

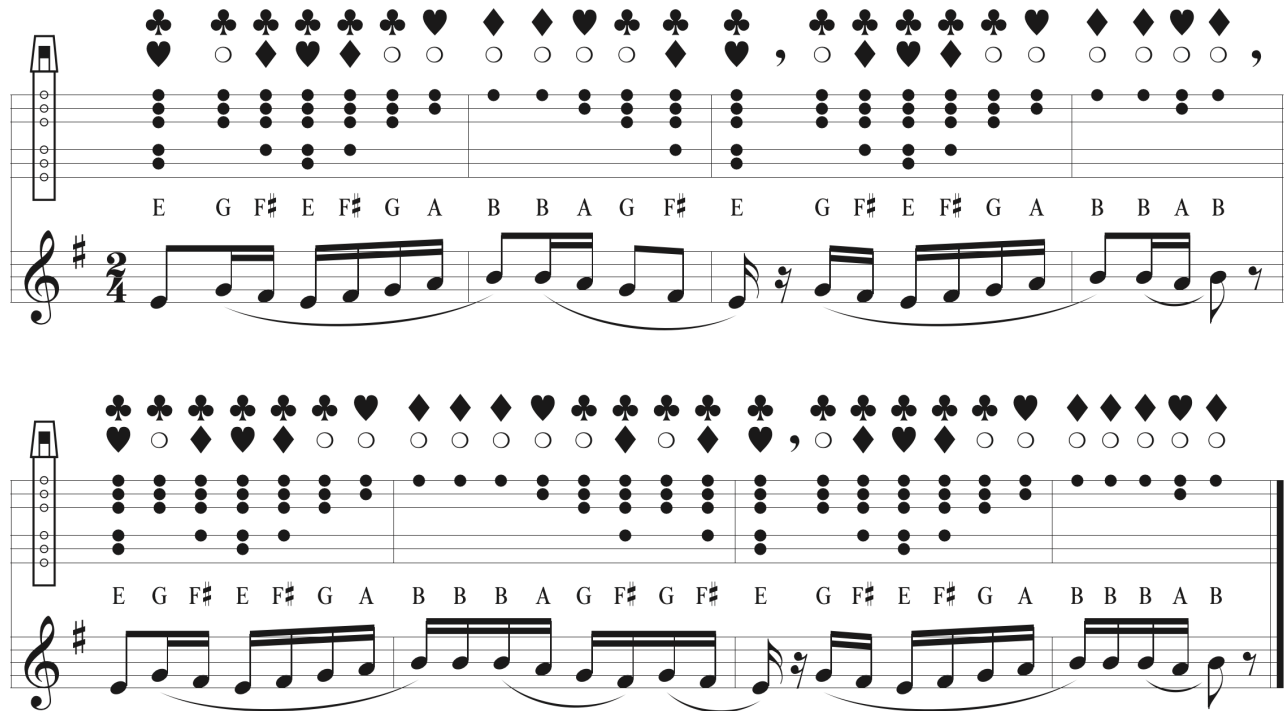
Introducing the Note E

Below you'll find the A-Part of a traditional *an dro* from Brittany, a Celtic cultural region in northwest France. The term "*an dro*" (which means "the turn" in the Breton language) refers both to a traditional line dance and the type of melody that accompanies that dance. You can download the complete tune, which has six parts, using the Audio/PDF url on the title page of this book.

The note E occurs eight times in this tune excerpt. As you can see below, its suit stack is ♣/♥.

Tune 9: An Dro (A-Part)

Audio Files 17 and 18  (played in the low and high registers, respectively)



When you play E, you cover and seal five of the whistle's six holes, leaving the lowest hole open. The more holes we cover, the more chances there are for air leaks to occur. If you're having trouble getting your E to sound right, see "Finding and Sealing Finger Hole Air Leaks" on pp. 19–20.

Notice that the T1 hole stays covered during this entire tune excerpt. You can see this easily in the tablature as well as the suit code.

Most of the notes in this tune are contained within slurs. Remember to tongue only the first note in each slurred group, as well as any unslurred notes. For example, in m. 6, tongue only notes 2, 3 and 7. Feel free to make up your own tonguing and slurring patterns, but I encourage you to try this one, too — you may like it.

There are three breath marks indicated. You'll find them aligned with the lower line of suit code. You may find that you need either more or fewer breathing places. Feel free to take breaths whenever you need to.

You might enjoy playing this tune excerpt in the high register, as I do in Audio File 18. You don't need to change any fingerings to do so. Simply increase your air speed to about 7. Notice that the high B notes require a higher air speed than the high E notes. Once you've increased your air speed enough to get into the high register, that speed will need to vary somewhat, depending on how high you are playing at the moment.

You can play all the preceding tunes in the high register as well, with the exception of Tune 6, "Lonely Peaks and Valleys." Be forewarned, however, that high C# notes are rather loud and shrill on most whistles.

