

	Flute	Clarinet	Saxophone	Trumpet	Trombone
Embouchure Formation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Say "mm" followed by "puh"</li> <li>- Corners slightly down</li> <li>- Bottom lip covers tone hole approximately 1/3</li> <li>- Stay relaxed!</li> <li>- Reed about 1/2 inch in mouth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Top teeth on mouthpiece</li> <li>- Corners firm</li> <li>- Chin flat</li> <li>- Think about saying "ee"</li> <li>- Reed about 1/2 inch in mouth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Top teeth on mouthpiece</li> <li>- Corners in like a drawstring</li> <li>- Bottom lip rolled in slightly</li> <li>- Chin down and relaxed</li> <li>- Reed about 1/2 inch in mouth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lips towards teeth as if saying "mm"</li> <li>- Firm corners</li> <li>- Mouthpiece about 50/50 on top and bottom lips</li> <li>- Buzz</li> <li>- Mouthpiece about 60/30 on top and bottom lips</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lips towards teeth as if saying "mm"</li> <li>- Firm corners, but relaxed middle</li> <li>- Think about frowning</li> <li>- Mouthpiece about 60/30 on top and bottom lips</li> <li>- Buzz</li> </ul>
Holding Position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved</li> <li>- Fingers cover holes completely</li> <li>- Rest thumb on underside's long straight key</li> <li>- Tip of right thumb between first and second fingers</li> <li>- Pinky on E-flat key</li> <li>- Left hand second finger skips one key</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved</li> <li>- Fingers cover holes completely</li> <li>- Left hand on top</li> <li>- Left thumb on register key</li> <li>- Right thumbnail under rest</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved</li> <li>- Left hand shaped like "C"</li> <li>- Neck strap adjusted so mouthpiece comfortably reaches mouth</li> <li>- Right thumb under rest</li> <li>- Left thumb diagonally across thumb rest</li> <li>- Either to the side or between legs depending on size of the student</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved</li> <li>- Left hand shaped like "C"</li> <li>- Left ring finger in the third valve slide ring</li> <li>- Bring your right hand in for a landing</li> <li>- Right pinky stands on its stage</li> <li>- Right thumb between first and second fingers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved</li> <li>- Left thumb under bell brace with index finger on top of mouthpiece receiver</li> <li>- Place right thumb and first two fingers on the second slide brace</li> <li>- Support instrument with left hand only</li> <li>- Stand should be on the right side so the bell doesn't block the music</li> </ul>
Common Beginner Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difficulty playing in upper register</li> <li>- Poor flute angle</li> <li>- Lifting left shoulder</li> <li>- Right thumb too far forward</li> <li>- Left pinky resting under flute to hold it up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Too much mouthpiece</li> <li>- Playing over the break</li> <li>- Resting bell between knees</li> <li>- Bumping side keys</li> <li>- Fingers not covering holes completely</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Too much mouthpiece</li> <li>- Resting between knees</li> <li>- Biting the reed</li> <li>- Neck strap too low</li> <li>- Reed placed incorrectly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Too tense</li> <li>- Right pinky in ring</li> <li>- Not using third valve slide</li> <li>- Jamming mouthpiece into face</li> <li>- Arms too close to body</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Slide technique</li> <li>- Improper tonguing (slurring)</li> <li>- Intonation</li> <li>- Gripping with fists</li> <li>- Not being able to reach all positions (specifically 6 and 7)</li> </ul>
Maintenance and Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Don't grab keys (they could bend)</li> <li>- Always swab after playing</li> <li>- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)</li> <li>- Check tuning cork by using the tuning/cleaning rod</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Don't grab keys (they could bend)</li> <li>- Always swab after playing</li> <li>- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)</li> <li>- Have more than one reed</li> <li>- Always remove reed after playing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Don't grab keys (they could bend)</li> <li>- Always swab after playing</li> <li>- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)</li> <li>- Have more than one reed</li> <li>- Always remove reed after playing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)</li> <li>- Always empty water key after playing</li> <li>- Always remove mouthpiece</li> <li>- Oil valves and grease slides regularly</li> <li>- Don't remove valves from casing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)</li> <li>- Always empty water key after playing</li> <li>- Always remove mouthpiece</li> <li>- Do not take the outer slide off of the inner slide</li> <li>- Oil slides regularly</li> </ul>