

Creating Your Flute Intonation Prescription

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For the purposes of this presentation, we are assuming the instrument is in proper working order and the cork is in the correct place (most cleaning rods are wrong!).

Flute Tuning Woes

- Tendencies
 - Flat in the low octave
 - Sharp in the high octave
- Educator woes? Let's hear them!
- Common suggestions
 - Roll in/out
 - Push in/out

Fixing one problem or tendency can create one elsewhere... until we learn how to be flexible and adjust as needed.

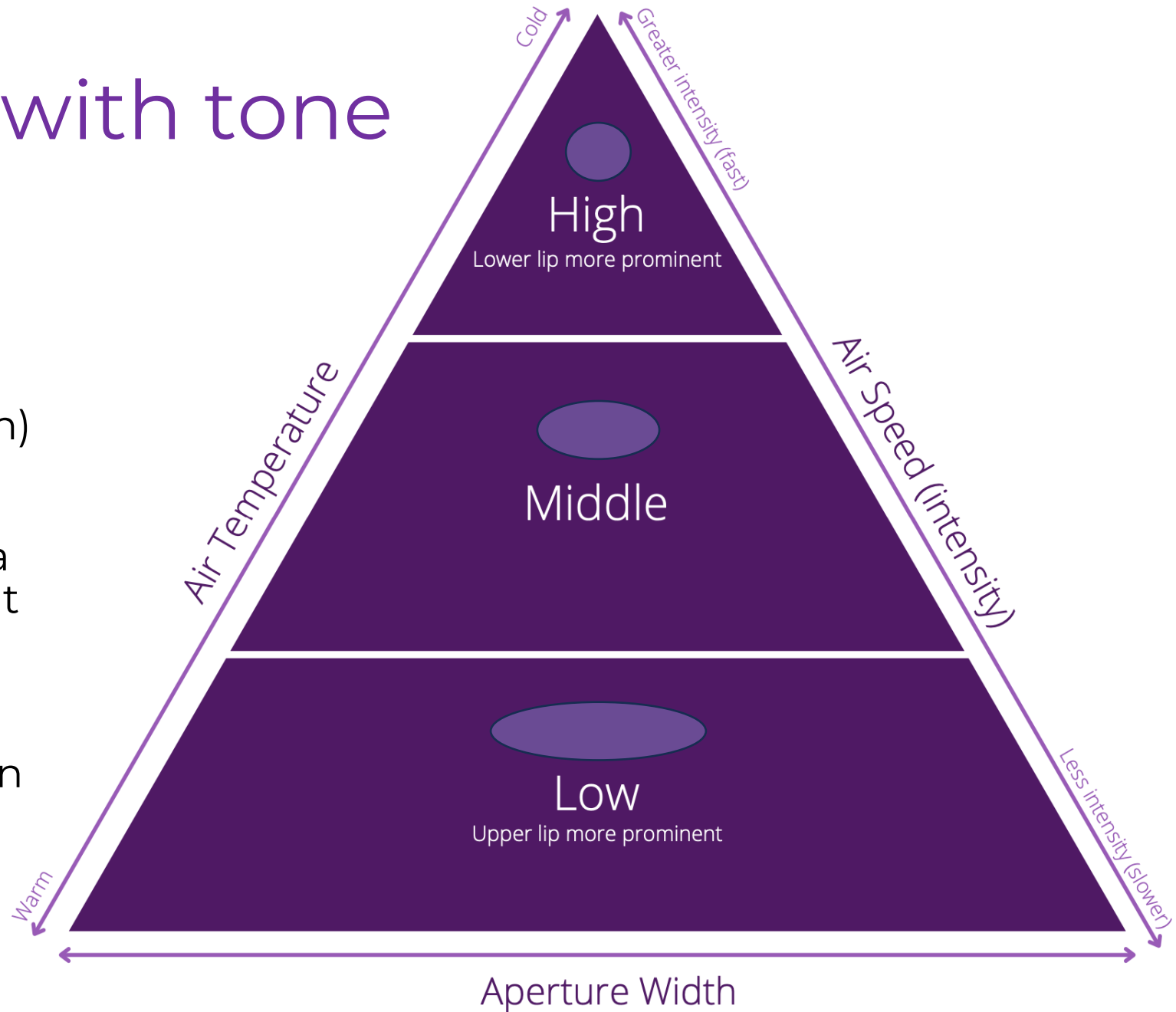


Tuning begins with tone

- Air speed/temperature
- Embouchure
- Aperture width (not height)
- Oral cavity shape (not shown)

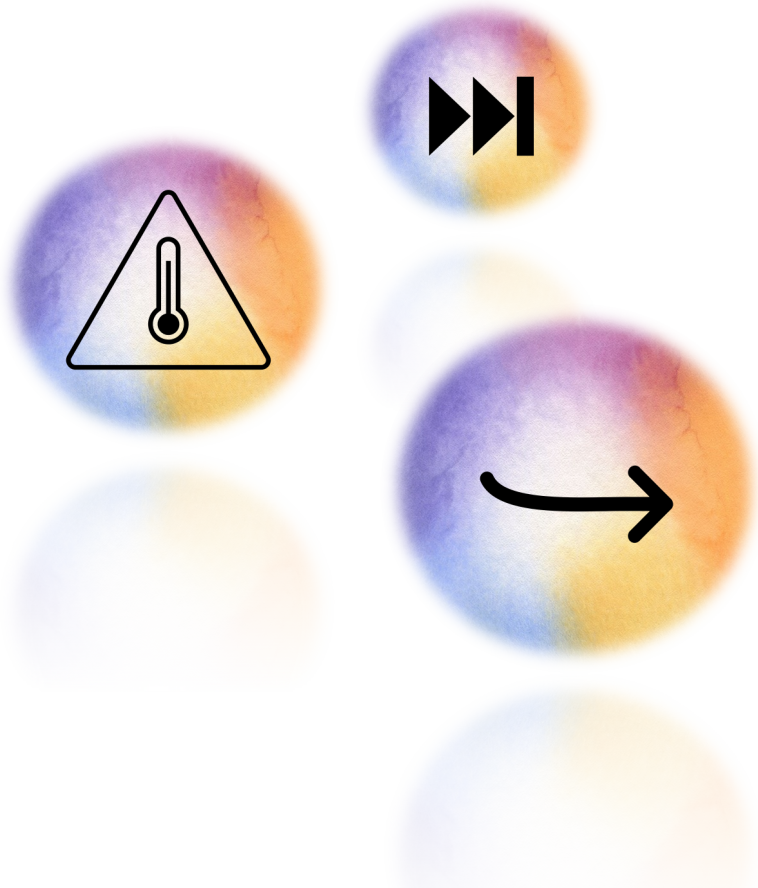
Exploring cause and effect is a brilliant way to figure out what works for a flutist!

Use these tools in combination to make a tuning plan.



Tool 1: Air Speed

Not the volume of air that is used, but the speed of that air



Lowers pitch	Raises pitch
Slow	Fast
Warm	Cold
Near	Far

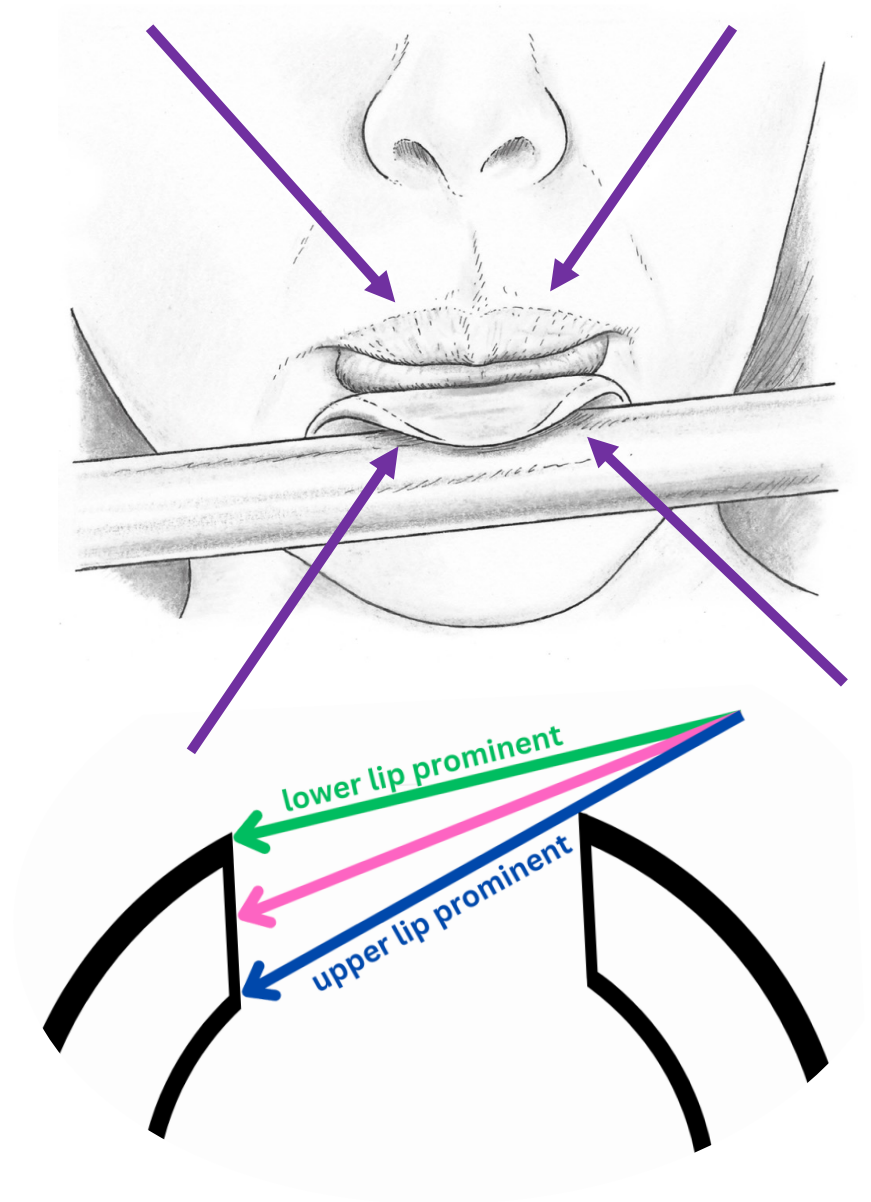
Tool 2: Embouchure

Compression affects speed and volume

More compression = higher pitch

Less compression = lower pitch

Lip prominence affects air angle



Tool 3: Oral Cavity Shape

Relationship between the tongue and the rest of the mouth

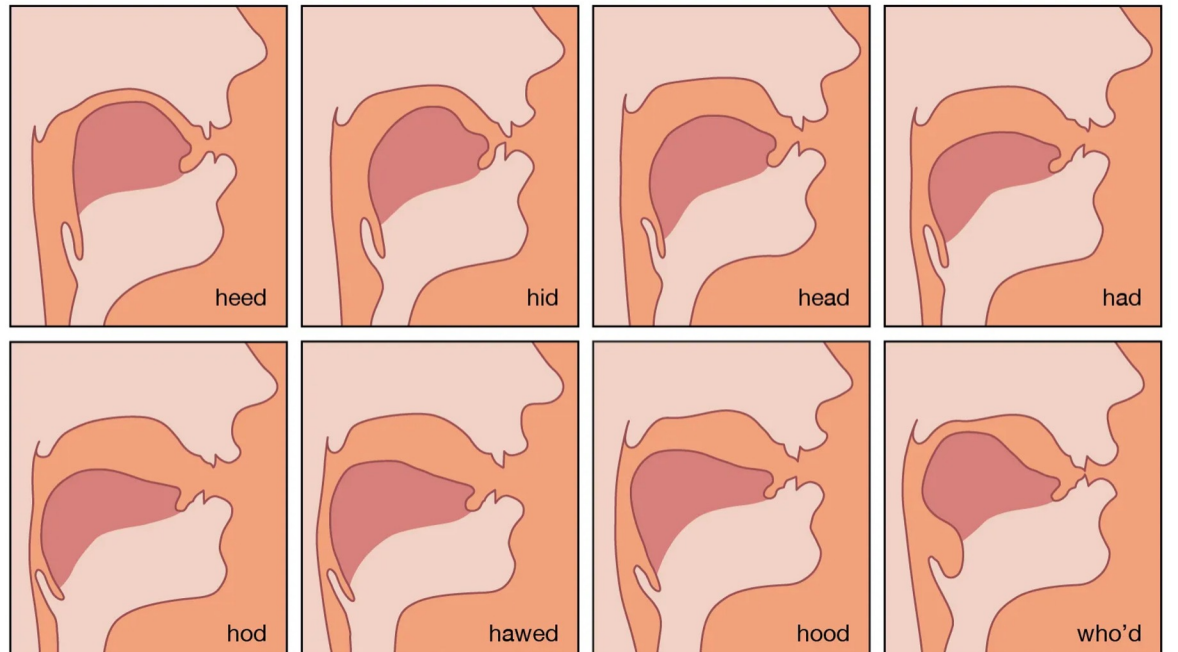
Larger space decreases air speed

Smaller space increases air speed

Observe the differences

Aah, aw, awl (without losing mouth)

Eee, ih, oh, ooh



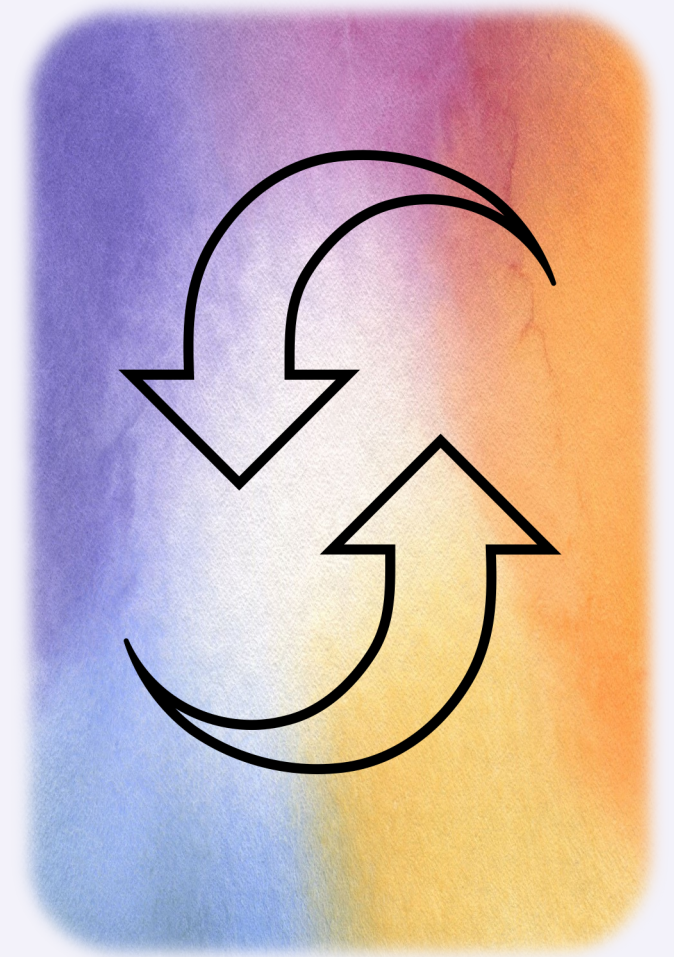
Tool 4: Rolling

Compression affects speed and volume

Rolling out raises pitch, and rolling in lowers pitch

For 911 fixes only – inconsistent, limits flexibility

Sacrifices to tone for using this method





Questions? Let's Talk!

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