

Fingering Scheme for Oboe

Octave Keys

- **I · First Octave Key**
The first octave key is pressed by the thumb and is used as a vent for second-octave E through G# and for various third-octave notes.
- **II · Second Octave Key**
The second octave key is a side key for the first finger of the left hand and acts as a vent for second-octave A through C and for various third-octave notes.
- **III · Third Octave Key**
The third octave key is found on some models and is used to provide alternative fingerings for several third-octave notes.

Left Hand Main Keys

- **1 · First finger key**
- **0 · First finger Half-Hole**
The half-hole is an extension of the first finger key that allows the key to be depressed while the tone hole is vented. The half-hole is used as a vent similar to the octave keys for second-octave C#, D, and Eb.
- **2 · Second finger key**
- **3 · Third finger key**

Left Hand Trill Keys

- **B · B trill key**
The B trill key is located between the first and second finger keys of the left hand next to the half-hole plate and is used in trilling A# to B in the first and second octaves.
- **D · D trill key**
The D trill key is located between the first and second finger keys of the left hand and is used for trilling C to D in the first and second octaves. The key is doubled in the right hand.
- **C# · C# trill key**
The C# trill key is located between the second and third finger keys of the left hand and is used for trilling C to Db in the first and second octaves.

Left Hand Little Finger (Pinky) Keys

- **G# · G# key**
The G# key is the upper key in the left hand little finger key group. It is used primarily for playing G# in the first and second octaves and is doubled in the right hand.

- **Eb · Eb key**
The Eb key is the inner key in the left hand little finger key group. It is used primarily for playing Eb in the first and second octaves and is doubled in the right hand.
- **B · Low B key**
The low B key is the middle key in the left hand little finger key group and is used primarily for playing low B.
- **Bb · Low Bb key**
The low Bb key is the outer key in the left hand little finger key group and is used primarily for playing low Bb. Some student models lack this key.
- **F · F key**
The F key is the key situated on top of the other four little finger keys on some models. The key is doubled on the right hand and is used to play first- and second-octave F.

Right Hand Main Keys

- **1 · First finger key**
- **2 · Second finger key**
- **3 · First finger key**

Right Hand Side Keys

- **A · A key**
The A key is the upper right hand side key. It is used primarily as a trill key for G#-A and Ab-Bb in the first and second octaves.
- **G# · G# key**
The G# key is the lower right hand side key. It is used primarily for trills involving G# in the first and second octaves and is doubled in the left hand.

Right Hand Trill Keys

- **D · D trill key**
The D trill key is located between the first and second finger keys of the right hand and is used for trilling C to D in the first and second octaves. The key is doubled in the left hand.
- **F · F key**
The F key is located between the second and third fingers keys of the right hand and is used in the primary fingering for first- and second-octave F.
- **c · Alternate C (banana) key**
The banana key is located next to the third finger key of the right hand and is used as an alternate to the little finger key for C to avoid sliding the little finger.

Right Hand Little Finger (Pinky) Keys

- **C · Low C key**
This is the upper key in the right hand little finger key group and is used primarily for playing low C.

- **C# · Low C# key**
This is the middle key in the right hand little finger key group and is used primarily for playing low C#.
- **Eb · Low Eb key**
This is the lower key in the right hand little finger key group and is used primarily for playing low Eb.

Oboe Fingerings

The numbers 1, 2, and 3 are used to represent main keys to be depressed while a dash (–) is used to indicate a main key to not be depressed. The half hole position is denoted by a zero (0). Octave keys are shown first, followed by left hand keys, a pipe (|) to separate hands, and finally right hand keys.

I 123|1—

II 12—|1—

023|12—

Side keys, little finger (pinky) keys, and trill keys are shown as superscripts in the left hand and subscripts in the right hand at the position the keys are located.

1—3^{Bb}|123_C







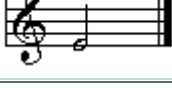


I 023^B|_{G#}—23_{Eb}







II 1_{D_C#}—|1—

Keys to be trilled are indicated in **red boldface** text.





Basic Fingering Chart for Oboe









First Octave

Note	Written	Fingering	Description
B ₃		123 ^{Bb} 123 _C	Basic.
		123 123 _C [B Bb]	Close the lower two holes of the bell with the knees. For oboes without the low Bb key.
B ₃		123 ^B 123 _C	Basic.
C ₄		123 123 _C	Basic.
C# ₄		123 123 _{C#}	Basic.
D ₄		123 123	Basic.
Eb ₄		123 123 _{Eb}	Basic.
		123 ^{Eb} 123	Use in combination with C ₄ and C# ₄ .
E ₄		123 12-	Basic.
F ₄		123 12 _{F-}	Basic.
		123 ^F 12-	Use in combination with fingerings involving RH 3.
		123 1-3	Use in combination with fingerings involving RH 3.
		123 1-3 _{Eb}	Use in combination with fingerings involving RH 3.
F# ₄		123 1-	Basic.






G ₄		123 —	Basic.
G# ₄		123 ^{G#} —	Basic.
		123 _{G#} —	Trill fingering, open-hole.
		123 _A —	Trill fingering, closed-hole.
A ₄		12- —	Basic.
Bb ₄		12- 1—	Basic.
		1 ^B 2- 1—	Trill fingering with B ₄ .
B ₄		1- —	Basic.
		1 ^B - 1—	Trill fingering with A# ₄ .
C ₅		1- 1—	Basic.

Second Octave

Note	Written	Fingering	Description
C# ₅		023 123 _{C#}	Basic.
D ₅		023 123	Basic.
Eb ₅		023 123 _{Eb}	Basic.
E ₅		I 123 12-	Basic.

F ₅		I 123 12 _F -	Basic.
		I 123 ^F 12-	Use in combination with fingerings involving RH 3.
		I 123 1-3	Use in combination with fingerings involving RH 3.
		I 123 1-3 _{Eb}	Use in combination with fingerings involving RH 3.
F# ₅		I 123 1-	Basic.
G ₅		I 123 -	Basic.
G# ₅		I 123 ^{G#} -	Basic.
		I 123 _{G#} -	Open-hole, trill fingering.
		I 123 _A -	Closed-hole, trill fingering.
A ₅		II 12- -	Basic.
Bb ₅		II 12- 1-	Basic.
B ₅		II 1- -	Basic.
		II 1 ^B - 1-	Trill fingering with Bb ₅ .
C ₆		II 1- 1-	Basic.

Third Octave

Note	Written	Fingering	Description
C# ₆		-23 1— _C	Basic.
D ₆		023 —2— _C	Basic.
Eb ₆		023 ^B —23	Basic.
		023 —23 _{Eb}	Basic. Use in combination with Eb ₅ or D ₆ .
E ₆		I 023 ^{G# Eb} —23	Basic.
		I 023 _{G#} —23 _{Eb}	Basic.
		I 023 ^B _{G#} —23 _{Eb}	
		I 023 ^{G#} —23 _{Eb}	Basic.
		I 02— —	
F ₆		I 02— ^{G# Eb} —23	Basic.
		I 02— _{G#} —23 _{Eb}	Basic.
		I 02— ^{G#} —23 _{Eb}	Basic.