AN OPTIONAL FIRST LESSON

Some teachers like to separate the instruments when teaching the first tones. This page is intended for that use; it may also supplement the work of the early lessons. The various instruments cannot all play together on this page, nor are the tones necessarily those used in the early lessons. (See Conductor's Book for more information.)

Any one of these tones may be learned first; as soon as it can be produced with confidence, other tones should be added until all can be played and read.

FIVE BEGINNING TONES

(To be learned in any order)





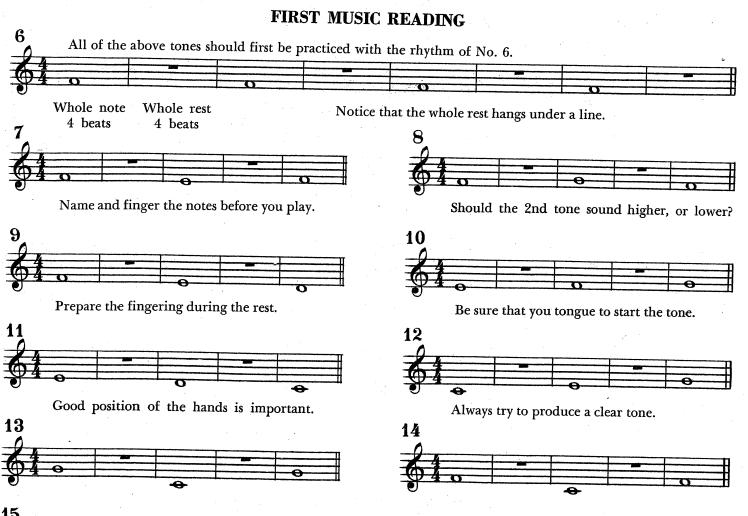






When you have learned a tone, you will -

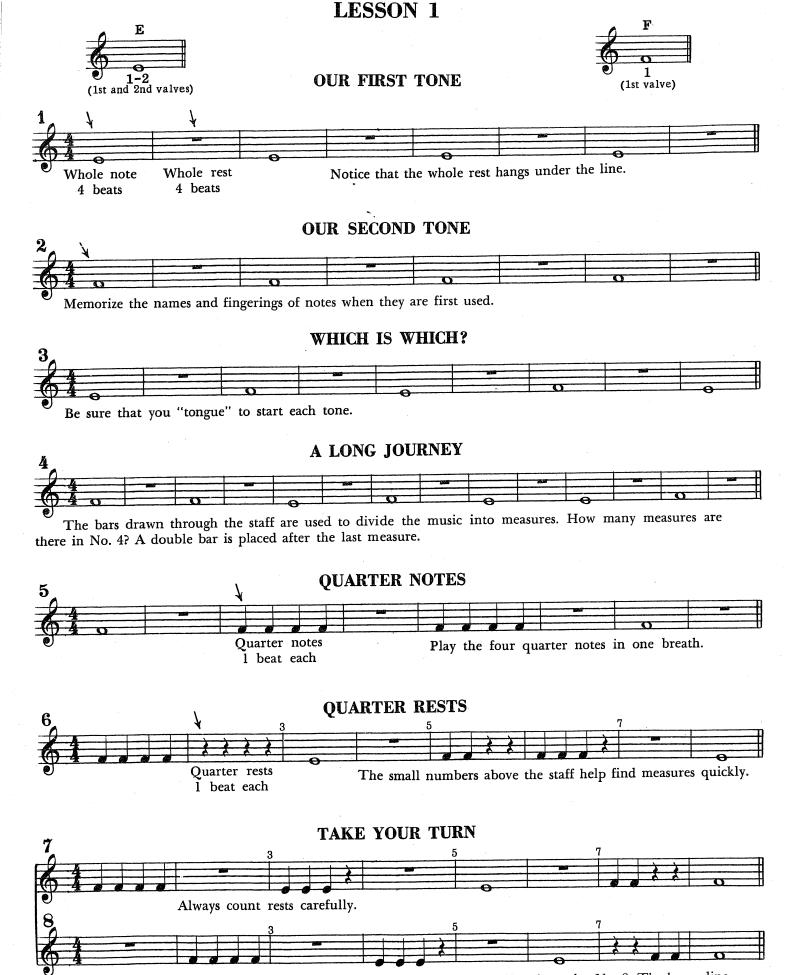
- (a) know its letter name
- (b) know the position of the note on the staff
- (c) know its fingering
- (d) be able to produce the tone with a nice sound





Quarter notes 1 beat each

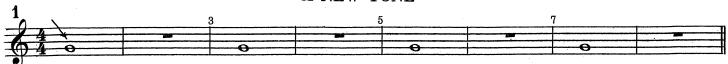
Play the 4 quarter notes in one breath.

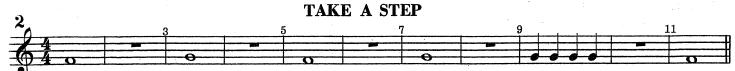


Practice both No. 7 and No. 8; then let some of the class play No. 7 while others play No. 8. The heavy line connecting No. 7 and No. 8 shows that they may be played together.



A NEW TONE





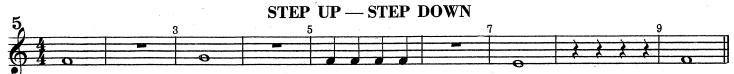
The distance from a space to a neighboring line, or from a line to a neighboring space, is called a "step."



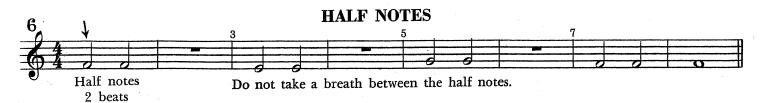
Any distance greater than a step is known as a "skip."

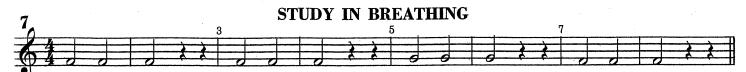


Name and finger the notes before you play.

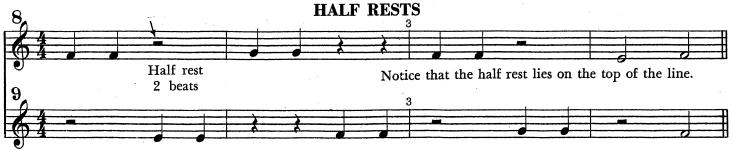


Name the highest note in this tune. Name the lowest note. What are the notes in the 5th measure?

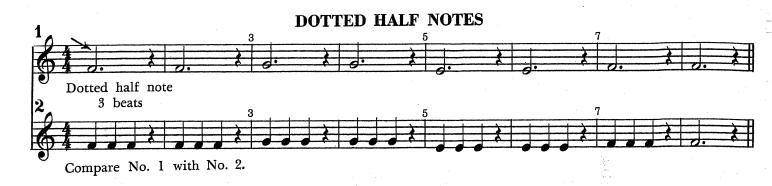




Correct breathing habits should be formed now. Your teacher will show how breath should be taken when playing your instrument.



After No. 8 and No. 9 can be played correctly, divide the class and try them together.

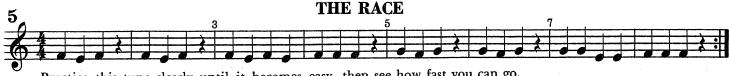




Try to play the three half notes in one breath. How should breath be taken when playing your instrument?



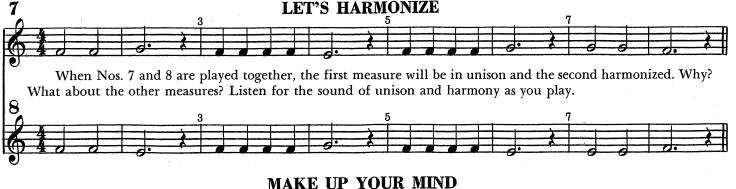
To keep your place in the music, look at each note or rest as you count it.



Practice this tune slowly until it becomes easy, then see how fast you can go.

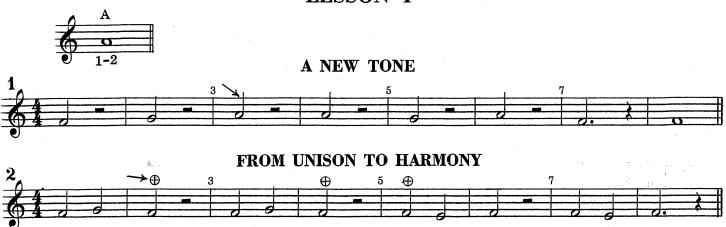


Choose a different soloist or group to play each of these little tunes, then all play on the repeat.



(This tune contains everything we have learned this far.)

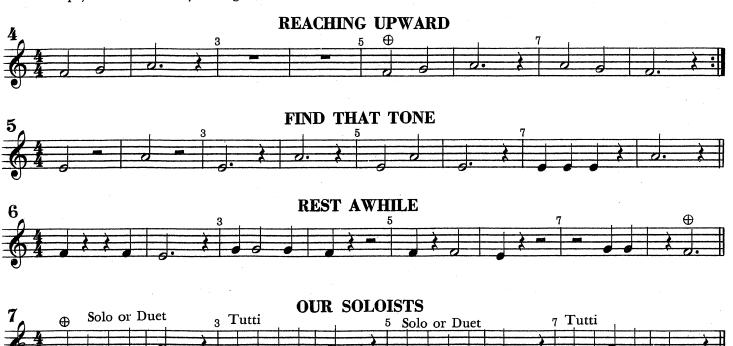
Think before you play-Think as you play-Don't guess!



The sign \oplus is used in this book to show you where harmony has been introduced. If the class does not contain many different instruments, the harmony may not be heard.



The curved line (tie) tells you to carry the sound over into the second note. Do not tongue the second note. Keep your breath steady throughout the tie.



Measures 1 & 2 and 5 & 6 may be played by pupils chosen by the teacher. The word "Tutti" means "all together."



COMPLETE REVIEW OF NOTES AND RESTS

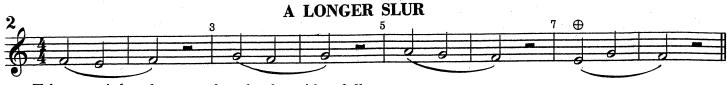


Give the value name of each note and rest, and the number of beats it receives. Next, give the letter name and show the fingering. Then, try to play this review without a mistake.

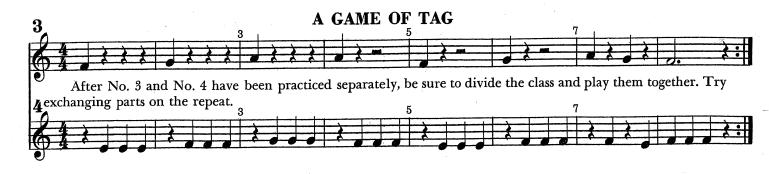
WE LEARN TO SLUR



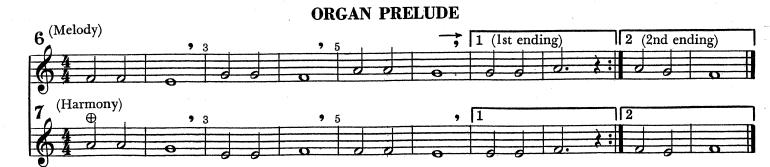
The slur is a curved line connecting notes of different pitch. Tongue only the first note. Keep the breath steady throughout the slur.

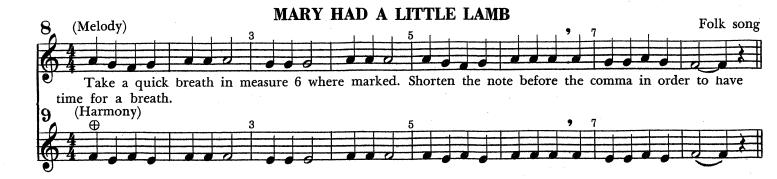


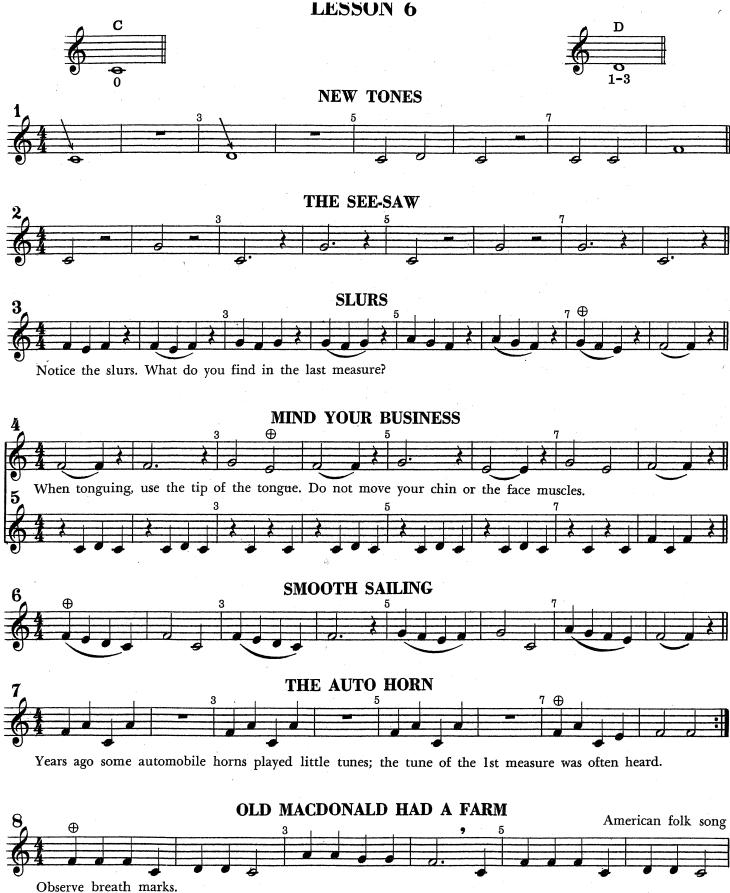
Take enough breath to complete the slur with a full tone.

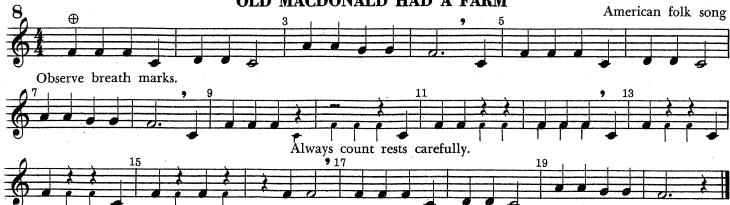




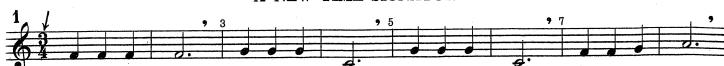












Three-four time — also known as 3/4 measure, or 3/4 meter. Each measure will contain the equal of 3 quarter notes.

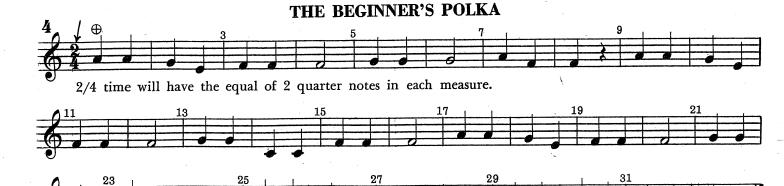


AN EASY WALTZ





The first note is called a "pick-up" note; it was borrowed from the last measure. At the beginning and at the end we have "incomplete measures."





Watch for the slurs. A double bar with dots at the right shows the beginning of a repeated section.

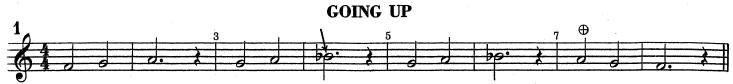


OUR GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK

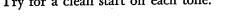
Many homes and public buildings have clocks which play a chime melody every 15 minutes — the melody becomes longer as the hour passes. Grandfather's clocks usually play the melodies given here. Try to imagine the sound of chimes as you play.





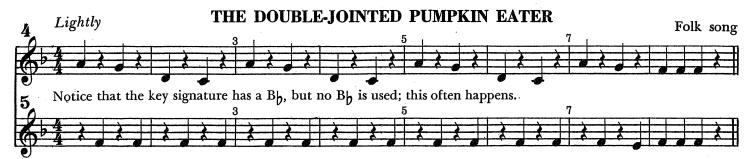




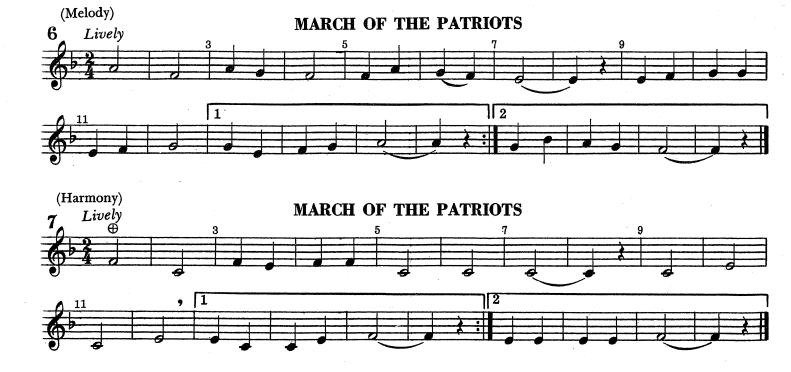


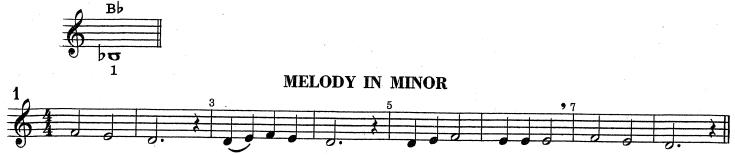


Flats or sharps placed at the beginning apply to all notes in the piece. Name the notes carefully before you play.



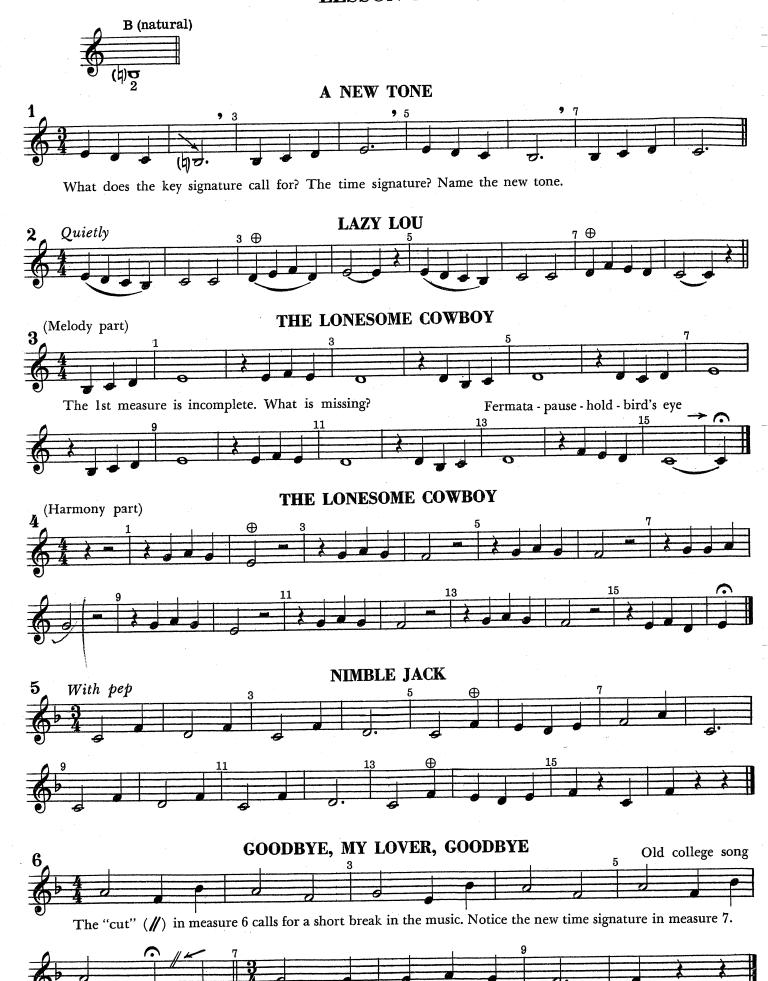
Both No. 4 and No. 5 must be played in order to hear the melody. Also, try playing both parts at once.

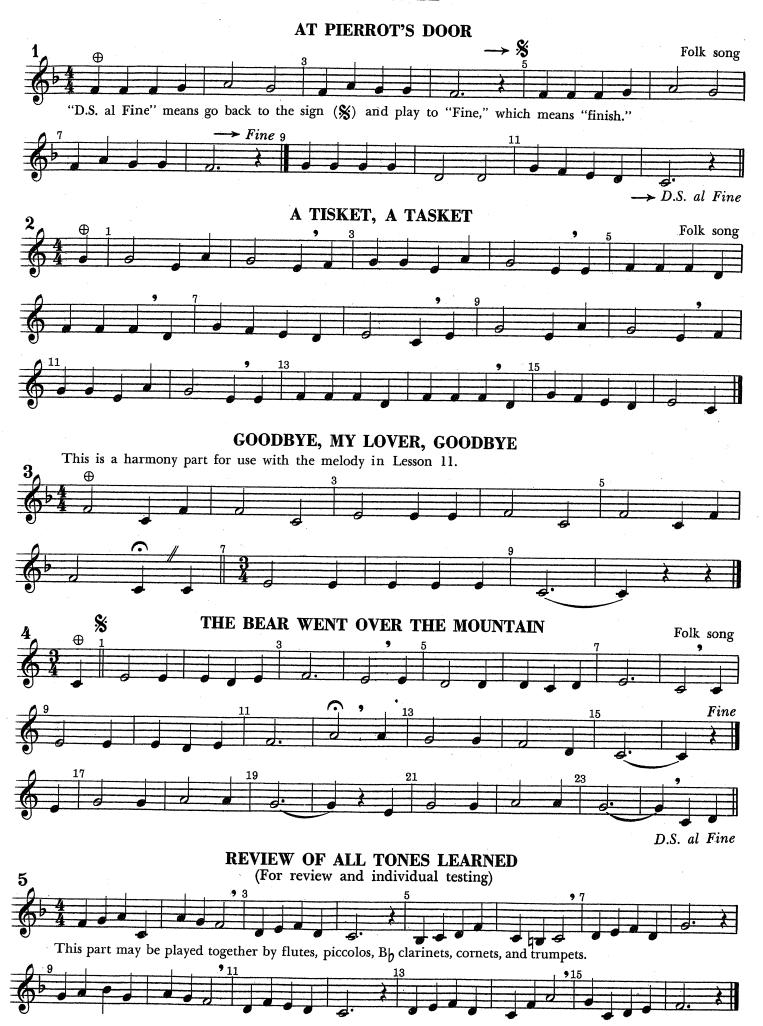


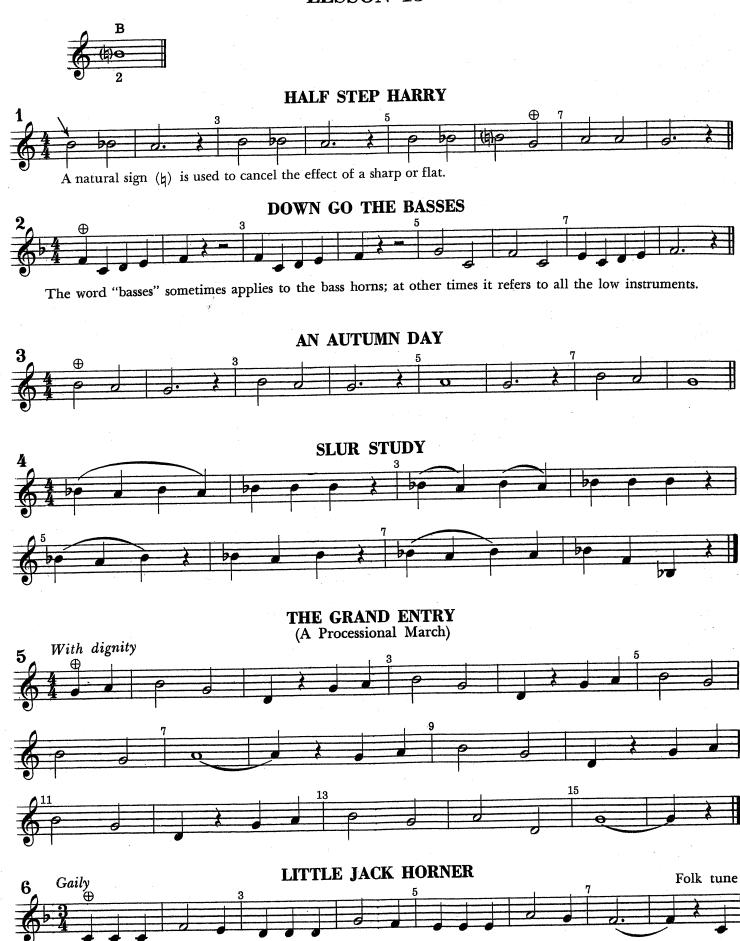


It is usually easy to hear the difference between minor and major melodies. Listen for this minor or major sound as you play No. 1 and No. 2.





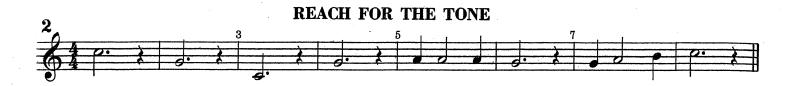




THUNDOLL TH



















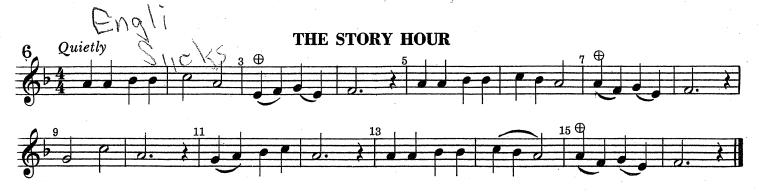






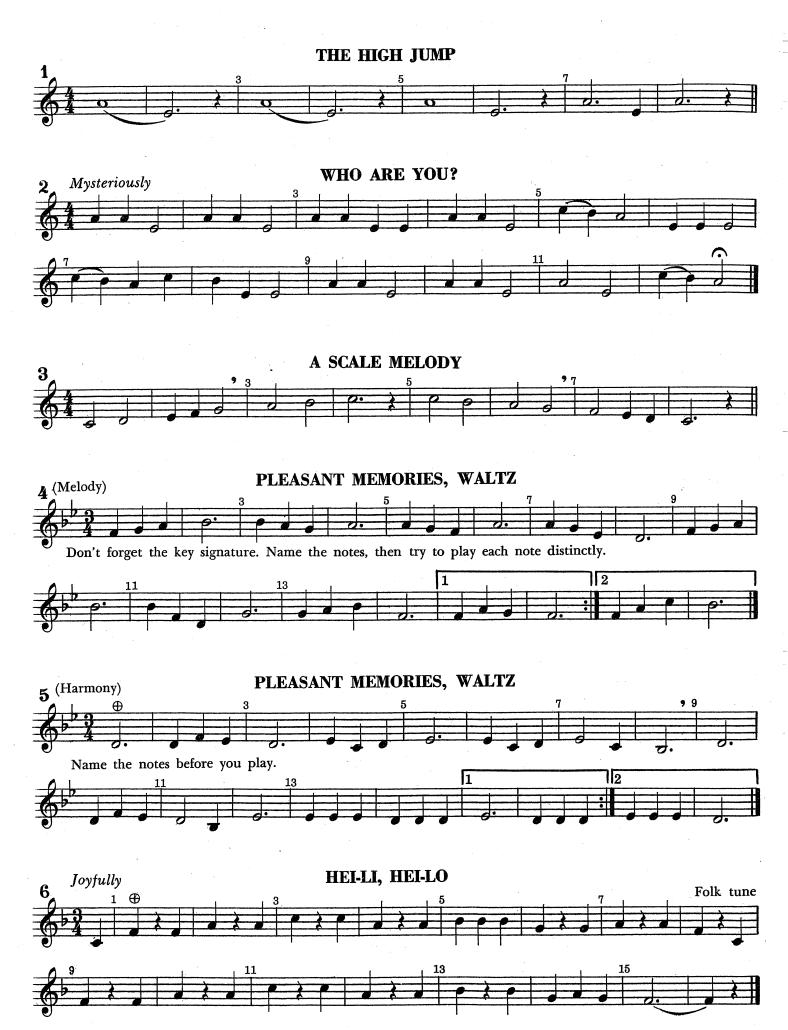












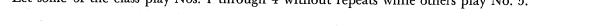
TERSONIA TO



INTRODUCTION TO EIGHTH NOTES

Two eighth notes are played in the time of a quarter note. The eighth notes must be equal in length with the first one sounding exactly on the beat. Learn these four studies thoroughly and review them often. Also, play all four without any pause between them—omit the repeats.







Point out where each beat will fall, then be sure you are right when you play.



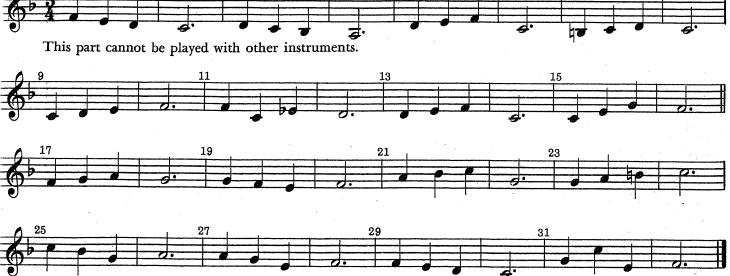






REVIEW OF ALL TONES LEARNED (For review and individual testing)

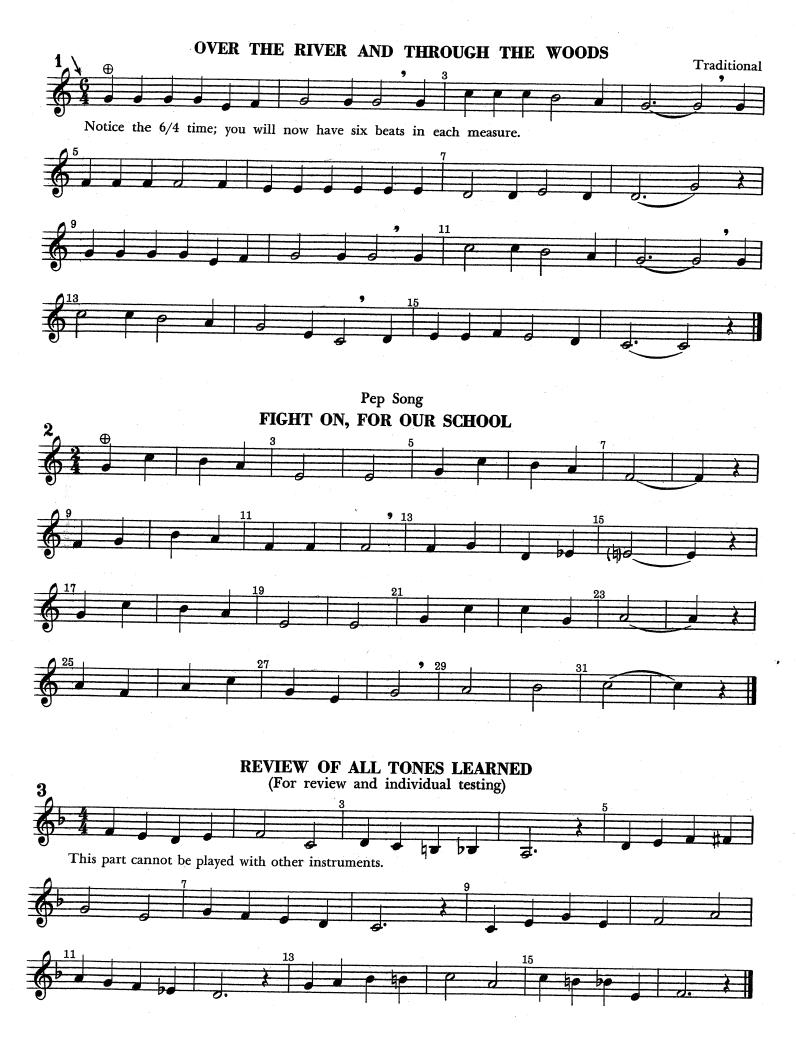
3 5 7











Three Tunes Using Moving Eighth Notes

In these tunes, the second eighth note often moves to a new fingering. When this is true, be careful to count, or beat, correctly. (Study the 2nd measure of Nos. 1, 2, & 3.)

These tunes show how it is possible to change a few notes when trying to improve a melody. Which melody do you like best? Can you make other changes and write your melody?





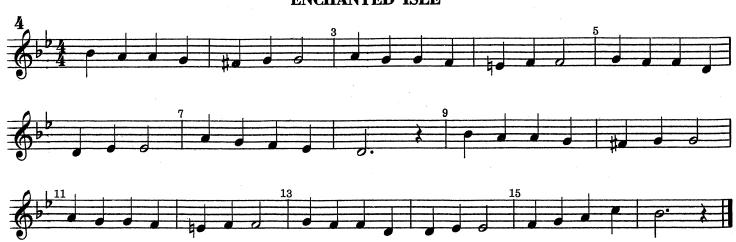
SECOND TUNE





Sometimes notes are crowded together as in No. 3. When this is true, group them correctly with your eyes — you must not think of them as a jumble of notes.

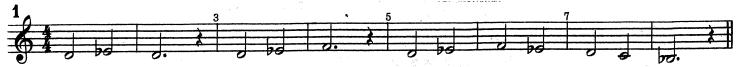






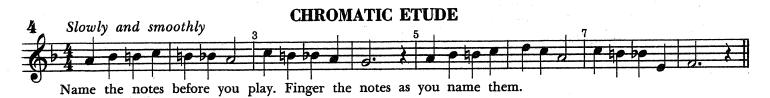


A NEW TONE FOR CLARINETS











A dot placed over or under a note tells you to make the tone shorter without changing the speed of the beat. A dash tells you to hold the tone to its full length.

