

# 5 Hole Ocarina fingering Chart 15 total notes

*Note: this fingering style ,also called the “English style”, was developed by John Taylor in England in 1964*

● = Closed ○ = Open ◐ = Half Hole

① 	1# = 2b 	② 	2# = 3b 	③ 	④ 
4# = 5b 	⑤ 	5# = 6b 	⑥ 	6# = 7b 	⑦ 
⑧ 	8# = 9b 	⑨ 			



Creating a sweet and pleasant sound on the Ocarina starts by covering all the holes completely. On a five hole Ocarina that would be the 4 holes on the top and one thumb hole on bottom . The hole in the front on the top makes the sound

so it is left uncovered . If your Ocarina has a small hole on the side by the mouthpiece, this is a pitching hole. This is used to adjust the pitch of the main chamber and is also left uncovered. Cover the top holes with your middle and index fingers and cover the bottom hole with your right thumb. Next blow gently in the mouth piece with a steady even air pressure, about the same amount of air pressure you would use when you breath. Remember less is more, meaning less but steady even pressure produces a more pleasant sound. Next you need to learn to use “tonguing” because this is necessary to give the notes a crisp clear sound. Without tonguing the ocarina will sound muffled and fuzzy. Start by putting your tongue on the roof of your mouth and say the word “two”. Practice by repeating “two,two,two” in a series of equal length breathes. Try playing a simple song like Twinkle , Twinkle Little Star using a gentle breath and tonguing.

Using our number system allows you to play songs without needing to be able to read music. The numbers refer to the notes on the musical scale , so number 1 would be the first note of the major scale “Do” and as you see on the chart this is all the holes covered , so number 2 or “Re” would be the upper right hole open. When you first start, concentrate on the major scale Do, Re, Mi, Fa and up and then learn the sharps and flats as you need them for a song.

If your Ocarina is in another key besides C, play it the same way as a C but the note you hear will be in that key, say F or G. To find more music for your ocarina try looking in piano, guitar or recorder songbooks for more melodies to play ,writing the numbers from the fingering chart below the notes on the sheet music can help to learn new songs. Playing along with a guitar can also be fun.

Maintaining an Ocarina is easy. They are totally washable with mild soap and water ,they never need to be retuned but you must safeguard them from getting broken . It is best store them in a bag or a box. A well maintained Ocarina will last for hundreds of years.

This Ocarina carries on a tradition of fine Ocarina making started in Budrio, Italy in the mid 1800’s. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have. Thanks Chris Heuer and Amy Lake

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