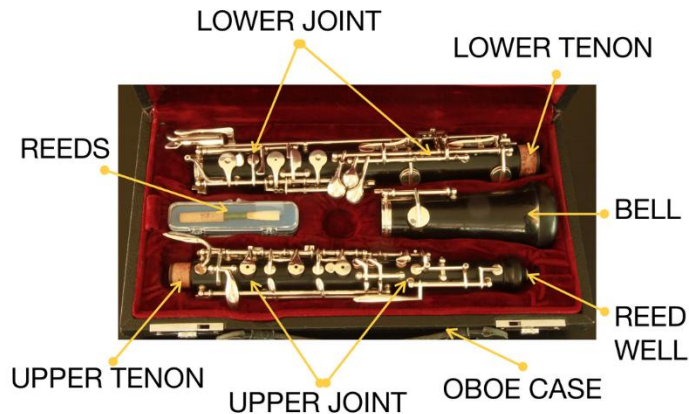


Oboe

Assembly

1. Set the case on a flat surface (logo facing up/thickest end on the ground)
2. Open the case, identify the parts



- a. Bell
 - b. Lower Joint
 - c. Upper Joint
 - d. Reed
3. Soak the reed (just a few cm's) in clean, room-temperature water (always handle reed from the cork!)

WHEN HANDLING ALL PARTS OF THE OBOE, NEVER SQUEEZE DOWN ON KEYS OR RODS WHEN ASSEMBLING/DISASSEMBLING TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF BREAKING/SCREWING/OR BENDING SOMETHING.

4. Take bell, handling it from the flared bottom end
5. Take Lower joint (Has one cork end, one silver end with a little leaf near the top)
 - a. Gently screw the bell and lower joint (cork end) together (some oboes have a rod on the bell, if so, press the key down to lift the rod)
6. Take upper joint (one cork end and one knob)
 - a. Gently screw the lower joint (silver, leaf key) and the upper joint (cork end) gently depress keys near these area to not break anything
7. Take reed and insert the cork end into the little knob at the upper joint
 - a. In a screwing motion, do not force the reed down, so if it stops moving when you screw it down, that's good.

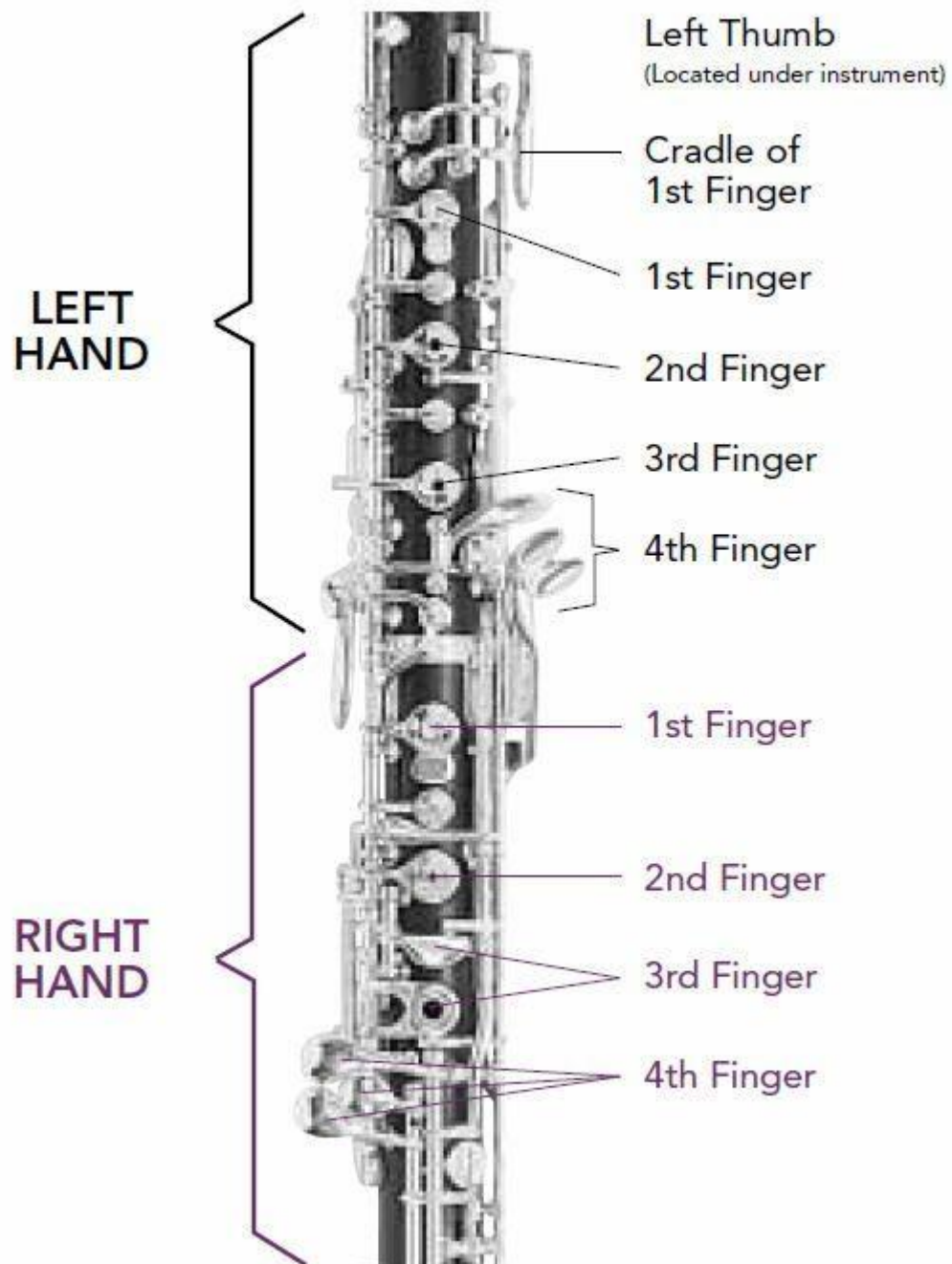
Embouchure

1. Roll upper and low lips slightly (think "OH" or "AH")
2. Place the reed a few cms into the mouth
3. Even "pressure" around the entire mouth, otherwise sound is pinched/not as resonant

4. Adjust the reed approximately 45-degrees downward

Posture and Playing Position

- Standard musician posture, feet flat on the floor, back away from the chair, lifted torso and relaxed shoulders, and head
- The weight of the oboe is going to be in the right thumb (not pictured below)



Bassoon

Assembly

1. Set the case on a flat surface (logo facing up/thickest end on the ground)
2. Open the Case, identify the parts



- a. Wing/Tenor Joint
 - b. Long/Bass Joint
 - c. Boot Joint
 - d. Bell
 - e. Seat Strap (Not pictured)
 - f. Bocal (Not pictured)
 - g. Reed (Not pictured)
3. Soak the reed (up to the thread) in clean room temperature water
 4. **Place the seat strap first!**
 - a. Cup of the seat strap is on the right side, about halfway down the chair
 - b. Generally, about 2-3 inches from the edge of your chair (more on this in posture later)



FIGURE 6.4 Seat Strap at Front Edge
(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

WHEN HANDLING ALL PARTS OF THE BASSOON, NEVER SQUEEZE DOWN ON KEYS OR RODS WHEN ASSEMBLING/DISASSEMBLING TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF BREAKING/SCREWING/OR BENDING SOMETHING.

5. Set the boot joint on the ground, with the metal end touching the floor (all open holes facing away from you)
 - a. Boot joint has two holes on top of it, one large and one small
 - b. The Small hole should be on the right side and the large one on the left



6. Gently screw the Tenor/Wing Joint into the smaller hole (right side)

- a. The Tenor joint has two cork sides, one very small and one about the same size as the hole in the boot joint. Use the latter
- b. The Tenor joint has a concave part on it, this concave part should be facing inside not outside



FIGURE 6.6 Tenor Joint to Boot Joint
Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

7. Gently screw in the Long/Bass joint into the larger hole
 - a. The Long/Bass joint has two cork sides, one side is a little bit more tapered with a rode, the other is about the same size at the hole in the boot joint without a rode, use the latter.



FIGURE 6.7 Bass Joint to Boot Joint

(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

- b. Make sure the Tenor and Bass joints are aligned with each other.

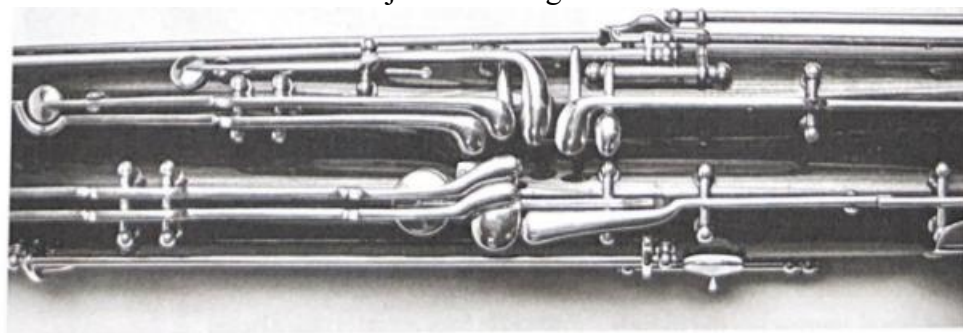


FIGURE 6.8 Thumb Keys Alignment

(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

- c. Some bassoon has a locking mechanism between the tenor/bass joints; if so, lock it.

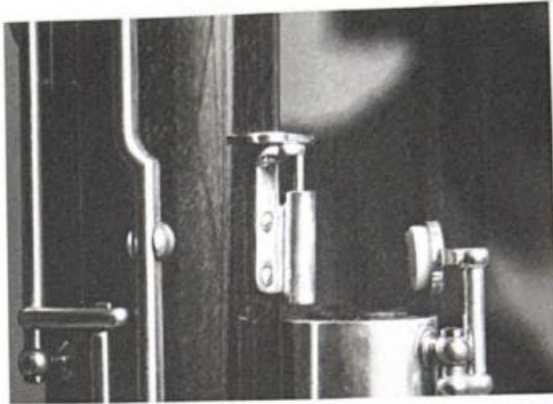


FIGURE 6.9 Unlocked Mechanism
(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

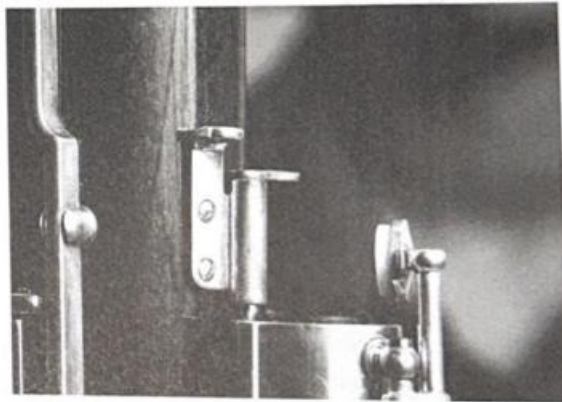


FIGURE 6.10 Locked Mechanism
(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

8. Take the bell and gently screw it onto the bass joint that has a rod, align the rods on the bell and bass joint
9. Gently screw the bocal in (handling very delicately from the S-curve) into the tenor joint, align the hole on the bocal with the key off too the right of the tenor joint (whisper key)



FIGURE 6.11 How to Grasp the Bocal
(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

Embouchure

5. Roll upper and low lips slightly (think “OH” or “AH”)
6. Place the reed a few cms into the mouth
7. Even “pressure” around the entire mouth, otherwise sound is pinched/not as resonate

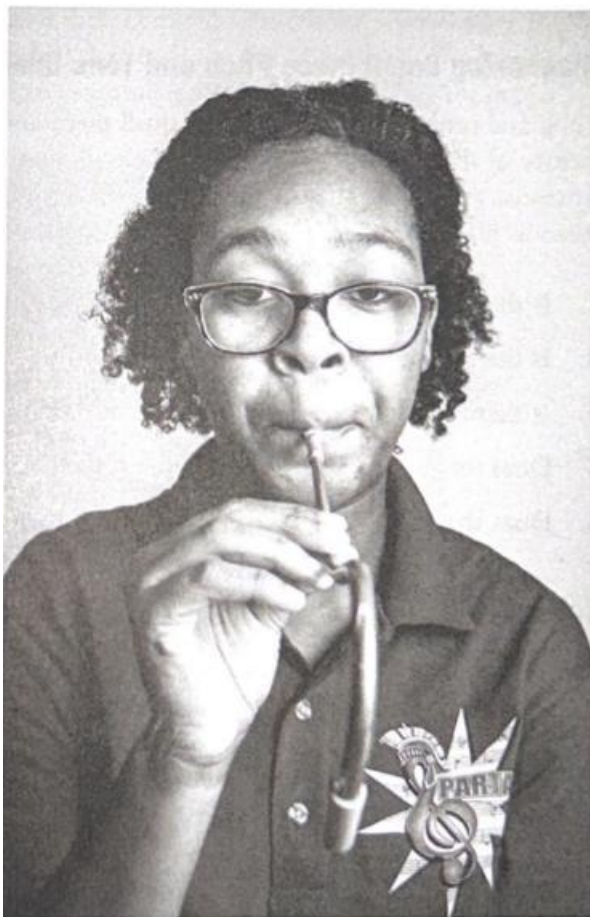


FIGURE 6.1 Front View of Embouchure
(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)



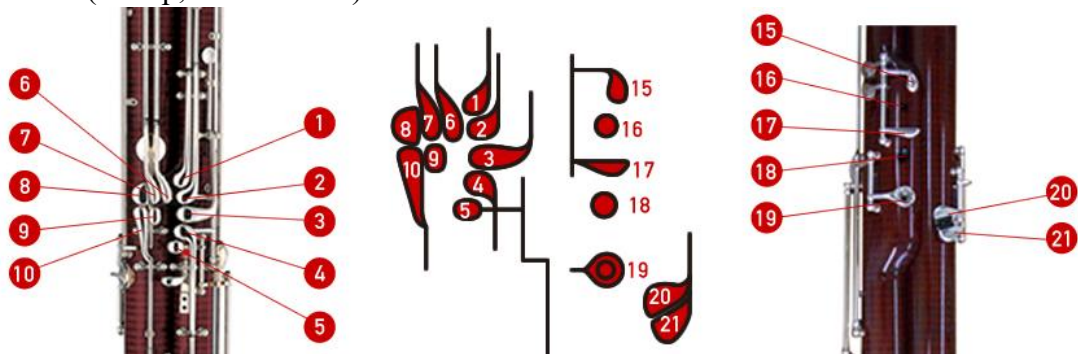
FIGURE 6.2 Side View of Embouchure
(Produced by Paige Jarreau at Paige's Photos)

Posture and Playing Position

1. Back or no Back on the chair?

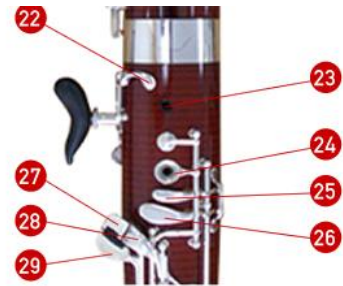
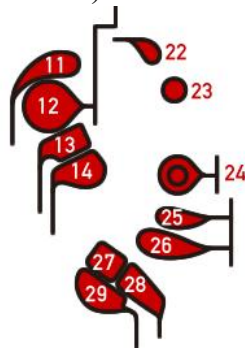
A contentious part of bassoon pedagogy, ultimately what matter is that a student is playing in a comfortable position (still remaining upright to take in quality air, and a tall head

- a. If a student is positioning themselves by not having their back against the back of a chair, then their seat strap will be close to the end of the chair
 - b. If a student is positioning themselves by having their backs against the back of a chair, their seat strap closer towards the back of the chair
- ### 2. Place the boot joint into the cup of the seat strap, adjust the strap until the bassoon is approximately 45 degrees diagonally in front of you, with the bassoon (bell) angled away from you
- a. Most of the weight of the bassoon is going to be distributed between the seat strap and the arch of your left hand!
 - b. Adjust the length of the sea strap until the bocal (no reed) lands right in between the middle of a student's lips
 - c. Add the reed
 - d. Turning the reed until it falls parallel in your lips
- ### 3. Left Hand (on top, near the bell)



- a. Thumb—**5 (Whisper Key)**
- b. Index—**16**
- c. Middle—**18**
- d. Ring—**19**
- e. Pinky—**20/21**

4. Right Hand (on the bottom, near the boot)



9 can be substituted for 8.

- a. Thumb—12
- b. Index—23
- c. Middle—24
- d. Ring—26
- e. Pink—27/28/29