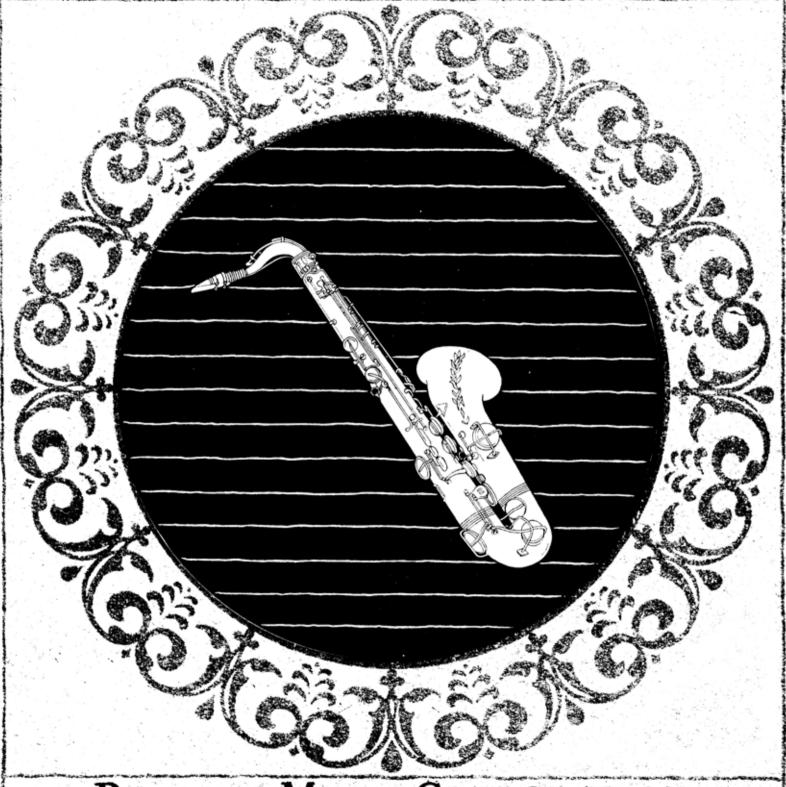
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A Few Moments With the Writers of This Book

RUDY WIEDOEFT, born January 3, 1893, at Detroit, is the youngest of a musical family of the children. His professional debut was made in 1903, playing claim in the Wiedoeft Family Orbestra at the Imperial, Los Angeles. Later he played several seasons as solo clarinet with prominent concert bands.

In 1914 he took up the study of the saxophone seriously, practicing from eight to tem hours a day. Soon after his arrival in New York, in 1916, he recorded the first saxophone solo for the Edison Phonograph Co. Wiedoeft foined the Marine Corps during the war, and was transferred later to the Marine Band at Washington. He has recorded more saxophone solos, most of which were his own compositions, than any other saxophonist.

**BERT WORTH not only has an international reputations as an accomplished performer on the entire family of reed instruments, but is also well-known as a composer and arranger. His original instrument was the piano, and his experiences embraces practically every field of musical activity, including as it does pipe organ, theatre, stage, concert and dance work. He is also a recording artist for His Matter's Voice, Edison and Pathe.

Before the war, Mr. Worth had traveled throughout the United States and Canada playing in all the large cities. Joining the Canadian forces he fought in France, and in 1919, while in England awaiting repatriation, received such flattering offers from the Moss and Stoll vaudeville circuits that he remained there. Later he played at several of the most exclusive dance places in London, directing his own band, followed by engagements in Paris, Ostend, Nice, Monte Carlo, and Madrid, where he played by royal command of the Queen of Spain.

FOREWORD

My system of teaching you to play the saxophone is quite different from any other method on the market today. Most methods begin with too many definitions and rules for the pupil to remember, and in a short time he becomes discouraged. My system will show him first of all how to take the instrument out of the case, remove the cap envering the mouthpiece, and place the neck in proper position, adjusting it so that it is in line with the body of the instrument. The first studies will be devoted to the proper production of tone, leaving the detailed practice of scales, tempos, etc., until later. "One thing at a time, and that one thoroughly mastered," shall be our motro.

The proper beginning in the study of any instrument is to learn how to attack a note, and then improve the tone quality of that particular note before you continue to the next one. A great many pupils want to progress jost a litel too rapidly, and consequently miss a great deal of the vitally necessary foundation studies, which form the necessary platform on which is creted the finished artist. "Take plenty of time while you are learning, and you will be that much ahead in the end." Study everything with your mind on your work, and don't just glance through it. Remember, one hour of real conscientious study is worth more than four hours of haphazard playing. How often I have had musicians, even professional players, come to me and ask, "How do you do this or that," often in regard to some of the simplest, most rudimentary matters. This would not be the case were everyone to put in some real conscientious work on fundamentals. Practice thoroughly and thus avoid lesing time, particularly your first studies. Get a good foundation, and the finer technical development will come with no one moving about, rustling paper, or making other sounds to distract the attention. It takes a quarter of an hour or so to really become absorbed in one's subject, and interruption means that the process must be repeated. Concentration is not a short-cut to su

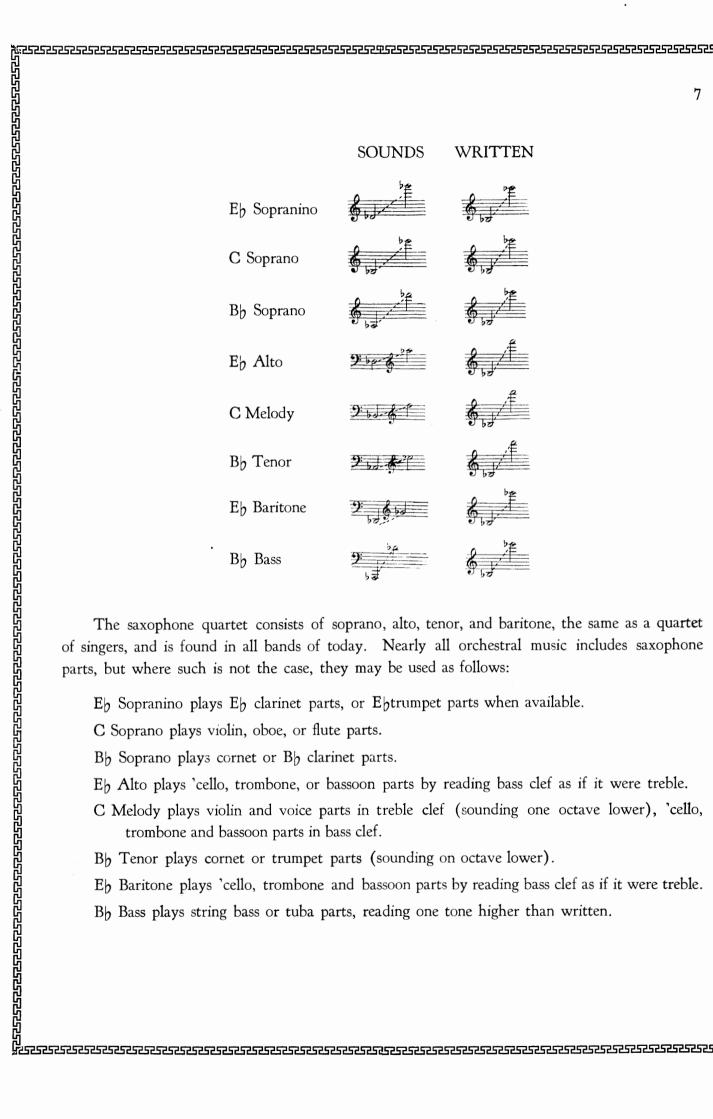
THE SAXOPHONE

Antoine Joseph Sax, a famous instrument maker of Paris about the middle of the last century, was the inventor of the saxophone. He may, in fact, be called the "father of modern windinstruments," for until he turned his attention to perfecting and improving them, nearly all the various wood and brass windinstruments were very unsatisfactory, their proportions being unscientific, the mechanism clumsy and inadequate, and anything even approaching artistic execution on them was virtually impossible.

Sax not only reduced the construction of the then existing instruments to correct acoustical principles; he also gave the world several entirely new families of instruments, including the trumper-like saxhorns, the sax-trombas, sax-tubas, and most important of all, the saxophone.

The saxophone is constructed on the acoustical principle that a tube of any given length sounds a note of a certain definite pitch. It is a conical tube of brass, pierced at intervals by holes, the holes closed or opened at will by means of pads controlled by the key mechanism. With all the pads closed the air column traverses the entire length of tubing, and we sound the lowest or "fundamental" note of the instrument. By opening the pad nearest the bell, the air is allowed to escape there, giving the effect of a tube that much shorter, and thereby sounding the next higher note in the scale. Ascending thus, step by step, we have the complete chromatic scale.

The saxophone forms a connecting link between the wood-wind" and the "brass" sections of the orchestra, its tone being of hybrid quality, paradaging somewhat of the nature of each. The complete family consists of eight instruments, the range of each being about two and one-half octaves. From the highest to the lowest they are:



ame as a quartet ludes saxophone it were treble. e. lower), 'cello, if it were treble. en.

HINTS FOR THE BEGINNER

HOW TO SELECT A GOOD INSTRUMENT

In selecting an instrument, it is advisable to have a competent musician test it thoroughly before purchasing. Have him try the entire scale and be sure that it is in tune, as an instrument with a bad scale is a great handicap even to an experienced player.

I invariably advise my pupils to buy a plated instrument. A saxophone in the brass finish causes a great deal of trouble, the socket edges becoming corroded and rotting the pads, thereby preventing an air-tight scating. Having an instrument repudded is quite an expense, and you will save money by buying a plated instrument in the beginning. By all means seek the most expert advice available, and avoid regrets and changing of instrument later on.

The selection of the mouthpiece is equally important, as a faulty mouthpiece may ruin the tone of an otherwise good instrument. See that one is chosen with a medium lay, the facing not too open or too close, and he sure that it blows freely.

Make certain that all the pads cover perfectly, and that the mechanism works smoothly and with ease. Remember, a good instrument is half the bartle.

PREPARING TO PLAY

In taking the instrument out of the case, never grasp it by the body; in so doing you will be come sluggish. Grasp the bell by the outside, do not touch the keys, and your mechanism will always work perfectly. Now adjust the neck so that it is in line with the body of the instrument; lay the instrument down and take the mouthpiece out of the case; remove the cap, loosen ligature screws and remove the reed.

It is almost impossible to play on a dry reed; moisten it by holding the reed in your mouth for a momen. The tip of the reed will warp or curl immediately on being moistened; keep wetting until it straightens out. Replace the reed on the mouthpiece facing and tighten the ligature, but not too much; adjust mouthpiece on the neck, replace cap and lay the instrument down while you are adjusting your strap or cord. Many a good reed has been broken by carel HINTS FOR THE BEGINNER

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SELECTION OF REEDS

The reed has a very great effect on the tone of the saxophone. In fact, the mouthpiece together with the reed, may be said to be the "soul of the instrument."

Select a reed of medium strength. Reeds are usually marked "soft," "medium," or "hard," but one can roughly guage the strength of a reed by gently bending the top of a reed with the forefinger, observing the degree of resistance offered. Reeds of a golden yellow tint and straight, fine grain are the best. Cane of a dark color grows on the side of the plant toward the sun and has a tendency to be hard, while the cane of too light color, shading to green, comes from the side away from the sun and is softer.

Seek the free-blowing reed. If it is too soft, carefully trim off a little bit from the tip, if too strong, work it down thinner at the tip with reed paper of Dutch rush. Avoid the reed with nasal, reedy tone; an open, clear tone is what is desired.

Place the reed on the facing of the mouthpiece with the tip of the reed just flush with the tip of the mouthpiece. Any other adjustment will result in faulty intonation, and hard blowing.

FIRST PRINCIPLES OF TECHNIC

POSITION IN PLAYING

In adjusting the strap, see that the mouthpiece is parallel with the mouth and that the saxophone is held in a comfortable, easy and natural manner. If the strap is too tight the position will be cramed dorward to reach the mouthpiece, interfering with proper breathing; if too long, the neck must be craned forward to reach the mouthpiece, interfering with proper control of the embouchure.

It is a good idea to practice before a mirror, correcting any errors in posture; study the three pictures on chart showing how to hold the instrument, and you will readily observe any faults. The arms should rest in a relaxed position at the sides of the body.

It is much the best plan to practice standing, thereby allowing a freer action of the lungs, and also avoiding any tendency to a cramped or slovenly posture. The mind is also more alert than when a sitting pos

THE EMBOUCHURE

This means the position of the mouthpiece in the mouth, formation of the lips, etc., and is of the utmost importance, as the embouchure is the governing factor in the development of a pleasing, individual quality of tone.

Draw the lower lip inward, covering the lower teeth, in as natural a manner as possible; place the mouthpiece in the mouth with the reed on the under side, the reed to rest on the lower lip and the upper teeth on the top of the mouthpiece about an inch from the tip.

Avoid exaggeration. If the mouthpiece is introduced too far a hollow tone will be produced, and if too little a choked tone will result. With a little experimenting you will find the proper spot to rest the teeth and produce the best results. Listen to the best performers and judge your tone quality accordingly.

BREATHING

Before you actually start to produce a tone of any kind it is most essential that you learn how to breathe correctly. Never inhale by lifting the upper lip. Air should be taken in only at the comers of the mouth, without moving the lips. It is improper to breathe through the nose when playing. The breath and attack should come from the disphragm and not from the chest or throat. Never lift the shoulders when taking a breath. Above all, he perfectly natural.

THE ATTACK

The method of starting the tone is of extreme importance. Never start a tone by metely blowing into the instrument. Use the syllable "ta." The tongue must touch the tip of the reed lightly and deftly at the moment of commencing the tone. One of the worst faults one can develop is that of using the "fa" attack from the throat. Precision in attack is one of the most important and difficult points in reed instrument playing, and the "ta" attack, with a slight stroke of the tongue is absolutely necessary in starting the tone.

In order to clearly understand the function of the reed, remove the mouthpiece and place the round end to the lips, sucking the breath inward. The vibration of the reed may easily be observed. It is to overcom

THE FINGERS

The ball of the finger, half way between the tip and the first joint, alone should keys. Be careful not to use either the extreme tip of the finger or the flat portion i joint, as this will retard your execution. The finger is softest and most flexible at the finger should act separately and distinctly, like a little hammer; this will tend toward a nique, and is particularly necessary in difficult passages. Without this method your tec never become more than ordinary.

CARE OF THE INSTRUMENT

After using your saxophone for a month or so, have it adjusted by an expert Some of the pads will have become more deeply seated than others, some of the key have loosened up, etc.

The mouthpiece may be cleaned every three or four days, but do not clean our several methods advocate this, but it has a tendency to make the saxophone blow has springs every two or three months, and wipe all water-spots from the body of the: These spots are most noticeable in the bell, and if allowed to remain will in time eat the plating.

USE OF CHART

Enclosed with this book is my photographic chart, which shows the correct fingering note on the saxophone.

Study this chart thoroughly before attempting to play the instrument. I find that to pin the chart on the wall of a light room for practical purposes.

Turn to the first exercises on page 14 and ascertain the proper fingering for the first Do this for all the succeeding exercises, until you have become so familiar with the finguising the chart becomes unnecessary. In the ordinary course of events, this should within a comparatively short time. FINGERS

the tip and the first joint, alone should touch the tip of the finger or the flat portion at the first finger is softest and most flexible at the ball. Each finger is softest and most flexible at the ball. Each passages. Without this method your technique can

HE INSTRUMENT

or so, have it adjusted by an expert repairman. There or four days, but do not clean out the neck indency to make the saxophone blow hard. Oil all all water-spots from the body of the instrument. It is allowed to remain will in time eat through the standard purposes.

F CHART

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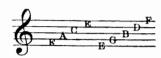
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ELEMENTS OF MUSICAL NOTATION

Musical sounds are indicated by NOTES:

Once sare written on, above and below the STAFF:

Each line and space of the Staff is named after a letter of the alphabet. In the TREBLE CLEF of the only Clef in which saxophone music is written, the names are

One observes that the letters, with those immediately above and below the Staff range upward in alphabetical order from A to G. This sequence is repeated on either side of the Staff by means of LEDGER LINES, and we have

These notes cover the entire range of the saxophone.

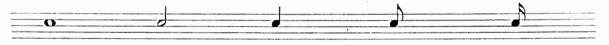
Notes are of different forms, their form showing their relative value, or duration.

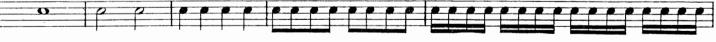
Whole-note Half-note Quarter-note Eighth-notes lines replace the tails, thus:

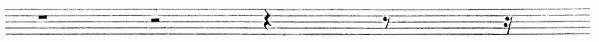
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B C D E P G B C D E P G B C D E P G C





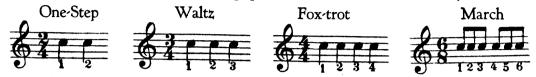




The Staff is divided by perpendicular lines into BARS



length. The number of counts to a bar determines the TIME, which is always indicated at the beginning of a piece or movement, thus: 2 the upper figure showing the number of counts to a bar, the lower the kind of notes. In popular music one meets with only the following:



Four-four (Fox-trot) time is also called Common time, and written: C

Alla breve (written C) is a fast fox-trot time, two counts in a bar.

A double line denotes the end of a movement: With two dots the movement is to be repeated.

MUSICAL SIGNS

The SLUR is a curved line placed over two or more different notes, and indicates that they are to be played in one breath, thus: 3

The TIE is a curved line placed over two notes on the same degree. The second note is not to be sounded separately, the sound of the first being carried on without interruption.



The STACCATO means that every note so marked is to be given a short, sharp attack.

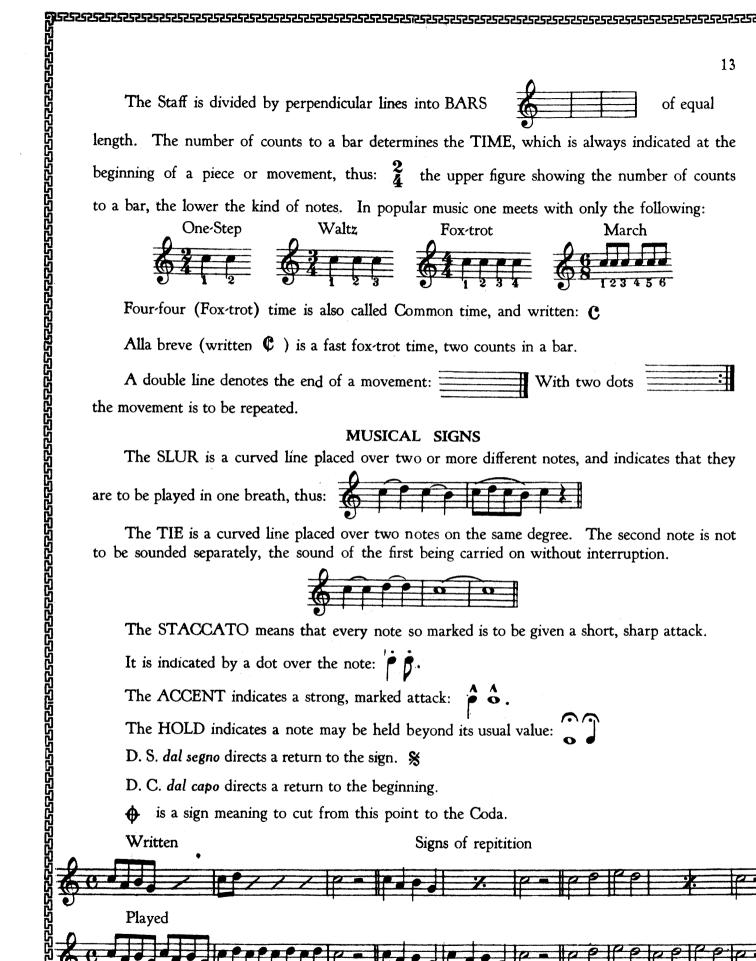
The ACCENT indicates a strong, marked attack:

The HOLD indicates a note may be held beyond its usual value:

D. S. dal segno directs a return to the sign. 🛠

D. C. dal capo directs a return to the beginning.

is a sign meaning to cut from this point to the Coda.





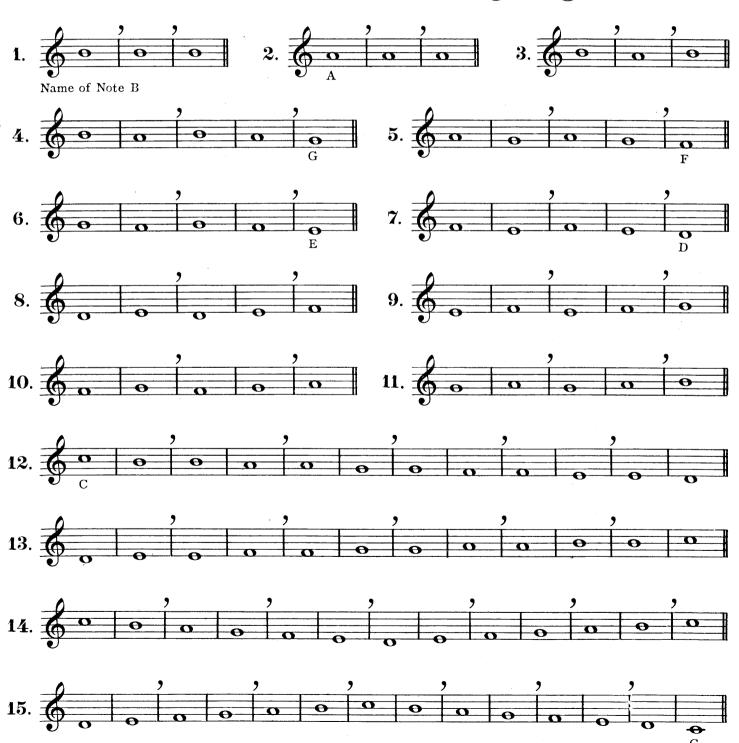
Tone Production

Each tone must be started by gently striking the reed at the tip with the tip of the tongue. This sets the reed vibrating, and the stream of breath directed into the instrument continues the vibration. The syllable "ta" is the only correct attack. Do not attack with the "fa" or "huh" articulation, as this omits the vitally necessary stroke of the tongue, and produces a most disagreeable effect.

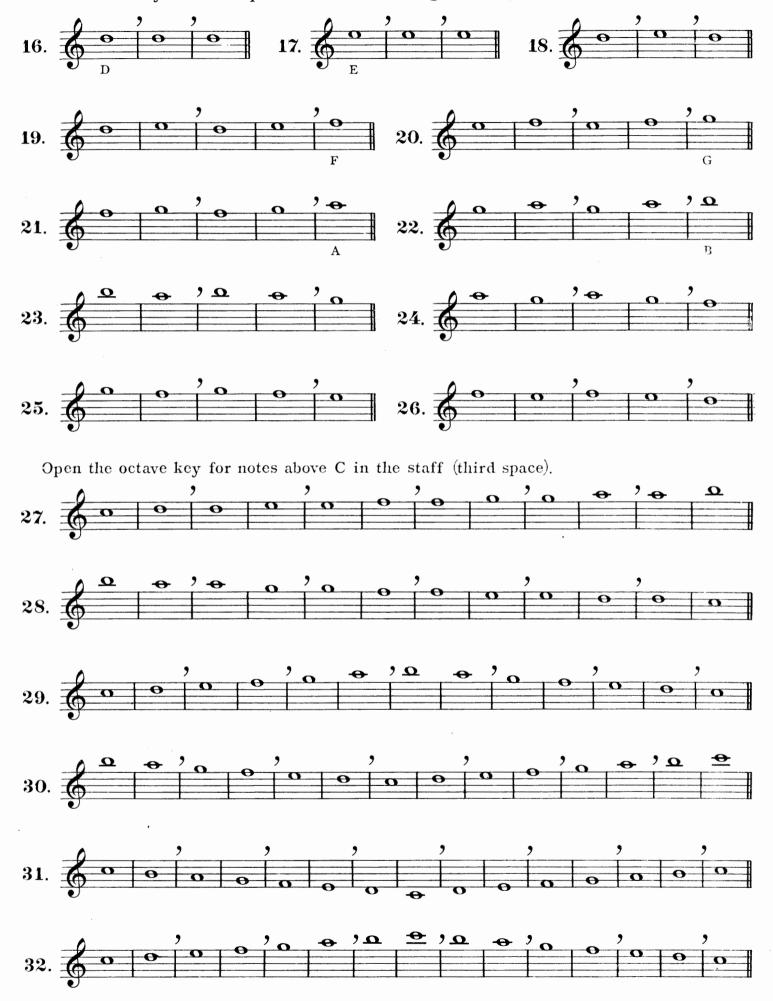
Endeavor to sustain the tone as nearly as possible without wavering. This will be difficult at first, but becomes easier as you gradually develop a correct embouchure, or "lip." Do not pinch or bite the reed with the lower lip and teeth, as this restricts the vibration of the reed and destroys the tone.

Take breath where the sign ? occurs.

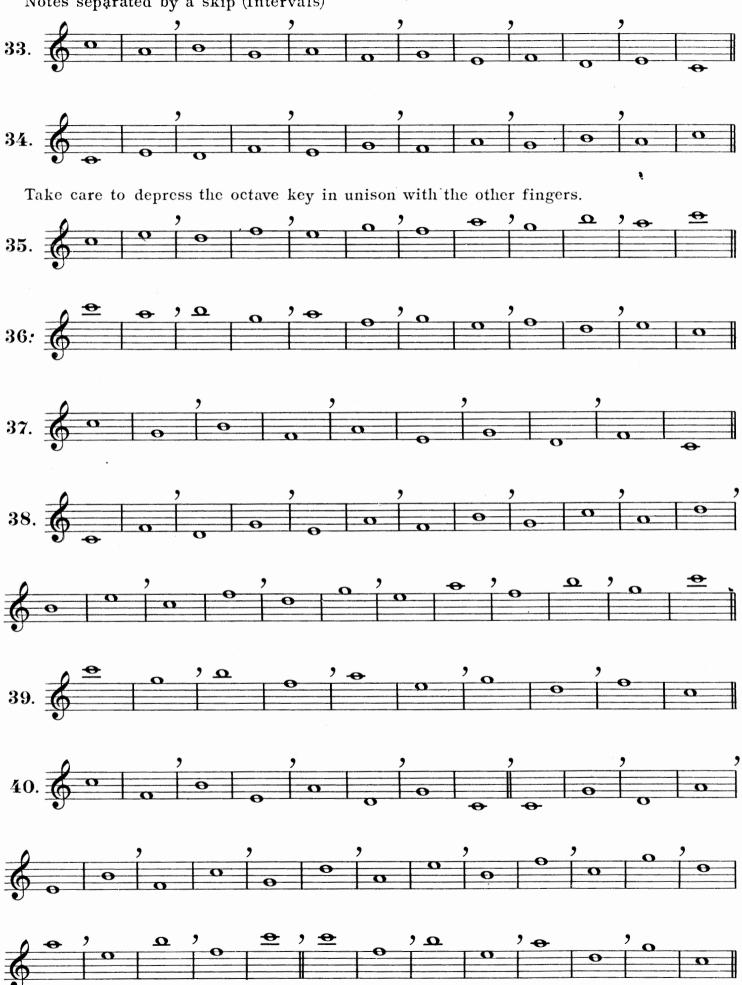
Refer to Chart for all Fingerings

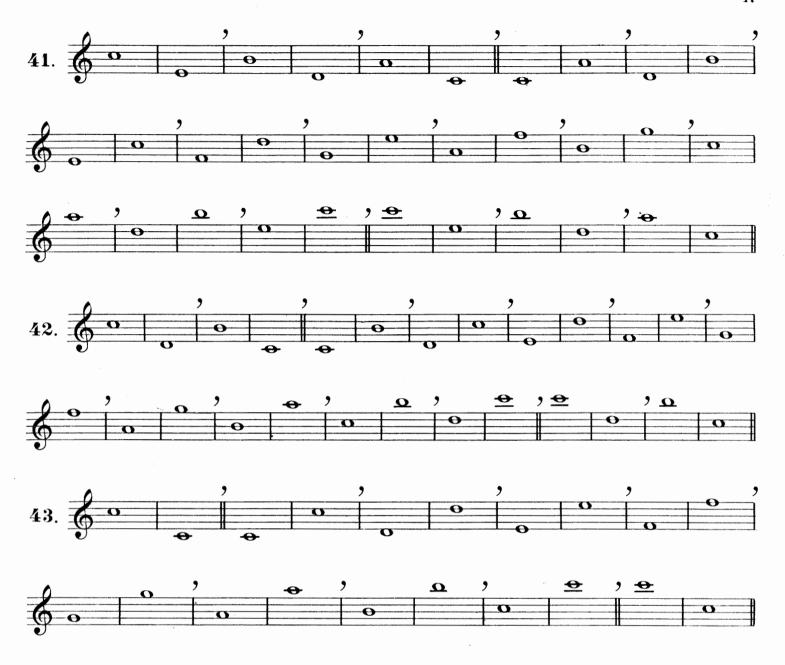


The octave key must be opened for the following exercises.



Notes separated by a skip (Intervals)

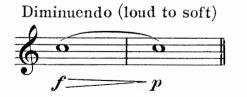


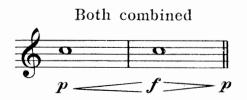


Marks Of Expression

 \boldsymbol{p} piano, soft. crescendo, increasing the sound. cresc. pianissimo, very soft. ppdim.diminuendo, decreasing the sound. f forte, loud. sforzando, accented. sfzfortissimo, very loud. legato smoothly. mezzo-forte, moderately loud. staccatosnappy. marcatomarkedly.







SUSTAINED NOTES

The constant and painstaking practice of sustained notes is the only way to develop a good embochure, or "lip." The embochure being the most important factor in producing a pleasing, musical tone, the student will readily see the importance of daily devoting a portion of the practice time to these exercises.

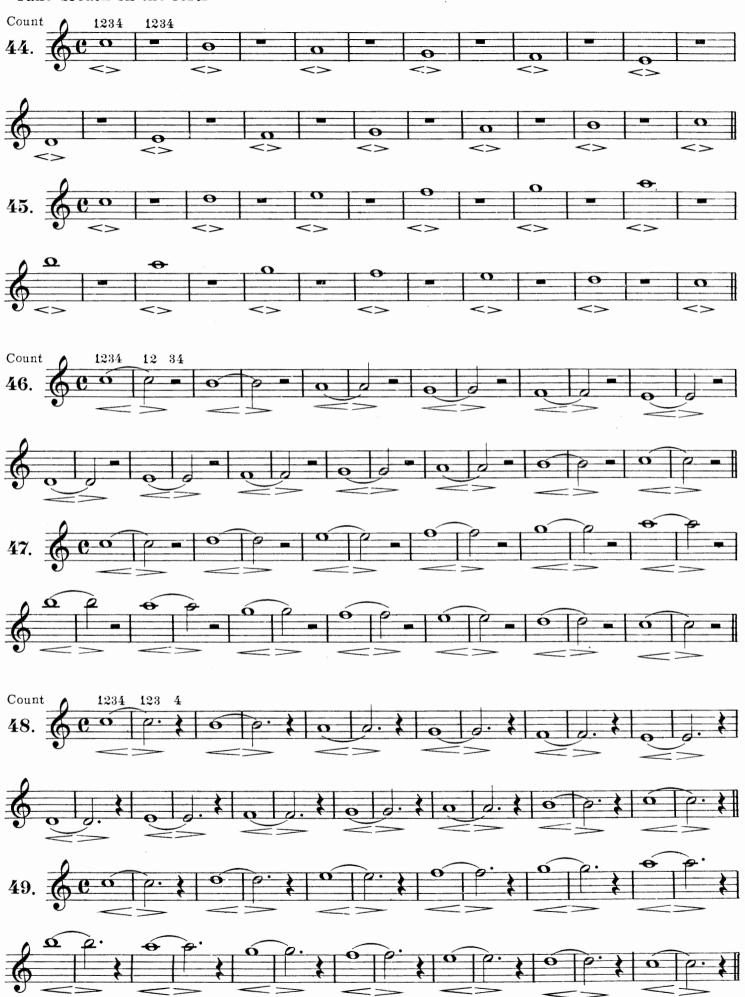
The practice of long sustained notes has a beneficial effect on the lungs, expanding the air reservoir and enriching the blood with life-giving oxygen. It is essential to practice in a room with plenty of fresh air, preferably in a standing position, thereby giving the freest play to the thorax and diaphragm.

The idea of this practice is not to enable the pupil to play more loudly, but to develop the air capacity, enabling him to play longer passages without breaking the flow of melody to take breath. The beginner will be unable to sustain notes any length of time at first, but with conscientious attention to these exercises this difficulty will soon disappear.

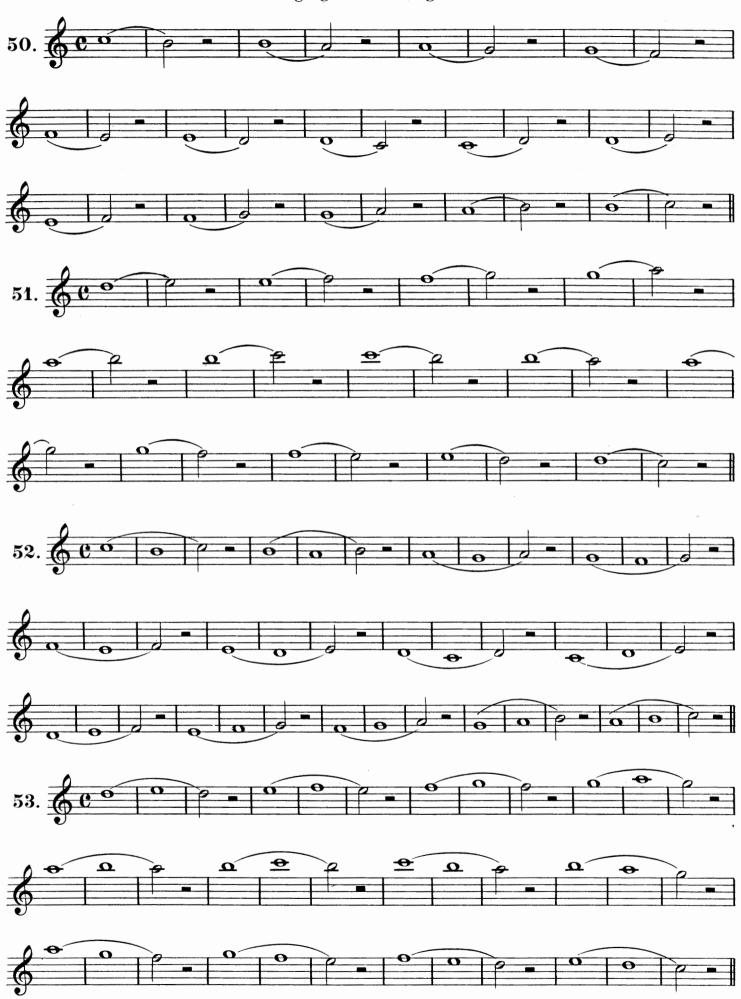
Commence by sustaining each note through four slow counts, or better still, place your watch in view, and hold the tone five seconds. Rest a moment, then attack the next note. Every day the tone can be sustained a little longer, until you are able to hold each note fifteen seconds. A very perceptible wavering of the tone will be noticed at first, due to the imperfect development of the embouchure, but this will disappear with practice. Do not bite or pinch the reed, and avoid over-tiring the lip.

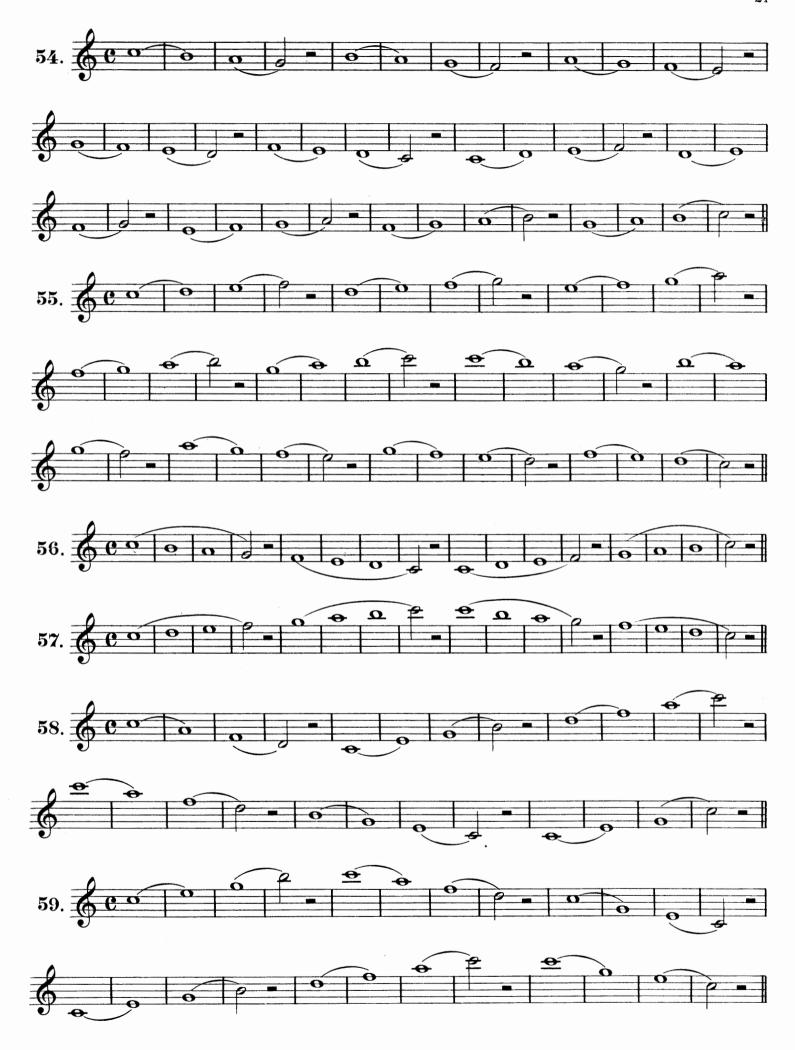
Each note should be attacked cleanly with the syllable "ta," but softly, the tone gradually increasing to forte, then decreasing to a mere whisper. Do not wait until the lungs are exhausted, but cut the tone off sharply by ceasing to force the breath through the instrument.

Take breath on the rests



Continue the air column while changing the note (legato)









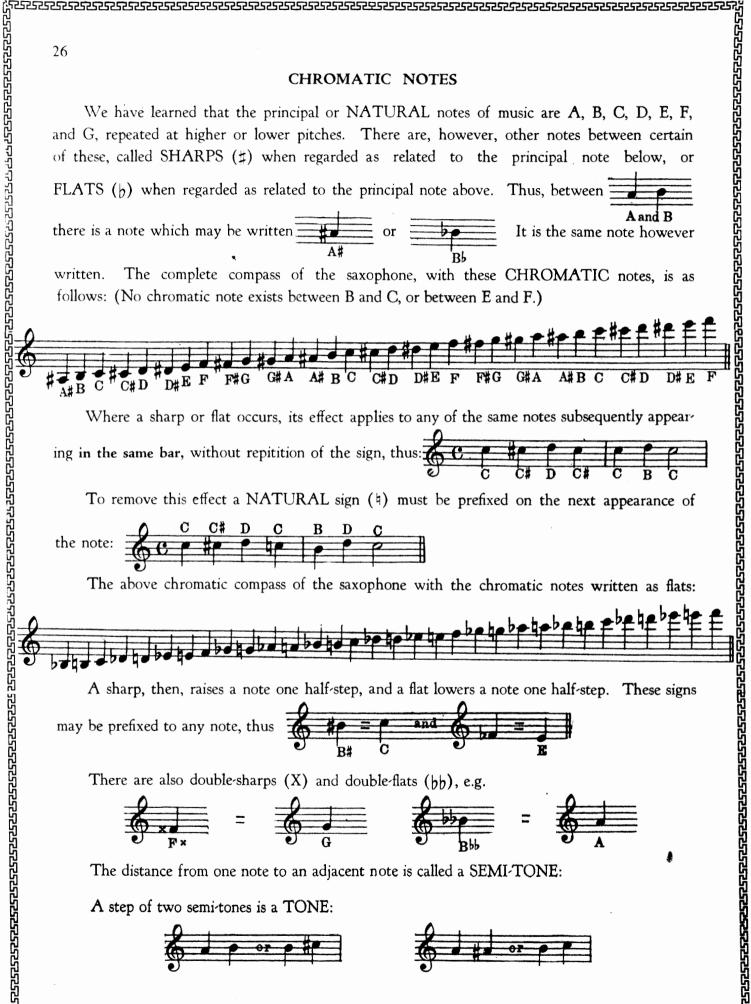




CHROMATIC NOTES

We have learned that the principal or NATURAL notes of music are A, B, C, D, E, F, and G, repeated at higher or lower pitches. There are, however, other notes between certain of these, called SHARPS (#) when regarded as related to the principal note below, or FLATS (b) when regarded as related to the principal note above. Thus, between there is a note which may be written It is the same note however

The complete compass of the saxophone, with these CHROMATIC notes, is as follows: (No chromatic note exists between B and C, or between E and F.)



Where a sharp or flat occurs, its effect applies to any of the same notes subsequently appear ing in the same bar, without repitition of the sign, thus:

To remove this effect a NATURAL sign (4) must be prefixed on the next appearance of

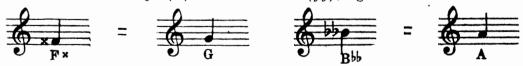


The above chromatic compass of the saxophone with the chromatic notes written as flats:



A sharp, then, raises a note one half-step, and a flat lowers a note one half-step. These signs may be prefixed to any note, thus

There are also double-sharps (X) and double-flats (bb), e.g.

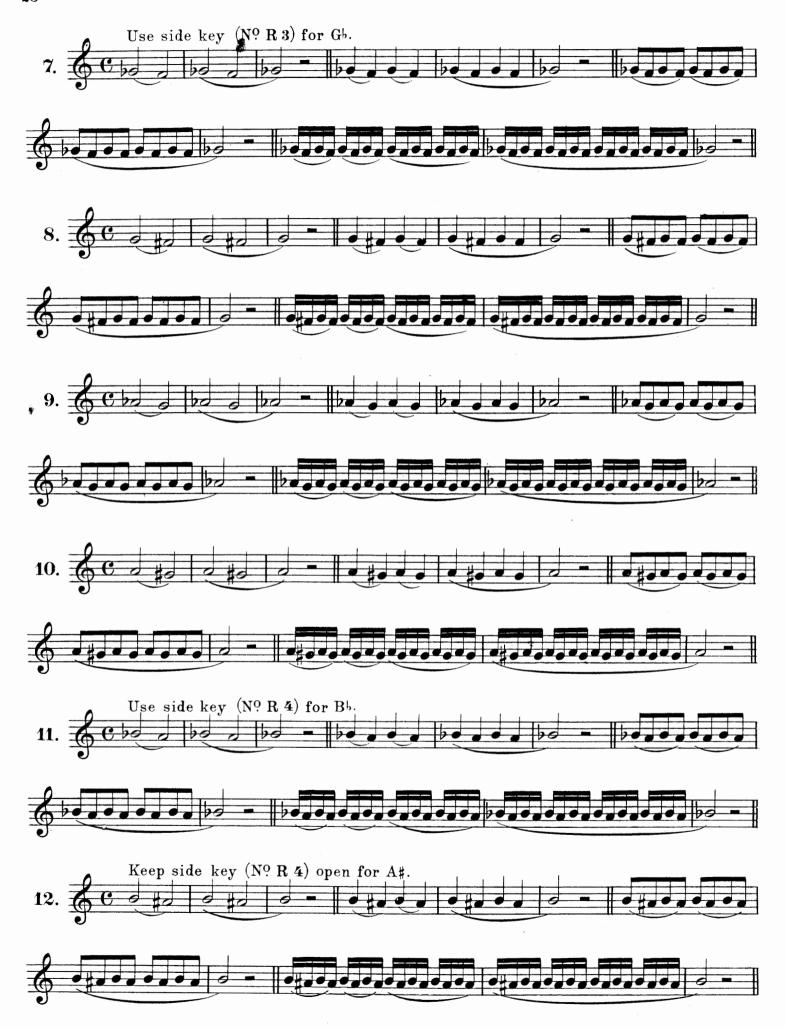


The distance from one note to an adjacent note is called a SEMI-TONE:

A step of two semi-tones is a TONE:





















SCALES AND KEYS

A scale is a succession of tones and semi-tones in regular order, starting from any given note, ascending and descending. It is named from the note on which it begins. The scales are of very ancient origin, being derived from the Greek "tetra-chord," meaning "four notes."

SCALES

CHROMATIC

Consisting only of Tones and semi-tones in regular order "MAJOR MINOR

Same ascending and descending and descending







Exercises in all Major Keys

KEY OF C MAJOR





KEY OF F MAJOR









Indian Characteristic



A THOROUGH FOUNDATION IS THE
FIRST REQUISITE FOR ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

Nearly all amateurs desire to play tunes, melodies, etc., before they have mastered their scales. They cannot progress until they have their major, minor, melodic and harmonic scales at their finger ends. Play them carefully and thoughfully, guing each note the exact value and expression designated. To learn to play well in tune, and have a beautiful, even, clear tone, one should practice long tomes throughout the register of the saxophone for at least a half-hour daily, starting pano and crescendoing to double forte them decrescendoing very gradually. Too many amateur saxophonists start to play tunes and try to obtain weird and jazvy effects, believing that this will qualify them as players, without first mastering the real rudients of saxophone playing; good tone, proper intonation, and thorough familiarity with all the scales.

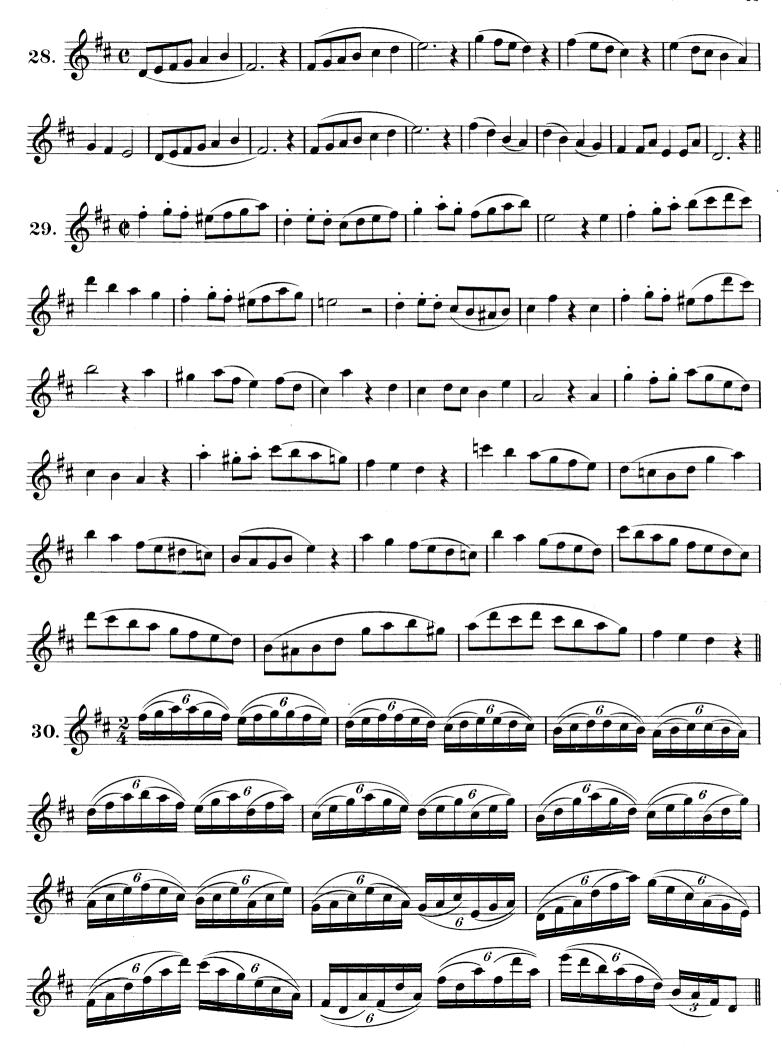
Beauty of tone is the most important essential in saxophone playing, and in no other way can it be developed more certainly than by practicing long sustained tones at least a half-hour daily when one first picks up his instrument. Be very careful to keep the true from getting wavy and off parch. As with the clarinet, when one plays fortusismo on the saxophone he will have a tendency to play flat, and vice versa, in playing pano he is agt to play sharp. One's ear must he trained so that it is sensitive enough to detect the faulty intonation in order that the embouchure may be instantly altered enough to correct the pitch. One's ear is of more importance than his embouchure may be instantly altered enough to correct the pitch. One's ear is of more importance than his embouchure may be instantly altered enough to correct the pitch. One's ear is of more importance than his embouchure may be instantly altered enough to correct pitch. One's ear is of more importance than the insuluence of the playing in tune. A good embouchure with a faulty ear will get a player nowhere, but a good ear will correct and overcome a faulty





KEY OF D MAJOR





One Step



A PRECISE ATTACK IS THE ESSENCE OF WELL-DEFINED RENDITION

As IS THE ESSENCE ED RENDITION

In playing rapid staccatos the tongue should curl you. It is hard to give set rules for tongueing he mouth, tongue, etc., in individuals. Staccato is of the reed. The tongue should touch the tip. To tongue rapidly there should be a constant thing in the lightest possible manner on the except in the lightest possible manner on the except in the low tones, which causes them to jump the instrument leaks or does not cover properly rould make the mouth and lips as round as postenough pressure to keep the air from escaping ressure as the scale ascends. A round and fairly is in the attack. It will be noticed that once you low tones come easily and surely, but the difficultum tones come easily and surely, but the difficultum tones come easily and surely, but the difficultum tones is eliminated.

This method may easily tongue on the reed be heard than tone, making trual contact of the tongue with the reed is not in notes is eliminated.

The playing of the lower tones tack on these tones. This method may easily tongue on the reed be heard than tone, making trual contact of the tongue with the reed is not in notes is eliminated.

The playing of the lower tones tack on these tones. This method may easily tongue on the reed be heard than tone, making trual contact of the tongue with the reed is not in notes is eliminated.

The playing of the lower tones are the give is drawn from the reed, and it is then that the playing of the lower tones are actual attack comes from the breathing of a twise against the reed, through suction, near the give is drawn from the reed or the mouthpiece.

The playing the playing of the lower tones are the give is drawn from the reed or the mouthpiece.

The playing the playing of the lower tones are the give is drawn from the reed or the mouthpiece.

The playing the playing of the lower tones are the give is drawn from the reed or the mouthpiece.

The playing A Imost every saxophore the saxophone is unquestion. A rapid staccato is, more or can improve it by painstakin upward slightly and strike the saxophone, owing to dis nothing more or less that of the reed lightly before the flow of air into the mouthput treme tip of the reed.

Undoubtedly a large requires an embouchure corsaxophone. Most clarinetis an octave, and often leads the To produce the proper ton sible similar to the letter at the sides of the mouth, single firm embochure is necessary start the reed vibrating, as inculty is in the sharp staccat.

A very peculiar attack in detached passages and in be abused and more sound it too rough and obvious. It discernible, the difficulty of Lay the tongue flat on striking or attacking the relittle vacuum effected by he tip. In other words, the to the abrupt, heavy staccato of the striking on notes above low D or with the instrument covering.

Slap-tonguing is especially assages. In such cases the striking or strakes the sassages. In such cases the sassages. Almost every saxophonist approaches a staccato passage with fear and trembling. Truthfully, the saxophone is unquestionably the most difficult wind instrument upon which to staccato rapidly. A rapid staccato is, more or less, a gift of nature, but any player with limited ability along this line can improve it by painstaking practice and study. In playing rapid staccatos the tongue should curl upward slightly and strike the reed only at the very tip. It is hard to give set rules for tongueing the saxophone, owing to different formations of the mouth, tongue, etc., in individuals. Staccato is nothing more or less than starting the vibrations of the reed. The tongue should touch the tip of the reed lightly before the tone comes forth. To tongue rapidly there should be a constant flow of air into the mouthpiece, with the tongue acting in the lightest possible manner on the ex-

Undoubtedly a large proportion of saxophonists formerly played the clarinet. requires an embouchure considerably at variance with that necessary for the best results on the saxophone. Most clarinetists use too much pressure on the low tones, which causes them to jump an octave, and often leads the player to beleive that the instrument leaks or does not cover properly. To produce the proper tone quality the player should make the mouth and lips as round as possible similar to the letter O, merely employing enough pressure to keep the air from escaping at the sides of the mouth, slightly increasing the pressure as the scale ascends. A round and fairly firm embochure is necessary, and the main point is in the attack. It will be noticed that once you start the reed vibrating, as in slurred passages, the low tones come easily and surely, but the difficulty is in the sharp staccato attack.

A very peculiar attack called "slap-tongue" is almost essential in the playing of the lower tones in detached passages and in making a sforzando attack on these tones. This method may easily be abused and more sound of the impact of the tongue on the reed be heard than tone, making it too rough and obvious. Mastered so that the actual contact of the tongue with the reed is not discernible, the difficulty of playing detached low notes is eliminated.

Lay the tongue flat on the reed with the mouthpiece held in a natural manner. Instead of striking or attacking the reed with the tongue, the actual attack comes from the breathing of a little vacuum effected by hollowing the tongue flatwise against the reed, through suction, near the tip. In other words, the tone starts when the tongue is drawn from the reed, and it is then that the abrupt, heavy staccato effect is heard.

In starting to use this method, your attack will be rather crude and harsh, but practice will overcome this so that the roughness of the slap effect will be eliminated. Do not use slap tonguing on notes above low D or E. Thus players who do not obtain the low notes freely and positively, with the instrument covering perfectly, can blame either themselves, the reed or the mouthpiece.

Slap-tonguing is especially effective for Oriental effects. It is not adapted to rapid staccato passages. In such cases the regular legitimate single-tonguing should be used.

KEY OF Eb MAJOR









Orientale

Duet for Two Saxophones



CORRECT SHADING IS

THE BASIS OF MUSICAL EXPRESSION

In solo playing, the phrasing is of extreme importance, and this is a difficult subject to cover in words. I have heard many saxophone soloists, who, while capable of fine effects, did not bring the passages out through fear of the tone becoming reedy. A common fault is a tendency toward reediness of the tone when bringing out a crescendo, particularly in a melodic passage. A melody played without tone color, or in a tiresome continuity of tone, is like a painting, perhaps of noble conception and faulties drawing, but lacking the requisite colors to make it altogether charming. In playing a melody try to imitate the human voice of a good artist, playing a gradual crescendo as it ascends and a diminuendo as it descends. Ballad playing is pepular on the saxophone, and one should study the words of the melody to get the proper phrasing and avoid taking breath in the wrong place.

THE VIBRATO

The vibrato, when properly employed, should emulate the human voice. It is used in beautifying the tone quality, but if not correctly employed sounds ridiculous. Many players use a sort of laughing vibrato, produced from sounding something quite similar to "ha ha" from the throat, but this is the wrong idea, as it is too rapid and hard to control. The proper way to produce the vibrato is by alternately tightening and relaxing the lower lip. This makes the sustained tones of the slow passages glow with life, especially in solo parts. Through discriminating use of the vibrato one can greatly enhance the musical quality of one's playing and impart to the saxophone a soulful quality of tone similar to the voice of a fine singer. A vibrato should only be used on sustained tones.

TUNING OF INSTRUMENT

The saxophone must be tuned when playing in concert with other instruments. This is done by moving the mouthpiece forward or backward on the neck of the instrument. Advancing the mouthpiece raises the pitch of the entire scale. Withdrawing the mouthpiece lowers the pitch.









Fox Trot



EXTEMPORIZING

It has been with a spirit of unwillingness that I have made "jazz" records, or played this type of solo, but it is also true that it is what many people want to hear on the saxophone. Consequently I have endeavored to produce weird effects, such as glissando, tongue-flutter, "Oriental," etc., with the least possible sacrifice of the dignity of the instrument. The clean-cut type of jazzing, without sacrifice of tone-quality, is to be desired. A complete understanding of major and minor scales, arpeggios, broken chords, in all keys, is essential, combined with a more or less inborn ability to "fake." My system of jazzing is to take arpeggios and modulate with the air, from one scale to another.

THE LESS-USED SAXOPHONES

It is the general opinion that the soprano saxophone is more difficult to play in tune than the others, that it is, in short, an aggravating instrument. I had trouble with this little one at first in doing phonograph work, but have now come to the conclusion that it is as well in tune as the larger ones. The main difficulty is that saxophonists do not play the soprano regularly, merely employing it as a "double," so naturally, when they do play it, they play it out of tune. If one will take the trouble to become as familiar with the soprano as with the instrument he plays regularly, he will play it as well in tune. I find the straight model superior to the curved soprano—it is more handy to hold, the arms being less cramped, and, in consequence, the fingers are more free for rapid execution.

The bass saxophone is as good as the bass member of any other family of instruments. It has the tone, intonation and facility of execution of the smaller saxophones, when properly handled. One of the outstanding faults of most players is the tendency to overwork the "slap-tongue" attack, producing more slap than tone. It is necessary to attack the extreme low tones of this instrument more violently than on the smaller saxophones, but there should be a definite dividing line between a sufficiently sharp attack and a heavy slap sound that is more pronounced than the actual tone. It is a mistaken idea that the bass saxophone is practicable only in the larger saxophone combinations, as my experience is that it can be played as delicately and as pianissimo as the smaller ones. Its sustained string effect is of great value in military band, as well as in orchestral and novelty combinations.

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Groups Of Notes

The TRIPLET is a group of three notes to be played in the time commonly occupied by two notes of similar value:

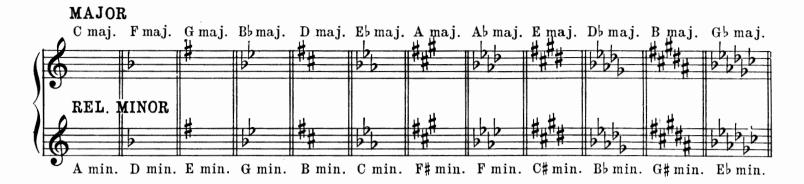
and

Notes are also found in various other groups, the most common of which is the double-triplet:



Minor Scales and Exercises

Every major scale has its relative minor, the root of which is the sixth degree of the major scale, and which bears the same signature.



The HARMONIC MINOR scale has seven notes of its relative major, the seventh degree being raised by an ACCIDENTAL not essential to the key.

The MELODIC MINOR scale has its sixth and seventh degrees raised by accidentals when ascending only.

See below for examples.

KEY OF A MINOR



KEY OF D MINOR



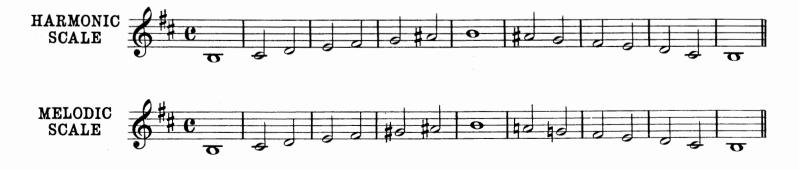




KEY OF G MINOR

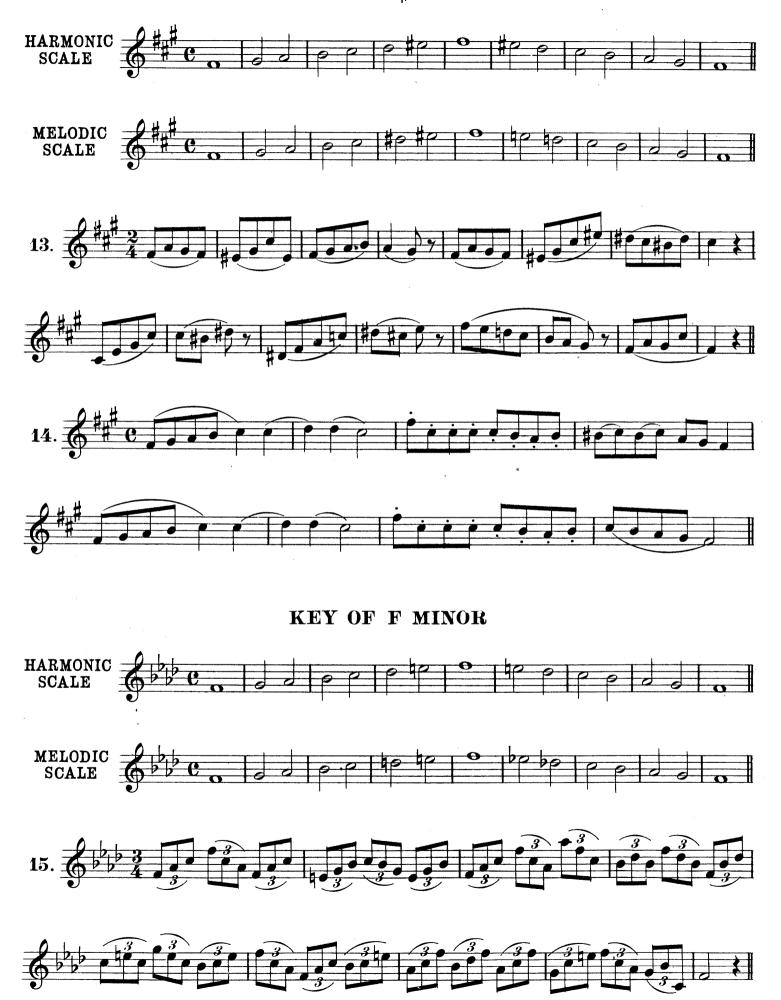


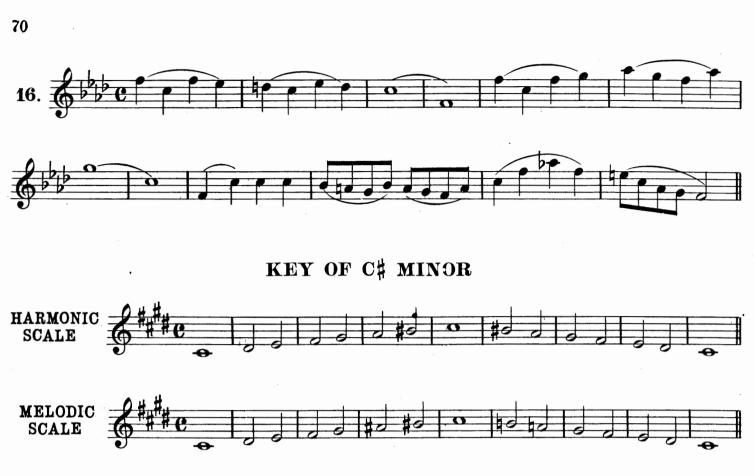
KEY OF B MINOR





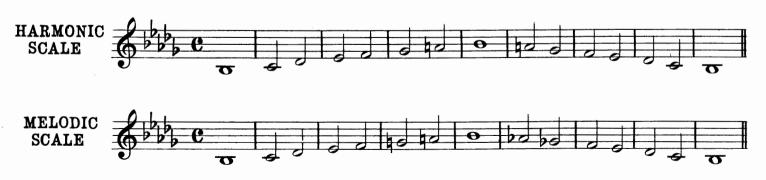
KEY OF F# MINOR







KEY OF BE MINOR





KEY OF E MINOR



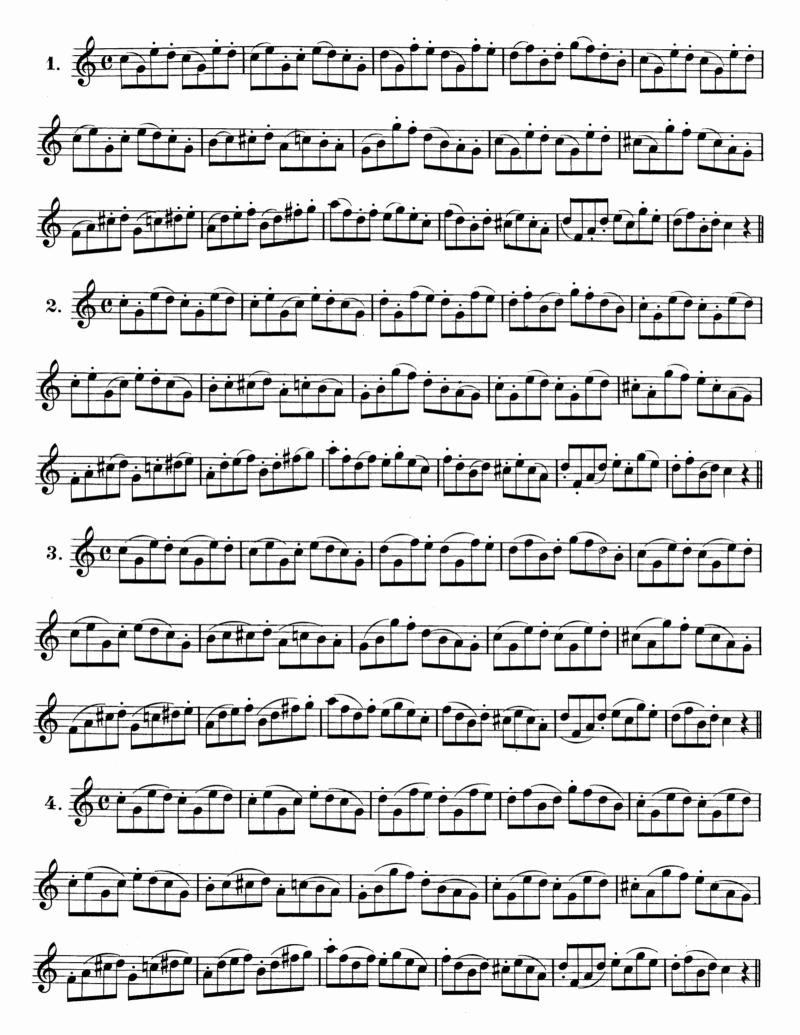
Exercises On Tonguing

















Exercises On Triplets







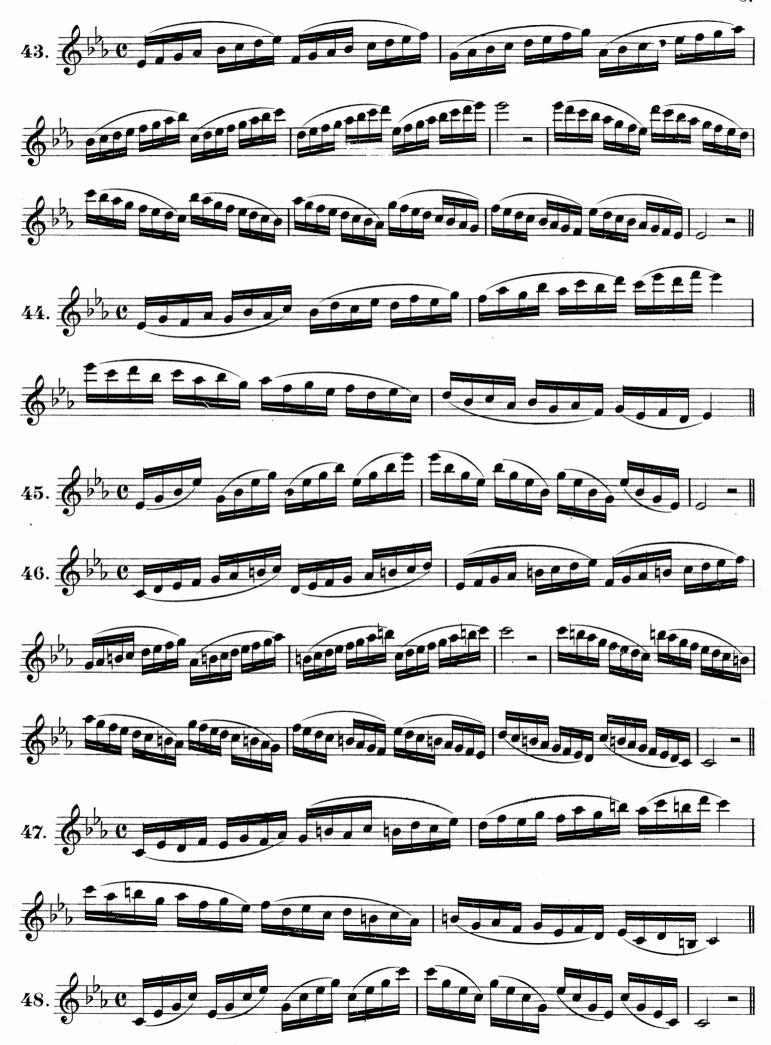






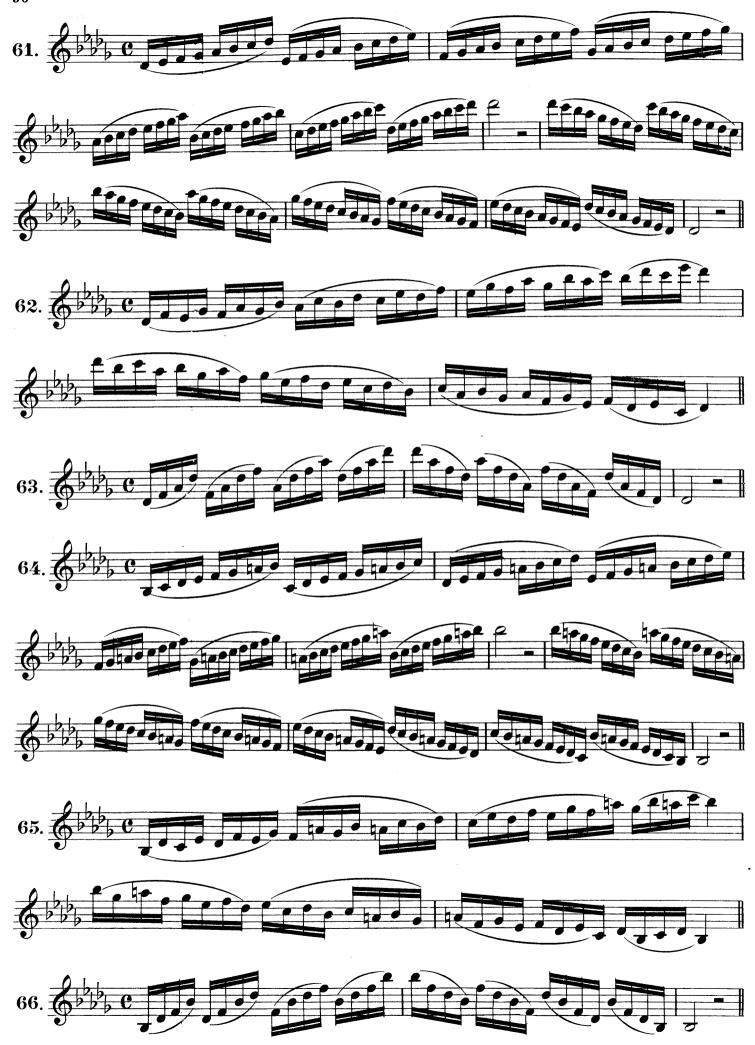


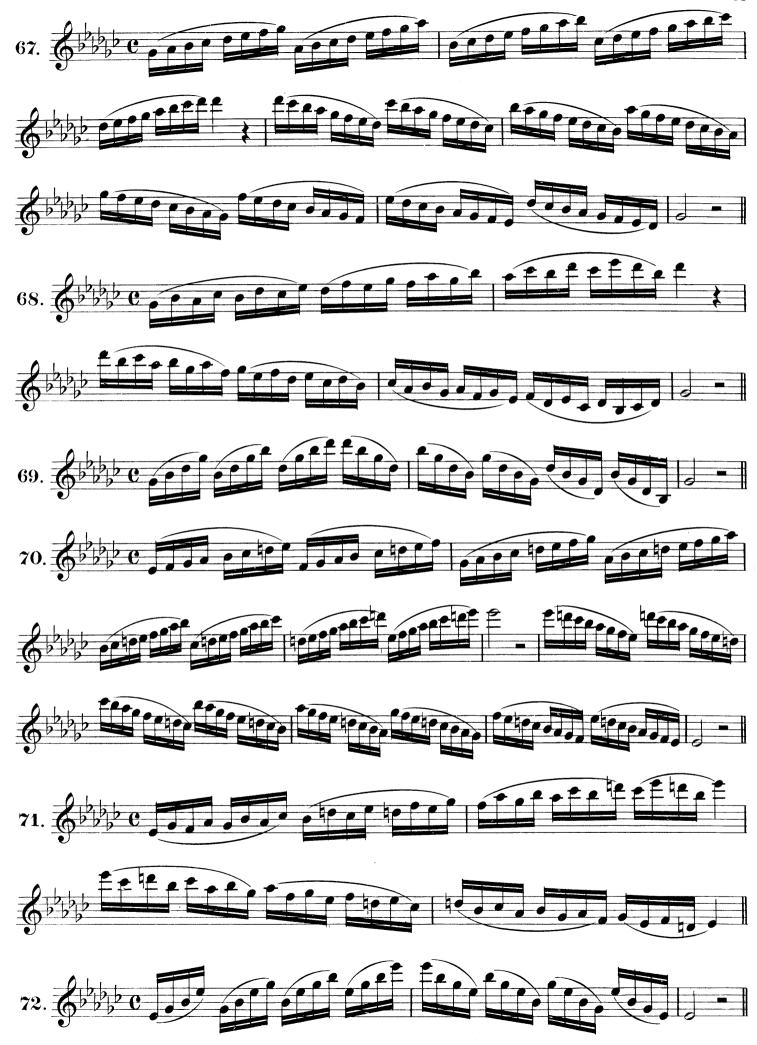




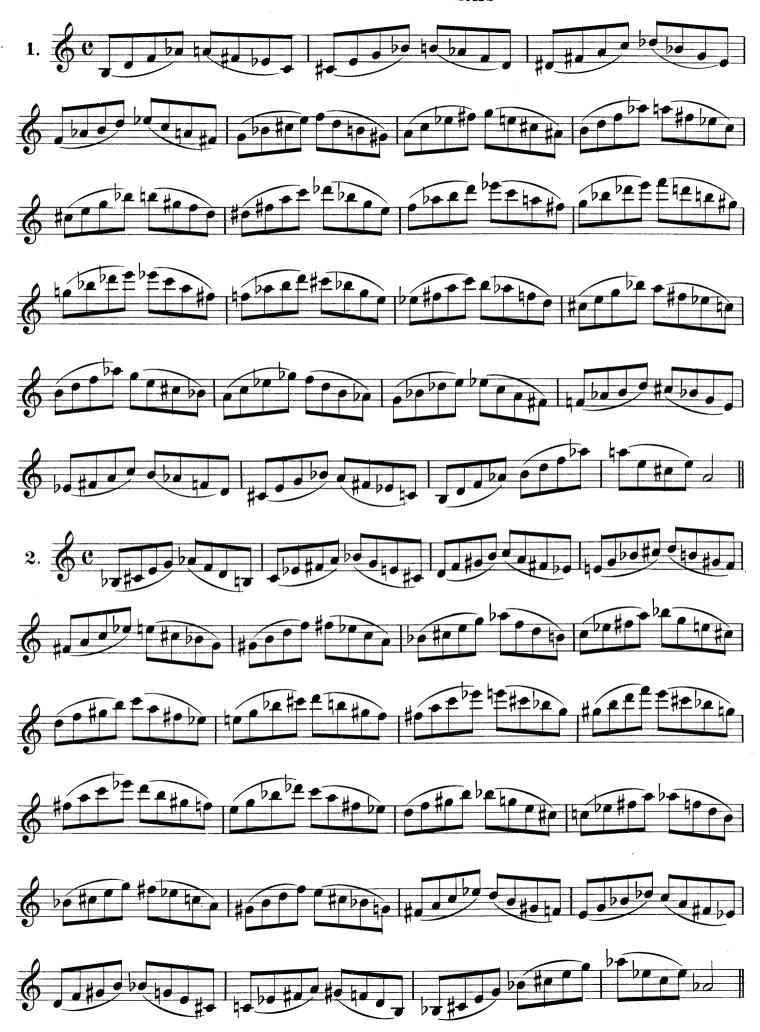
















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Evenness

These exercises should also be practised staccato, each note detached.

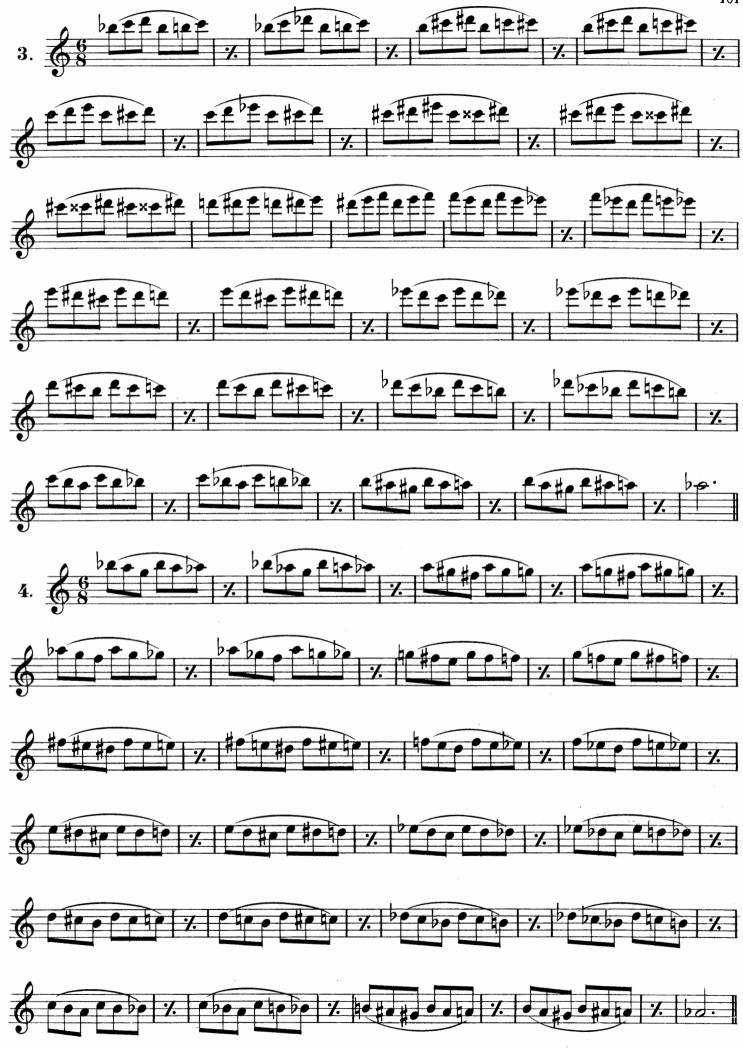


















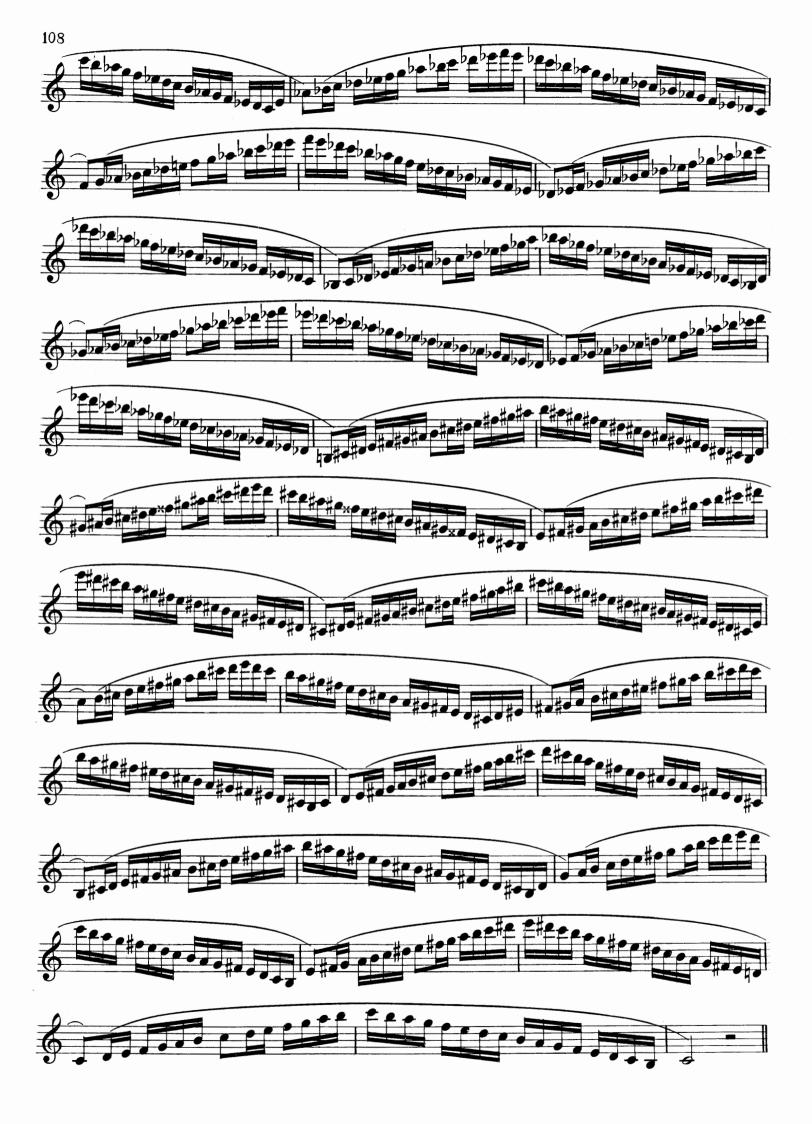










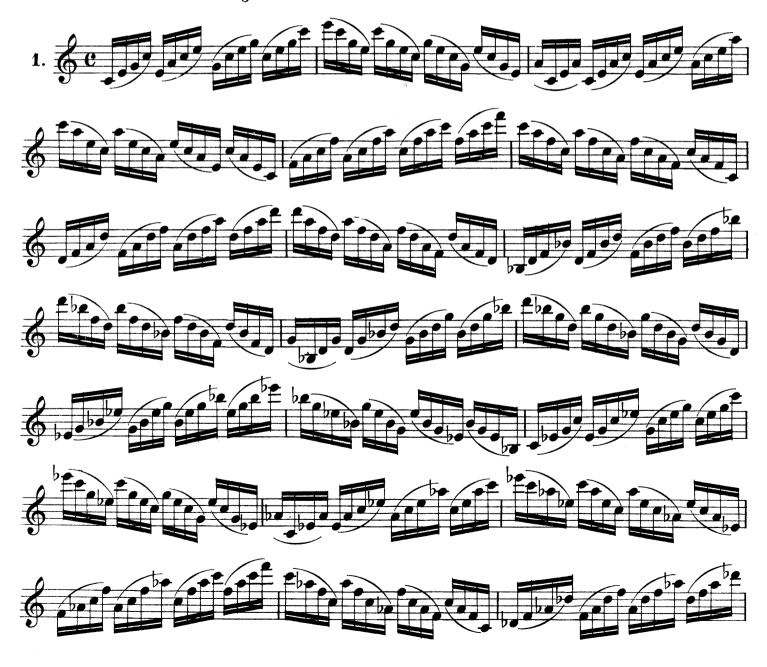




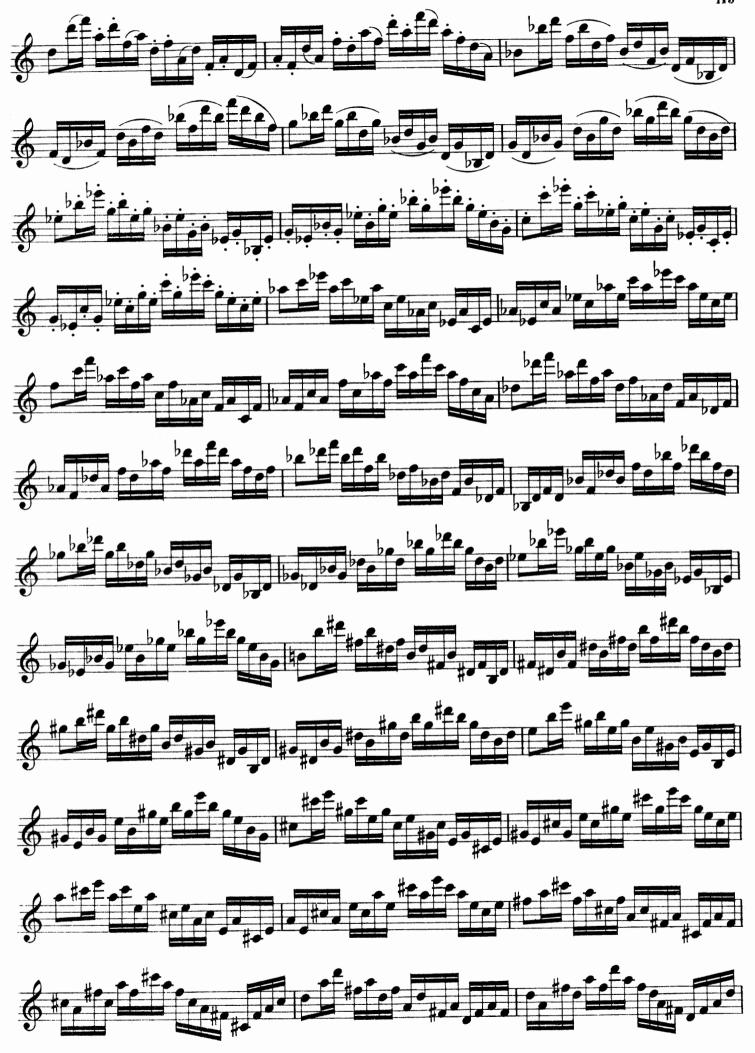




Major and Minor Common Chords









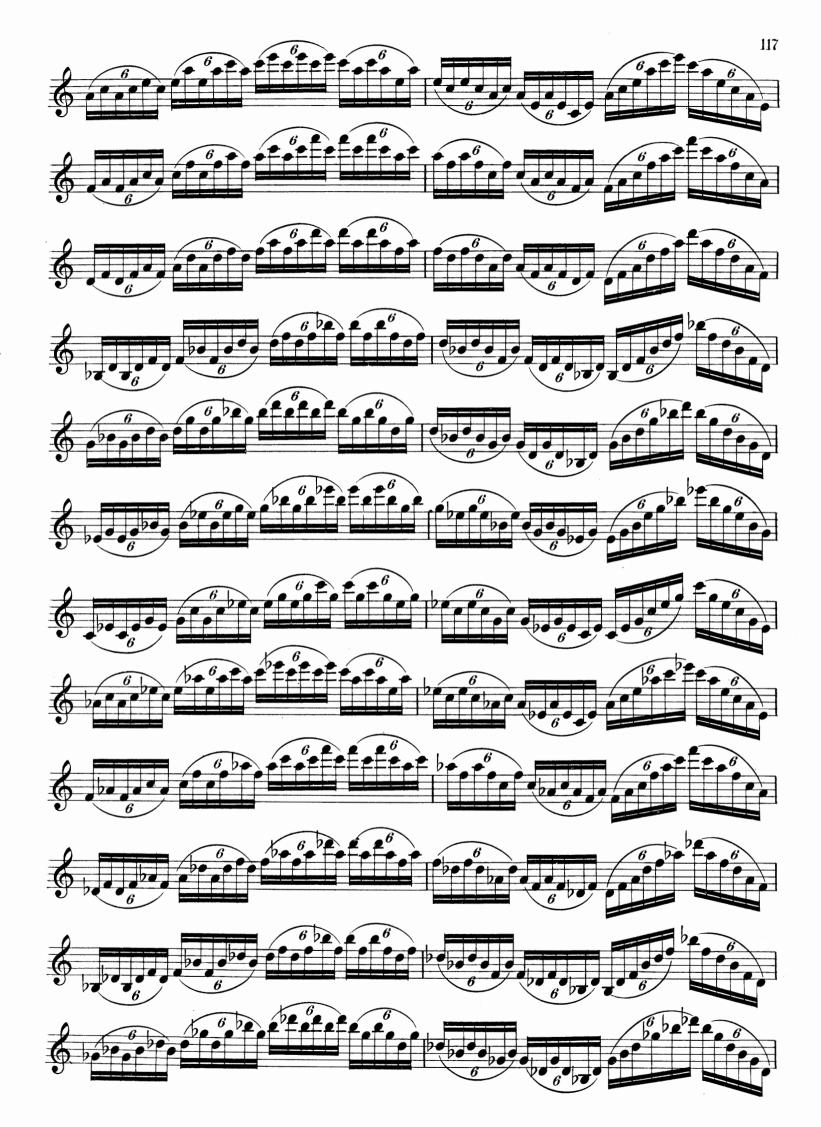


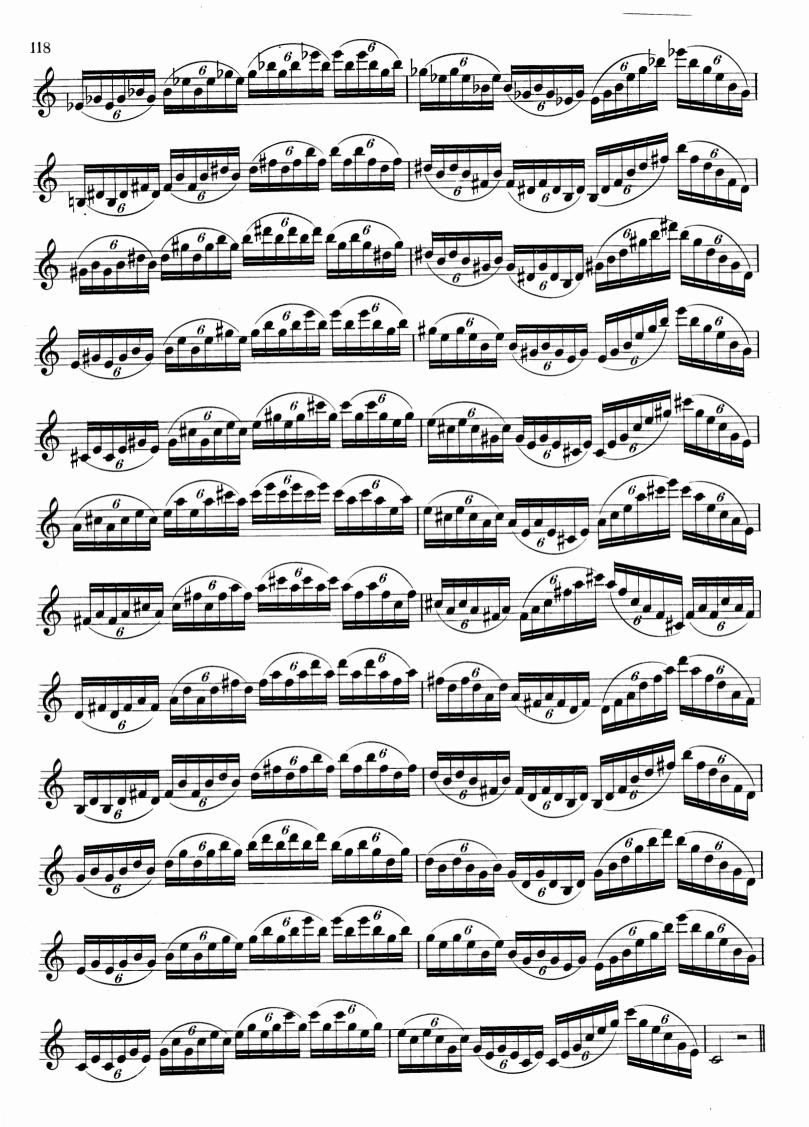


Diminished Sevenths















Embellishments









Turns

The Turn is an added embellishment indicated by the sign ∞ , the exact form being left more or less to the discretion of the performer. The time value of the notes employed is invariably subtracted from that of the note preceding. Various examples are given below. An accidental above or below the sign indicates that the lowest or highest note of the turn is to be chromatically altered.



The Mordent

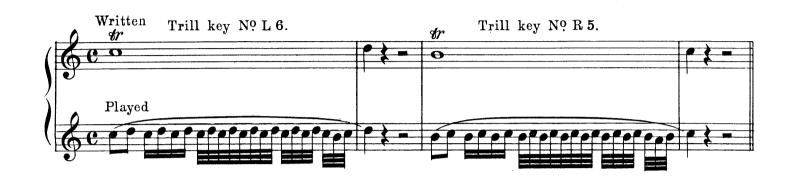
The Mordent or Passing-Shake, is a rapid alternation of one note with the one next higher in the scale. It is found only in quick tempos.



Trills

The Trill or Shake consists of a rapid alternation of a note with the note next higher in the scale in the key indicated, and is indicated by the sign \mathscr{U} or \longrightarrow . The trill is concluded with a turn leading to the note next written.

Some trills are very difficult, others comparatively easy of execution, due to the superior development of certain fingers. Start the trill slowly, increasing speed to the end, using great care to ensure the evenness of the two notes employed.







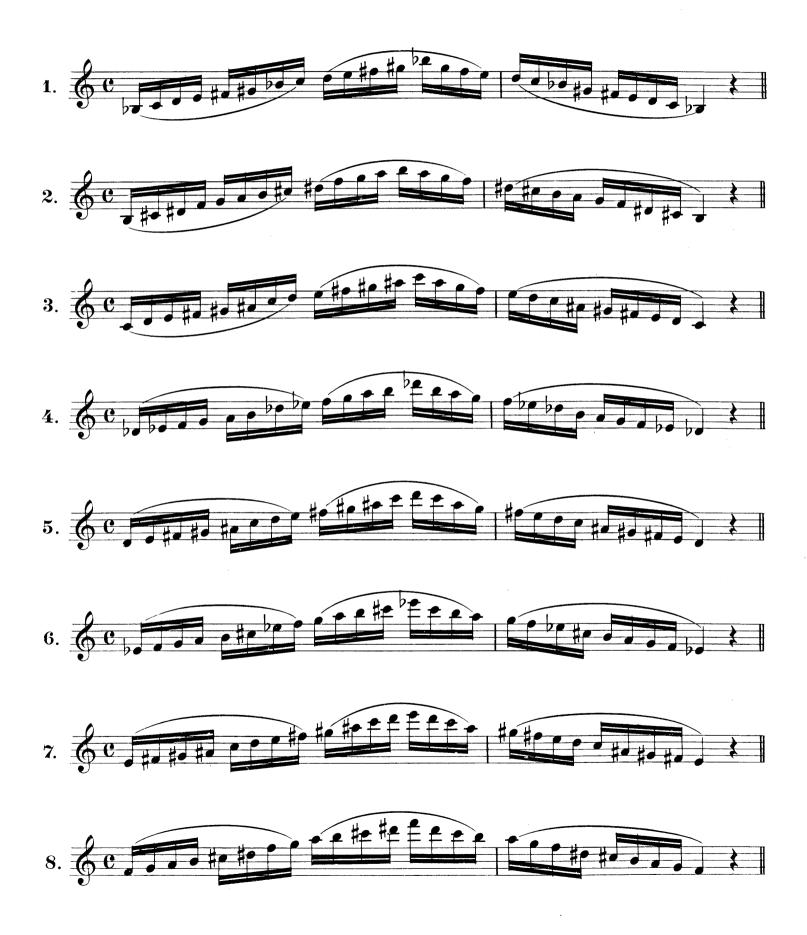






Whole Tone Scales

The so-called "modern harmony" sponsored by Debussy, Stravinsky and other contemporary writers is based on a harmonic system consisting entirely of tones, the usual semi-tones being absent from the scales.



SAXEMA

Eb Alto Saxophone

Jazz Encore Solo



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Vision D'Amour

Eb Alto Saxophone

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SAX-SERENE

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