

Lesson

goals:

The note C
Open-throat breathing

3. Dotted half notes 4. Three beats in a bar

The note C



OPENING YOUR THROAT

Blow on the back of your hand. You will feel the air is cold. Now try again, pretending that you are steaming up a window. This time the air on the back of your hand should feel warm because you have just breathed out with your throat open. You should keep your throat open at all times when playing as it will improve your tone.

Exercise 1:

The symbol above this note is called a **pause**. It means you should hold the note for longer than its actual value of four beats. Hold this one for as long as you can. Play with an **open throat**.



Long notes like this one should be the first thing you practice every day.

Exercise 2:

Play these notes in tempo with an open throat. The little commas are *breath* marks. Take a very quick breath here without disrupting the 4-beat count.



Exercise 3:

Changing fingers smoothly from C to B and back is very difficult. Play this exercise many times, starting slowly, then playing it more quickly as your coordination improves. Don't be satisfied with any untidiness!



relaxed posture, take a good deep breath and play the note with an open throat, using the diaphragm to control the air flow.

Stand with a