

ABRSM Grade 1 Clarinet Pieces

MINUET - Mozart

Here are some tips to help you work through your Grade 1 clarinet song!

Things to keep in mind:

1. Time signature:  This tells us that there are 3 crotchet beats per bar.

2. Key signature:  You need to play Bb throughout this song

3. There are different note lengths in this piece. Make sure you count each note correctly:

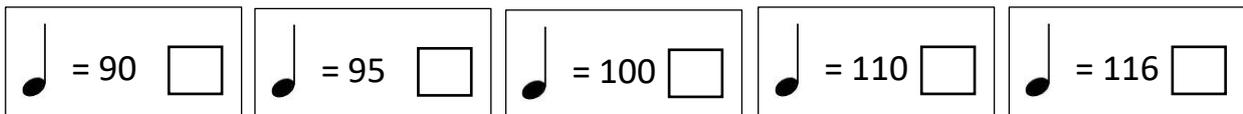


Tip: you could use different words to help you to work out the rhythms.



4. Speed: Moderato (meaning moderate)

This is a steady song, but don't worry if it is a little fast to start with. Try building up to the correct speed:



You can find these different speeds by downloading a "metronome" app on a phone or tablet.

5. Dynamics

There are different dynamics in this piece. You can master these by blowing harder and softer into your clarinet.

mf

Moderately Loud

f

Loud

Quiet

p

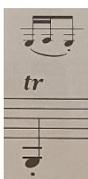
6. Breathing

This is tricky to master. You should breathe before each new mini section, which starts with two quavers (half beat notes) Your breathing should not affect the flow of your playing.

7. Master the tricky bits



This note has a staccato on it, which means that you need to make the note really short and crisp.



tr = trill

In this piece, you will need to quickly change from G to A by moving your fingers very quickly.

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Slurs – there are some long slurs in this piece, make sure that you have taken a big breath to master them. Always tongue the first note of a slur.

Mastering the song: *Tick off each task once you can do it:*

- I can play all the notes confidently
- I can play the notes with the correct lengths (you will need to count the beats in your head)
- I can play the whole song from start to finish
- I can play the music and make it flow
- I can play the song with the correct breathing (breathe before each new section)
- I can play each slurred section with confidence – don't forget to tongue the first note of every slur
- I can play my staccato notes effectively
- I can play my trills confidently
- I can play the song with the correct dynamics*
- I can play the song with a piano accompaniment – you can download this from your exam pack, or search on YouTube*
- I have performed this to my family*