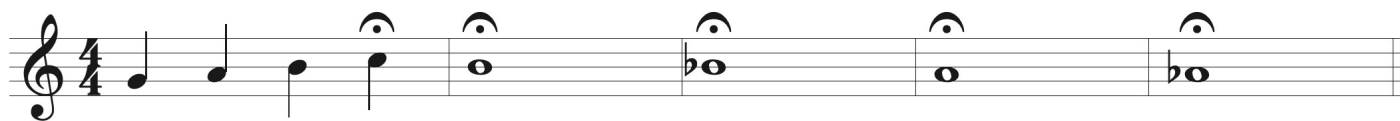


French Horn

Basic Tuning Rules

1. *Make sure you have warmed up for at least 5 minutes before tuning.*
2. *Use your best embouchure and make sure you play with your best tone quality.*
3. *Play your tuning note at a mezzo forte dynamic level.*
4. *Do not try to fix the tuning note by adjusting with your air or embouchure. Adjust the tuning slide listed below until it is in tune.*

Best Tuning Notes



1. Approach the C by walking up the scale to help center the pitch.
2. Tune the main tuning slide on the F horn side, then check the main tuning slide on the Bb horn side.
3. Adjust the second valve tuning slide on both sides of the horn while playing B.
4. Adjust the first valve tuning slide on both sides of the horn while playing Bb.
5. Play the A for reference only (you have already tuned the first and second valve slides).
6. Adjust the third valve tuning slide on both sides of the horn while playing Ab.

How to Tune the French Horn

The French Horn takes longer to tune than other brass instruments since you will need to tune each individual tuning slide. Follow the instructions above to tune each of your slides in the correct order. If you are sharp, pull it out more; if you are flat, push it in more.

How to Adjust for Other Notes

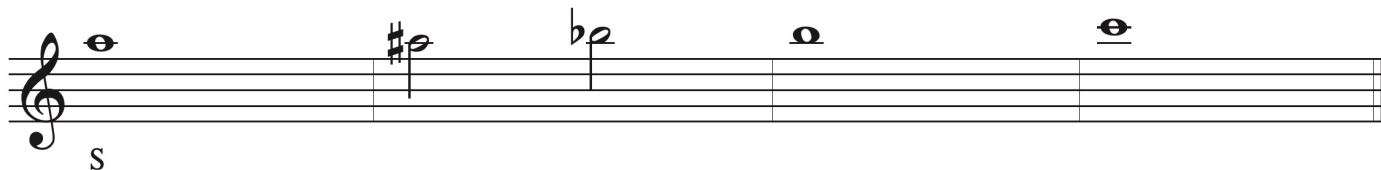
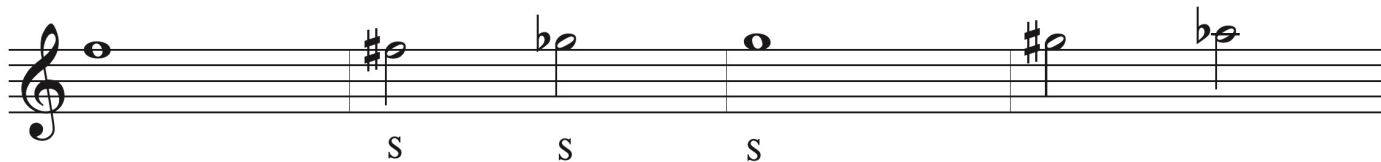
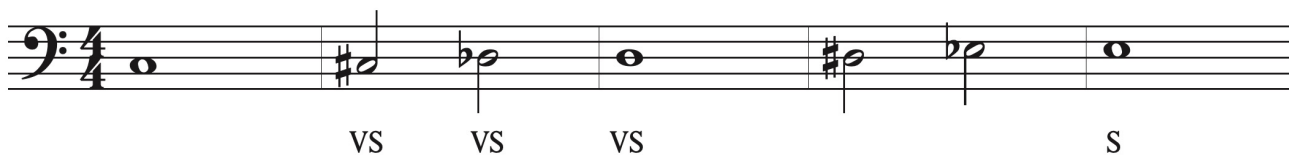
Unfortunately, after tuning your instrument, there will still be some notes that will need to be adjusted to be in tune. Use these guidelines to help you if you come across an out of tune note:

1. If you are sharp - relax the embouchure.
2. If you are flat - firm up the embouchure.
3. If you are playing loud - crescendos have a tendency to play sharp.
4. If you are playing soft - decrescendos have a tendency to play flat.
5. The pitch will lower by inserting more right hand into the bell.
6. The pitch will raise by removing more right hand from the bell.
7. 1-2 valve combination is moderately sharp.
8. 2-3 valve combination is moderately flat.
9. 1-3 valve combination is very sharp.
10. 1-2-3 valve combination is extremely sharp.

French Horn Pitch Tendencies

Abbreviations

VF - Very Flat F - Flat S - Sharp VS - Very Sharp



While these pitch tendencies are common for most French Horns, each individual instrument can vary. It is important to spend time with a tuner on your own instrument to learn its unique characteristics.

French Horn Warmups

<i>Abbreviations</i>			
<i>VF - Very Flat</i>	<i>F - Flat</i>	<i>S - Sharp</i>	<i>VS - Very Sharp</i>

<i>Abbreviations</i>			
<i>VF - Very Flat</i>	<i>F - Flat</i>	<i>S - Sharp</i>	<i>VS - Very Sharp</i>

Long Tone 1a



Long Tone 1b



Long Tone 1c



Long Tone 1d



French Horn Warmups

Abbreviations

VF - Very Flat F - Flat S - Sharp VS - Very Sharp

Long Tone 3a

The musical notation for Long Tone 3a consists of five staves, each containing a long tone exercise in G major. The exercises are as follows:

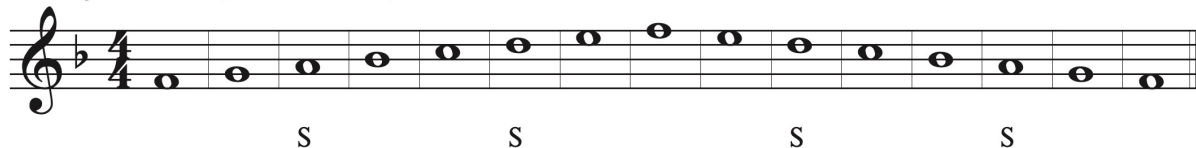
- Staff 1: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter). Accents are placed over the A4, B4, and C5 notes. A sharp sign is placed below the staff at the end.
- Staff 2: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter). Accents are placed over the A4, B4, and C5 notes. A flat sign is placed below the staff at the end.
- Staff 3: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter). Accents are placed over the A4, B4, and C5 notes. A flat sign is placed below the staff at the end.
- Staff 4: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter). Accents are placed over the A4, B4, and C5 notes. A sharp sign is placed below the staff at the end.
- Staff 5: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter). Accents are placed over the A4, B4, and C5 notes. A sharp sign is placed below the staff at the end.

French Horn Major Scales

Abbreviations

VF - Very Flat F - Flat S - Sharp VS - Very Sharp

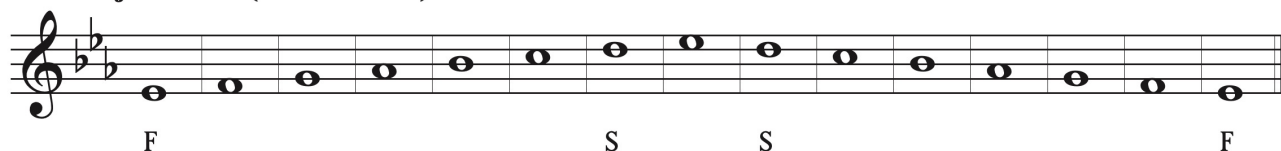
F Major Scale (Concert Bb)



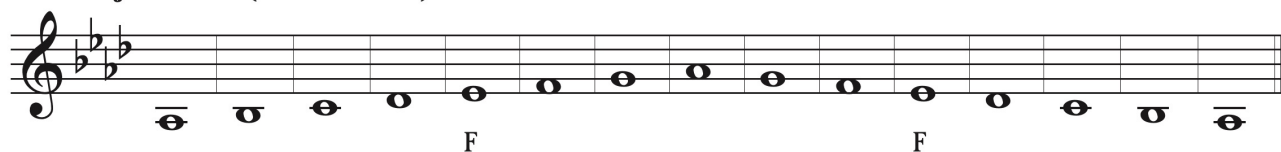
Bb Major Scale (Concert Eb)



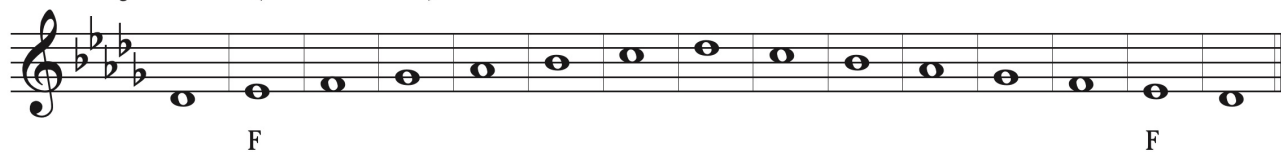
Eb Major Scale (Concert Ab)



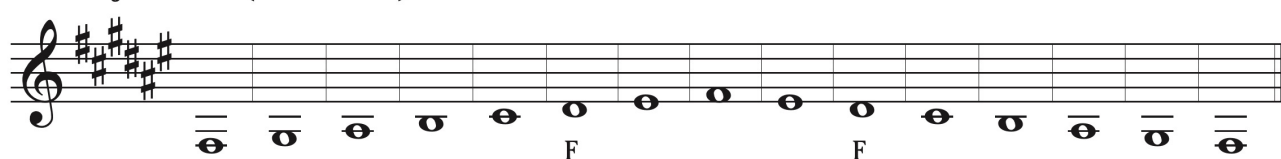
Ab Major Scale (Concert Db)



Db Major Scale (Concert Gb)



F# Major Scale (Concert B)

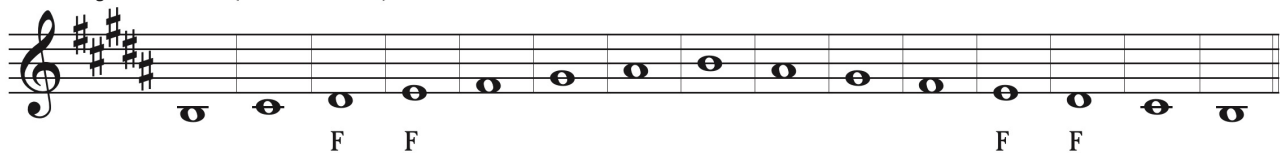


French Horn Major Scales

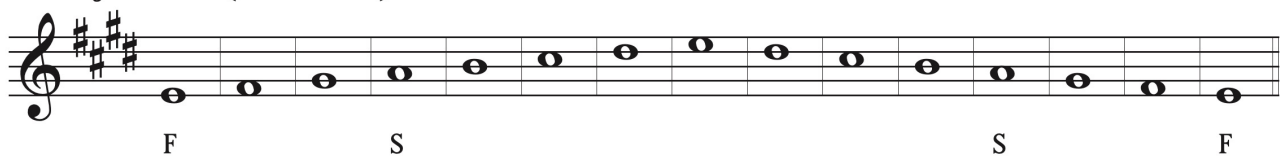
Abbreviations

VF - Very Flat F - Flat S - Sharp VS - Very Sharp

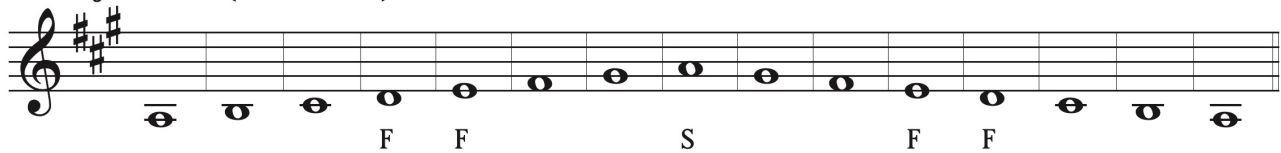
B Major Scale (Concert E)



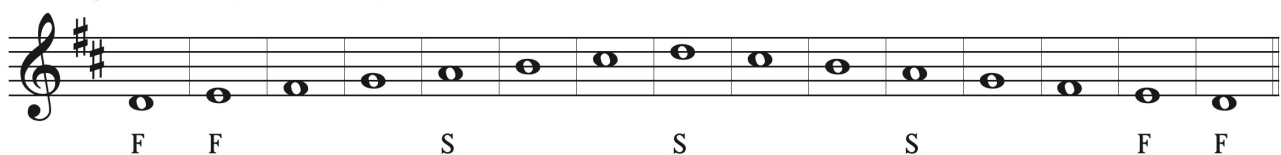
E Major Scale (Concert A)



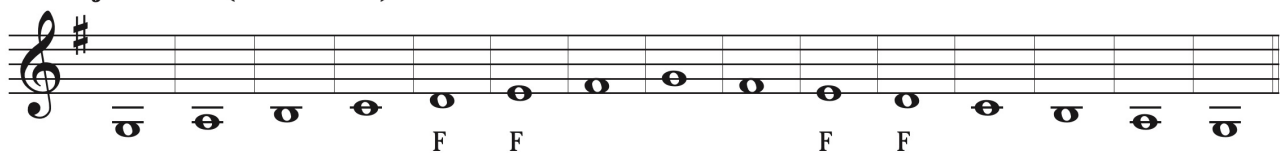
A Major Scale (Concert D)



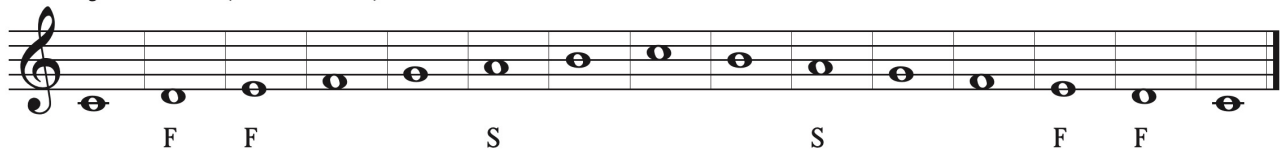
D Major Scale (Concert G)



G Major Scale (Concert C)



C Major Scale (Concert F)



Interval Tuning

Interval Tuning Explained

When multiple notes are played at a time, each note produces a unique sound wave based off the pitch being played. When the frequencies align, the beats or waves in the sound disappear and it sounds “in tune” to our ears. When more than one pitch is played, the notes above the fundamental pitch must be adjusted to make the frequencies align and create that “in tune” sound. We call this “just intonation.”

Adjustments Needed

The adjustments listed below are the number of cents that must be raised or lowered in order to produce an “in tune” sound when playing an interval above the tonic (first note) of a key. It is important to note that your tuner will say that you are not in tune when playing this way - this is why it is important to listen first before you look at your tuner!

Major Scale

Unison	Major 2nd	Major 3rd	Perfect 4th	Perfect 5th	Major 6th	Major 7th	Perfect 8th
0	+4	-14	-2	+2	-16	-12	0

Minor Scale

Unison	Major 2nd	minor 3rd	Perfect 4th	Perfect 5th	minor 6th	minor 7th	Perfect 8th
0	+4	+16	-2	+2	+14	+18	0

Listen Before You Look

When an interval is adjusted properly the beats or waves in the sound disappear. Because of this, it is important to train yourself to listen for the in tune sound as your primary tuning mechanism. The tuner should be used as a reference point after you have used your ears to adjust the pitch. Always listen before you look!

When Should You Use This?

Just intonation or interval tuning is only necessary when playing chords or long and sustained sounds. When playing fast sections or melodic material, interval adjustments are not required.

French Horn Interval Tuning

Make sure to listen to the drone during the rests and try to hear your next pitch before playing it!

- lower pitch by number of cents + raise pitch by number of cents

F Major (Concert Bb)

0 +4 -14 -2 +2

-16 -12 0 0 +2 -14 0

Bb Major (Concert Eb)

0 +4 -14 -2 +2

-16 -12 0 0 +2 -14 0

C Major (Concert F)

0 +4 -14 -2 +2

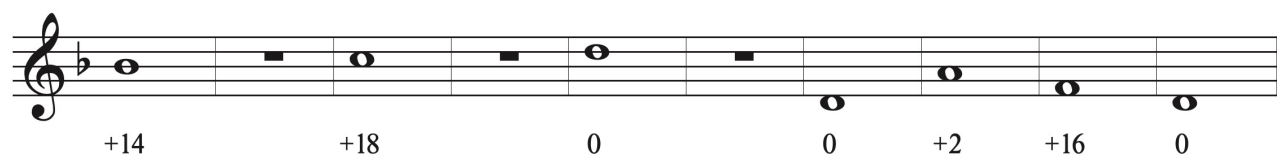
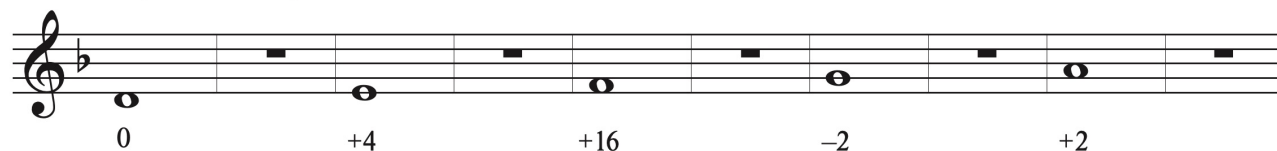
-16 -12 0 0 +2 -14 0

French Horn Interval Tuning

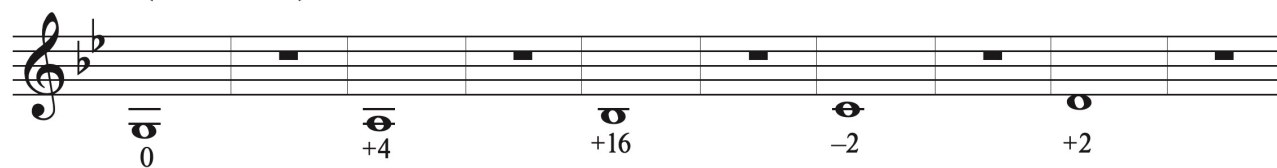
Make sure to listen to the drone during the rests and try to hear your next pitch before playing it!

- lower pitch by number of cents + raise pitch by number of cents

D minor (Concert G)



G minor (Concert C)



A minor (Concert D)

