

Flutes in D

Rudall&Rose Models

Rudall&Rose with large fingerholes (original tuning) (R&R large original)

Copy of an original from about 1841. Very round, mellow, rich and balanced in tone. The large fingerholes make this flute a powerful and flexible instrument. Tuned in three octaves (with the C foot - from low C up to C4). There is a "progression" in the internal tuning, which is typical for flutes of this period: the left hand notes are comparatively sharp to those of the right hand. This shift is caused by compromises in the tuning of certain notes between the lower registers and the third octave. However, with a moderate and flexible embouchure one gains a compass of full three octaves without having to use too complicated fingerings, which would hinder the flow of one's playing. Especially, E3 is to be mentioned in this context; a note that depends largely on the aperture of the third fingerhole. However, I take the liberty of making some minor modifications in the tuning. I recommended this flute for a varied repertoire and large range of tone. For powerful irish style playing I do recommend the modified version with "straigher" internal tuning, as described below.

R&R large original modern, upper middle joint
 3 keys, blackwood & silver



Rudall&Rose with large fingerholes (modified tuning) (R&R large modified)

In this model I omit all unnecessary compromising between the third octave and the lower registers, which is most apparent in the tuning of E3. However, all high notes can be hit cleanly, though sometimes by the use of more complex fingering (meaning a larger number of keys used). Consequently, the left hand notes are more in tune favouring powerful playing as in irish traditional music or other styles of folk.

Rudall&Rose with medium size fingerholes (R&R medium)

This is the "smaller" version of the flute with large holes. The size of the fingerholes is some 0.5 mm smaller, which makes the flute more precise in the sense that the notes are more clearly separated from each other; and for more ease of playing. I have developed this model particularly for beginners or flautists who prefer smaller fingerholes, or this particular tone, with the option of enlarging the holes later to extend the flute's capability in terms of volume and modulation. The medium model is softer in tone and more balanced over the compass of three octaves. In comparison with the large model, this flute is easier to control in tuning, but not quite as flexible in modulation and dynamics.

Rudall&Rose headpiece and embouchure

All three models play with the same head. The embouchure is large, longitudinal and oval with a deep undercut. With a flexible style of blowing one achieves very rich dynamics and modulation of tone. The slide has to be moved out quite far to play in 440 Hz (15 – 25 mm). The extra cavity created in the barrel is important for the overall resonance of the flute.

woods

African blackwood, boxwood, cocus according to the stock (other timbers at request).

R&R large original with 8 keys cocus & silver



R&R medium with one key boxwood & silver