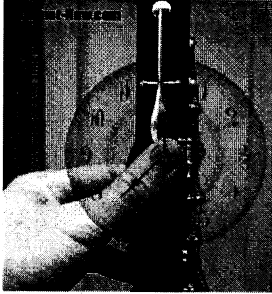


Clarinet Basics



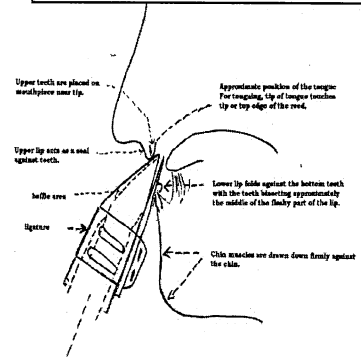
The base of the thumb should point at approximately the 7:30 or 8:00 O'clock position for parts of a 1:30 or 2:00 position. Pictured is at 7:30. Use only the very tip of the thumb on the register key.



CORRECT RIGHT HANDED POSTURE: Place the thumb under the clarinet thumbrest just above the first knuckle of the thumb. Notice the backwards C of the right hand around the clarinet body.

Make sure you are tonguing on the tip. Like super-hot stove that you have to touch lightly. Keep blowing fast air.

Keep a firm cushion lower lip. Teeth on top. Corners tight. Draw upper lip towards top teeth. Blow air like you are



What to watch for if you squeak or no sound comes out.

1. Check embouchure
2. Do not let your chin move. (look in mirror while tonguing)
3. Do not bite down.
4. Put enough mouthpiece in mouth.
5. Rotate reeds each time you play. (three reeds at all times)
6. Head up while playing (like looking in mirror)
7. PRACTICE!!!!!!!!



Completely cover the holes. Look in the mirror at your fingers. Keep fingers stretched out.



CORRECT: Use the pads of your fingers. Place your fingers on the clarinet and squeeze slightly. You should have ring imprints on the pads.