First songs

How to play Au Clair de la Lune on the recorder

Au Clair de la Lune recorder notes with letters, easy for beginners, with a fingering chart for each note.
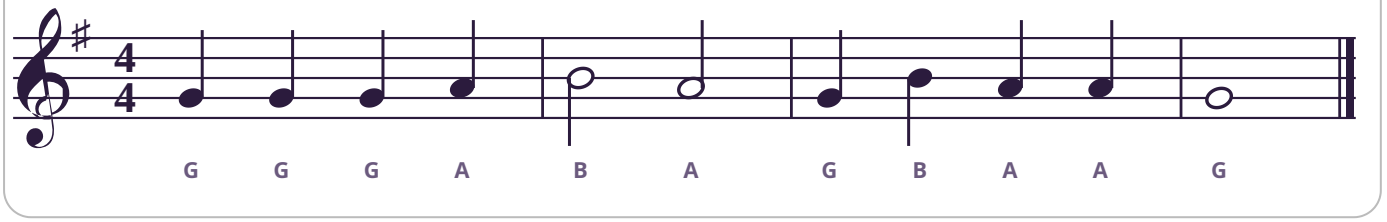
A French folk song from the 1700s about a moonlit night. It moves gently between G, A and B: a perfect second song. It uses 3 notes: G, A and B. Below are the notes with their rhythm, and the fingering for each one.

The notes



Longer blocks are longer notes; a line marks each bar.

Sheet music



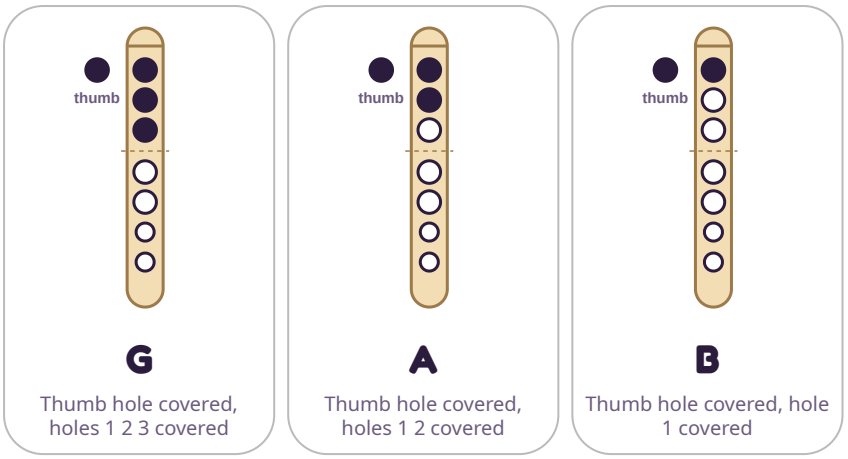
The same song in standard notation, with each note's name under it.

The notes as letters

G G G A B A G B A A G

All for a soprano (descant) recorder, with baroque (English) fingering.

Fingerings



Tap Play to hear a note; tap a fingering card to see how to play it. Filled holes are covered. The left hand is on top (thumb behind, holes 1–3), the right hand below (holes 4–7).

Tips

- Say "doo" into the recorder for each note: the tongue starts every note, so repeated notes sound separate.
- Blow gently, like cooling soup. Too much air makes a squeak an octave up.
- Cover the holes with the soft pads of your fingers, not the tips, so no air leaks out.