

DOUBLE TONGUING SCALE EXERCISE

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In the exercise below, all notes should be completely connected. The airflow constant so there is no space between the notes. Start with the metronome at ♩ = 60 and move the tempo faster only when each step is clean, even, and in tune. Eventually, you will change the note values to sixteenth-notes, and pattern 3 (all “G” syllable) will not be possible much beyond MM = 100. Your long-term goal (very long-term) should be sixteenth-notes at ♩ = 168.

Always practice all 5 patterns. Pattern #1, with everything slurred, is designed to ensure that your fingers are moving evenly. If even finger movement is not established, the tongue cannot coordinate with the fingers, and will always sound sloppy.

If the “G” stroke is flat or late, try re-positioning your entire tongue closer to the roof of your mouth for the whole process. Also, try moving the contact spot for the “G” stroke farther forward on your tongue. Ensure that your air is constant and well-supported but not forced.



1. All slurred.
2. Single “D” tongue; no space between notes.
3. Single “G” tongue; no space between notes.
4. Double “D-G” tongue; no space between notes.
5. Double “G-D” tongue; no space between notes.