Balance and Blend your Band’s Flute Section

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Developing balance and blend in a flute section requires daily embouchure, vibrato and melodic practice to build confidence and consistence at all dynamic levels. Weekly section rehearsals are opportunities to explore musical phrasing, expand technical skills, and focus the section on tone development and intonation. Use the following long tone, scale and arpeggio exercises to build individual listening habits throughout the section. Divide your flute section in two parts (***A*** and ***B***), and perform the exercises as marked. Arrange students in section rehearsal in various ways to break habits developed when players are always seated in the same arrangement. Experienced players at the top of the section

1. Practice Long Tone in octaves to develop intonation, balance and tone quality. (Add Long Tone Exercise from FF p 10)
2. Split the scales in half, alternating ***A*** and ***B*** sections as marked on the exercises to develop equal blend and balance throughout the section.

(Add F Major Scale marked in various configurations)

1. Practice arpeggios in various ways creating opportunities for balance and blend.
2. ***A*** group plays the arpeggio and ***B*** group sustains the topic

1. ***A*** group plays from bottom to top/***B*** group plays from top to bottom
2. ***A*** group sustains middle register tonic/***B*** group plays the arpeggio

Be creative with the order/arrangement of groups, alternating players in each exercise to increase concentration and eliminate boredom…..have fun!! Your Flute Section will appreciate the effort!!!