

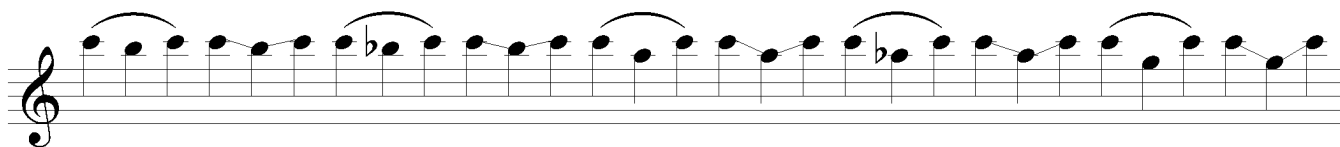


# ClariNotes

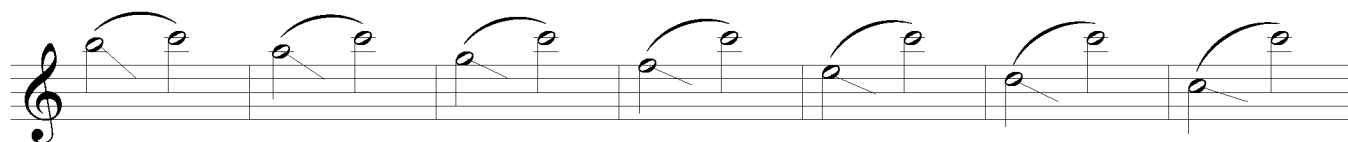


## So You Want To Glissando? Three Steps To Rhapsody In Blue

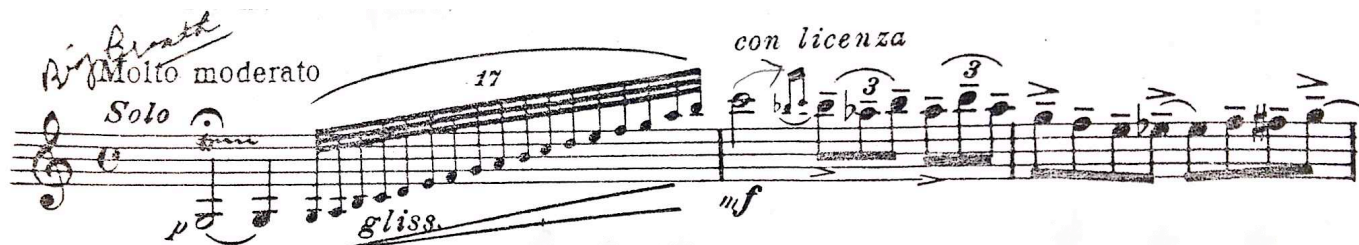
### 1) Pitch bending exercise



### 2) Practice glissandos, one step at a time.



### 3) Rhapsody In Blue, George Gershwin



#### THREE STEPS EXPLAINED

##### 1. Pitch Bending

The key to a smooth glissando is voicing and tongue position, not so much fingers. With step one, play the slurred notes as written to get these pitches in your ear. Then repeat those pitches while fingering high C. Change your voicing (tongue position) to bend the pitch down. It will feel like the middle to back of your tongue comes closer to the tip of the reed. Think about making your oral cavity smaller to bend the pitch. Keep the embouchure very firm and practice these at a loud dynamic.

##### 2. One Step At A Time

For each measure, play the first pitch, bend it down as far as you can with voicing while still maintaining tone, then lift your fingers to high C, then bring your embouchure and voicing back to normal, thus glissing to high C. Repeat with each lower note until you can glissando an octave.

##### 3. Rhapsody In Blue Glissando

The above steps will help in glissing smoothly from third space C to high C. For the opening, finger a rapid scale from low G until you are over the break.

#### About This Newsletter

My intention for this newsletter is to offer tips and techniques for teaching and playing clarinet. It is designed for teachers and students alike. The clarinet is unlike many of the other woodwinds in approach to voicing, articulation, and register change. I hope that this will become a great resource for anyone wanting to improve their clarinet technique.

Feel free to contact me with questions.

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