























Standard and Alternate Fingerings


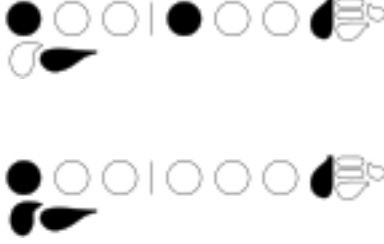









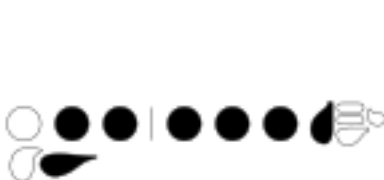
Nestor Herszbaum's *Alternative Fingerings for the Flute* is a fabulous, exhaustive resource and well worth the price.













L1 Left Hand Index Finger
 L2 Left Hand Middle Finger
 L3 Left Hand Ring Finger
 L4 Left Hand Pinky









R1 Right Hand Index Finger
 R2 Right Hand Middle Finger
 R3 Right Hand Ring Finger
 R4 Right Hand Pinky






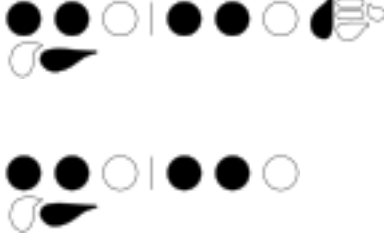

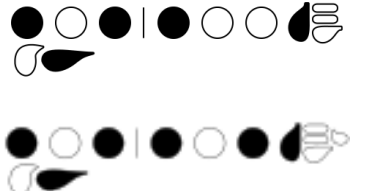
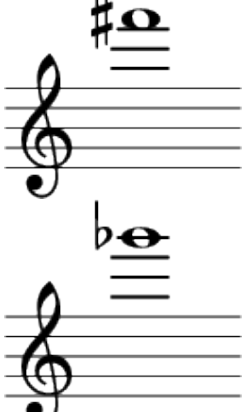
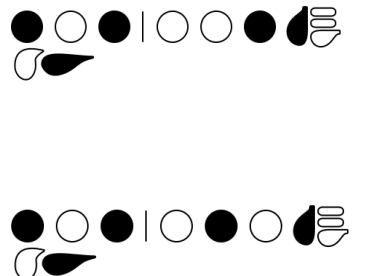
Note	Fingering	Info
THE	LOW	REGISTER
Remember to use slow/close air. Don't push the air too far or the note will overblow into the next octave.	Only use as much tension in the embouchure as you need to resist the air and to direct it toward the edge of the flute embouchure hole.	Use friction in your air stream to blow gently but with energy. If the aperture is too large, it will be airy.
		If your low C and C# are not in great adjustment, the C# key might leak. So if this note is not speaking, check that. R4 will need to press only the low B and low C keys if all is working well.
		R4 should gently press the low C key. C# should completely seal without any pressure on that key.
		
		

		
		<p>Must have R4 down for proper tone quality and intonation.</p>
		
		<p>Do not use R2 in this octave.</p>
		
		<p>L4 should “live” essentially on top of this key at all times so that it is ready to press the key down when needed. It should not have to move into place in order to play this note.</p>
		



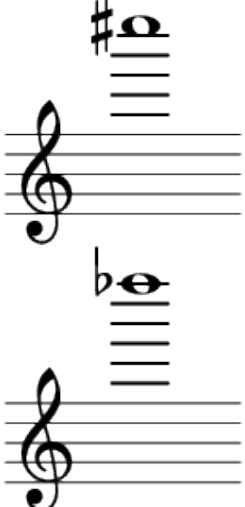



		<p>Standard fingering.</p> <p>Use thumb Bb key in most flat keys. Should use this by 3rd year of playing and learn to change between standard and thumb Bbs with ease.</p>
		
		<p>No changes of balance or hand position should happen when going from B to C. Don't hold the flute with left thumb.</p>
	 <p>This note is notoriously sharp. Make sure to aim air down at outer edge enough that you aren't blowing sharp. Use a tuner.</p>	<p>Balance of the flute between three points is key here. Flute must rest gently on right thumb, on left lowest knuckle on index finger and chin. If you balance with your pinky, you have to stop balancing there when you have to lift R4. Don't balance with R4.</p>
		<p>No R4. No L1. A large number of students will leave L1 down. Don't do this.</p>
		<p>No R4. No L1. A large number of students will leave L1 down. Don't do this.</p>

THE	MIDDLE	REGISTER
A.K.A		
THE	PRIME	CRACK ZONE
Beware, the prime crack zone!	The prime crack zone are all overblown octaves. If you cover too much or aim air down too much, these notes will crack.	When overblowing, the more of the tube that is closed off (like middle E), the more likely it is to crack.
		Make sure R4 is down.
		
		Do not use R2.
		
		
		

		<p>Standard fingering.</p> <p>Use thumb Bb key in most flat keys. Should use this by 3rd year of playing and learn to change between standard and thumb Bbs.</p>
		
		
	 <p>This note is notoriously sharp. Make sure to aim air down at lower edge enough that you aren't blowing sharp. Use a tuner.</p>	<p>Balance of the flute between three points is key here. Flute must rest gently on right thumb, on left lowest knuckle on index finger and chin. If you balance with your pinky, you have to stop balancing there when you have to lift R4. Don't balance with R4.</p>

THE	HIGH	REGISTER
		<p>Standard.</p> <p>Great advanced alternate fingering for soft playing. Brings pitch up.</p>
		
		<p>Standard fingerings.</p> <p>Because the standard fingering cracks so easily without a split E, most professionals use this better fingering most of the time. This also brings pitch down.</p>
		<p>Standard.</p> <p>Brings pitch down.</p>
		<p>Standard fingering.</p> <p>Many flutists find this fingering more stable and less prone to cracking. Brings pitch down. Do NOT use R2 in the lower octaves.</p>

 	 	<p>Standard fingering.</p> <p>This fingering brings the pitch down considerably and is best for forte.</p>
	 	<p>Standard.</p> <p>Brings pitch up and makes response easier on <i>pp</i>.</p>
 	 	<p>Standard.</p> <p>No L1. Many people learn this fingering incorrectly. Be aware that it is a little on the flat side of intonation.</p> <p>For <i>pp</i>, try this fingering. Brings pitch up.</p>
		<p>Many books list the D# key as down. I find it responds better without.</p>

THE	ALTISSIMO	REGISTER
<p>These notes will not speak if you are covering the embouchure hole too much. Blow air quite forcefully.</p>	<p>Good news: uncovering the embouchure hole improves sound in the rest of the flute!</p>	<p>There are many, many alternates for this register. Some work better than others for some players/flutes. I only list the primary fingering that I use. Consult other sources.</p>
		<p>If you have a low B, it must be down. If not, you can place R4 on low C or leave it up.</p>
		<p>Low B could stay down or be up.</p>
		<p>Easy to remember: thumb, 3, 1, 2, C.</p>

