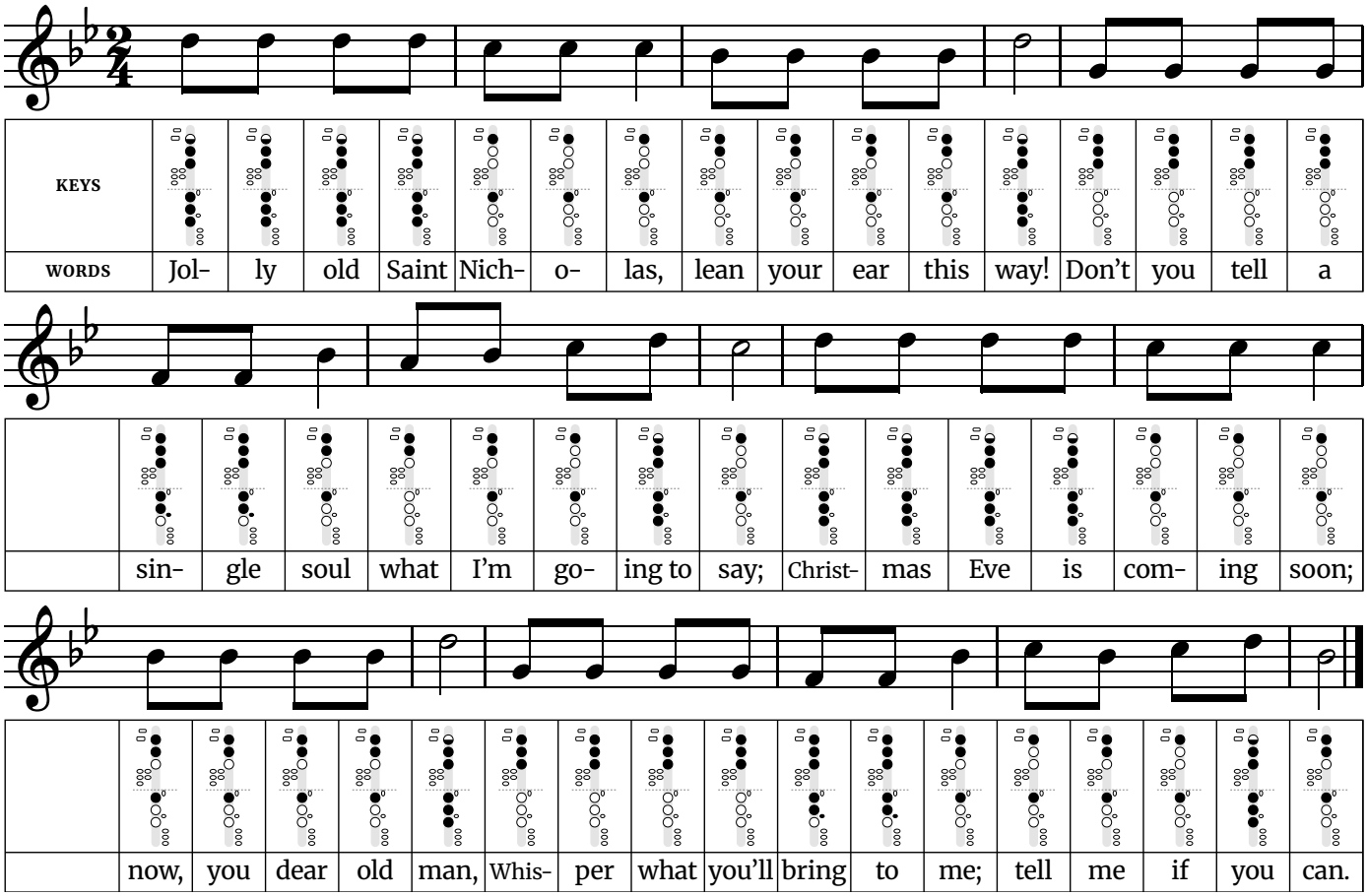
Tip: The widest jump is a fifth, from F4 to B♭3. Each phrase starts after a rest, on the second beat. Count the rest out loud a few times so the first note comes in on time.

Hardest finger change: Going from F4 to B♭3, 4 keys or holes change. Move all the fingers together, and keep them close to the instrument so nothing has far to travel. Practice just those two notes back and forth, slowly, before playing the whole line.

Traditional American spiritual.

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Easy · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 2/4 time · 6 notes, F4 to D5



Fingerings used in this song
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
D5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.

Tip: Each phrase opens with the same note four times. Players tend to rush repeated notes, so keep them even and let the last note of each phrase ring for its full length.

The widest jump is a fifth, down from D5 to G4 in line 3.

The busiest finger change is D5 to C5, where 5 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words: Emily Huntington Miller (1865). Music: attributed to James R. Murray (1874).

Free at thefingeringchart.com

Good King Wenceslas

Easy · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 8 notes, F4 to F5



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

Tip: Nearly every note is a quarter note or longer, so the rhythm is the easiest of the Christmas songs. Play it like a sturdy march and give each half note its full two beats.

Words: John Mason Neale (1853). Music: "Tempus adest floridum", from Piae Cantiones (1582).

Away in a Manger

Easy · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 3/4 time · 8 notes, F4 to F5



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

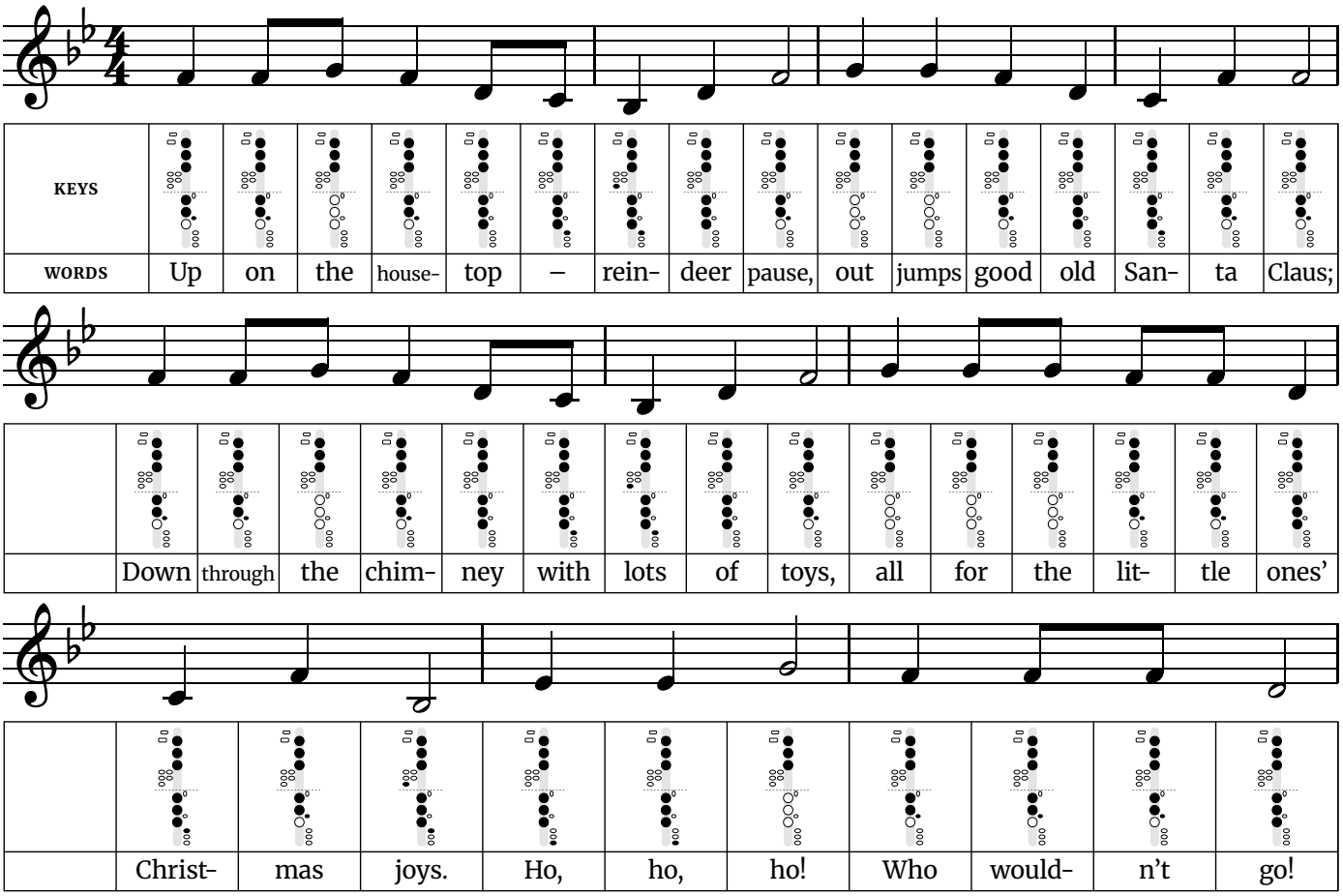
Tip: It is a slow waltz with a long note at the end of every phrase. Hold those for all their beats and breathe after them, never in the middle of a phrase.

Words: anonymous (1880s, American). Music: "Mueller" by James Ramsey Murray (1887).

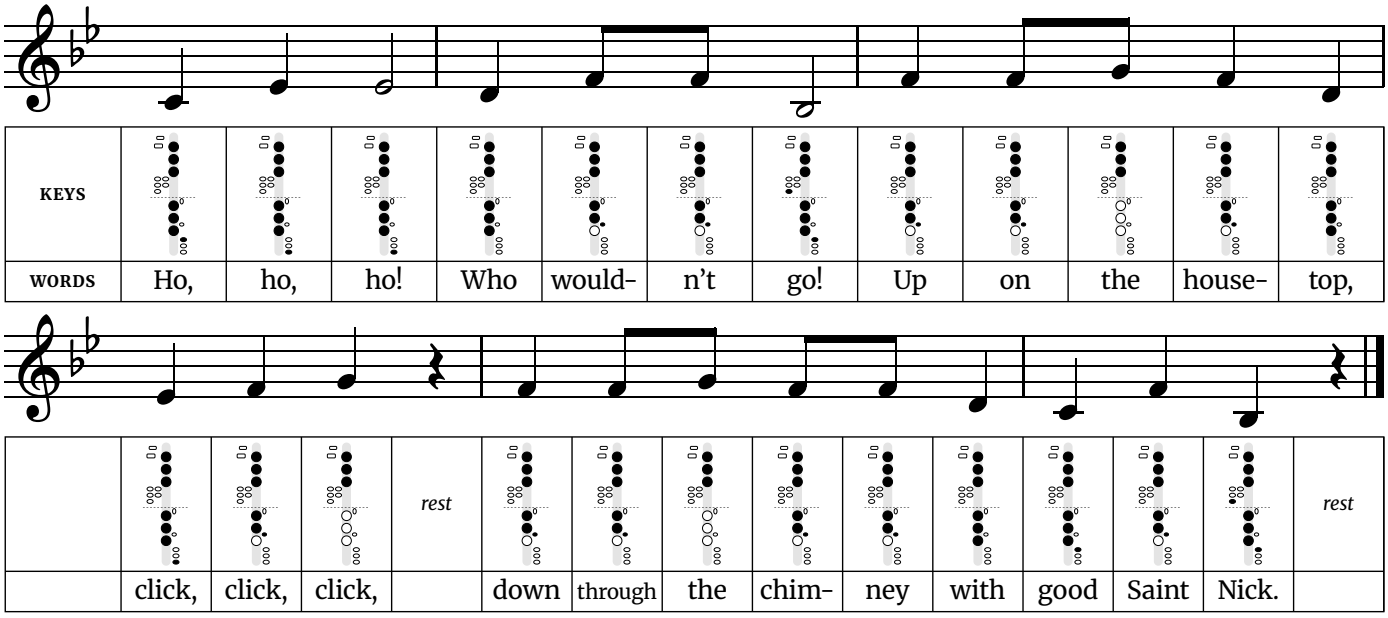
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Up on the Housetop

Easy · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 6 notes, B♭3 to G4



Up on the Housetop *(continued)*



Fingerings used in this song
B♭3 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.

Tip: Pairs of quick notes (“on the”, “lit-tle”) sit in the middle of the verse phrases. Tongue them lightly without speeding up, then give the three “Ho, ho, ho” notes their full length.

The widest jump is a fifth, down from F4 to B♭3 in line 5.

The busiest finger change is F4 to B♭3, where 4 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words and music: Benjamin Hanby (1864).

Auld Lang Syne

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 7 notes, F4 to G5



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	

Tip: The tune uses only five pitch names (a pentatonic scale), so nothing falls outside the key. The long-short dotted rhythm comes back in almost every bar; keep the short note crisp and late.

Words: Robert Burns (1788). Music: traditional Scottish.

Joy to the World

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 2/4 time · 8 notes, B♭3 to B♭4



Fingerings used in this song	
B♭3 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.	**F4** – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.	**G4** – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	**A4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.	**B♭4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.

Tip: The first phrase walks straight down the scale, one note at a time, which makes it a good test of clean finger changes. Later the repeated "and heaven and nature sing" notes need light, even tonguing.

Words: Isaac Watts (1719). Music: "Antioch", arranged by Lowell Mason.

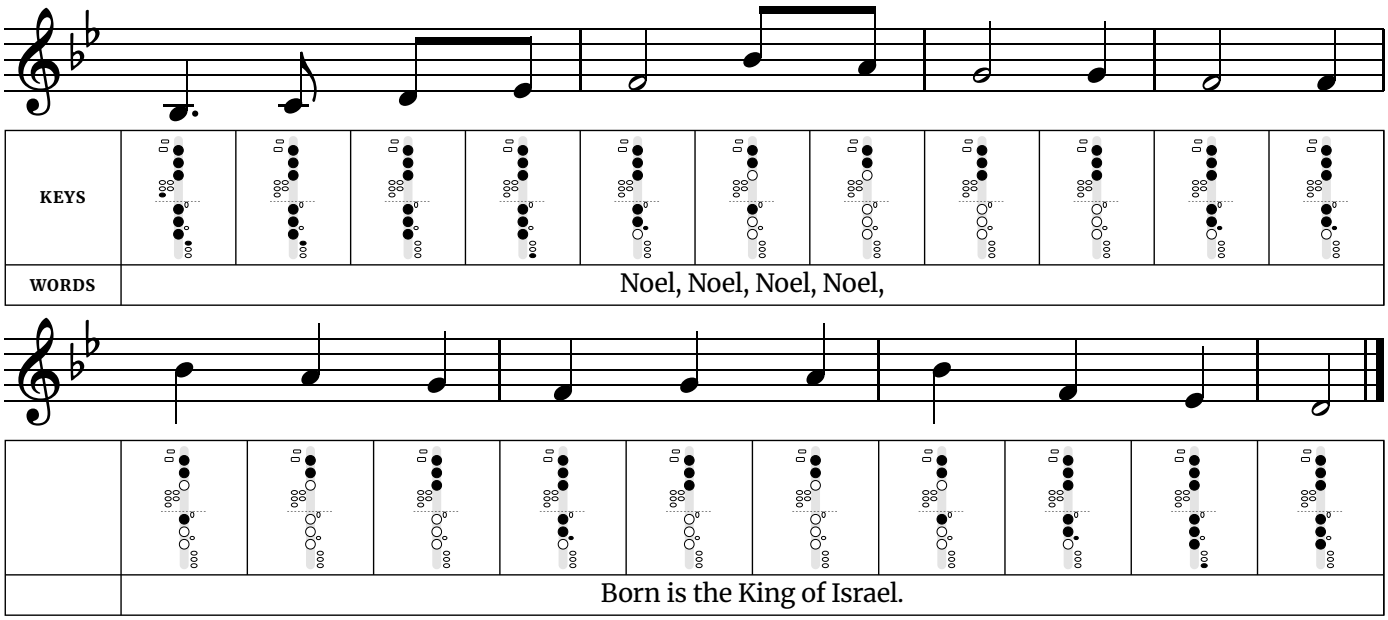
Free at thefingeringchart.com

The First Noel

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 3/4 time · 8 notes, B♭3 to B♭4



The First Noel *(continued)*



Fingerings used in this song	
B♭3 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky low B♭ key. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.	**F4** – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.	**G4** – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	**A4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.	**B♭4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.

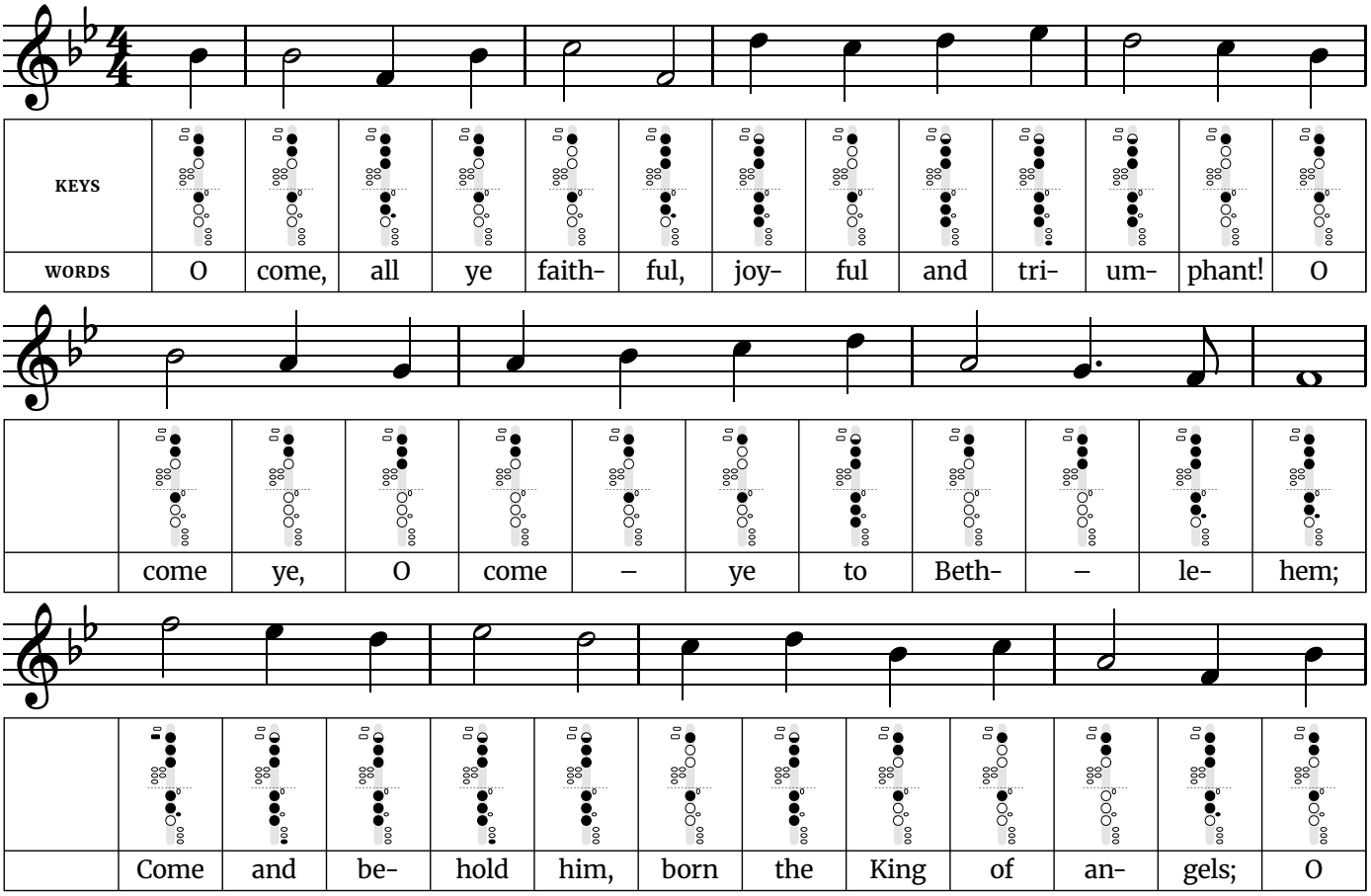
Tip: Every second phrase ends on the same note, so it is easy to lose your place; follow the words. The two quick notes that start most phrases are a pickup: play them lightly into the strong beat.

The busiest finger change is E♭4 to F4, where 3 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

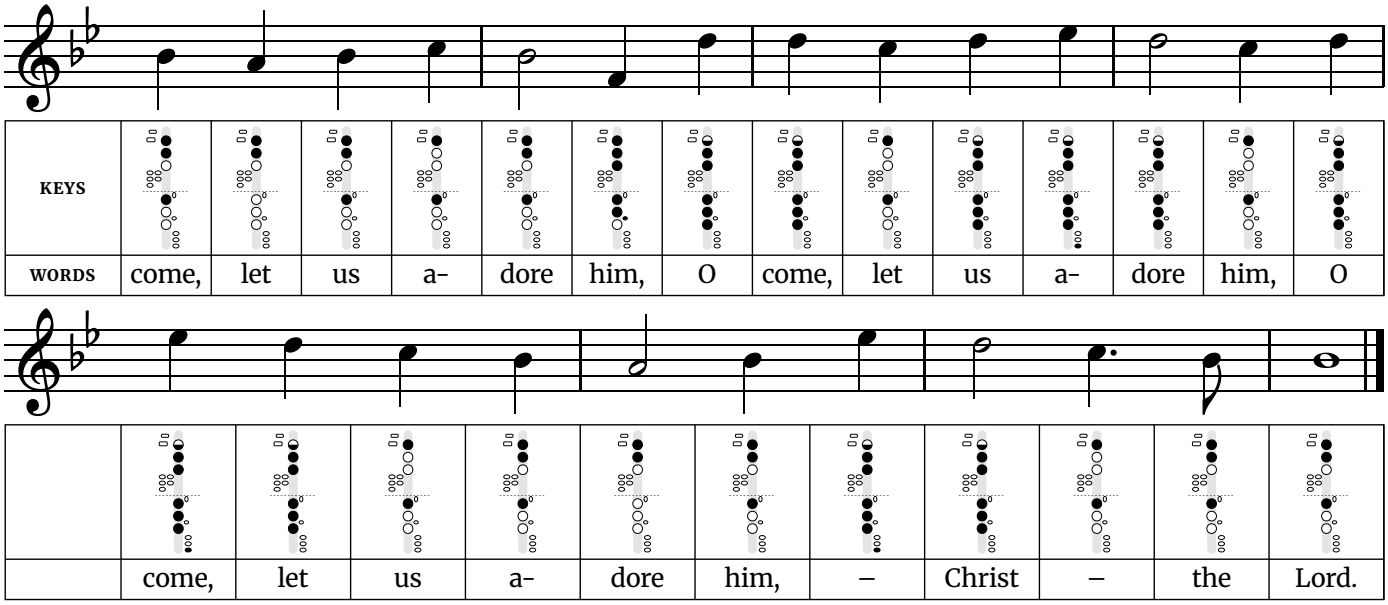
Words and music: traditional English (Cornish), first printed in the 1820s.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 8 notes, F4 to F5



O Come, All Ye Faithful *(continued)*



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

Tip: The three "O come, let us adore him" phrases each start a little higher than the one before. Save some air and some volume for the third.

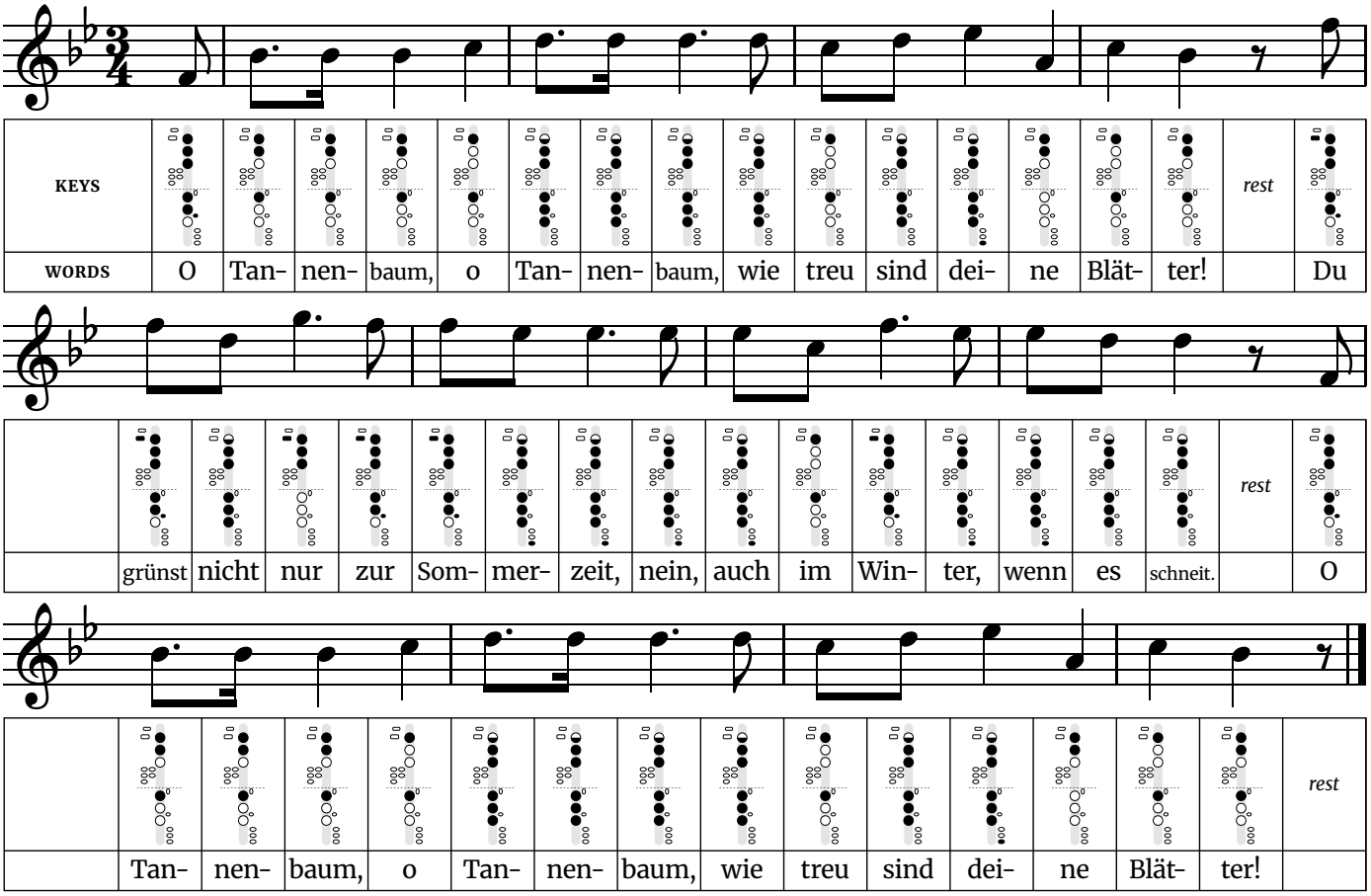
The widest jump is an octave, up from F4 to F5 in line 3.

The busiest finger change is D5 to C5, where 5 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words: Latin hymn "Adeste Fideles", English by Frederick Oakeley (1841, current wording printed 1852). Music: attributed to John Francis Wade.

O Christmas Tree

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 3/4 time · 8 notes, F4 to G5



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.

Tip: The long-short dotted rhythm at the start of each phrase gives the carol its lilt. Make the short note quick and light so it does not turn into two even notes.

The widest jump is a sixth, down from D5 to F4 in line 2.

The busiest finger change is E♭5 to A4, where 6 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words: Ernst Anschütz (1824), shown in the original German. Music: traditional German.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 3/4 time · 8 notes, F4 to F5



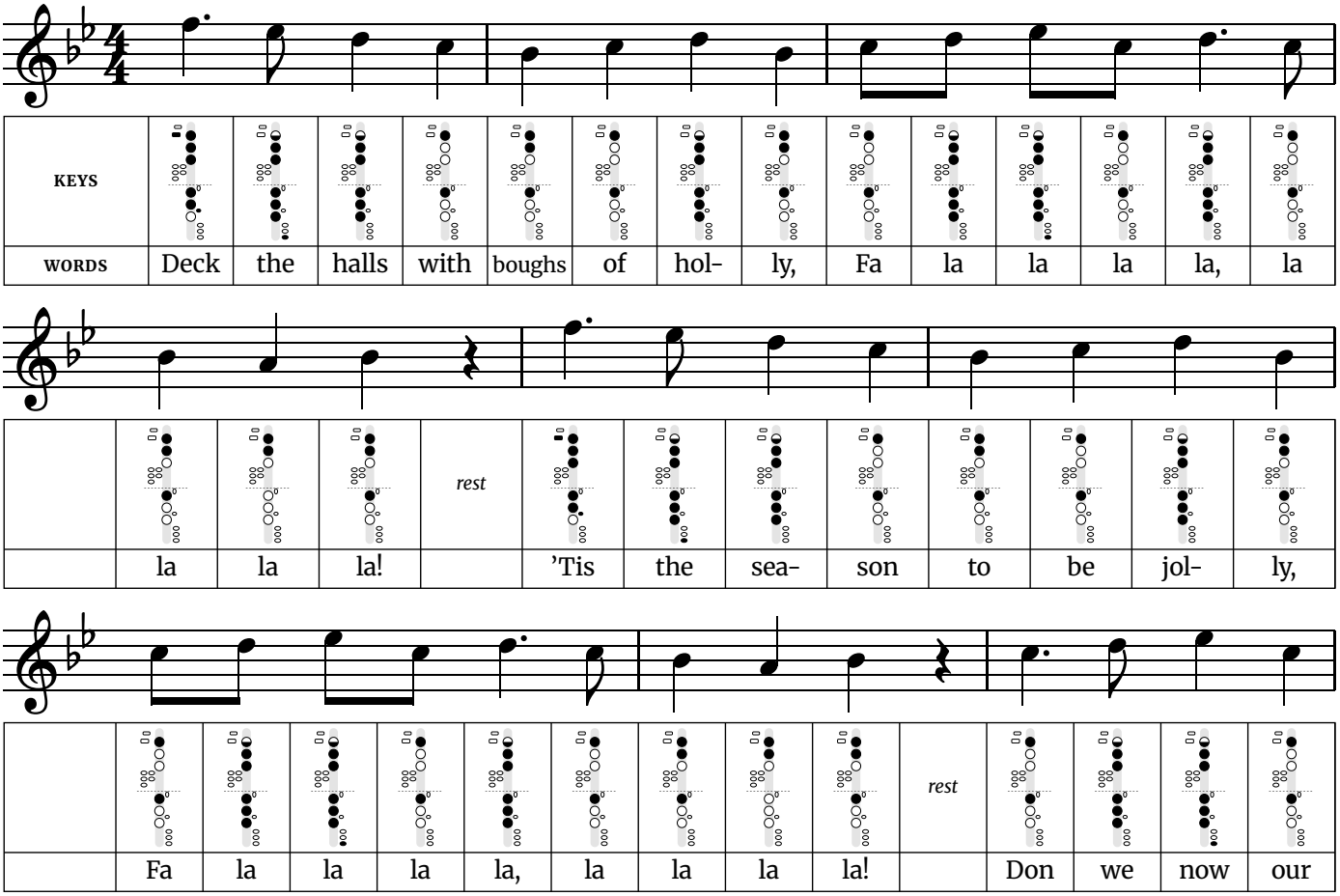
Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

Tip: It moves quickly in three, with a jump of a sixth at the start of the second phrase and a drop of a full octave in the last phrase. Think of the landing note before you leave the first one.

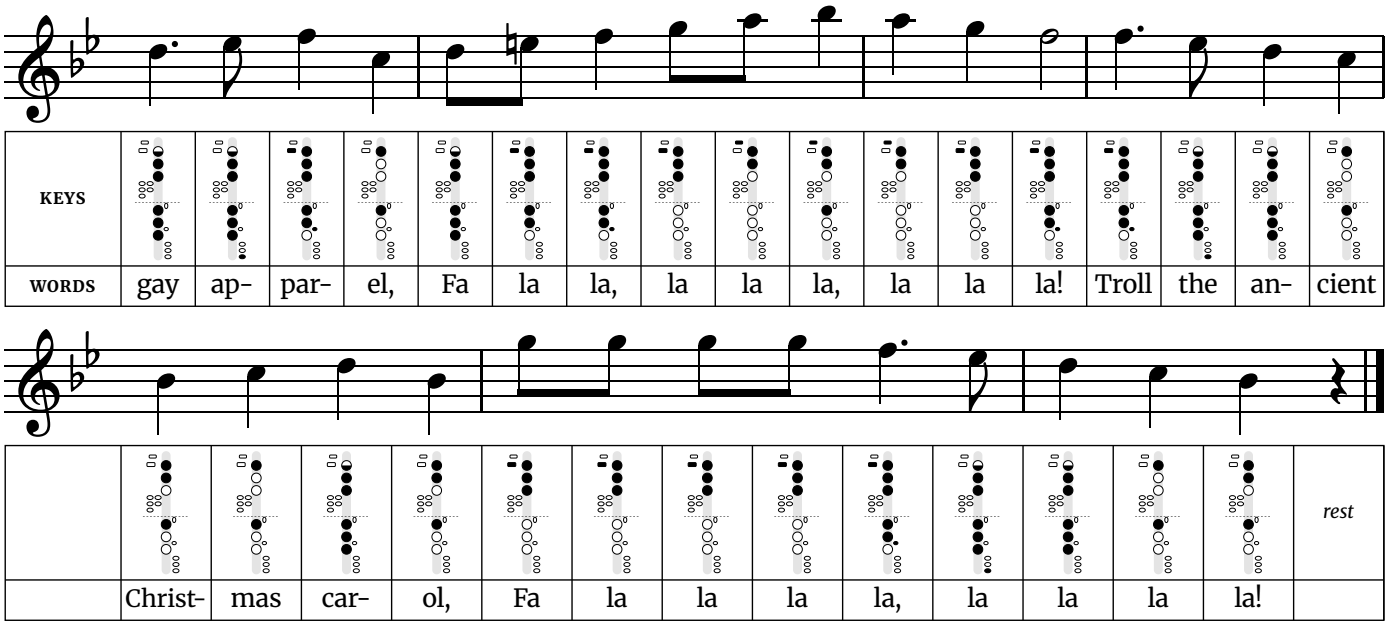
Music: English traditional (West Country). Words not shown.

Deck the Halls

Harder · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 10 notes, A4 to B♭5



Deck the Halls *(continued)*



Fingerings used in this song	
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
D5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	**A5** – Left hand: side octave key, 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
E♭5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.	**B♭5** – Left hand: side octave key, 1, 2. Right hand: 1.

Tip: The third phrase climbs to the highest note of the carol in one long run of fa-las. Take a full breath before it and play it as one phrase.

One note falls outside the key: E5 in line 4.

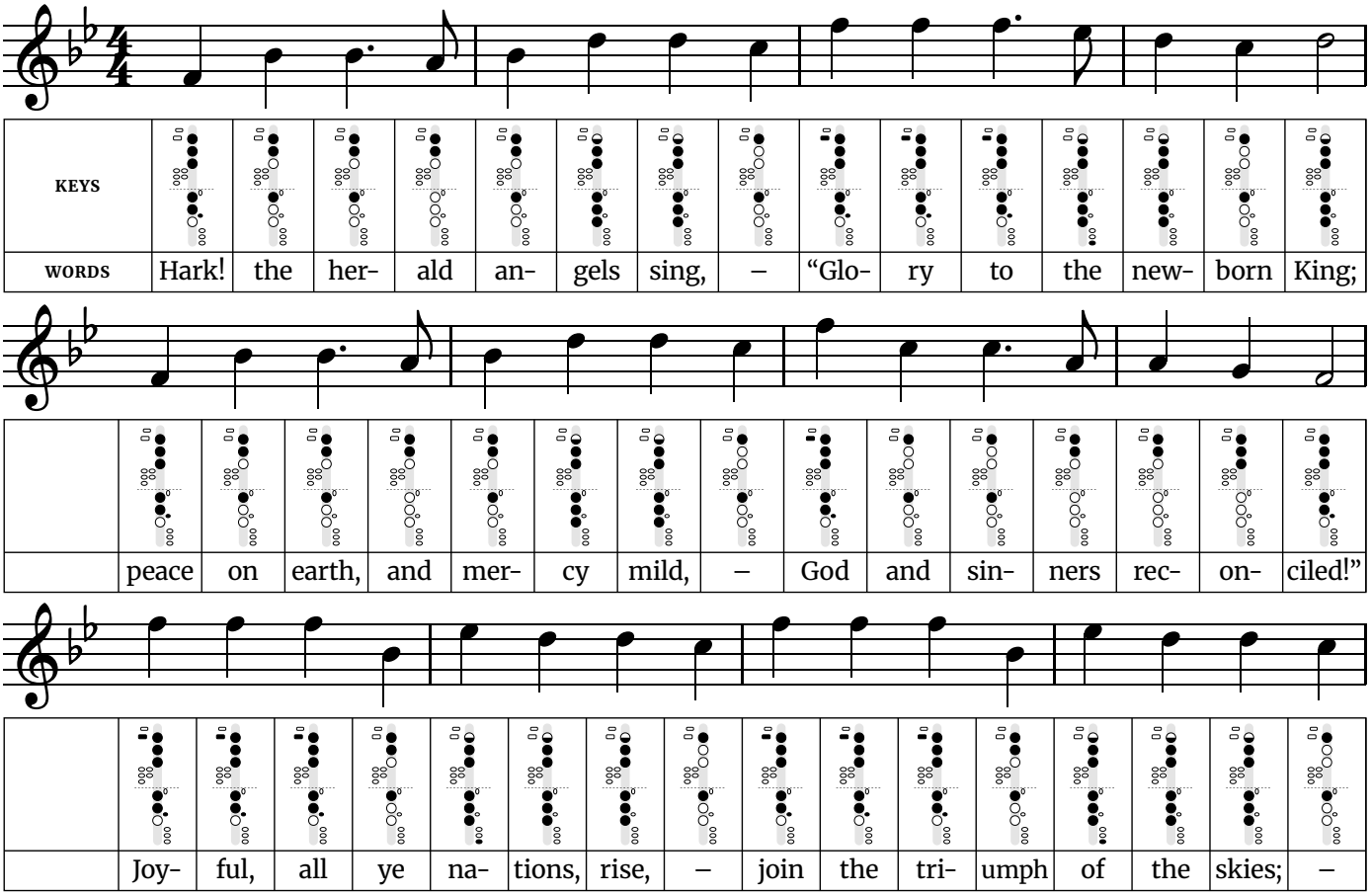
The widest jump is a sixth, up from B♭4 to G5 in line 5.

Words: Thomas Oliphant (1862), as revised in 1877. Music: Welsh traditional ("Nos Galan").

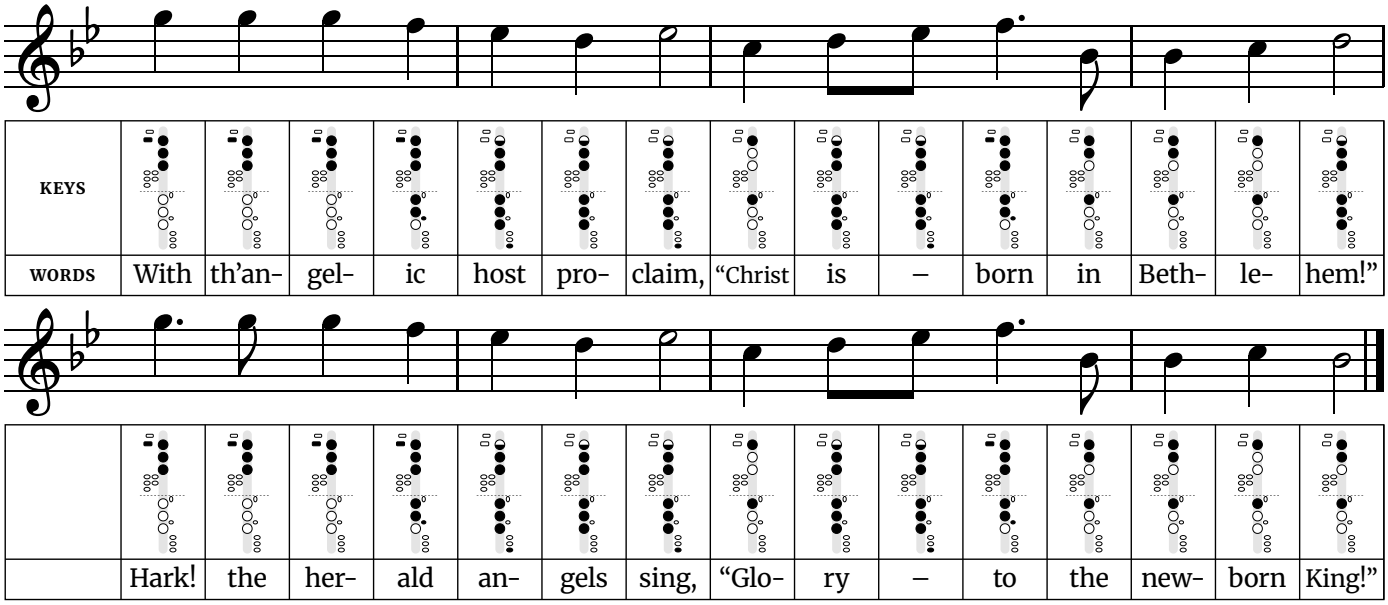
Free at thefingeringchart.com

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Harder · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 9 notes, F4 to G5



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *(continued)*



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	

Tip: It is long, with five phrases and no rests to speak of. Breathe at the commas in the words, and save air for the last two phrases, which sit highest.

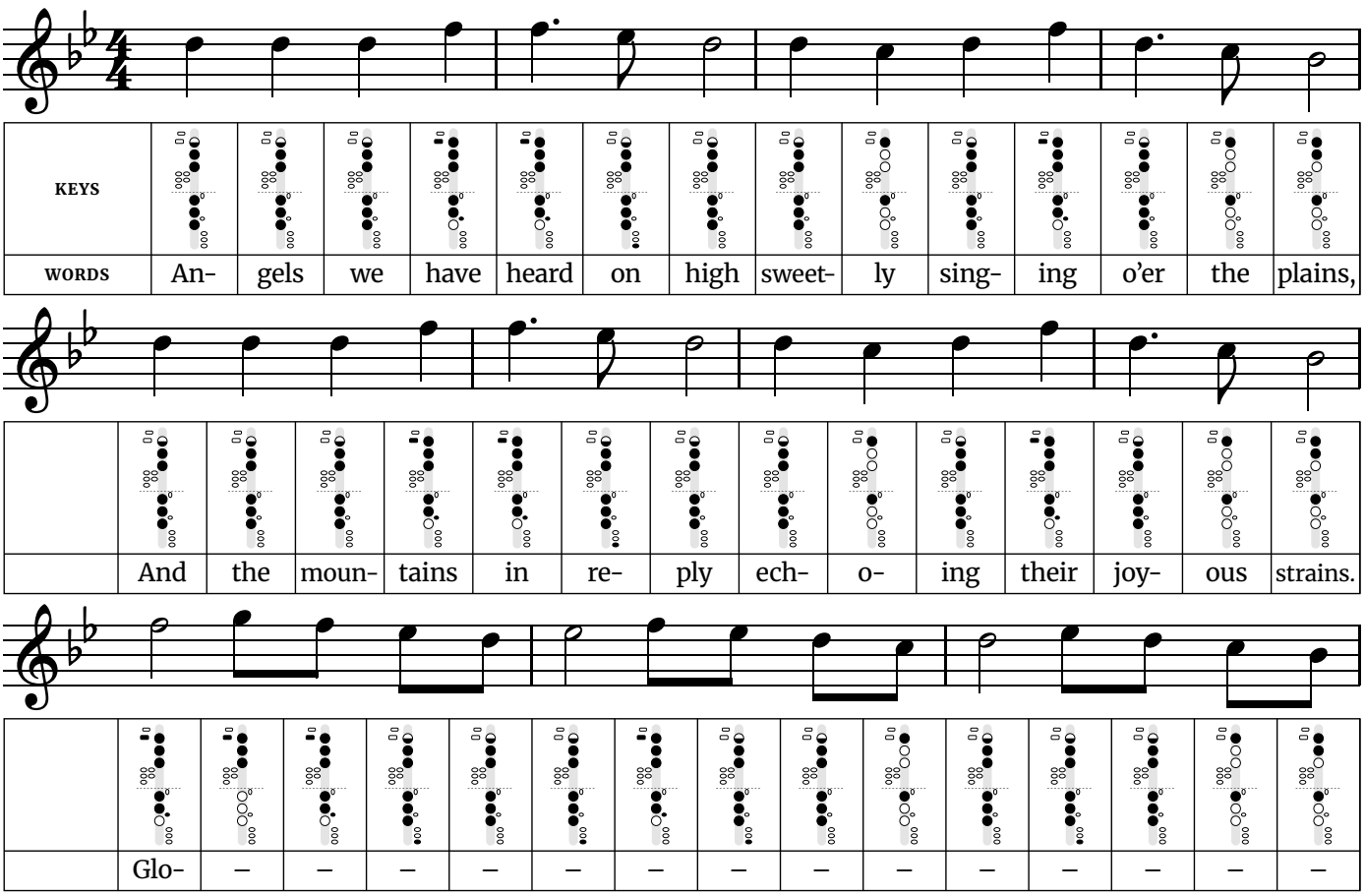
The widest jump is an octave, up from F4 to F5 in line 3.

The busiest finger change is E♭5 to C5, where 6 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

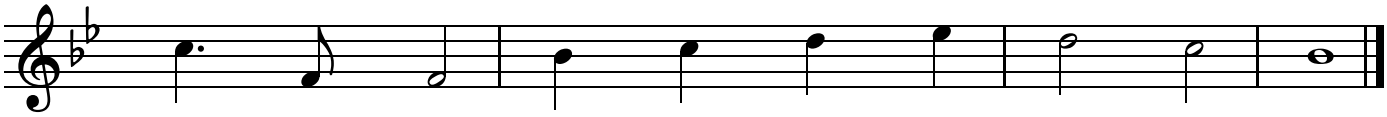
Words: Charles Wesley (1739), altered by George Whitefield. Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1840).

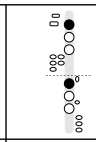
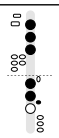
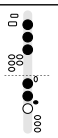
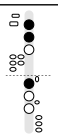
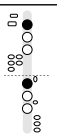
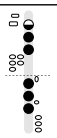
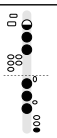
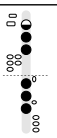
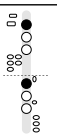
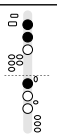
Angels We Have Heard on High

Harder · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 7 notes, F4 to G5



Angels We Have Heard on High *(continued)*



KEYS										
WORDS	–	ri-	a	in	ex-	cel-	sis	De-	–	o!

Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
D5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	

Tip: The Gloria run is the hard part: 16 notes on one syllable. Slur it, learn it slowly in groups of four, and take a full breath just before it starts.

The widest jump is a fifth, down from C5 to F4 in line 4.

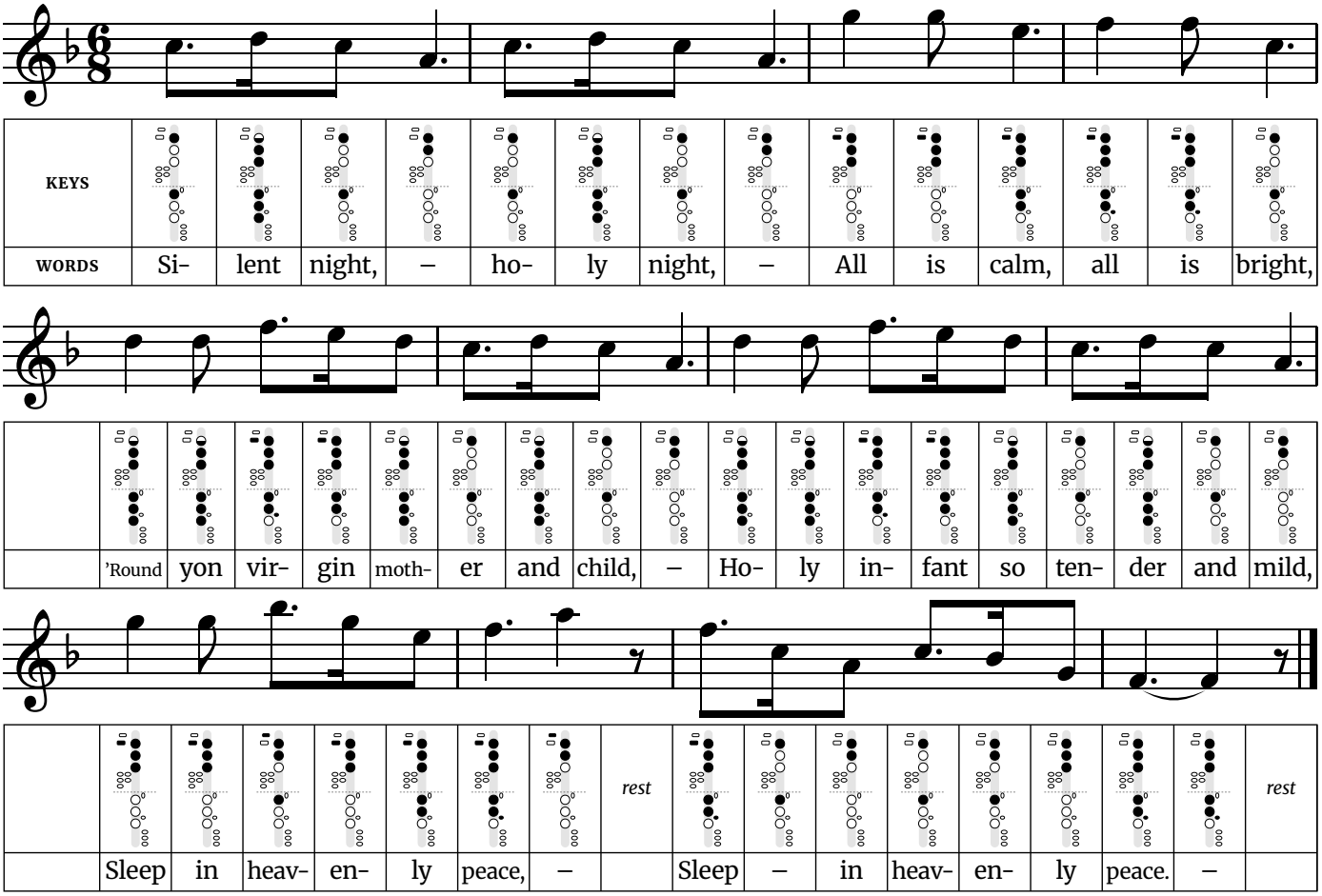
The busiest finger change is F5 to E♭5, where 5 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words: James Chadwick (1862), after the French carol "Les Anges dans nos campagnes". Music: "Gloria", French traditional. The Gloria is printed once, as in the 1891 Parish Choir setting.

Free at thefingeringchart.com

Silent Night

Harder · Written in F major (concert pitch) · 6/8 time · 11 notes, F4 to B♭5



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**E5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**A5** – Left hand: side octave key, 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	**B♭5** – Left hand: side octave key, 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
D5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	

Tip: This has the widest range of the Christmas songs and the slowest tempo. The work is in the air, not the fingers: play each phrase in one breath and keep the long notes steady to the very end.

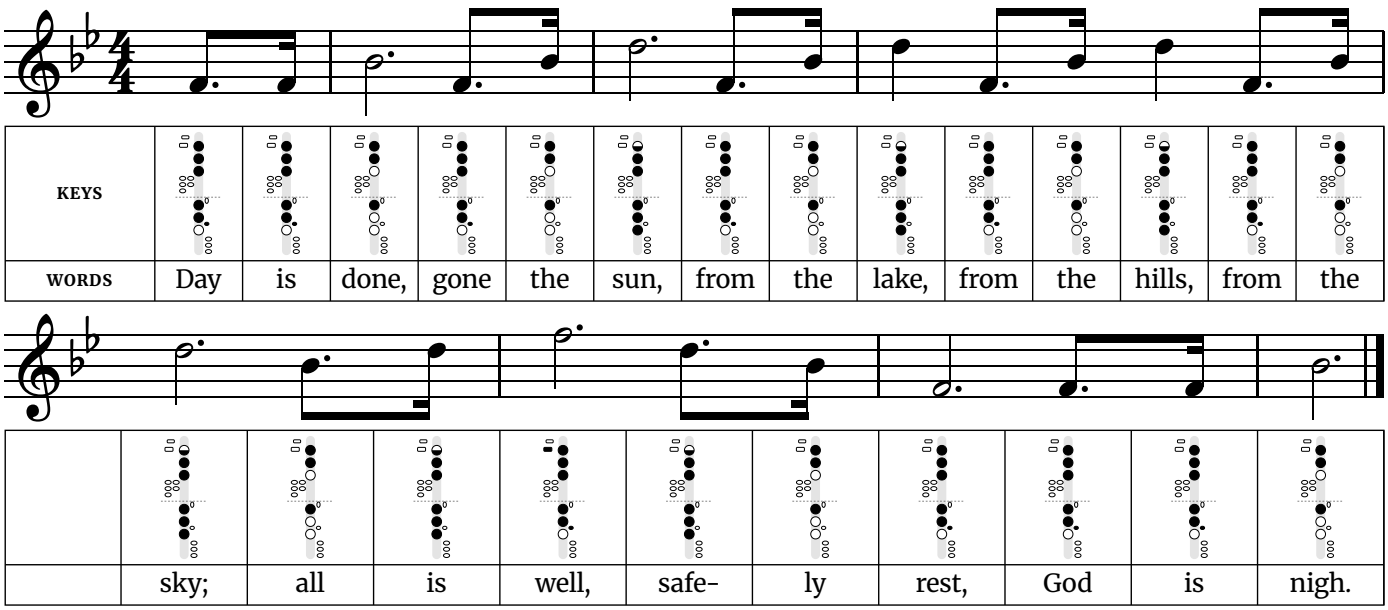
The widest jump is a minor seventh, up from A4 to G5 in line 3.

The busiest finger change is F5 to A5, where 6 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1816), English by John Freeman Young (1859). Music: Franz Xaver Gruber (1818).

Taps

Easy · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 4 notes, F4 to F5



Fingerings used in this song
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
D5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
F5 – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).

Tip: Taps is played slowly and freely, so let each long note ring for its full length before you move on. Keep the short pickup notes light, keep the volume steady through each held note, and don't hurry it.

The widest jump is a sixth, down from D5 to F4 in line 1.

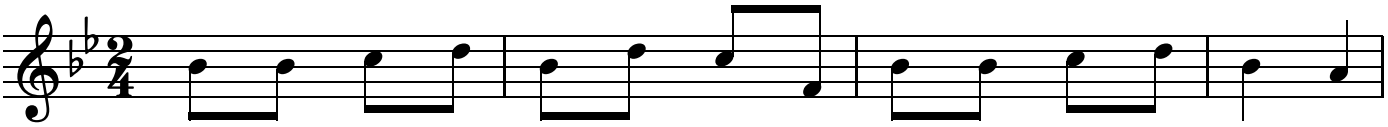
The busiest finger change is B♭4 to D5, where 4 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Music: arranged by Daniel Butterfield (1862). Words: traditional, not official.

Free at thefingeringchart.com

Yankee Doodle

Easy · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 2/4 time · 9 notes, D4 to E♭5



KEYS														
WORDS	Yan-	kee	Doo-	dle	went	to	town,	a-	rid-	ing	on	a	po-	ny;



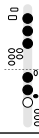
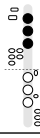
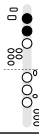
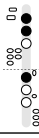
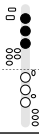
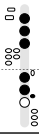
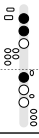
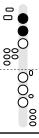
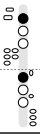
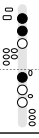
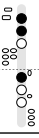
	Stuck	a	fea-	ther	in	his	cap	and	called	it	mac-	a-	ro-	ni.	*rest*



	Yan-	kee	Doo-	dle,	keep	it	up,	*rest*	Yan-	kee	Doo-	dle	dan-	–	dy,	*rest*

Yankee Doodle *(continued)*



KEYS																*rest*
WORDS	Mind	the	mu-	sic	and	the	step,	and	with	the	girls	be	han-	dy.	

Fingerings used in this song	
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	**B♭4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	

Tip: The verse moves in steady eighth notes. Tongue every note separately and keep them even, and keep the dotted pairs in the chorus short-long-short, like a march.

The widest jump is a fifth, down from C5 to F4 in line 1.

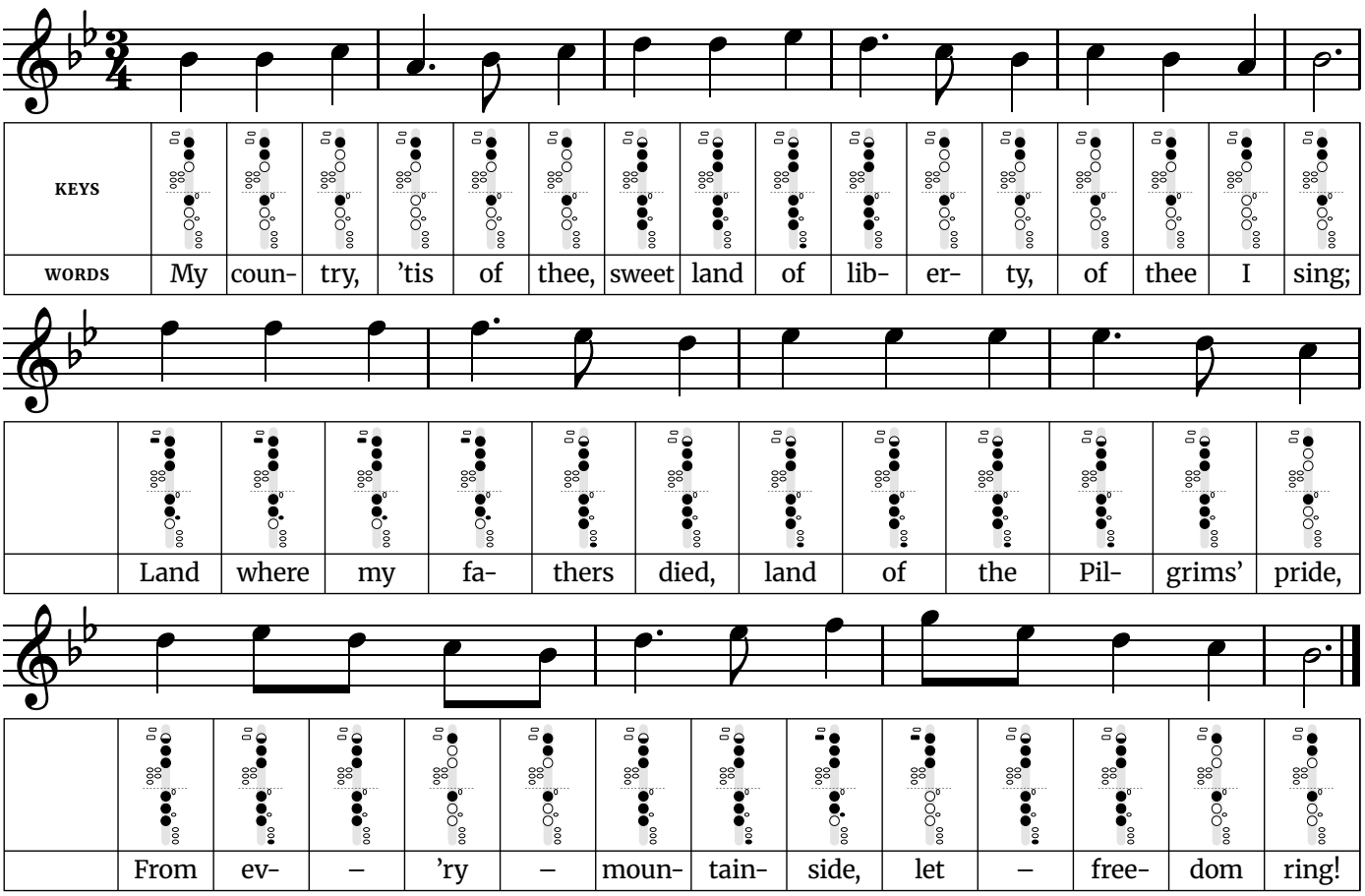
The busiest finger change is C5 to D5, where 5 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Music: traditional (known by the 1750s). Words: traditional verse; chorus as printed in The Everyday Song Book (1927).

Free at thefingeringchart.com

My Country, ’Tis of Thee

Easy · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 3/4 time · 7 notes, A4 to G5



Fingerings used in this song	
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**E♭5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
D5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	

Tip: This is a slow waltz with three beats to a bar. The dotted quarter and eighth pairs (“coun-try”, “lib-er-ty”) are the main rhythm, so count them carefully. Give the last note of each phrase all three beats.

The widest jump is a fifth, up from B♭4 to F5 in line 2.

The busiest finger change is G5 to E♭5, where 6 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words: Samuel Francis Smith (1831). Music: the tune of “God Save the King” (anonymous, 1740s).

America the Beautiful

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 10 notes, C4 to D5



Fingerings used in this song	
C4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky C key.	**A4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	**B♭4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.	**B4** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: nothing down.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.

Tip: Every phrase starts with the same short-long pattern ("O beau-ti-ful"). Keep the eighth note short, then breathe at the end of each phrase so the next one starts on time.

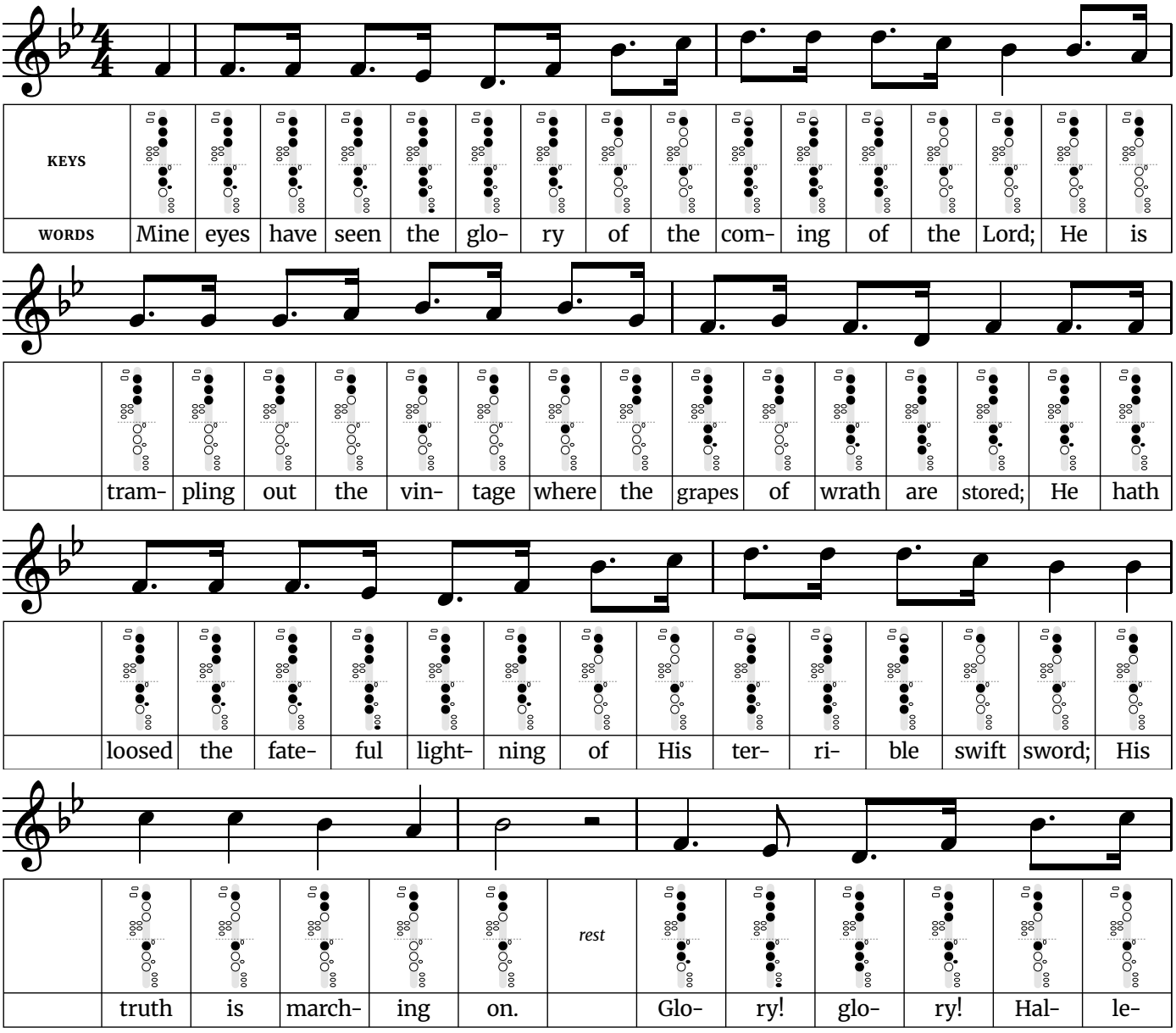
One note falls outside the key: B4 in line 2.

Words: Katharine Lee Bates (1895, revised 1911). Music: "Materna" by Samuel A. Ward (1882).

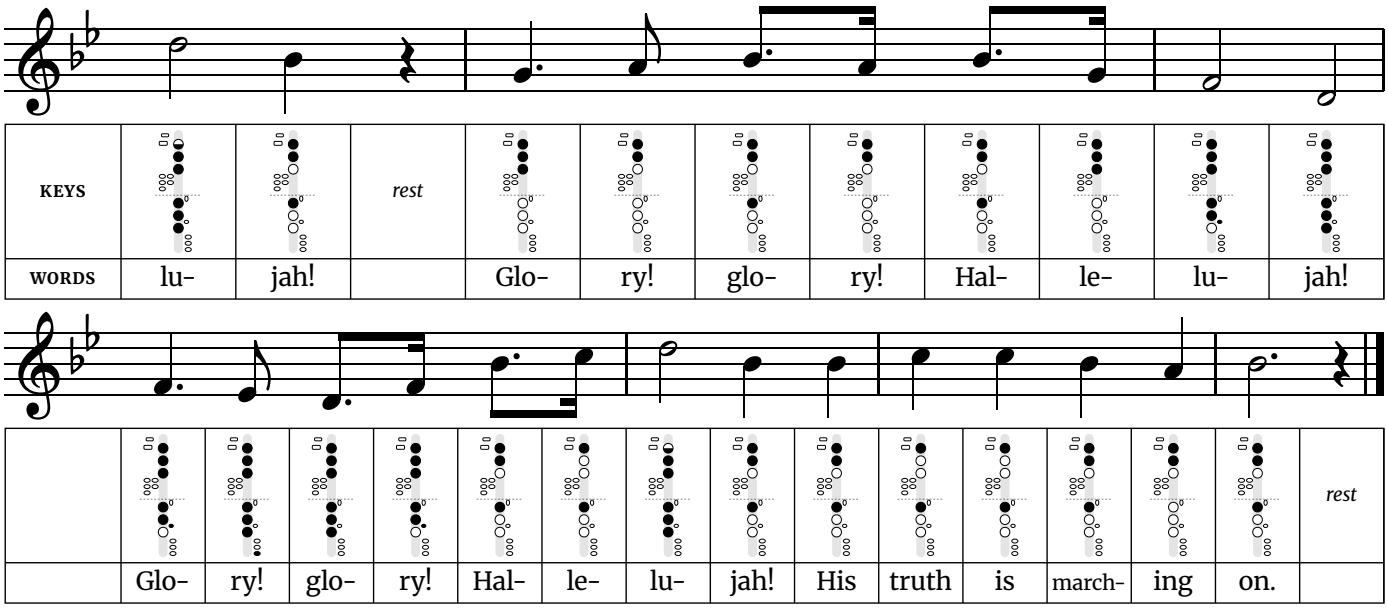
Free at thefingeringchart.com

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Medium · Written in B♭ major (concert pitch) · 4/4 time · 8 notes, D4 to D5



Battle Hymn of the Republic *(continued)*



Fingerings used in this song	
D4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	**A4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
E♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3, pinky E♭ key.	**B♭4** – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**C5** – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.

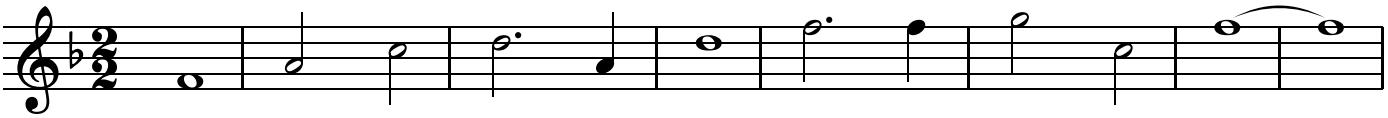
Tip: The verse is almost all dotted-eighth and sixteenth pairs. Make the long note of each pair three times as long as the short one, not a lazy swing. Then let the Glory, glory, hallelujah chorus broaden out.

The busiest finger change is C5 to D5, where 5 keys or holes move at once. Practice that pair slowly on its own until both notes speak cleanly.

Words: Julia Ward Howe (1861). Music: "John Brown's Body", from a camp-meeting tune credited to William Steffe (1856).

Anchors Aweigh

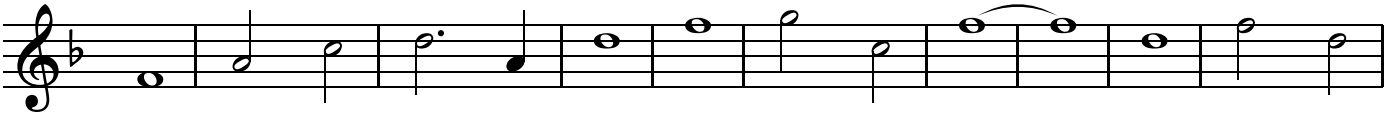
Harder · Written in F major (concert pitch) · 2/2 time · 11 notes, F4 to A5



KEYS												
WORDS	An-	chors	a-	weigh,	my	boys,	An-	–	chors	a-	weigh!	–



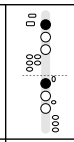
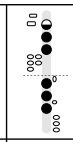
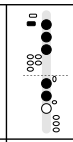
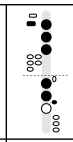
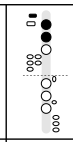
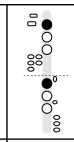
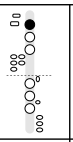
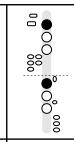
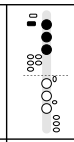
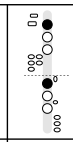
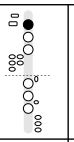
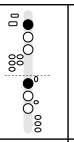
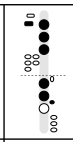
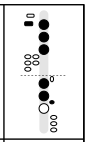
	Fare-	well	to	col-	lege	joys,	we	sail	at	break	of	day-	ay-	ay-	ay.



	Through	our	last	night	on	shore,	drink	to	the	foam,	–	Un-	til	we	

Anchors Aweigh *(continued)*



KEYS						*rest*					*rest*					
WORDS	meet	once	more,	here's	wish-		ing	you	a	hap-		py	voy-	age	home!	–

Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**D5** – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.
G4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.	**E5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
B♭4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: 1.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
B4 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: nothing down.	**A5** – Left hand: side octave key, 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	

Tip: It is a march counted in two big beats per bar, so the whole notes are long. Hold "boys", "aweigh" and "foam" for their full length. Then tongue the quick notes near the end ("here's wishing you a happy voyage") lightly.

One note falls outside the key: B4 in line 2.

The widest jump is a sixth, down from A5 to C5 in line 4.

Music: Charles A. Zimmermann (1906). Words of this verse: 1926 revision of Alfred Hart Miles's 1906 lyrics.

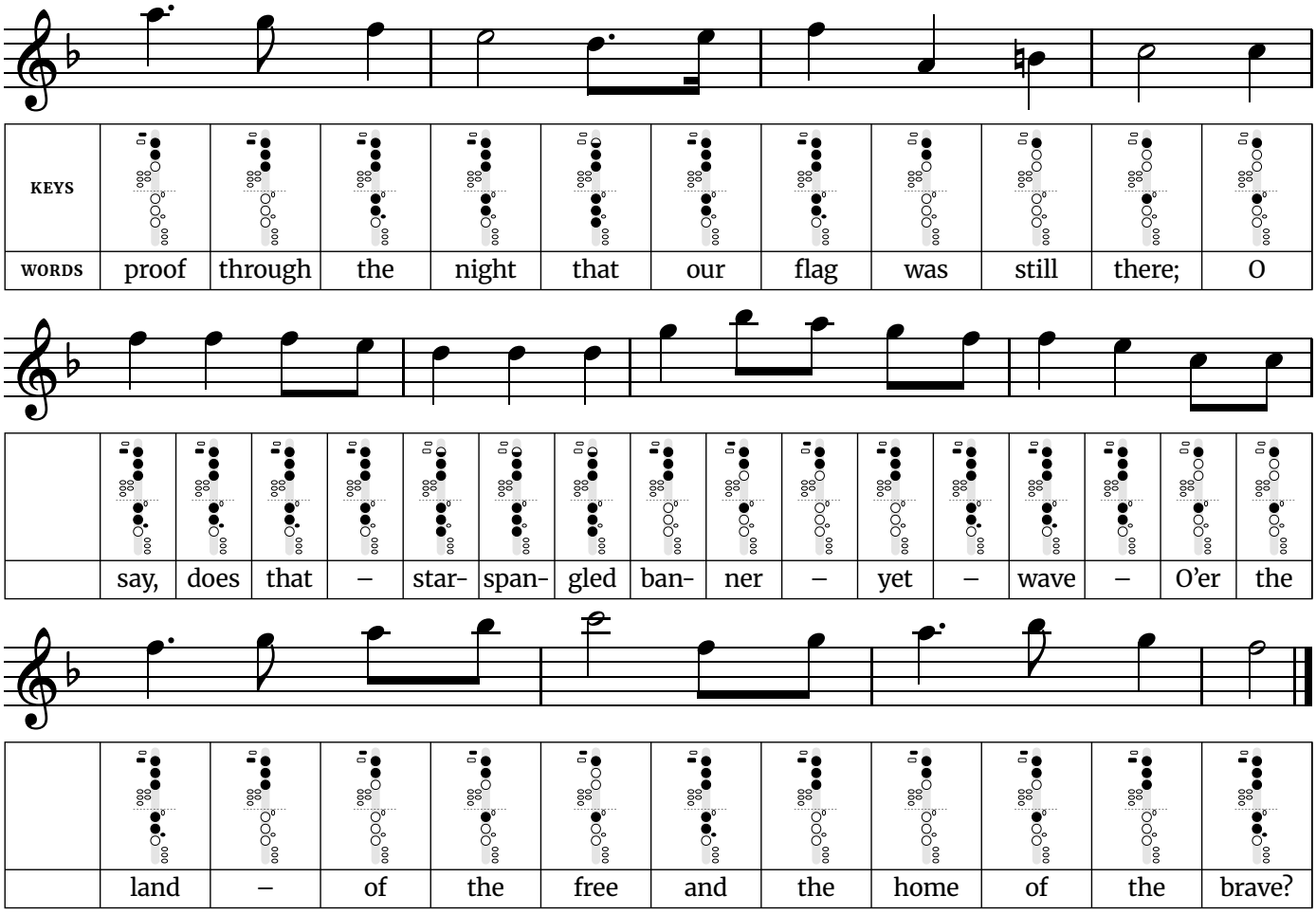
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The Star-Spangled Banner

Harder · Written in F major (concert pitch) · 3/4 time · 11 notes, F4 to C6



The Star-Spangled Banner *(continued)*



Fingerings used in this song	
F4 – Left hand: 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).	**F5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, F key (ring finger).
A4 – Left hand: 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.	**G5** – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: nothing down.
B4 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: nothing down.	**A5** – Left hand: side octave key, 1, 2. Right hand: nothing down.
C5 – Left hand: 1. Right hand: 1.	**B♭5** – Left hand: side octave key, 1, 2. Right hand: 1.
D5 – Left hand: half-hole 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2, 3.	**C6** – Left hand: side octave key, 1. Right hand: 1.
E5 – Left hand: thumb octave key, 1, 2, 3. Right hand: 1, 2.	

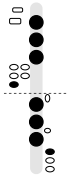
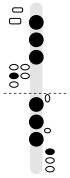
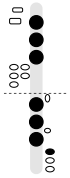
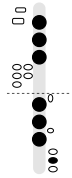
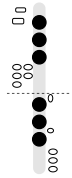
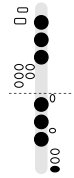
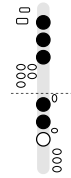
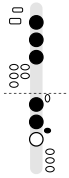
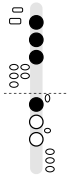
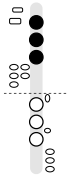
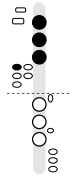
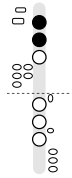
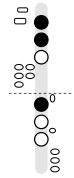
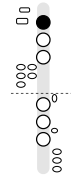
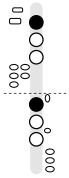
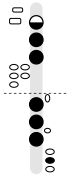
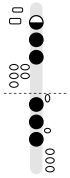
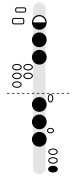
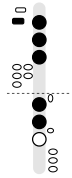
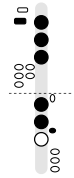
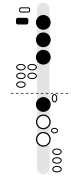
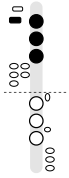
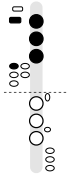
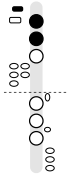
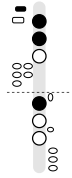
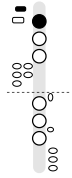
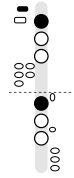
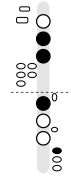
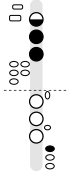
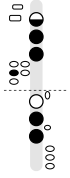
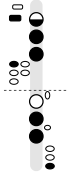
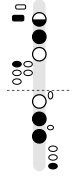
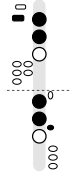
Tip: The anthem covers the widest range of the patriotic songs, so practice the high part ("And the rockets' red glare") and the last phrase slowly before playing it straight through. Take a full breath before each of those phrases.

One note falls outside the key: B4 in line 1.

The widest jump is a tenth, up from F4 to A5 in line 4.

Words: Francis Scott Key (1814). Music: "To Anacreon in Heaven" by John Stafford Smith (c. 1773). Service version of 1918.

Every Note at a Glance

A♯3 / B♭3 	**B3** 	**C4** 	**C♯4 / D♭4** 	**D4** 	**D♯4 / E♭4** 	**E4** 
F4 	**F♯4 / G♭4** 	**G4** 	**G♯4 / A♭4** 	**A4** 	**A♯4 / B♭4** 	**B4** 
C5 	**C♯5 / D♭5** 	**D5** 	**D♯5 / E♭5** 	**E5** 	**F5** 	**F♯5 / G♭5** 
G5 	**G♯5 / A♭5** 	**A5** 	**A♯5 / B♭5** 	**B5** 	**C6** 	**C♯6 / D♭6** 
D6 	**D♯6 / E♭6** 	**E6** 	**F6** 	**F♯6 / G♭6** 		

Oboe sounds as written (concert pitch).

Black: press the key or cover the hole. Half black: half-hole.

The two small bars at the top left are the octave keys: side (upper) and thumb (lower).