Instrument: Clarinet

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Article Title: How to Teach and Learn Characteristic Clarinet Tone

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Summary (Outline form):

* Tone production system- reed and air column work together with tongue and embouchure
* Developing tonal concept – tone is centered, focused, resonant, well-defined, deep free, dark
* Air stream and tongue position- very concentrated air is needed, “cold air”
* Blowing properly- you want “aerosol can air” (get by taking a good breath and then pressurizing air by pushing it down and out from the lower stomach
* Proper tongue position- place tongue as if you were beginning the word cake- letter k makes the tongue hang back in the mouth and directs the air better
* The Reed and the Embouchure
  + - * Open teeth and lips slightly like sipping from a straw-jaw in position to say word oh or go
      * Place mouthpiece and reed wedge loosely in embouchure and blow air freely without sound
      * Snug up mouthpiece in mouth so sound comes out-don’t close jaw on mouthpiece
      * Resist snugging lips any more as you put your tongue in the “k” position
* Proper Results and trouble shooting- tone should clear up as you snug, but will get spread or lower if you;
  + - * firm too much
      * are not firm enough with lips,
      * the tongue position is too low
      * some combination
    - Never bite! Or close the jaw
    - All the clarinetist needs to do is understand these concepts and work on putting them into common practice