

ABRSM Grade 1 Clarinet Pieces

LA BOURÉE - Praetorius

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

Things to keep in mind:

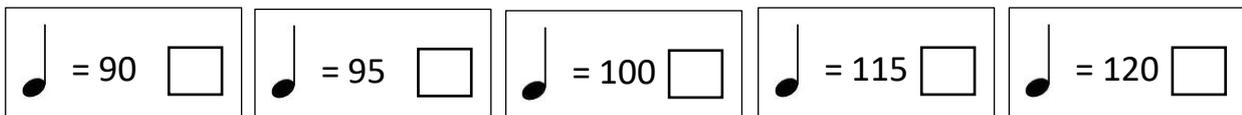
1. Time signature:  This tells us that there are 4 crotchet beats per bar.

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



3. Speed: Lively

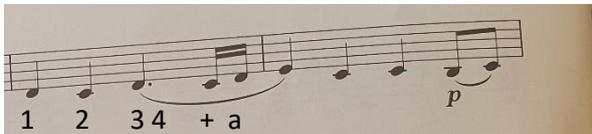
This is a fairly steady song, but don't worry if it is a little fast to start with. Try building up to the correct speed:



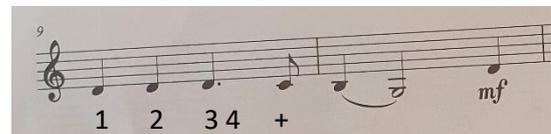
You can find these different speeds by downloading a "metronome" app on a phone or tablet.

4. Dotted rhythms - These are tricky but counting it out can help.

BAR 7 & 8



BAR 9 & 10



5. Dynamics

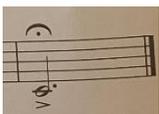
There are different dynamics in this piece. You can master these by blowing harder and softer into your clarinet.

mf = Moderately Loud *f* = Loud *p* = Quiet *ff* = VERY Loud  = Gradually Getting Louder

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. Extra symbols to note



This is the last note of your piece! It has an accent underneath the note, which means you need to stress the sound a little – make it an "angry note"

It also has a long pause above it, meaning that you need to hold this note for a longer time.

rit. This stands for ritardando. It means that the music gradually slows down at the end.

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.

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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 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