

# 1. Introduction to Trumpet

Welcome to trumpet studies. This book is written to give you a comprehensive overview of trumpet playing. It is my hope that the information contained in here is useful to you.

## Mouthpiece Buzzing

Let's begin with only the mouthpiece. Our goal is to get a buzzing sound.

Grab the mouthpiece using the thumb and index and pointer finger on the shank end. To create the proper formation of the lips, pronounce the letter "m". Then place the mouthpiece on the center of the lips and blow.

The sound is created by the buzzing of the top lip against the bottom lip. The muscles at the corner of the lips should be firm, while the upper lip should be relaxed.



Practice this until a consistent buzzing sound is established. If you are having difficulty, try tightening the corner muscles or bringing your lips closer together.

## First Exercise

Now we're ready for our first playing exercise. We're still just buzzing on the mouthpiece. This is also our first chance to read music. Before playing, take a look at the instructions below

1

Whole note-  
Play for four beats

Whole rest-  
Rest for four beats

Whole note-  
Play for four beats

Whole rest-  
Rest for four beats

Whole note-  
Play for four beats

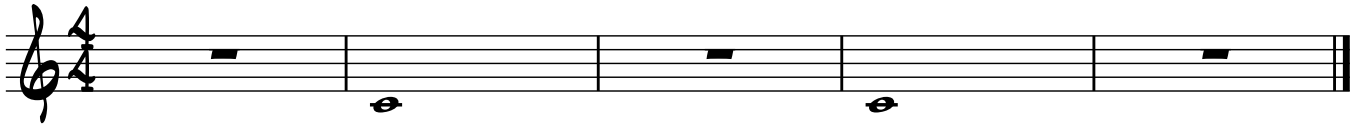
There are only two things we need to know. The open circle is a whole note, which means to play for four beats continuously. The thick line means to rest, or make no sound, for four beats. After the third whole note, we're done. Let's try it:

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Now let's try it in the opposite order. Rests first, then notes

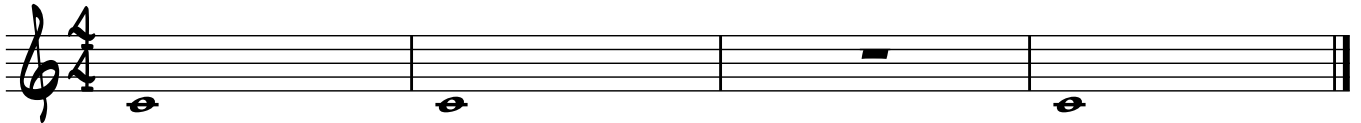
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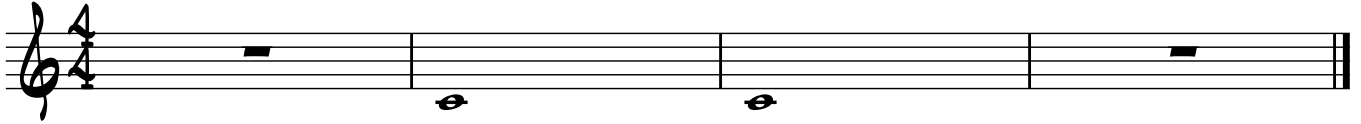
Now let's mix it up the whole notes and whole rests a little bit.

Remember to keep a clear buzz for four full beats during the whole notes.

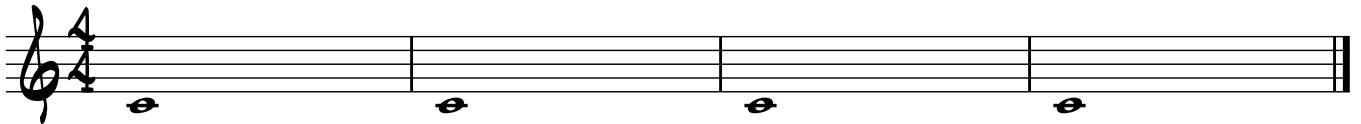
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