KIWICORDER

8-BIT

by Judith Bell

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Music Education New Zealand Aotearoa

8-BIT

13

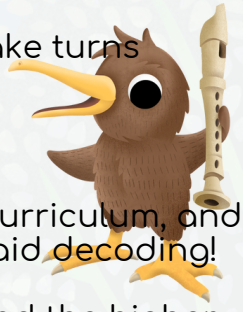
Teaching notes

8-Bit

for 3 descant recorders (one easy and two semi-advanced) , easy alto, tenor and bass.

The title of this piece has two meanings - it is based on the old 8-bit electro gaming style of music, and it also has 8-bit binary coded messages in the advanced recorder part and the opening drum solo.

With the 8-bit gaming style music, listen out for the looping, and for the bass drop just coming into letter D.



Because the advanced part is so repetitive, students could take turns playing the 8 bar section.

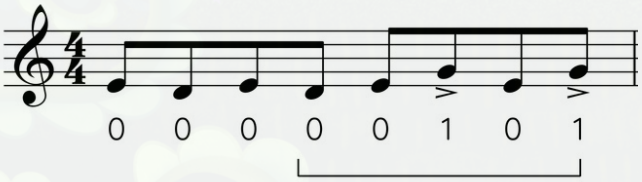
Each bar in the advanced part is a code for a letter.

Binary representation is part of the NZ digital technologies curriculum, and a key and worksheet are on the advanced descant pages to aid decoding!

In this piece the low unaccented notes are representing 0's and the higher accented notes are representing 1s.

For example, the second bar (bar 9) would be 00000101. The last 5 quavers (all we need) are shown by a bracket in the example below and represent 16, 8, 4, 2, 1.
In this example (00101) only the 4 and the 1 digits have a 1 (a higher note).

This adds up to 5, which represents E, the 5th letter of the alphabet. (See the chart example).



letter	number	16	8	4	2	1
	5	0	0	1	0	1

1	A	10	J	19	S
2	B	11	K	20	T
3	C	12	L	21	U
4	D	13	M	22	V
5	E	14	N	23	W
6	F	15	O	24	X
7	G	16	P	25	Y
8	H	17	Q	26	Z
9	I	18	R		

You can find more detail on how this works on the CS Unplugged website, with the general idea of binary numbers and coding messages (for primary school students) explained at https://www.csunplugged.org/en/topics/binary-numbers/,
and some more detail on using it in music at
https://www.csunplugged.org/en/topics/binary-numbers/integrations/binary-tunes/ .

Easy Descant Recorder

8 Bit

Judith Bell

♩ = 142

A

E

mp

13 B

21 C

C A G A

mf

25

29 D

C A G A

33

D

To Coda

37 E

D.S. al Coda

mp

45 F

A C A G A

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8 Bit

Descant Recorder Melody

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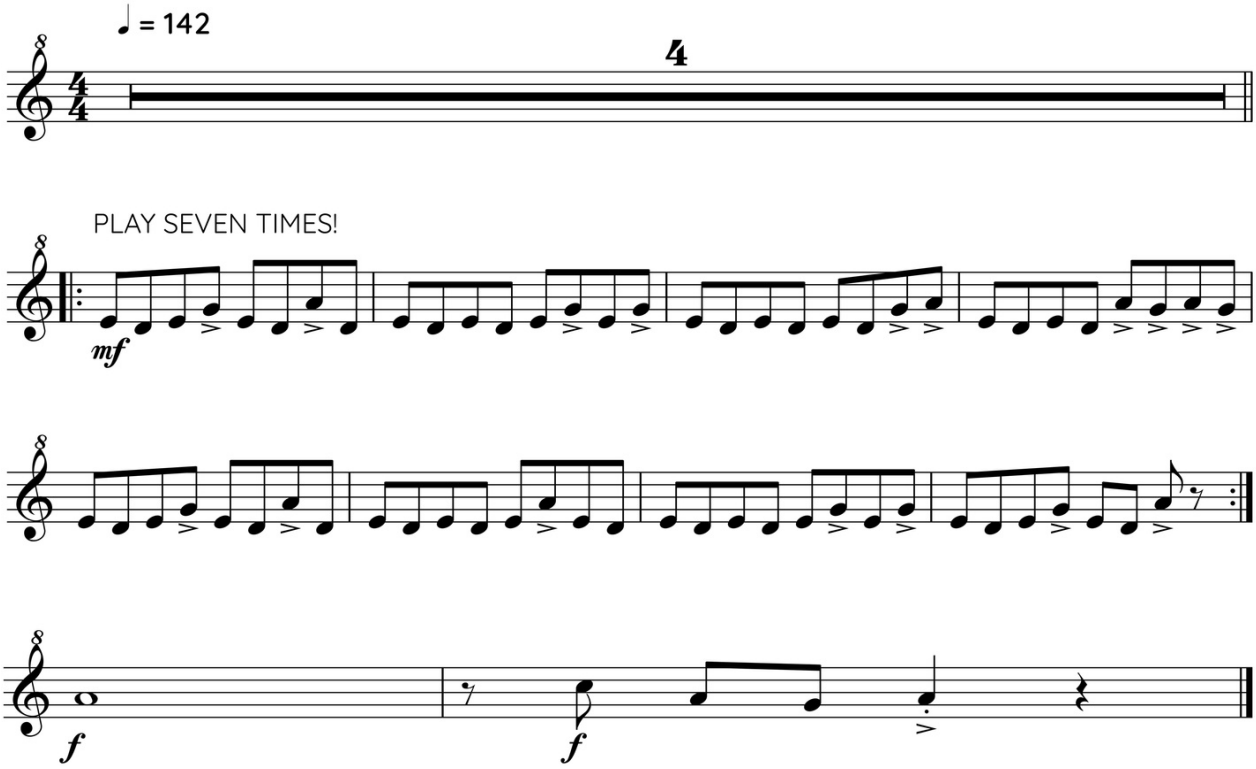

BINARY CODE:
RH notes (or rest) = 0
LH notes = 1
The coded message can be found in the last 5 quavers of each bar!
Can you decode it?

letter	number	16	8	4	2	1

1	A
2	B
3	C
4	D
5	E
6	F
7	G
8	H
9	I

10	J
11	K
12	L
13	M
14	N
15	O
16	P
17	Q
18	R

19	S
20	T
21	U
22	V
23	W
24	X
25	Y
26	Z

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Descant Recorder Advanced melody 8 Bit

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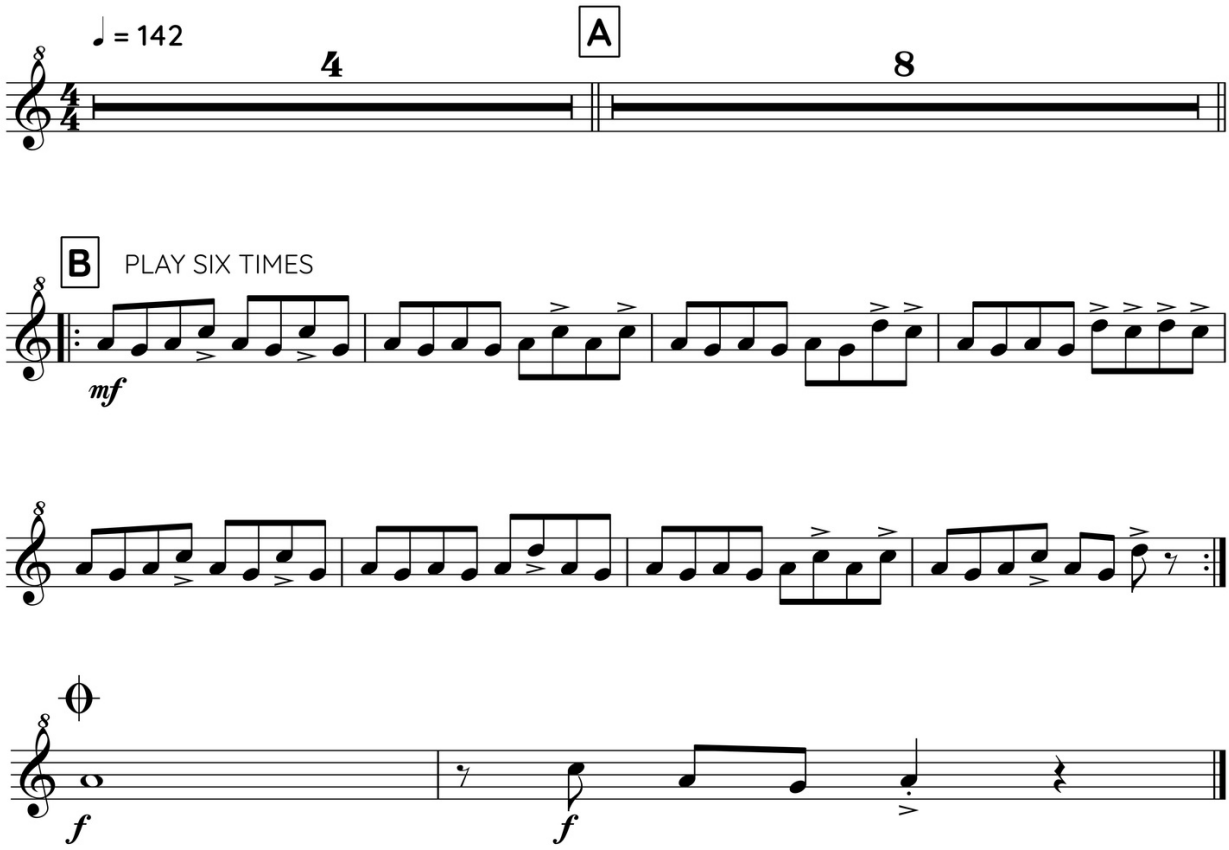

BINARY CODE:
Notes below B, or a rest = 0
Notes above B = 1
A coded message can be found in the last 5 quavers of each bar!
Can you decode it?

letter	number	16	8	4	2	1

1	A	10	J	19	S
2	B	11	K	20	T
3	C	12	L	21	U
4	D	13	M	22	V
5	E	14	N	23	W
6	F	15	O	24	X
7	G	16	P	25	Y
8	H	17	Q	26	Z
9	I	18	R		

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Easy Descant Recorder
Descant Recorder Melody

8 Bit

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♩ = 142

4

4

A

5 E

mp

mf

9

B

13

17

C

21 C A G A

mf

f

V.S.

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D

C A G A

f

To Coda

D

E

mp

f

D.S. al Coda

F

A C A G A

Alto Recorder

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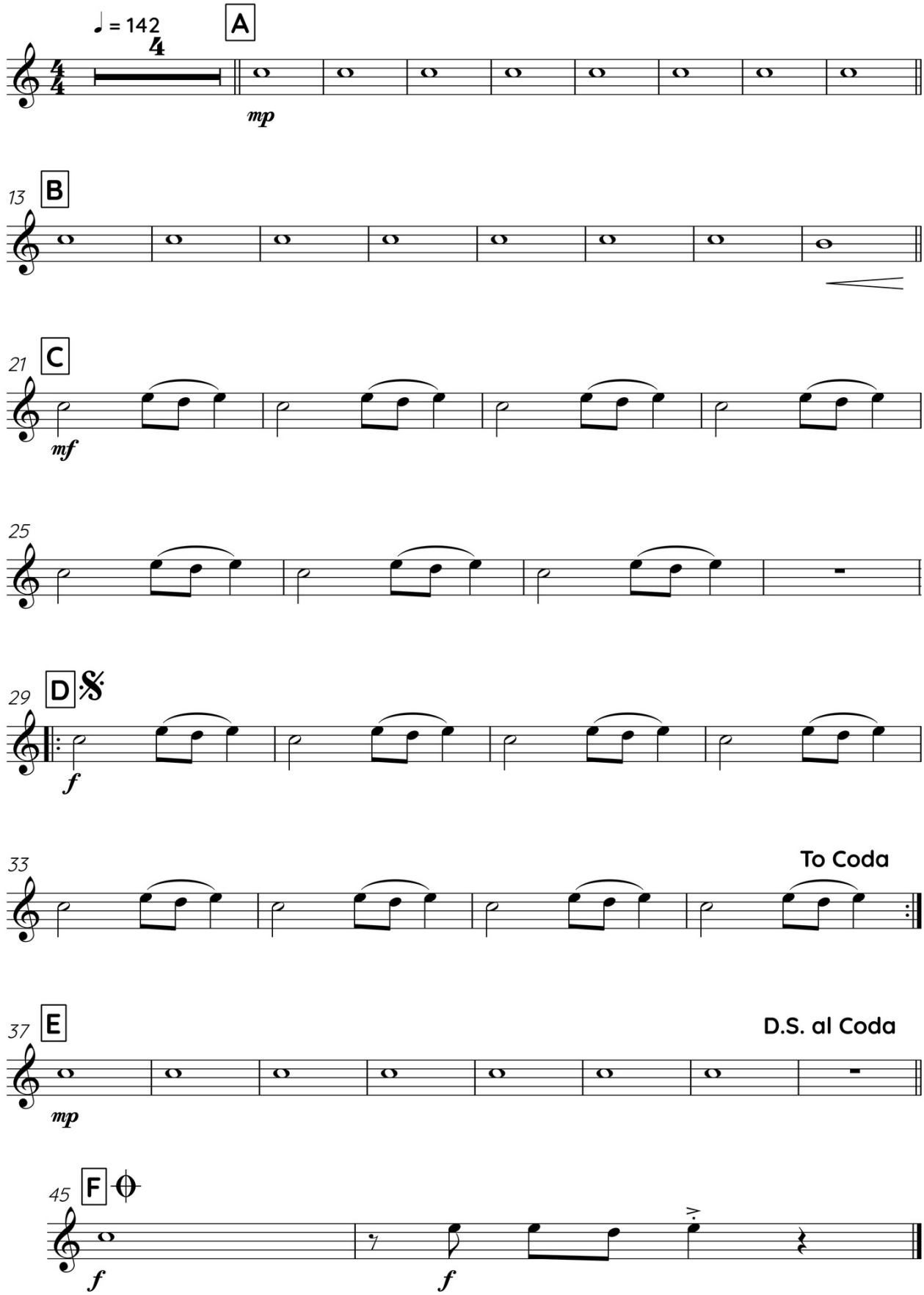

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Tenor Recorder

8 Bit

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♩ = 142

A

mp

13 B

21 C

mf

25

29 D

f

33

To Coda

37 E

mp

41

D.S. al Coda

45 F

f

f

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Bass Recorder

8 Bit

Judith Bell

♩ = 142

A

4

mp

9

13 B

21 C

mf

29 D

f

To Coda

37 E

mp

D.S. al Coda

45 F

f

f

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8 Bit

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♩ = 142

Easy Descant Recorder

Descant Recorder Melody

Descant Recorder Advanced melody

Alto Recorder

Tenor Recorder

Bass Recorder

A

E

D. Rec. *mp*

D. Rec. *mf*

D. Rec.

A. Rec. *mp*

T. Rec. *mp*

B. Rec. *mp*

V.S.

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D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

B

D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
mf
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

C

C A G A

D. Rec. *mf*
D. Rec. *f*
D. Rec. *f*
A. Rec. *mf*
T. Rec. *mf*
B. Rec. *mf*

V.S.

D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

D.S.

C A G A

D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

f
f
div.

D

D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

E

D. Rec. *mp*
D. Rec. *f*
D. Rec. *f*
A. Rec. *mp*
T. Rec. *mp*
B. Rec. *mp*

V.S.

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D.S. al Coda

D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

F

A C A G A

D. Rec.
D. Rec.
D. Rec.
A. Rec.
T. Rec.
B. Rec.

f

Piano
Bass Synth

8 Bit

Judith Bell

♩ = 142
claps

A

5 Am Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Dm9 Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Am Dm9 F Dm9 Am

mp

B

13 Am Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Dm9

p

17 Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Am D9 F Dm9 E(sus4)

C

21 Am Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Dm9

mp

V.S.

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25 Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Am D9 F Dm9 E(sus4)

D 29 Am Am7 Am6

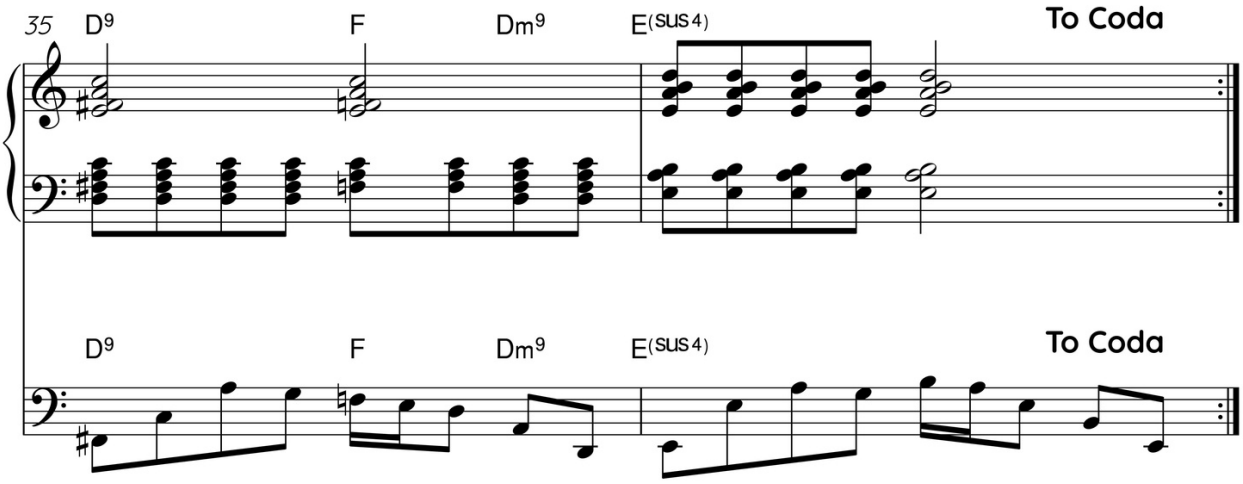
mf

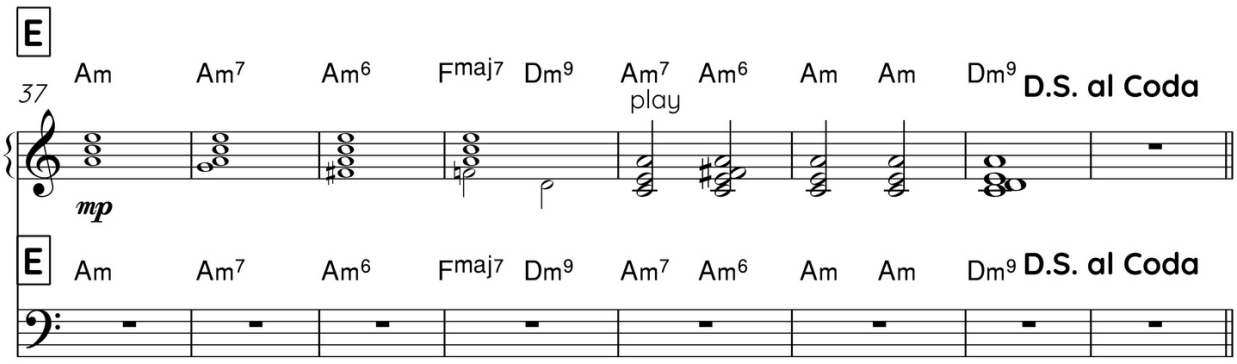
D Am Am7 Am6

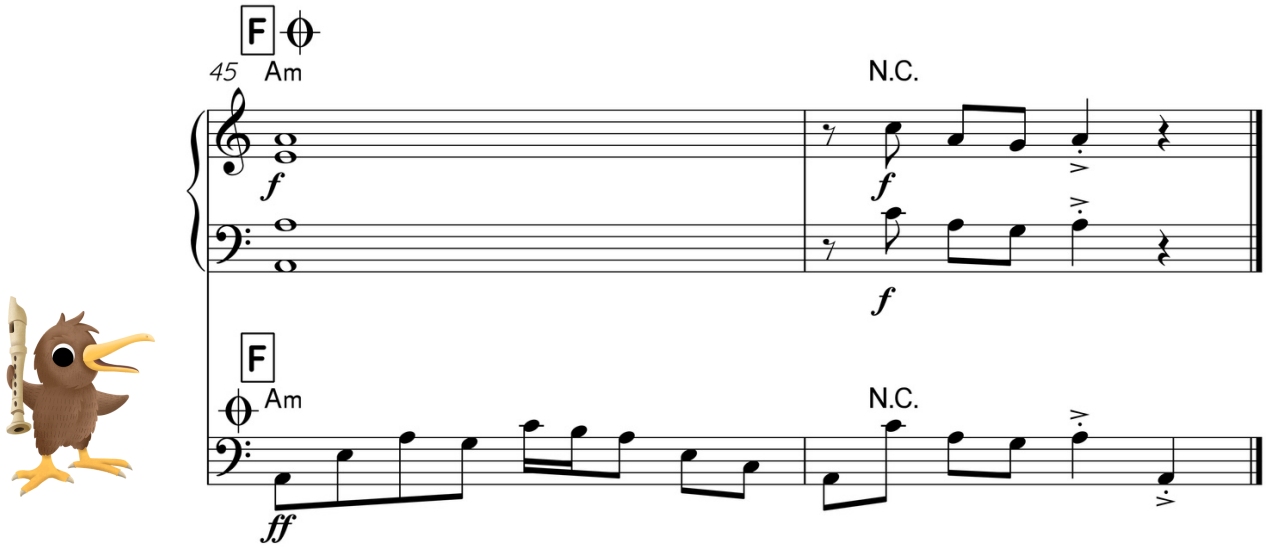
ff

32 Fmaj7 Dm9 Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Am

Fmaj7 Dm9 Am7 Am6 Fmaj7 Am

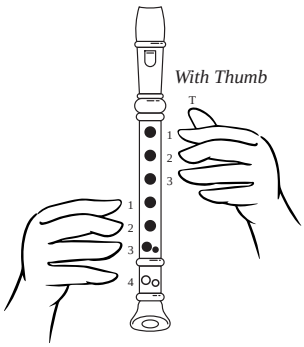

35
D9
F
Dm9
E(SUS4)
To Coda
D9
F
Dm9
E(SUS4)
To Coda


E
37
Am
Am7
Am6
Fmaj7
Dm9
Am7
play
Am6
Am
Am
Dm9
D.S. al Coda
mp
E
Am
Am7
Am6
Fmaj7
Dm9
Am7
Am6
Am
Am
Dm9
D.S. al Coda

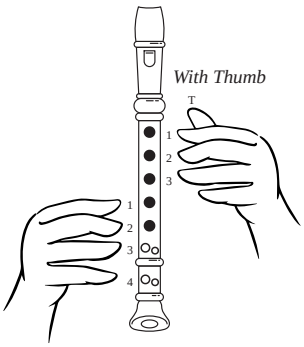

F
45
Am
N.C.
f
f
f
F
Am
N.C.
ff

Kiwicorder Descant 1 - note glossary

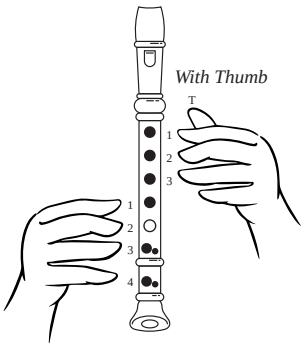
D



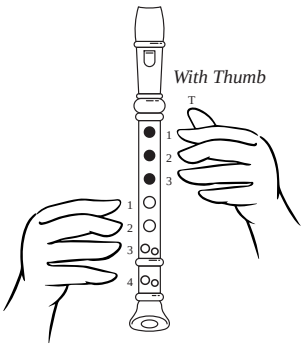
E



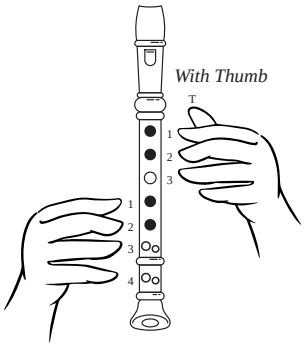
F



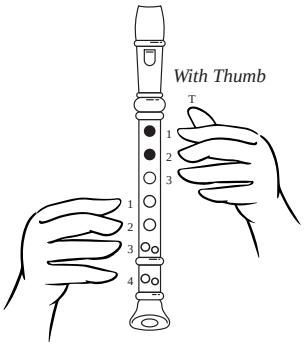
G



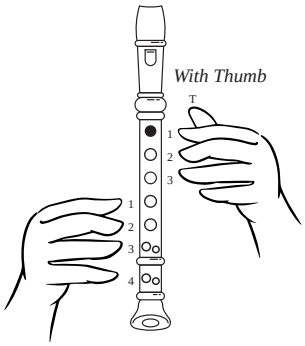
G#



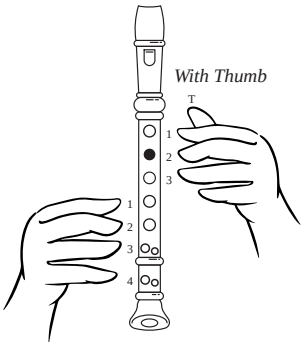
A



B



C



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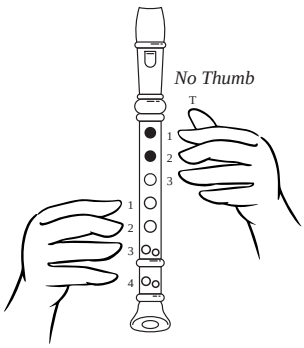
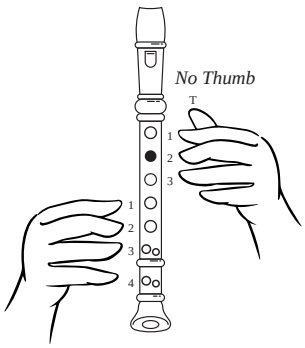


D



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