

How to Improve your Flute Tone

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1. Check your posture. Stand or sit up straight. Head and chin up, shoulders and elbows down.
2. Flute lip plate should be straight on your lip and sit in the crook of your chin. Blow directly out of the middle of your lips.
3. Make sure your bottom lip only covers one third of the embouchure hole. Covering more than that will make you play flat. Covering less causes you to play sharp.
4. Your breath and airstream creates your tone. Take a deep breath before playing---YAWN!
5. When playing, keep your throat and jaw open and tongue low in mouth.
6. Lip opening should be similar to a pucker when whistling. Too large gives a fuzzy tone, too small gives a thin, small, constricted tone.
7. Your lips direct the air and focus the tone. Think of a funnel: pretend you have the large end of a funnel inside your mouth, and your lips wrap around the small end of the funnel. Keeping the space open behind your lips will help your tone sing!
8. Use the tip of your tongue to set the airstream before starting a tone.
9. To easily play loudly (forte): top lip forward, open jaw, increase airspeed and quantity, open lips and blow down.
To play soft (piano): bottom lip forward to direct the air up, smaller lip opening, decrease airspeed and quantity.
10. Take private lessons with a professional flute teacher!! Guidance from a good flute instructor will not only help you improve your tone, but ALL aspects of your playing.

PRACTICE SLOWLY, LISTEN, and WORK for a more beautiful tone everyday.