

A) FLUTE PLAYING IS LIKE AN ASSEMBLY LINE IN A FACTORY:

- Abdomen/diaphragm is where the sound is made.
- Windpipe, throat, mouth are the conveyor belt that moves the sound along.
- Lips are quality control at the end that shape the sound.

D) QUALITY CONTROL (LIPS):

- Pout lips out, grip a piece of rice.
- Lips as relaxed as possible.
- Embouchure hole should look like an oval on its side.

E) TONE TROUBLESHOOTING:

- Tone is weak? Check that abs are engaged and are supporting the air.
- Tone is airy? Taller embouchure hole, lips slightly farther apart in the center.
- If all else fails, just remember: relaxed lips, open throat, tight abs.

F) HARMONICS:

- Use harmonics to work on supporting the tone and controlling the upper register.
- Start on a low note, change notes by increasing airspeed.
- Lips & dynamic stay the same.

B) BREATHING FOR FLUTE:

- Deep, full, like a bagpipe.
- Inhale air right beneath your belly button.
- Shoulders down, belly expands.
- Fill lungs from bottom to top.

C) CONVEYOR BELT (WINDPIPE):

- Everything open; no kinks in the hose.
- Tongue low in the back, like yawning.
- Head looking straight ahead, windpipe is open.

G) TONGUING WITH GOOD TONE:

- Tongue doesn't create the tone, just cleans up the front.
- Keep tongue low in your mouth.
- Articulate using only the tip of your tongue
- Articulate where top teeth meet the gum line.
- Make sure each note is supported with air.
- Practice with no tongue ('Ha Ha Ha'), then add articulation.



**FLUTE
MASTER
CLASS**

W/ PSO PRINCIPAL FLUTIST,
BEN SMOLEN