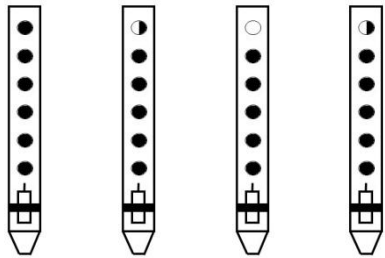


Adding "Half Hole" Notes

Another limitation of the Native American flute in playing western culture music is the big, three half-tone, gap between the fundamental (all holes covered) and the next normally available note (uncover hole #1 only). Many NAF players will use various tricks to avoid the missing notes, such as playing a different note that is not overly objectionable in context or just ignoring it altogether. However, the missing note may be approximated by partially uncovering the bottom hole (hole #1), a technique known as half-holing.

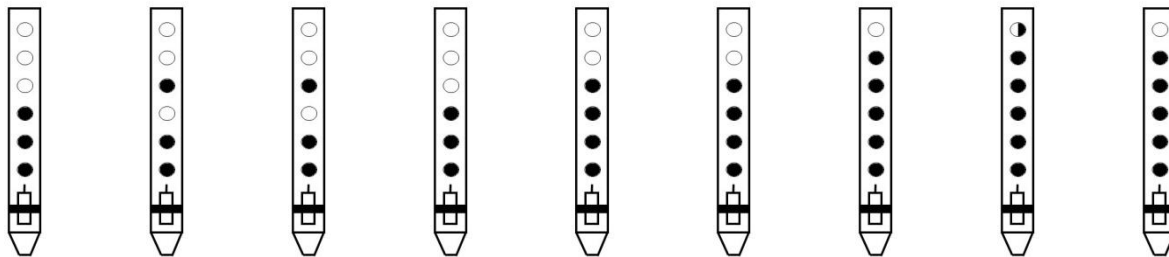
The ease with which a flute will half-hole varies from flute to flute. Generally, a flute may be hard to half-hole if that first hole is relatively small (say, smaller than 1/4"). Different players have different ways to half-hole, and you may have to try several approaches to find the one that works best for you.



I suggest you get the feel for the half-hole technique by, with holes 2 through 6 covered, placing your ring finger on its side next to the first hole and slowly rolling it over the hole until you hear the pitch drop slightly. Practice this until you can comfortably achieve the half-hole finger position without the slow transition.

Once you can somewhat easily get that half-hole pitch as described above, practice moving in and out of the half-hole position by continually repeating the sequence to the left.

Finally, try it in a song. The following is the final line of Bob Dylan's *Blowin' In the Wind* (sing: "the answer is blowin' in the wind."):



Until next time....."Happy Flutin'.....!

0G0 0Z0

(Utsadv Unole - "Many Winds")