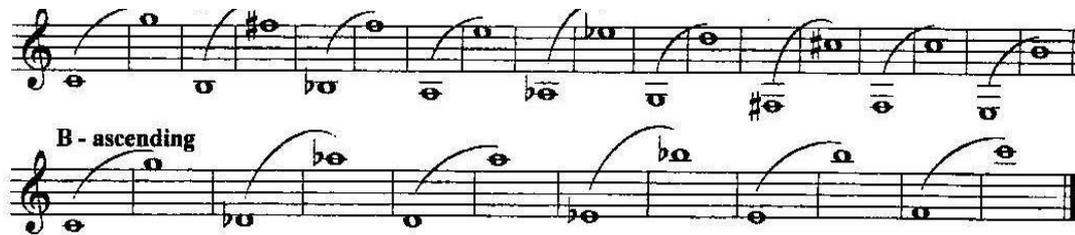


Grade 2 clarinet A2 The Trout

Before you start this piece you will need to be confident on the upper register notes of the clarinet.



Try this exercise.

By adding the register key to the lower note in each case it will become the upper note.

Tips for upper register notes:

Make sure your thumb fully covers the hole and just the tip of your thumb presses the register key. Your thumb needs to be flat against the clarinet for this.



you may need a slightly harder reed – perhaps a number 2

Lift your clarinet up so that it is at a 45 degree angle to your body. Don't be tempted to rest it on your knee and try to squeeze the note out!

You may need a little more mouth piece in your mouth. By moving your lip down the reed you are allowing it more room to vibrate.



Always try to play with an open throat to allow as much air through as possible. Imagine yawning whilst you play.

Try these exercises next.

1 High E - add the octave key to the fingering for low A

2 High D - add the octave key to the fingering for low G

3 High C - add the octave key to the fingering for low F

4 Review note names and fingerings

5 Simple Song # 1

6 Simple Song # 2

This link will also help you with

upper register notes

<https://www.theclarinet.net/clarinet-fingering-charts/upper-register/how-to-play-upper-register-B-on-clarinet.html>

At the back of your book you will find the code to download this piece and the backing track.

If you are unable to download it try using this link to Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJyxLJVMYnY>

Listen to this piece and read the description at the bottom of the page in your book to set the mood of the music.

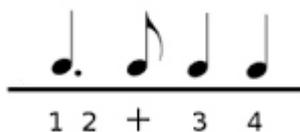
Look at the key signature at the beginning of this piece. That there are no sharps or flats.

Look at the scales at the back of your book and find out which one matches this key signature.



Try playing the scale both slurred and tongued as a warm up.

Listen to the piece and listen out for the dotted rhythm.



count the first complete bar like this.

Try to add the slur and staccato notes in.

When playing G to C you can have the fingers of your right hand on the keys and holes ready to play. This will help you move faster and smoother from G to C.

The same technique can be used from G to B and G to D.

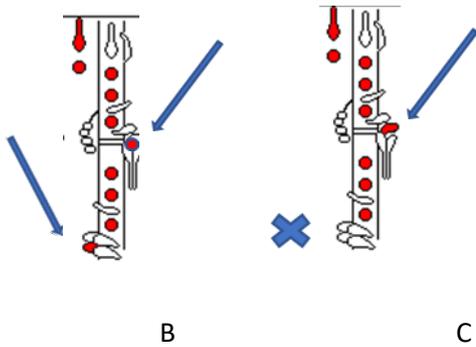


Your right hand fingers can stay in place every time you drop back to the G as in this excerpt.

The next pattern is particularly tricky as you have to move from B to A and back again quite quickly. Practice it several times on its own. Keeping your right hand fingers and little fingers on B when you drop to the A.



Moving from lower register notes to upper register notes (moving over the break) is one of the most difficult parts of learning the clarinet. Take your time and practice these parts slowly and carefully.



When playing B to C use both the B and the C key for B and simply remove the B key for C this will help you move more evenly from B to C and back. As in Bar 13.

Listen to the piece again - pay particular attention to the staccato notes.

Noticed how the player bounces off of them giving a light and delicate feel to the piece.

This is in contrast to bars 13 and 15 where the quavers are slurred and smooth.

This piece is marked Allegro which means lively.

You can just imagine a bubbling stream and trout leaping about in the water

Look at the dynamic markings on this piece and try to include them in your playing.

It is important to practice this piece slowly at first and accurately.

Listen to the download but don't try to play along until you are really confident with the notes and rhythm.

If you like this piece and want to hear the whole Piano quintet you can listen here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20AtvUnSu2s>

piano	<i>p</i>	soft
pianissimo	<i>pp</i>	very soft
forte	<i>f</i>	loud
fortissimo	<i>ff</i>	very loud
mezzo piano	<i>mp</i>	medium soft
mezzo forte	<i>mf</i>	medium loud
crescendo	<i>cresc.</i> <	gradually louder
diminuendo	<i>dim.</i> >	gradually softer

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