

Breath and Tongue Release Exercises

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Exercise A **Exercise A1**

Clarinet in Bb

1 X I X I X I X I X I hoot

Practice exhale/inhale alone at first, with formed embouchure and tongue position.
@50, 60, 80, 100, 120

Exercise B

6 X I hoot—ooooo

Tongue lightly touches reed on beat 4 *mf* > *pp*

Check that tongue is not hardening or pressing while resting on reed. Not much weight or tension is needed to stop reed vibrations. Only a few molecules of tongue are needed to touch the reed just below the tip. Avoid making a dimple in the tongue when touching the reed. We want a clean, soft 't' or 'd' sound upon tongue release.

Exercise C

11 X I hoot-oooo

Tongue touches reed on second half of beat 4 > *pp*

Once mastery is achieved on open G, experiment on all notes in the chalumeau range. Follow this with work in the clarion, then altissimo registers. Finally, practice tongue release in all volumes.