

The background features a series of parallel, glowing lines in shades of green and blue, radiating from the top left towards the bottom right. The bottom edge of the image is a jagged, white, torn-paper-like border against a black background.

Multiphonics

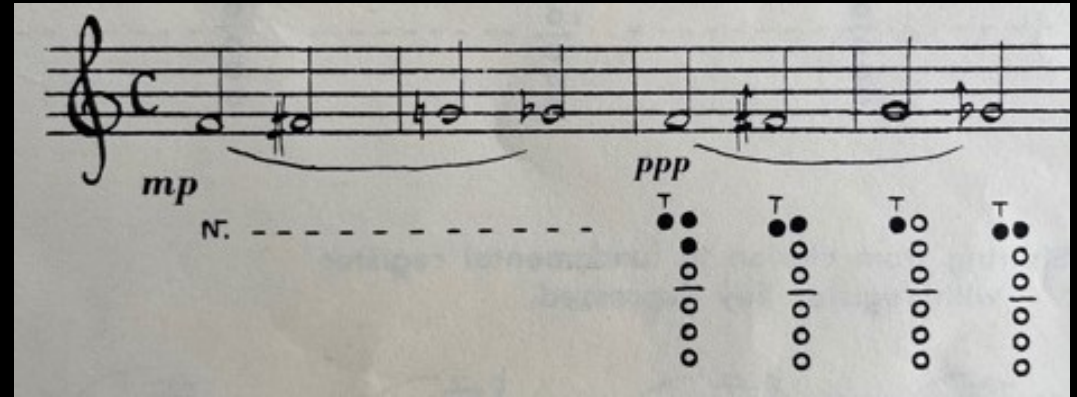
A Primer

Christopher Nichols, D.M.A.

Multiphonics

- Definition
- Clarinet Acoustics
- How to get started

1. Regular fingerings or "Normal"
2. Mis-voiced clarion fingerings



3. From fundamental to clarion register with the register key depressed

The image shows a musical score for a clarinet exercise in 6/4 time, featuring a melodic line with dynamic markings and a corresponding fingering diagram below it. The score is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 6/4 time signature. The melody consists of six measures, each containing a half note. The notes are: G4 (quarter rest), A4, B4, C5, B4, A4. The dynamic markings are *mp*, *ppp*, *mp*, *simile*, *pp*, and *mp*. The fingering diagram below the staff shows the fingerings for each note, with a 'T' above the first finger and a 'K' to the left of the diagram. The fingering for G4 is 1-2-3-4-5. The fingering for A4 is 1-2-3-4-5. The fingering for B4 is 1-2-3-4-5. The fingering for C5 is 1-2-3-4-5. The fingering for B4 is 1-2-3-4-5. The fingering for A4 is 1-2-3-4-5. The diagram also shows the register key (K) being depressed for the first and last notes.

A musical score for a clarinet in C major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four measures. The first measure starts with a dynamic marking of *mp*. The second measure has a dynamic marking of *ppp*. The third measure has a dynamic marking of *simile*. The fourth measure has no dynamic marking. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), and G4 (quarter). Each note has a slur above it. Below the staff, there are four fingerings, each starting with a 'T' and followed by a vertical column of circles representing finger positions. The fingerings are: 1. T, 2, 3, 4, 5; 2. T, 1, 2, 3, 4; 3. T, 2, 3, 4, 5; 4. T, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

4. From clarion to
fundamental register

6. Use of special fingerings

The image displays a musical score in 2/3 time, consisting of three measures. The notes are: Measure 1: G4, A4, B4, C5; Measure 2: B4, A4, G4, F4; Measure 3: E4, D4, C4, B3. The notes are grouped with slurs and phrasing slurs. Below the staff are three sets of fingering diagrams, each corresponding to a measure. Each diagram shows a vertical sequence of fingerings (represented by dots) for each note, with a 'T' above the first dot of each sequence. The first diagram has a 'K' to its left. The second diagram has a 'K' and a 'G' below it. The third diagram has a 'T' above the first dot of the first sequence. Dashed lines indicate the continuation of the diagrams.

Tips

- Often, especially in recent literature, the multiphonic will include a fingering suggestion.
- If not, research it
- Try it – if it works, great!
- If it does not work:
 - Access and stabilize each pitch individually using the prescribed fingering
 - Try it again without “accommodating”
 - Experiment with adjusting the shape of your oral cavity and/or the embouchure

Additional Resources

- Caravan, Ronald L. *Preliminary Exercises & Etudes in Contemporary Techniques for Clarinet*. Ethos Publications, 1979.
- Caravan, Ronald L. *Polychromatic Diversions*. Ethos Publications, 1979.
- Hudson, Andy and Roger Zare. *Elements of Contemporary Clarinet Technique*. Conway Publications, 2021.
- Rehfeldt, Phillip. *New Directions for Clarinet*. University of California Press, 1994.