

# Chicago Flute Club Handouts

## Flute Harmonics

Practicing harmonics is the key to embouchure flexibility and a ringing sound. Practice with measured/counted vibrato.

### Harmonic Series

When playing the flute, it is possible to overblow to play the harmonic series. For example:

C1, C2, G2, C3, E3, G3, Bb3, C4

Teach tongued first, then slurred. Repeat using the following fundamentals. The higher the fundament, the fewer harmonics possible. Each flute is a bit different in the number of partials possible.

C#, D, D#, E, F etc.

Left-Hand notes with right-hand on the barrel. (From: The Flute Scale Book, George & Louke, Published by Presser Music Company, page 40)

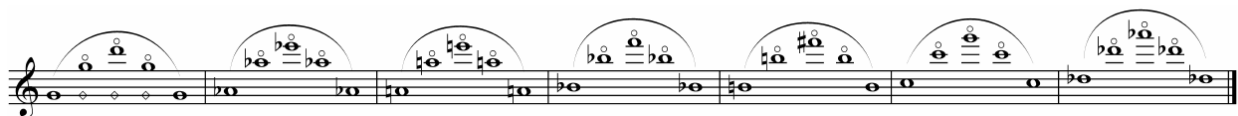
In the following exercise use the notes G1, Ab1, A1, Bb1, B1, C2, and Db2 as the *fundamental* note or first *partial*. Overblow to go up the *harmonic series*. The second partial is a *Perfect Octave* above the fundamental and the third partial is a *Perfect Fifth* above the second partial. Practicing harmonics teaches you how your individual flute overblows.

First practice this exercise in chunks, as shown below:

VF = V<sub>forward</sub> = Shift weight forward.  
See Practice Guide 2.01 for details



Then practice the exercise slurred with counted vibrato, using 2, 3, or 4 vibrato cycles per note:

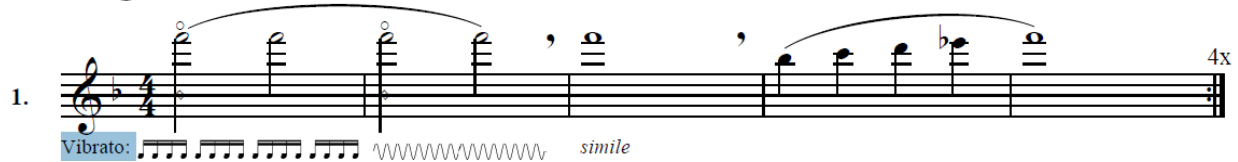


Left-hand Scales with the right-hand on the barrel. (From The Flute Scale Book, George & Louke, Published by Presser Music Company, page 41.) Practice for fluency, then with measured/counted vibrato.



Blooming the Tone (Blooming the Tone may be found in Flute 102, Flute 103, The Art of Chunking, The Flute Vibrato Book, Flute 101.5: Enrichment). Use measured/counted vibrato to get the full benefit. On some flutes this harmonic will only sound using the Thumb Bb key rather than the long fingering.

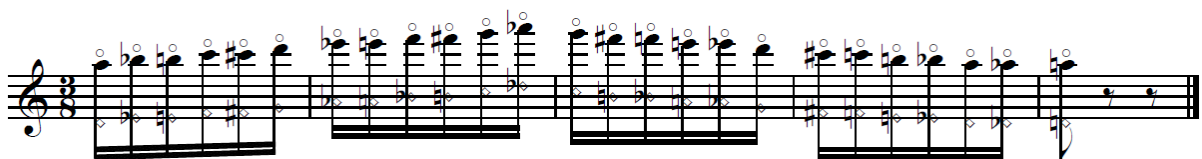
**Blooming the Tone:** Practice *f* and use vibrato.



Harmonic Pairings (for advanced flutists). From The Art of Chunking by George & Louke, Published by Presser Music Company, page 118.

**STONE DEVELOPMENT BON BON: Harmonic Scale**

Play slurred with even air. Playing at the third partial of the harmonic series helps develop tone quality.



Melodies (From The Flute Vibrato Book by George & Louke, Published by Presser Music Company, page 42)

Place 4 vibrato cycles per quarter-note and 2 vibrato cycles per eighth-note. ♩ = 60-80

**Frère Jacques**

**French Folk Song**

1.

Thumb or  
lever B $\flat$

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