

	Flute	Clarinet	Saxophone	Trumpet	Trombone
Embouchure Formation	- Say "mm" followed by "puh"	- Top teeth on mouthpiece	- Top teeth on mouthpiece	- Lips towards teeth as if saying "mm"	- Lips towards teeth as if saying "mm"
	- Corners slightly down	- Corners firm	- Corners in like a drawstring	- Firm corners	- Firm corners, but relaxed middle
	- Bottom lip covers tone hole approximately 1/3	- Chin flat	- Bottom lip rolled in slightly	- Mouthpiece about 50/50 on top and bottom lips	- Think about frowning
	- Stay relaxed!	- Think about saying "ee"	- Chin down and relaxed	- Buzz	- Mouthpiece about 60/30 on top and bottom lips
		- Reed about 1/2 inch in mouth	- Reed about 1/2 inch in mouth		- Buzz
Holding Position	- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved	- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved	- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved	- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved	- Wrists straight, thumbs straight, fingers curved
	- Fingers cover holes completely	- Fingers cover holes completely	- Left hand on top	- Left hand shaped like "C"	- Left thumb under bell brace with index finger on top of mouthpiece receiver
	- Rest thumb on underside's long straight key	- Left hand on top	- Neck strap adjusted so mouthpiece comfortably reaches mouth	- Left ring finger in the third valve slide ring	- Place right thumb and first two fingers on the second slide brace
	- Tip of right thumb between first and second fingers	- Left thumb on register key	- Right thumb under rest	- Bring your right hand in for a landing	- Support instrument with left hand only
	- Pinky on E-flat key	- Right thumbnail under rest	- Left thumb diagonally across thumb rest	- Right pinky stands on its stage	- Stand should be on the right side so the bell doesn't block the music
	- Left hand second finger skips one key		- Either to the side or between legs depending on size of the student	- Right thumb between first and second fingers	
Common Beginner Problems	- Difficulty playing in upper register	- Too much mouthpiece	- Too much mouthpiece	- Too tense	- Slide technique
	- Poor flute angle	- Playing over the break	- Resting between knees	- Right pinky in ring	- Improper tonguing (slurring)
	- Lifting left shoulder	- Resting bell between knees	- Biting the reed	- Not using third valve slide	- Intonation
	- Right thumb too far forward	- Bumping side keys	- Neck strap too low	- Jamming mouthpiece into face	- Gripping with fists
	- Left pinky resting under flute to hold it up	- Fingers not covering holes completely	- Reed placed incorrectly	- Arms too close to body	- Not being able to reach all positions (specifically 6 and 7)
Maintenance and Care	- Don't grab keys (they could bend)	- Don't grab keys (they could bend)	- Don't grab keys (they could bend)	- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)	- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)
	- Always swab after playing	- Always swab after playing	- Always swab after playing	- Always empty water key after playing	- Always empty water key after playing
	- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)	- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)	- Open case on a flat surface (the ground!)	- Always remove mouthpiece	- Always remove mouthpiece
	- Check tuning cork by using the tuning/cleaning rod	- Have more than one reed	- Have more than one reed	- Oil valves and grease slides regularly	- Do not take the outer slide off of the inner slide
		- Always remove reed after playing	- Always remove reed after playing	- Don't remove valves from casing	- Oil slides regularly