

Clarinet Intonation

problems and some solutions

NOTES THAT TEND TO BE FLAT

Can be flat in forte

NOTES THAT TEND TO BE SHARP

Usually sharp, especially in pianissimo:

affects tone a bit, but not as noticeable in pianissimo

"shade" by fingering close to open holes

improves tone and intonation

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Do NOT use r. h. pinky on this note! That vent is used on notes above this.

ALTISSIMO CAN BE FLAT OR SHARP (OR IN TUNE!)

Sharp: If player pinches.

Flat: If embouchure/air is not developed, in forte and when articulated heavily. These notes will often sound low if in unison with flutes or an octave above trumpets.

My favorite, and no one knows this one! No pinky.

This one articulates well, especially on Eb soprano clarinet.

Detailed description: This section shows a musical staff with four notes: a natural F, a sharp F, a flat F, and a natural F. Below each note is a fingering diagram. The first diagram (natural F) has three fingerings. The second (sharp F) has two. The third (flat F) has two. The fourth (natural F) has two. The text 'My favorite, and no one knows this one! No pinky.' is placed between the second and third diagrams. The text 'This one articulates well, especially on Eb soprano clarinet.' is placed to the right of the fourth diagram.

"Long" F: especially nice in pp

Detailed description: This section shows a musical staff with three notes: a flat F, a sharp F, and a flat F. Below each note is a fingering diagram. The first diagram (flat F) has three fingerings. The text '"Long" F: especially nice in pp' is placed to the left of the first diagram. The second diagram (sharp F) has two fingerings. The third diagram (flat F) has two fingerings.

All of these are better in tune than the one usually shown in charts

An easy alternative to ones usually shown in charts

Detailed description: This section shows a musical staff with three notes: a flat F, a sharp F, and a flat F. Below each note is a fingering diagram. The first diagram (flat F) has three fingerings. The text 'All of these are better in tune than the one usually shown in charts' is placed below the first diagram. The second diagram (sharp F) has one fingering. The text 'An easy alternative to ones usually shown in charts' is placed below the second diagram.