

Recorder Stage 1

Session 1





The Recorder

The descant recorder is a musical instrument from the woodwind family. Sounds are made by blowing gently and covering and uncovering the finger holes.





Looking After Your Recorder

When you are not playing your recorder, put it carefully in its case and store it in a place where it is not going to get bumped or knocked.

Use your cleaning rod to gently clean the inside of your recorder after each session.

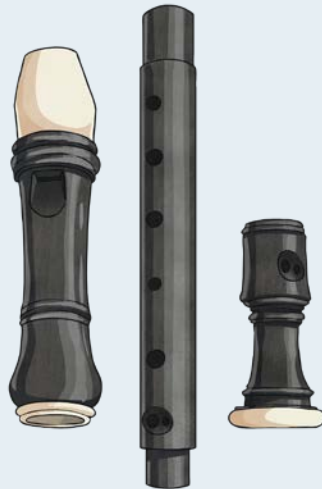




Parts of Your Recorder

Most descant recorders are made of plastic, but occasionally they can be made of wood.

Usually, the recorder is made from three different parts; the mouthpiece, the body, and the foot joint.





Holding Your Recorder

First, make sure you are in a good sitting position. Sit up tall and towards the edge of your seat to make sure you can take full breaths.

Hold your recorder in your left hand. Your thumb should be covering the hole at the back. The fingers on your left hand should be gently curved and lift up and down over the three top finger holes.

You can use your thumb of your right hand to steady the recorder.





Blowing Your Recorder

When you play the recorder, you don't want to blow too hard because it will squeak!

Instead, pretend that you are blowing gently on a single candle flame so that it flickers back and forth, but doesn't go out.

Your turn

Have a go at blowing into your recorder.
Remember slow and gentle, not fast and loud.





Tonguing

When we blow into our recorder, we separate the notes we are playing using our tongue.

We tap our tongue gently on the back of our teeth, just like we are saying the letter d for dog.

Your turn

Listen to this recorder being played. Can you tell when the player is using their **tongue to separate the notes** and when they are not?

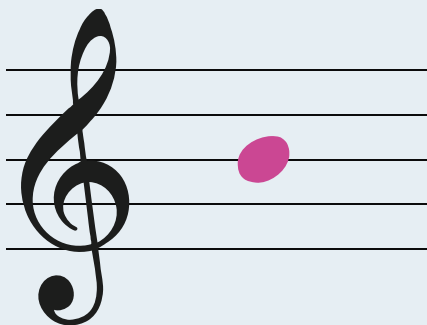


B

Music Notes

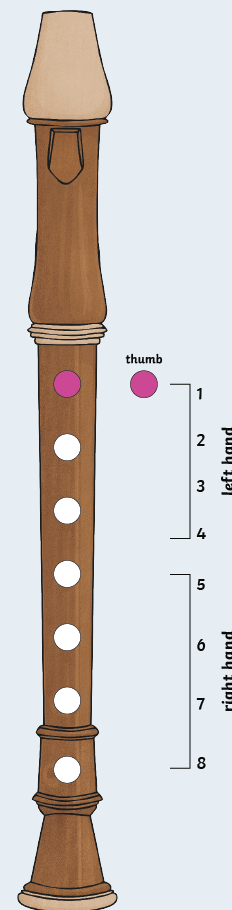
The first note we are going to learn to play on our recorder is **B**.

To play **B** we use the top finger of our left hand to cover the top hole and we cover the hole at the back with our left thumb.



Your turn

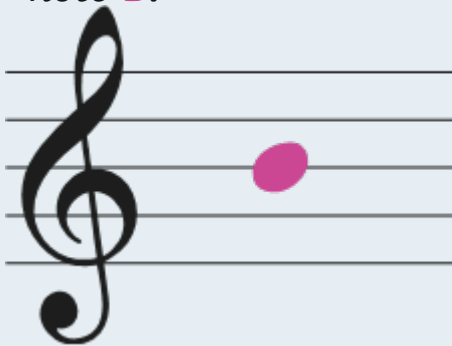
Have a go at blowing into your recorder with your fingers making the note **B**. Remember to blow **slowly** and **gently** and to use your **tongue** to separate the notes.





Bouncing Ball

Let's learn to play our first tunes on our recorders using the note **B**.



B

1. Clap and say the words.
2. Listen to the demo track and sing along.
3. Have a go at playing the tune.

B **B** **B** _____
Bounc ing ball,

B **B** **B** _____
bounc ing ball,

B **B** **B** **B**
jump ing, danc ing

B **B** **B** _____
bounc ing ball.



**Demonstration
Audio Track**

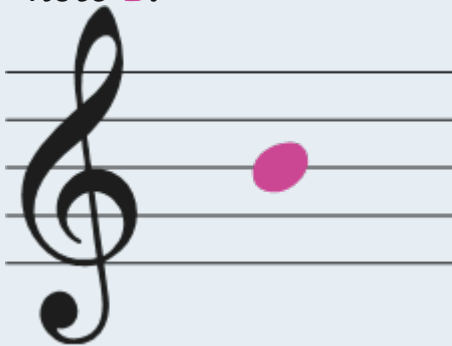


**Performance
Audio Track**



Red Boat, Blue Boat

Let's learn to play our first tunes on our recorders using the note **B**.



B

1. Clap and say the words.
2. Listen to the demo track and sing along.
3. Have a go at playing the tune.

B _____

Red

B _____

boat,

B _____

blue

B _____

boat,

B _____ **B**

Sail - ing

B **B**

ov - er

B _____

the

B _____

sea



**Demonstration
Audio Track**



**Performance
Audio Track**



Checklist



- My left hand is on top.
- My fingers are covering the correct holes.
- The finger holes are completely sealed.
- My air stream is gentle and steady.
- I am using my tongue to separate the notes as I play them.

