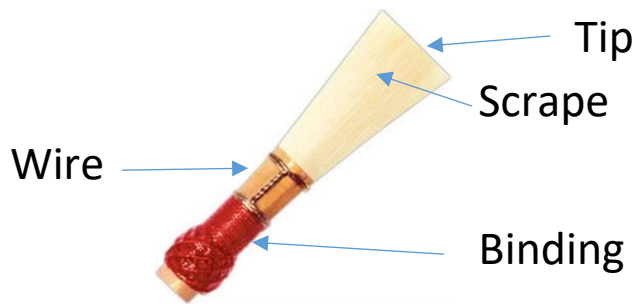


Put on my reed; Blow a steady note, with a good mouth position



The bassoon reed needs to be put in water for about 20 seconds to get it working. The water must only cover the cane. **Don't put the whole reed in water.**



Taking the reed, shake any excess water off it. Then tuck lips over your teeth, and place the reed evenly on the cushion that you have created with your mouth. Make sure that your lips are about half way down the reed. You shouldn't be too close to the wire. Then blow.

It might tickle, but you will soon get used to it. Try to keep your lips still and create a long sound.

Then holding the binding at the bottom of the reed, gently push it onto the end of the crook. Make sure that it's on securely. Never touch the tip of the reed, and **careful not to touch the tip as it will easily break..**

Now try to create a good sound on the note E– Place your left hand thumb on this key on the back of the bassoon, and your left hand first finger on the top hole on the front of the instrument.



Try to maintain a steady flow of air through the instrument.