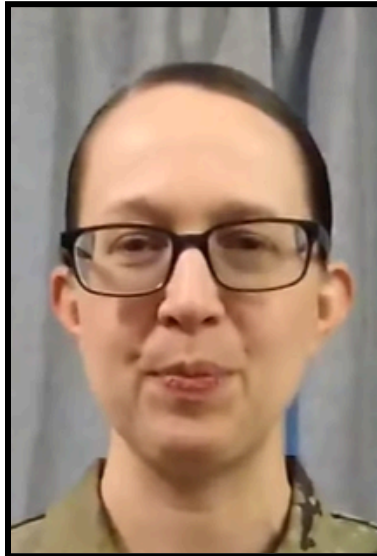


Embouchure Formation

In order to form a basic clarinet embouchure, follow the steps outlined below. In case you are not able to complete these steps, **take a look at the troubleshooting section** at the end of this survival guide.

Step 1.

Say the word *dim* and keep your lips closed but your teeth apart.



Step 2.

Open your mouth slightly and **cover** the edge of your lower teeth with your lower lip and **flatten** your chin.



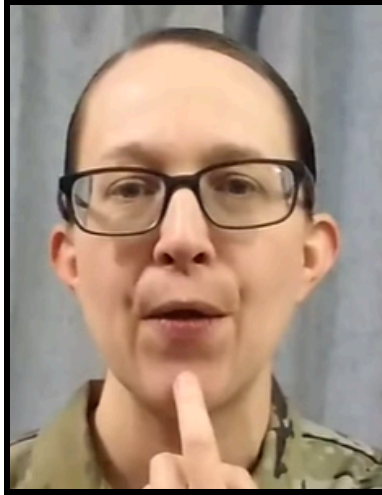
Step 3.

Pull the corners of your lips inwards and **think** of the top lip coming down slightly.



Step 4.

Maintain your embouchure for 10 seconds and then reform it.



Do not worry if you are not able to mimic the clarinet embouchure on the first try! If you are still not able to mimic this embouchure you can use this mental image to help you mimic this embouchure.

- **Tip #1: Imagine** you are trying to drink a milkshake using a very thin straw and **make** a face that mimics this action. Your lips should be **pursed** but not **puckering**, your chin should be flat and your lip corners should be pressing inwards.

Tone Production on the Mouthpiece and Barrel

After you have successfully formed your embouchure without the mouthpiece, it is now time to try it with the mouthpiece. Remember to always play with a solid musical concept at all times. **Make the most beautiful sound you can even with one note.**

Step 1

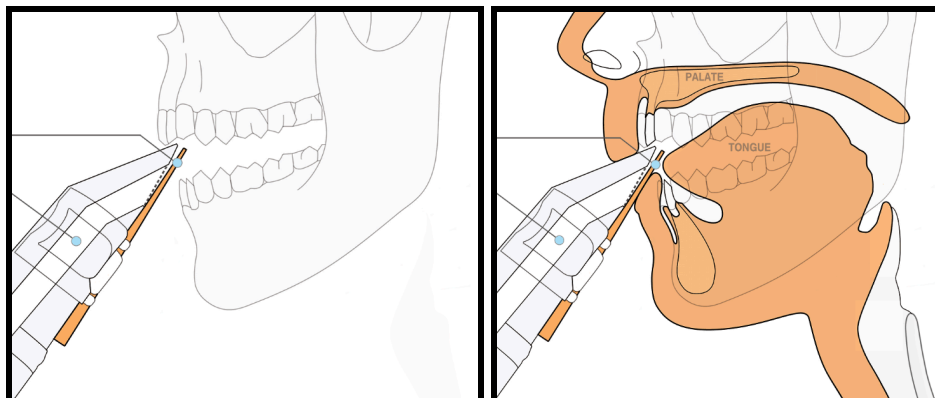
Prepare your *dim* embouchure (bottom teeth slightly covered, corners inwards, flat chin and no puckering).

Step 2.

Place your mouthpiece and barrel in the middle of your lower teeth (covered by your lower lips) and then rest your top teeth on the top part of the reed (do not bite down).



Remember, the mouthpiece should be placed at a 40 degree angle relative to the floor and about half of the reed should be inside your mouth.



Step 3.

Think of the word “VEE”, **take** a diaphragm breath and **breathe** without puffing your lips or altering your embouchure. After you have run out of breath, remove the mouthpiece from your lips and repeat from step 1.

