

Figure 4-3. Six tin whistles in D. From top to bottom: Abell, Copeland, O'Riordan, Schultz, Sindt, and Susato. All of these have tuning slides and all have cylindrical bores except the Copeland and Susato, which have conical bores.

A VARIETY OF SHAPES, SIZES, KEYS, AND PRICES

The small whistle in the key of D, an octave higher than the simple-system flute, is by far the most popular and useful. No whistler should be without a good small D whistle. Whistles are made in a wide variety of keys, including low-D whistles that can play in unison with flutes.

There is a very broad array of whistles available today. Some have cylindrical bores and others are conical. There are many inexpensive mass-produced whistles and an ever-growing selection of fine, more expensive, hand-made instruments. Improved mouthpieces for inexpensive whistles are being made, and handmade whistles often come with several differently pitched bodies that can each be used with a single headjoint.

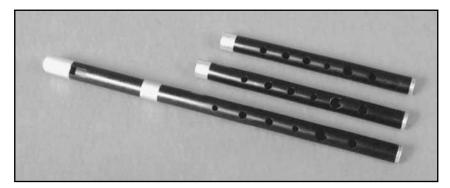


Figure 4-4. A set of three whistles bodies, in the keys of C, D, and E-flat, that share a single headjoint. Made by Chris Abell in grenadilla and silver.