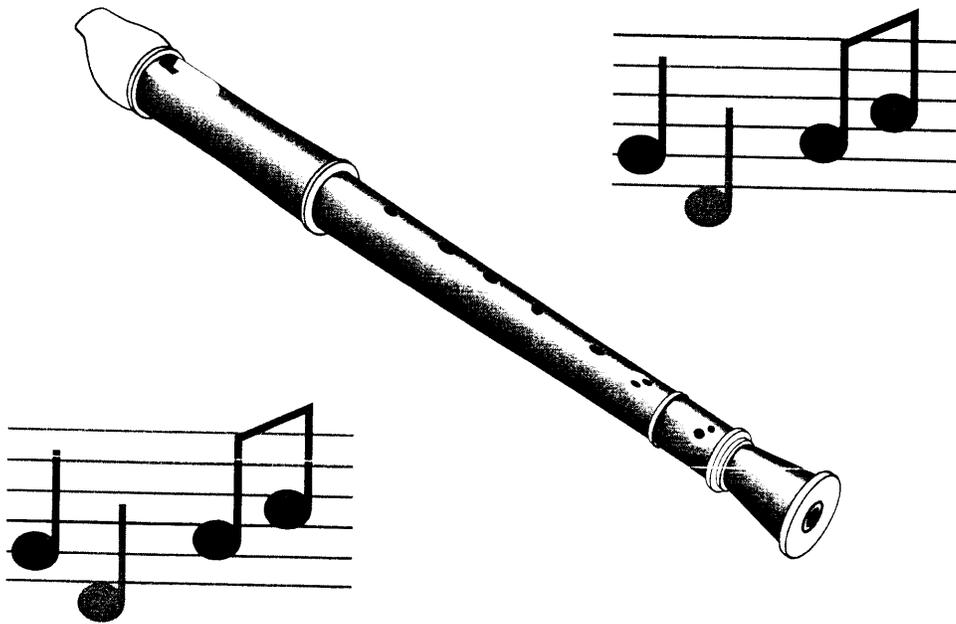


The Complete Recorder Resource



By Denise Gagne

Published by Themes & Variations

The Complete Recorder Resource

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All About The Recorder

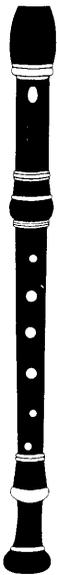
The recorder is a very old instrument. The recorder was popular during the 16th and 17th centuries. Many famous composers of that time, including **Bach, Handel, and Telemann**, wrote music for the recorder. The recorder is made in five different sizes. The smallest is a **descant** or **sopranino** recorder. The recorder that beginners usually play is the **soprano** recorder. There is also an **alto, tenor** and a **bass** recorder. These five recorders can play five part music, just like a choir can sing in four or five parts. A recorder choir is called a **consort**.

All the recorders have eight holes. The **LEFT** hand covers the thumb hole at the back of the recorder and the first three holes. The **RIGHT** hand covers the four holes at the bottom of the recorder. (Some recorders have divided holes at the bottom.)

Sound is made by blowing softly into the recorder mouthpiece. It is very easy to overblow the recorder and make a harsh ugly sound. Blowing softly and steadily makes the best sound. Each note should be started with the syllable 'doo' or 'too'. This is called **tonguing** the note. The air should be continuous, interrupted only briefly by the tongue when a new note is begun.

How to Care for the Recorder

1. Recorders all look alike. Put your name on your recorder and on your case with a permanent marker. If you forget your recorder in the music room, your teacher will know it is yours.
2. Be careful not to bang the recorder against anything. Plastic can chip or crack.
3. Keep the mouthpiece clean. You can use a small brush or a pipe cleaner and water to wash out your mouthpiece.
4. Plastic recorders can be washed once in a while in warm, soapy water.
5. If your recorder is hard to put together, you can put a little Vaseline on the joints. If the joints are clean, they shouldn't need anything.
6. Keep your recorder in its case when you are not using it.
7. After playing, clean out the inside of your recorder with a narrow piece of cloth wound around the cleaning rod.

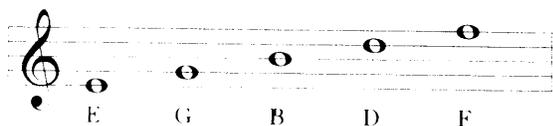


Supplies Needed to Care for the Recorder:

- * A cleaning rod and a narrow piece of cloth
- * A small mouthpiece brush or a pipe cleaner

How Notes are Named

Music is written on a staff. The staff has five lines. Notes can be written on each of the lines, or in the spaces between the lines.

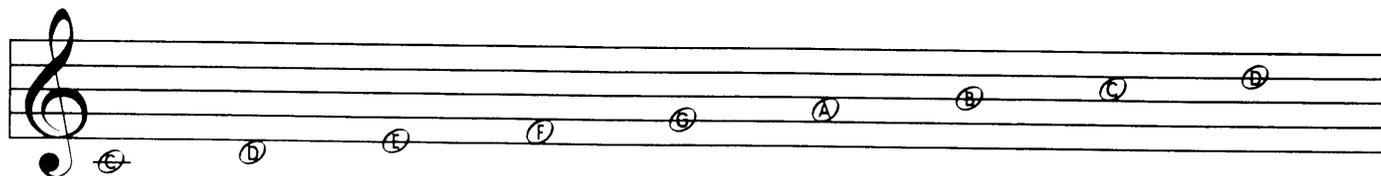


Notes on Lines

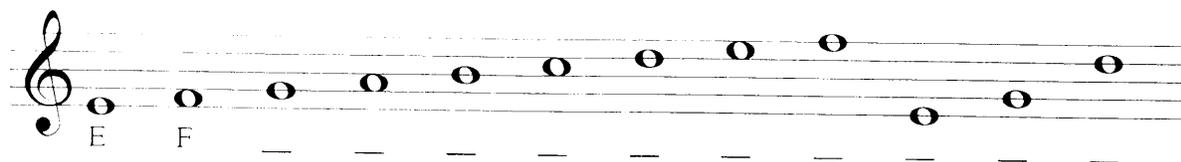


Notes in Spaces

There is a clef at the beginning of every staff. The clef used for the recorder is the treble clef. The treble clef circles the note G, and is sometimes called the G clef. The first seven letters of the alphabet, A-G, are used to name notes. Notes are named in order - A B C D E F G. After G is named, the letters are used again beginning with A.



Practice Naming Notes: Write the letter name of each note on the line below it. The first two notes are done for you.



Counting Music

The table below shows most of the notes you will be using in this recorder method. It tells the name of the note, a rhythm name that you can call it, and how many beats the note will get in 4/4 time.

| | | | |
|----------------------|----|---------------|-------------------|
| Quarter note | ♪ | (ta) | 1 beat |
| Pair of eighth notes | ♪♪ | (ti-ti) | together = 1 beat |
| Half note | ♩ | (too-oo) | 2 beats |
| Dotted half note | ♩. | (three-ee-ee) | 3 beats |
| Whole note | ♩ | (fo-o-o-our) | 4 beats |

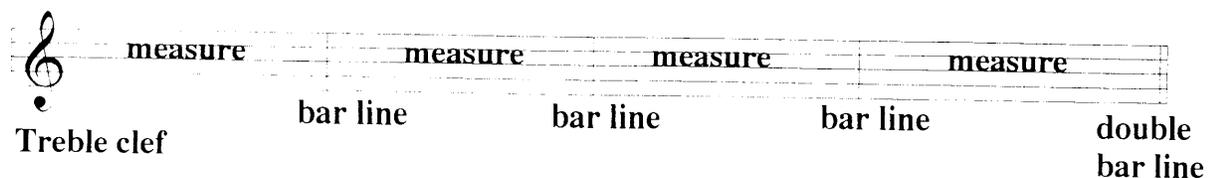
A rest is a silent beat. The table below shows most of the rests you will be using in the recorder method. It tells the name of the rest, a rhythm name that you can call it, and how many beats the rest will get in 4/4 time.

| | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|---------|
| Quarter rest | ♩ | (sh) | 1 beat |
| Half rest | - | (re-est) | 2 beats |
| Whole rest | - | (re-e-e-est) | 4 beats |

To Do: Tell how many beats each note or rest is held for:

- | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|
| 1. ♩ | ___ beat(s) | 2. ♩ | ___ beat(s) | 3. ♩ | ___ beat(s) |
| 4. ♩ | ___ beat(s) | 5. - | ___ beat(s) | 6. ♩ | ___ beat(s) |
| 7. ♩♪ | ___ beat(s) | 8. - | ___ beat(s) | | |

Music is divided into short sections called **measures** or **bars**. The measures are marked off by **bar lines**. There is a **double bar line** at the end of each piece of music.

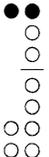


Let's Begin:

Whisper this pattern: doo doo doo doo doo....doo..... doo doo doo doo doo..... When you say doo, your tongue lets the air out. This is called tonguing. You should blow into your recorder the same way, connecting the notes.

Cover the hole at the back of the recorder with your left thumb, and the top hole of the recorder with your left pointer finger and play this pattern on the note B.

B:



B

Always blow gently.....whisper warm air into the recorder.

1. Just B

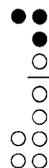
2 bar intro



Cover the hole at the back of the recorder with your left thumb, and the top two holes of the recorder with your pointer and middle fingers and play this pattern on the note A:



Remember to blow gently and to begin each note with doo.



A

2. Just A

2 bar intro



3. A and B Blues

2 bar intro

Three staves of musical notation in treble clef, common time (C). The first staff contains a 2-bar introduction: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note G4. The second staff contains a 2-bar introduction: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note G4. The third staff contains a 2-bar introduction: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note G4.

A diagram of a guitar fretboard showing the G string. A single dot is placed on the first fret of the G string, with the letter 'G' written below it.

A diagram showing the finger placement for the G note. It consists of a vertical line with five dots. The top three dots are solid black, and the bottom two dots are hollow circles.

4. Just G

2 bar intro

Two staves of musical notation in treble clef, common time (C). The first staff contains a 2-bar introduction: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note G4. The second staff contains a 2-bar introduction: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note G4.

Name your Notes:

Two staves of musical notation in treble clef, common time (C). The first staff contains a sequence of notes: B4, A4, G4, followed by a series of blank lines. The second staff contains a sequence of notes: B4, A4, G4, followed by a series of blank lines.

5. G and A Blues

2 bar intro

Three staves of musical notation in treble clef, common time (C). The first staff contains a 2-bar intro followed by a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The second and third staves contain a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2.

6. Side Step

2 bar intro

Two staves of musical notation in treble clef, common time (C). The first staff contains a 2-bar intro followed by a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The second staff contains a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2.

7. Au clair de la lune

2 bar intro (repeats)

Two staves of musical notation in treble clef, common time (C). The first staff contains a 2-bar intro followed by a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The second staff contains a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2.



Au claire de la lu - ne mon a - mi Pier - rot,
 Pre - te moi ta plu - me pour e - crire un mot.

Au clair de la lune
 Mon ami Pierrot,
 Prête-moi ta plume
 Pour écrire un mot.
 Ma chandelle est morte,
 Je n'ai plus de feu.
 Ouvre-moi ta porte,
 Pour l'amour de Dieu!

*In the light of the moon
 My friend Pierrot,
 Lend your feather (pen) to me
 To write a word.
 My candle is finished
 I don't have any fire. (light)
 Open your door to me,
 For the love of God!*

8. Hot Cross Buns Theme and Variations

2 bar intro

Theme: Traditional

Hot cross buns, hot cross buns,
One a pen-ny, two a pen - ny, hot cross buns.

Variation 1:

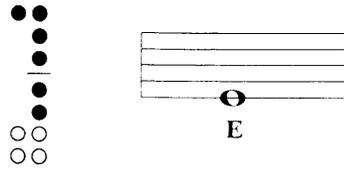
Variation 2:



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

1756-1791

Mozart is often thought of as the most brilliant composer ever known. He was born in Austria in 1756. His father was one of the town's best music teachers, Leopold Mozart. By age four, Mozart began to study the keyboard and learned at an incredible rate. When Wolfgang was six, Leopold took his son and daughter on tour through the courts of Europe. When Wolfgang was seven, his first published works appeared. By age 13, Mozart had written *La Finta Semplice*, his first opera. In his 31 year musical career, Mozart wrote more than 600 works. Listen to some of Mozart's variations on "Ah vous dirais-je, Maman" K 265.



9. Starlight

2 bar intro

Traditional

Star - light, star bright, first star I see to - night,
 Wish I may, wish I might, have the wish I wish to - night.

10. Lucy Locket

2 bar intro

Traditional

Lu - cy Lock - et lost her pock - et. Kit - ty Fisch - er found it.
 Not a pen - ny was there in it, On - ly rib - bon 'round it.

11. Kagome

2 bar intro

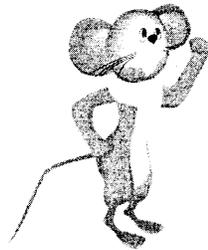
Ka - go - me, ka - go - me, Ka - go no na - ka no to - ri wa,
 I - tsu I - tsu de - a - ru? Yo - a - ke no ba - ni,
 Tsu - tu to Ka - me to su - bet - ta, U - shi - ro no sho - men da - re?

12. BAGE Blues

2 bar intro

13. Little Tommy Tiddlemouse

2 bar intro



Class plays or sings

Traditional

Pickup Note: A pickup note is a note that comes before the first complete measure of music. In "Trampin'", count one, two, three and then play the B. The B is on beat four.

14. Trampin'

2 bar intro

Spiritual

Slur: The curved line that connects different notes is a slur. This means to play without tonguing. Tongue the first note, then move your fingers to the next notes without tonguing.

15. Doggie Doggie

2 bar intro

Class plays or sings Traditional

Dog-gie, dog-gie, where's your bone? Some-one stole it from your home!

Solo 1 Solo 2:

"Who has my bone?" _____ "I have your bone." _____

16. Salish Hand Game

2 bar intro

Traditional collected by Stewart

Ho— hay ya ho— hay ya ho— hay ya hay ya hay ya

Ho— hay ya ho— hay ya ho— hay ya hay ya hay ya

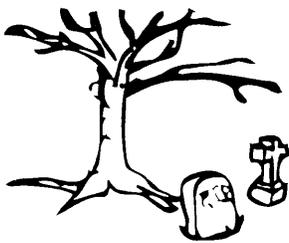
17. Skin and Bones

2 bar intro

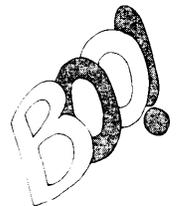
Traditional

Was an old wom - an all skin and bones,

Oo _____

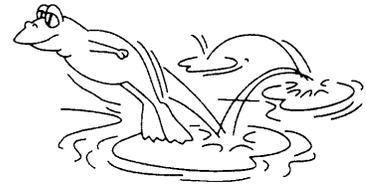
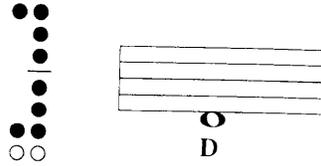


2. She lived down by the old graveyard, Oo.
3. One night she thought she'd take a walk, Oo.
4. She walked down by the old graveyard, Oo.
5. She saw the bones a layin' around, Oo.
6. She went to the closet to get a broom, Oo.
7. She opened the door and boo!



18. Frog in the Middle

2 bar intro



Traditional

Frog in the mid - dle, can't get him out,
 Take a big stick and stir him all a - bout.

19. Country Swing

2 bar intro

Name your Notes:

20. Ho Ho Watanay

2 bar intro

Iroquois

Musical notation for 'Ho Ho Watanay' in C major, 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody with a 2-bar introduction. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a repeat sign.

21. My Paddle

2 bar intro

Canadian camp song

Musical notation for 'My Paddle' in C major, 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody with a 2-bar introduction and the lyrics: "My pad - dle's keen and bright, flash - ing with sil - ver,". The second staff continues the melody and ends with a repeat sign, with the lyrics: "fol - low the wild goose flight, dip dip and swing."

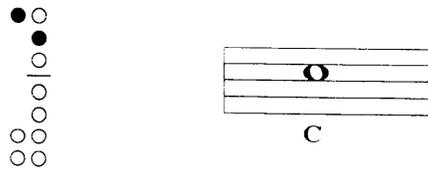
22. Rondo

2 bar intro

Musical notation for 'Rondo' in C major, 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody with a 2-bar introduction. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a repeat sign.

You create a B section

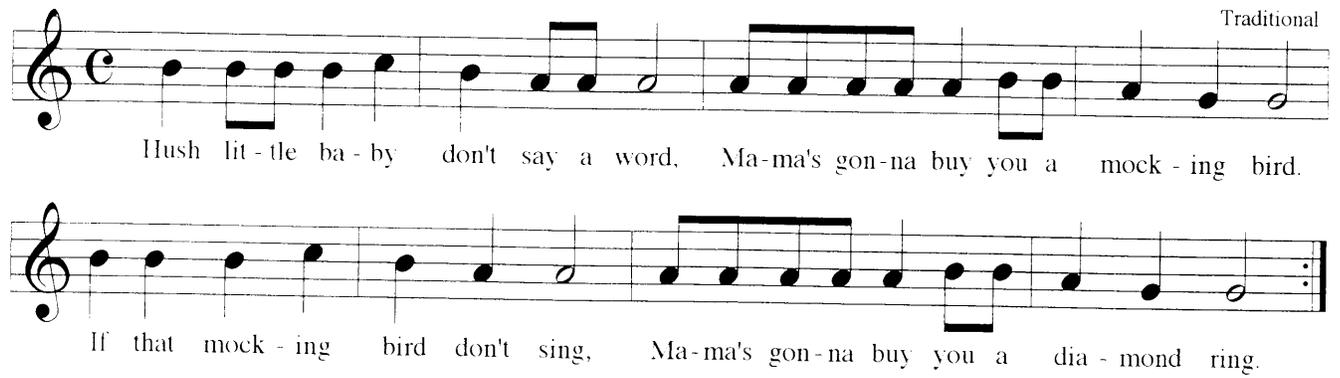
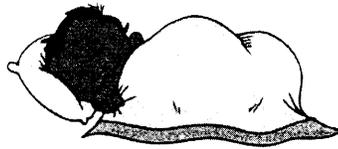
Blank musical notation for creating a B section. It consists of two staves, each divided into three measures. The second staff ends with a repeat sign and the text "3 times".



23. "C" You in Dixie
2 bar intro



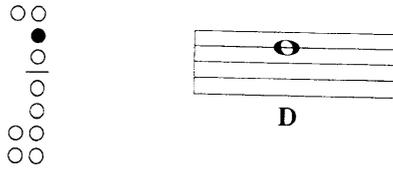
24. Hush Little Baby
2 bar intro



Name Your Notes:



27. C and D
2 bar intro



Johann Sebastian Bach
1685-1750

Johann Sebastian Bach was one of the greatest composers of the Baroque era. He was born in Germany more than 300 years ago. His family were all good musicians. When he was in school, he was a choir boy. Later, he worked playing violin in a court orchestra, and organ in several different churches. Bach was the music director at the court of Prince Leopold. At the court, he wrote church music, music for instruments and books to teach his wife and children the keyboard. Bach's music is hard to play. The player must be able to play many fast notes. Some of his pieces are very slow and expressive. Bach wrote many cantatas for church services. "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" is from Cantata 147 for chorus and orchestra.

28. Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
8 bar intro

J. S. Bach



This is a whole rest. It is a whole measure of rest in any time signature. In Jesu, Joy there are three beats in each measure, so you will rest for three beats.



Ludwig van Beethoven

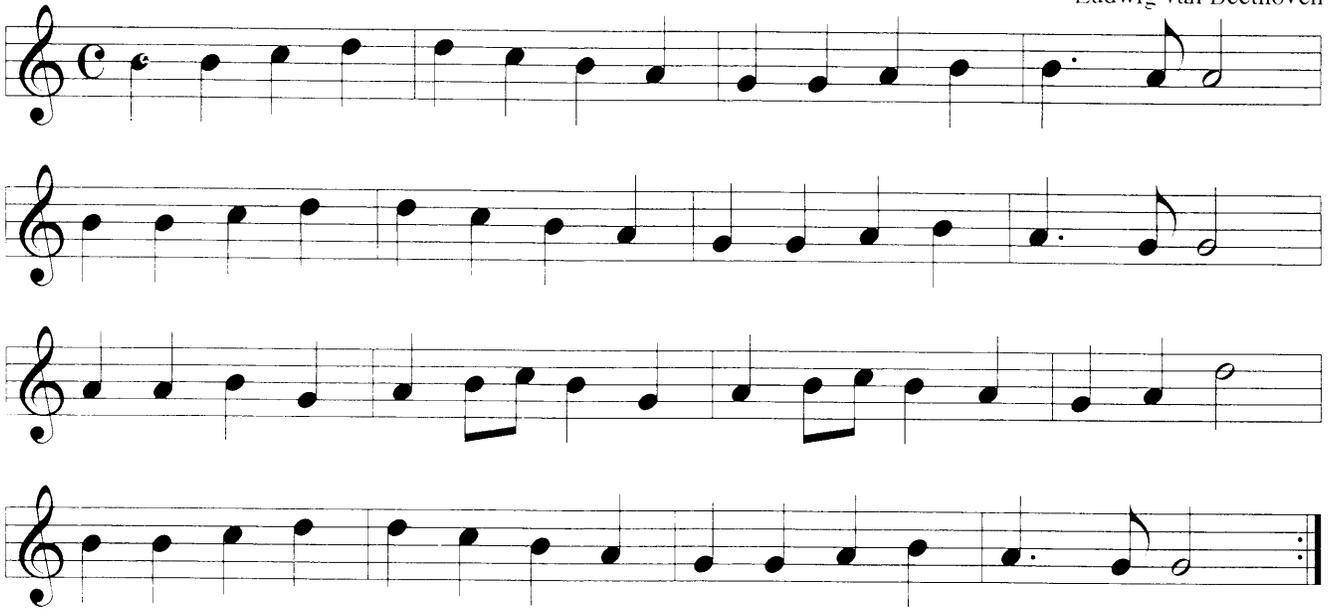
1770-1827

Ludwig van Beethoven was born in 1770. He grew up surrounded by music, as both his father and grandfather were local musicians. He became successful both as a pianist and as a composer. Beethoven began to go deaf in 1799, but he continued to write powerful pieces of music. Often his anger at his deafness showed in his music. At other times, another side of him showed in his flowing melodies. Beethoven was a popular composer. The day he died in 1827 was so sad for the people that schools closed for the day, and the military was called out to control the public. *Ode to Joy* is the famous theme from the final movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

29. Ode to Joy

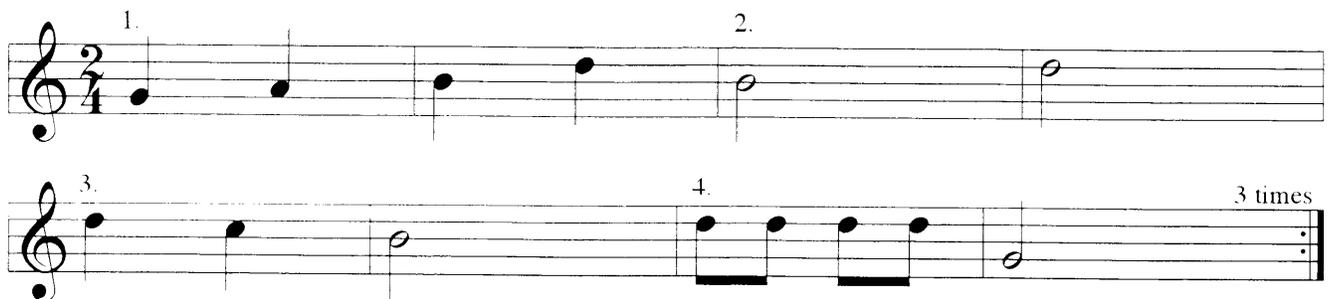
2 bar intro

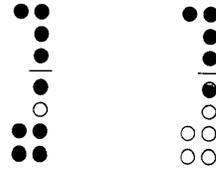
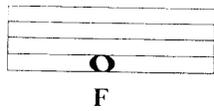
Ludwig van Beethoven



30. Renaissance Round

2 bar intro

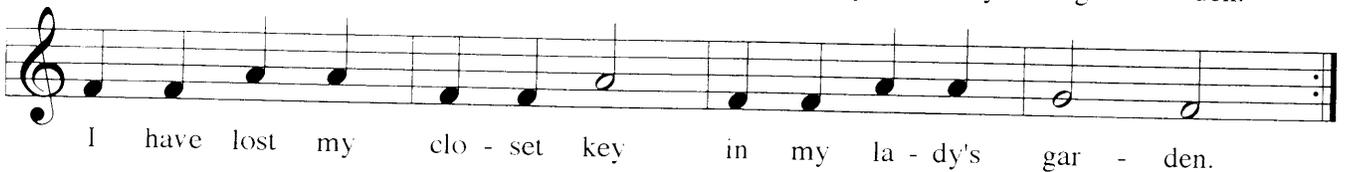
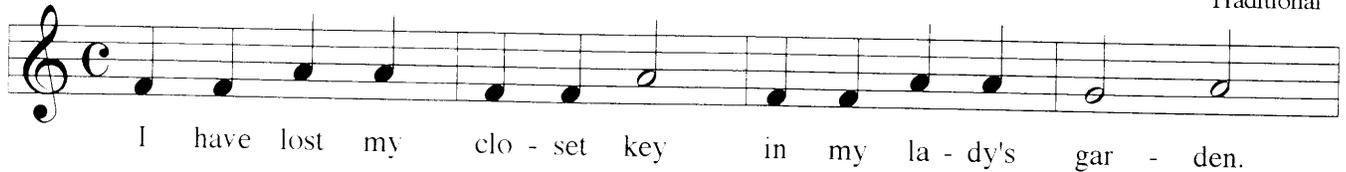




31. Closet Key

2 bar intro

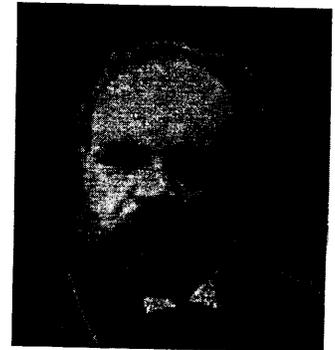
Traditional



Antonin Dvorak

1841-1904

Dvorak was born in a village in Czechoslovakia. His father played the violin and sang, and Antonin studied music with the village schoolteacher. When he was 16, he went to Prague to study organ. When he finished school, he worked in Prague playing violin in a small orchestra and in the pit orchestra of the National Theater. He continued to study music and began composing, but his works weren't performed and he didn't make any money from them. Another great Czech composer, Smetana, began performing Dvorak's pieces. This helped Dvorak in his career. Another famous composer, Johannes Brahms heard his music and also helped him in his career. Dvorak became famous throughout Europe and was often asked to conduct his works in other countries. He was hired to be the director of the National Conservatory in New York City, and lived in the United States for several years. His Symphony No. 9, *From the New World*, was written to celebrate the centennial of Columbus' discovery of America.



32. From the New World

2 bar intro

Antonin Dvorak



35. Jingle Bells

2 bar intro

James Pierpont

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way;
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse o - pen sleigh. Hey!
Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way;
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse o - pen sleigh.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in treble clef, 2/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff starts with a 2-bar intro. The lyrics are: "Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way;" followed by "Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse o - pen sleigh. Hey!" The second staff continues with "Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way;" and the third staff concludes with "Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse o - pen sleigh."



Staccato: A dot over or under a note indicates that the note is to be played staccato - in a detached style. Lightly tongue the note, separating it from the next note.

36. Jolly Old St. Nicholas

2 bar intro

Traditional

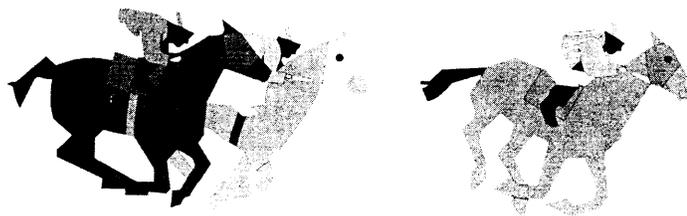
1 Jol - ly old St. Nich-o-las, lean your ear this way. Don't you tell a sin-gle soul, what I'm going to say.
2 Christ-mas Eve is com-ing soon, now you dear old man. Whis-per what you'll bring to me, tell me if you can.

The musical notation is presented in two systems. The first system has two staves, labeled 1 and 2. The second system also has two staves. The melody is written in treble clef, 2/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system's lyrics are: "Jol - ly old St. Nich-o-las, lean your ear this way. Don't you tell a sin-gle soul, what I'm going to say." The second system's lyrics are: "Christ-mas Eve is com-ing soon, now you dear old man. Whis-per what you'll bring to me, tell me if you can."



37. The C Scale

2 bar intro



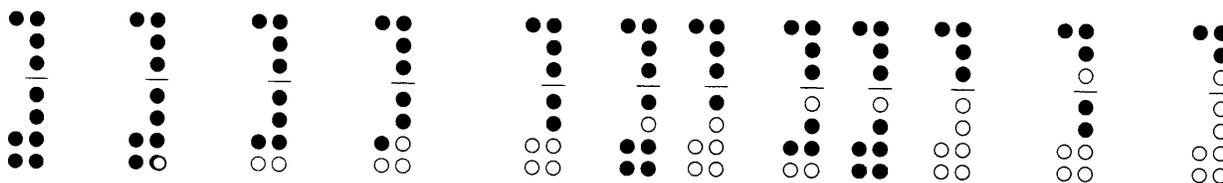
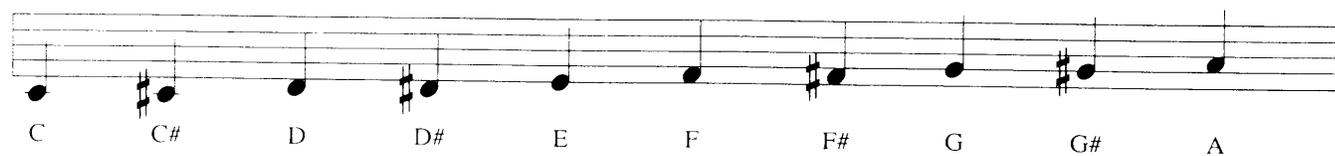
38. Camptown Races

2 bar intro

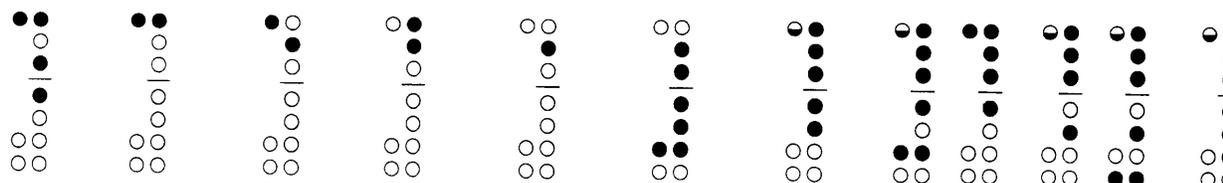
Stephen Foster



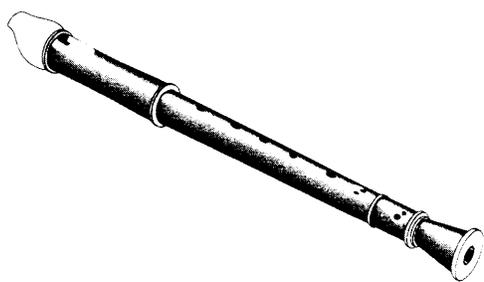
Soprano Recorder Fingerings



Baroque German Baroque German



Baroque German Baroque German



Your *left* hand goes at the top of the recorder, and is used to cover the thumb hole at the back of the recorder, and the first three holes on the front of the recorder.

Your *right* hand goes at the bottom of the recorder. You use your right hand to cover the four holes at the bottom of the recorder.

The circles on the fingering chart represent the holes on the recorder. When the circle is filled in, cover that hole. When only half the circle is filled in, cover half the hole.

Two kinds of recorders: German fingering recorders use a simple F fingering. English, or Baroque recorders use a forked F. How can you tell which recorder you have? Play an F on the piano. If your recorder sounds the same as the piano when you play the simple fingering for F, you have a German fingering recorder. If your recorder sounds higher in pitch than the piano, you need to use the Baroque fingering - the forked F to make your pitch match. On the fingering chart, the German and the Baroque fingerings are labelled. Many recorder manufacturers print the letter G or a B under the thumb hole on the back of the recorder. If your recorder has the letter G under the thumb hole, it is a German fingering recorder. If your recorder has the letter B under the thumb hole, it is a Baroque recorder.