

## **Pitch Tendencies of Instruments and How to Compensate**

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### **Trumpet and Euphonium**

1. Below staff C# is sharp. – Relax embouchure and lower tongue as if to sound “OH.”
2. Below staff D is sharp. – Same as above
3. 4<sup>th</sup> line D is flat. – Keep embouchure firm and raise tongue as if to sound “EE.”
4. 4<sup>th</sup> space E is flat. – Same as above
5. Above staff A is sharp. – Relax embouchure and lower tongue as if to sound “OH,” or try using third valve.

### **Tuba**

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> space C is flat. – Keep embouchure firm and raise tongue as if to sound “EE,” or try using first and third valves.
2. 3<sup>rd</sup> line D is flat. – Keep embouchure firm and raise tongue as if to sound “EE,” or try using first and second valves.

### **Trombone**

1. Above staff D is flat. – Keep embouchure firm and raise tongue as if to sound “EE,” or use slightly extended 4<sup>th</sup> position.
2. Above staff F is sharp. – Relax embouchure and lower tongue as if to sound “OH,” or use 4<sup>th</sup> position.

### **Flute**

1. 3<sup>rd</sup> space C is sharp. – Roll flute in.
2. 3<sup>rd</sup> space C# is sharp. – Roll flute in and depress right-hand keys.
3. Notes are flat at random. – Roll flute out.

### **Clarinet**

1. Throat tones A and Bb are inconsistently flat or sharp. – Relax embouchure and lower tongue on sharp notes, tighten embouchure and raise tongue on flat notes.
2. Notes above high C are inconsistent. – Experiment with using or not using the right-hand D# key.

### **Saxophone**

4<sup>th</sup> line D and above staff A are sharp, as well as others in upper register, while notes below 3<sup>rd</sup> space C may sound flat. – Practice slowly, octave intervals, arpeggios, and fifths, using more or less pressure to raise or lower tongue to fit the situation.