

A pre-flute course for young
beginners



Toot!

SAMPLE
Toot!

Flute

A J Shaw



Begin your flute journey with
the fife or recorder

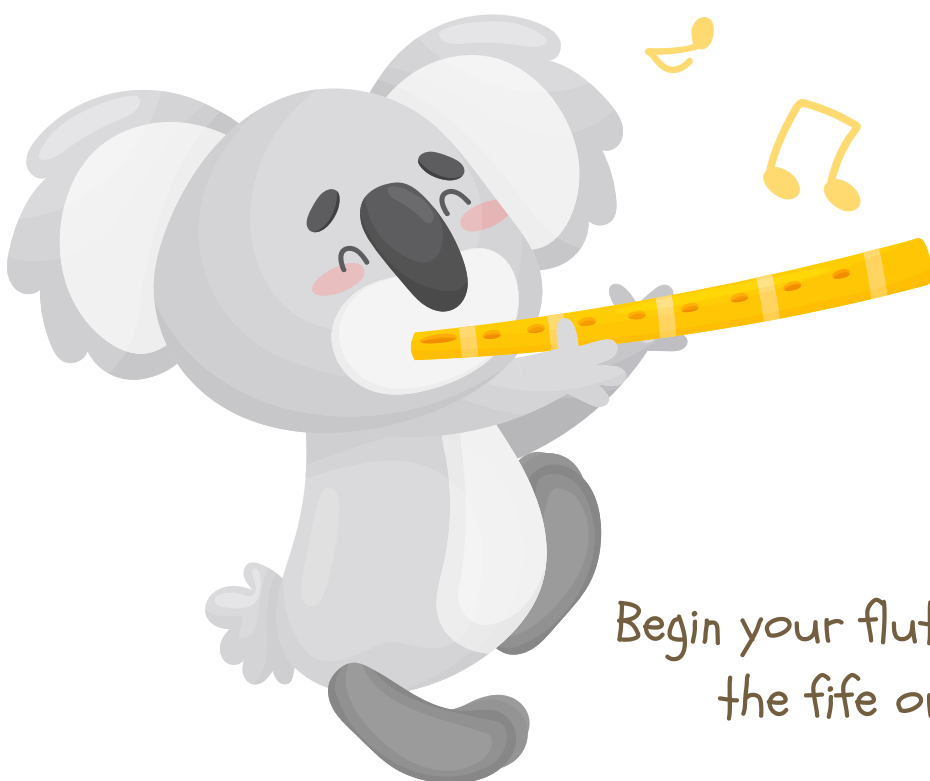
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Introduction

Toot! Toot! Flute was created to provide a fun engaging method book for younger flautists. This book uses a clear progression that establishes and reinforces Key musical concepts in an elementary way.

This method uses a variety of learning techniques from games to purely written activities. Students will journey through an assortment of exercises including traditional songs and original pieces written by the author.

Toot! Toot! Flute is designed to be used with young children who are likely unable to support a full size or curved head flute. For this reason, all material is designed to be played on a fife or recorder in C major.

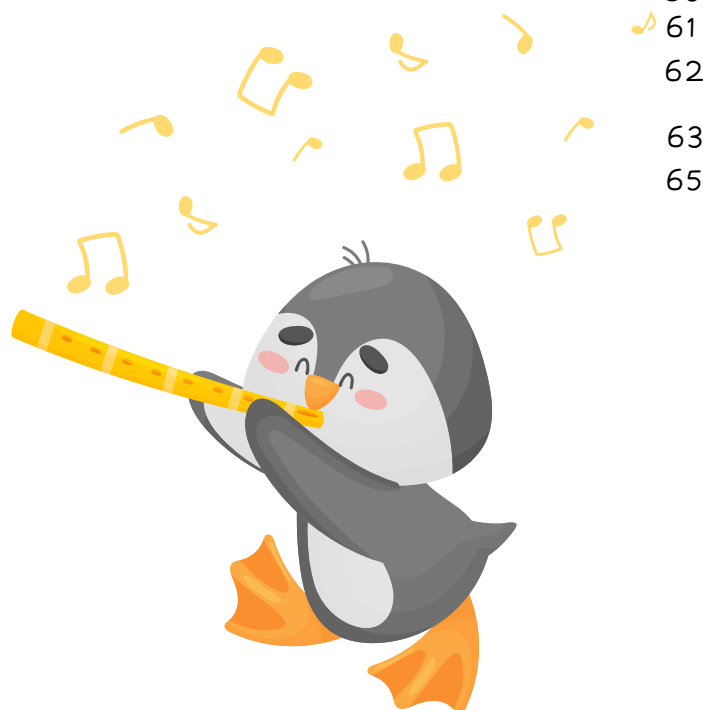
Children progress through each note, singing and playing songs, until they have learnt a C major scale. This method uses unique coloured note heads to help young children with reading music on the staff. Coloured stickers can also be used as a visual aid to correlate to the Keys on their instrument.

Toot! Toot! Flute is suitable for group or individual tuition and is intended to be used in partnership with a teacher.



Contents

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Symbols Key | 3 |
| Pulse and Rhythm | 4 |
| Time Signatures | 5 |
| Head Joint Games | 8 |
| Breathing | 10 |
| Tonguing | 11 |
| Mary Had a Little Lamb | 12 |
| Beginning to Read Music | 13 |
| Let's Get Ready to Play | 14 |
| New Note G | 17 |
| New Note A | 18 |
| New Note C | 20 |
| New Note D | 30 |
| Articulation | 35 |
| New Note F | 40 |
| New Note E | 44 |
| New Note D | 45 |
| New Note Low C | 48 |
| The Farmer in the Dell | 50 |
| ABC Song | 51 |
| Are you Sleeping? | 52 |
| Hot Cross Buns | 53 |
| Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star | 54 |
| On Top of Old Smokey | 55 |
| Can Can | 55 |
| Brahms Lullaby | 56 |
| Baa Baa Black Sheep | 57 |
| Old MacDonald | 58 |
| Dancing Dinosaurs | 59 |
| Singing Sailor | 60 |
| Musical Morning | 61 |
| Let's Celebrate! | 62 |
| Certificate Page | 63 |
| Practice Diary | 65 |



Symbols Key



rhythm time

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take a note



listen up



say and play

Pulse and Rhythm

When we play or hear music, we can generally feel a pulse.

This is like the heartbeat of a piece of music. We call this the beat.



Put your hand on your heart. Do you feel a steady pulse?

How many beats you can feel?

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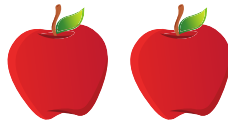
This is a crotchet. It is worth 1 beat.

It sounds like the word PEAR.



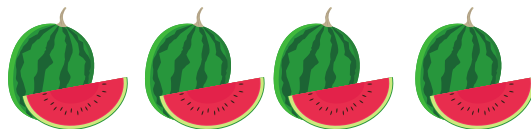
This is a minim. It is worth 2 beats.

It sounds like the word AP-PLA



This is a semibreve. It is worth 4 beats.

It sounds like the word WA-TER-MEL-ON.



Time Signatures

Beats are organised into bars using barlines.

Time signatures tell us how many beats are in a bar.

The top number of the time signature tells us how many beats are in a bar.

The bottom number tells us what type of beat it is.

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4/4 means there are 4 crotchet beats in bar.

2/4 means there are 2 crotchet beats in a bar.



Say, then clap these 4/4 rhythms.

AS

Are you read - y? Read-y to have fun!

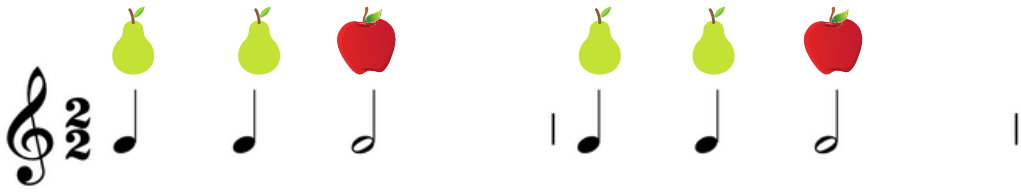
AS

List-en to the ti - ger, can you hear him roar?



Say, then clap these 2/4 rhythms.

AS



Pe - can pie,

pe - can pie,



Hot,

can pie.

AS



Scram - bled eggs,

scram - bled eggs,



yum - my,

scram - bled eggs.



Try tapping the rhythm as you sing.

- On the first beat tap your head.
- On the second beat tap your shoulders.
- On the third beat tap your Knees.
- On the fourth beat tap your toes.



With the help of your teacher complete these rhythms using only crotchets, minims or semibreves.

Hel - lo, how are you?

I am how 'bout you?

I love ice cream,

you love ice - cream.



Now copy your teacher and play these rhythms on the headjoint of your flute.

Remember to always open your flute case on a flat surface!

Head Joint Games



We can make different sounds on the flute depending on how we blow.

The word embouchure refers to the shape of your mouth when you play the flute.

Keeping the corners of your lips together make a tiny whole in the center of your lips and blow over the embouchure hole of the flute.

This is a bit like saying the word 'poo'. When you are blowing in the correct position you will see a small triangle of condensation on the lip plate.

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Hold one hand in front of your face.

With your palm at eye level practice blowing as if you were blowing on your flute. You should feel the air on the centre of your palm.

Now see if you can control the airstream blowing from the bottom of your wrist all the way to the tips of your fingers without moving your head.

If that is too easy try blowing all the way down to your elbow.



Blowing on your headjoint, how many ways can you find to change the sound?

Hints...

- Blow with a sad face.
- Blow with a smile.
- Roll the headjoint towards you.
- Roll the headjoint away from you.
- Cover the open end with your palm.
- Slide your finger into the open end.

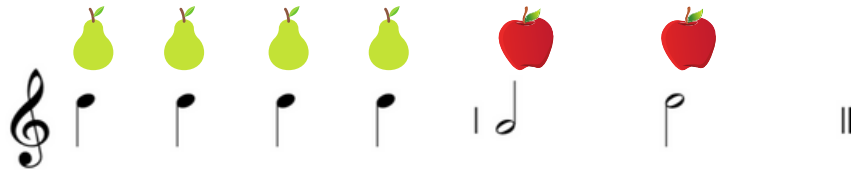
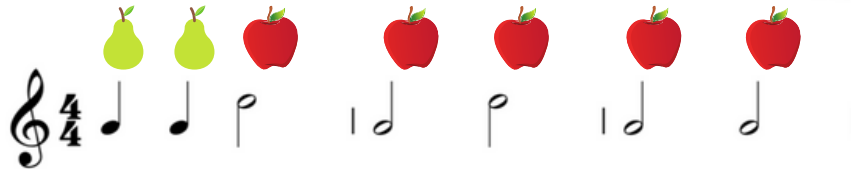


First practice these exercises with the end of the headjoint covered.
Blow harder (pushing from your tummy muscles) to reach the higher notes.

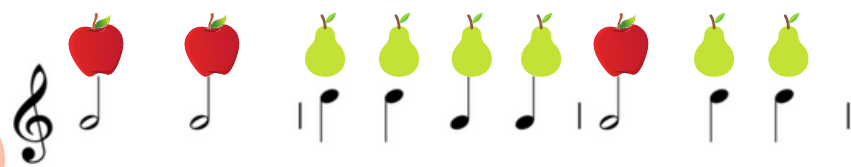
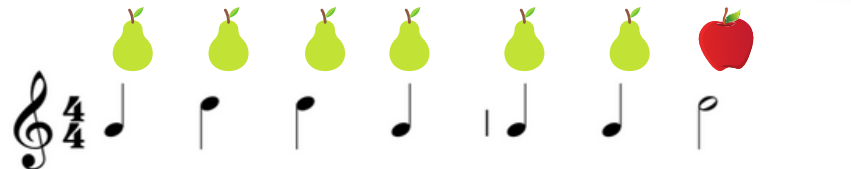
AS



AS

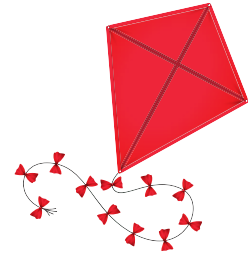


AS



Now try with the end of your headjoint uncovered.

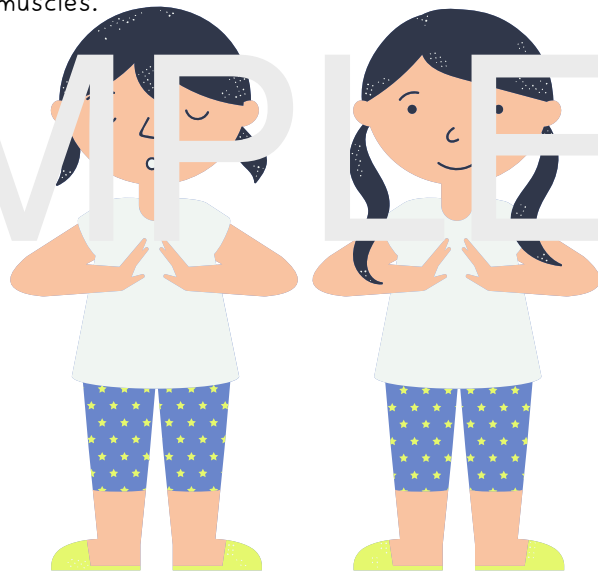
Breathing



When we play the flute, we need to use special breathing.

1. Keep your shoulders relaxed.
2. Take a big breath in, opening your mouth wide like a yawn.
3. Let your stomach fill up like a balloon.
4. Hold the air and don't let the balloon pop!
5. Squeeze the air out in a hissing snake sound, squeezing from your tummy muscles.

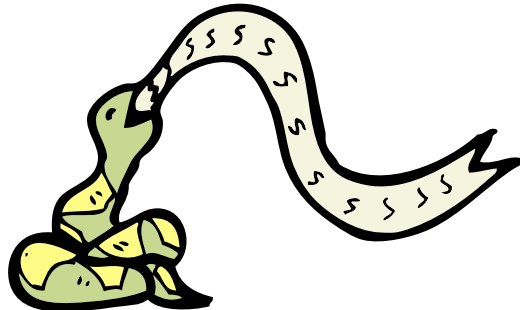
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How long can you breathe out for?

- Breathe in for 4 beats, then hiss like a snake for 4 beats.
- Breathe in for 4 beats, then hiss like a snake for 5 beats.
- Breathe in for 4 beats, then hiss like a snake for 6 beats.
- Breathe in for 4 beats, then hiss like a snake for 7 beats.
- Breathe in for 4 beats, then hiss like a snake for 8 beats.

Can you make it to 10 beats?



Imagine you are blowing a Kite up into the air with your breath.

Push from your tummy muscles to send it soaring.

You can use a light piece of paper or tissue paper as the Kite.

Tonguing

Every time that you play a note on the flute you should say 'too' at the beginning.

Practise saying 'too, too, too, too' then say 'tootootootoo'. Make a sound on your head joint saying 'too' at the start. Now blow for a longer time saying 'tootootootoo'.

Experiment with tonguing different rhythms.

With the help of your teacher write your own 4 bar rhythm patterns using crotchets, minims and semibreves.



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$\frac{4}{4}$



$\frac{4}{4}$



$\frac{4}{4}$



Mary had a Little Lamb



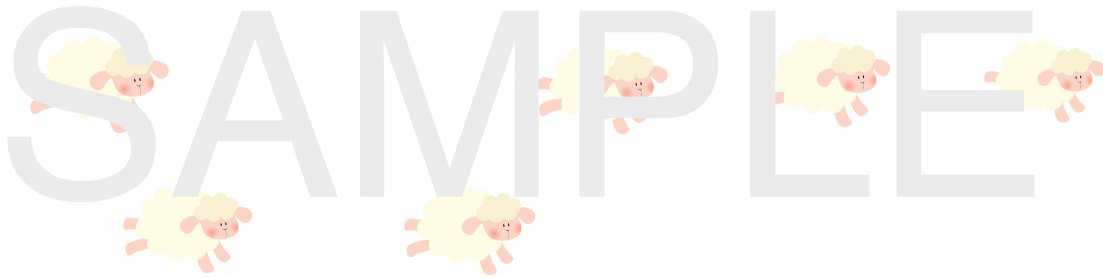
Listen to your teacher play Mary Had a little lamb on their headjoint.

(Keep the end uncovered for the high note, insert your right hand index finger up to the first Knuckle for the middle note and to the second Knuckle for the low note.)

Can you tell which are the high, middle and low notes?

Use your hands to show which notes are high, middle and low.

Can you play Mary had a little lamb?



With the help of your teacher can you write down your own head joint song?
