

An Air Flow Exercise

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Instructions for Line 1:

1. Play first note with comfortable full tone.
2. Keep same fingering, slow down the air speed (warmer/open vowel) until it is a half step lower.
3. Change fingering to Low C. Low C should speak immediately with a full tone.
4. Without changing blowing on low C, change fingering to C2. C2 should be 1/2 step flat (Cb).
5. Increase air speed and cooler/more closed vowel for C2 until back up to pitch.

The musical notation for Line 1 consists of two staves in bass clef. The first staff contains six measures, with notes labeled 1 through 6 above them. The notes are: 1 (quarter note), 2 (quarter note), 3 (quarter note), 4 (quarter note), 5 (quarter note), and 6 (quarter note). The second staff contains six measures, with notes labeled 1 through 6 above them. The notes are: 1 (quarter note), 2 (quarter note), 2a (quarter note), 3 (quarter note), 4 (quarter note), 4a (quarter note), 5 (quarter note), and 6 (quarter note). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous line of air flow.

Instructions for Line 2:

1. Play 1st note with appropriate octave key held down with fast cool air speed (a focused clear tone).
2. Keep same fingering for 2nd note by slowing down the air speed (warmer/open vowel) until it is a half step lower.
 - 2.a. Release octave key while keeping the pitch a half step low, keeping pitch on note #2.
3. Depress pp (whisper) key. Expect the lower note to speak *immediately* with a full rich tone.
4. Play the 4th note with pp key on with warm slow air speed (full rich tone).
 4. a. Release pp (whisper) key (still warm air) keeping the lower note in place.
5. Touch appropriate octave key keeping the same air speed (it should jump up a major 7th--sound one half step flat).
6. Increase air speed to cooler faster air with more closed vowel until back up to pitch.

Try for a clear full tone with as little embouchure pressure change as possible.