

Hello everyone,

It recently occurred to me that some of you folks with hands that are not large enough to grip a basketball like Shaquille O'neal, might be intimidated by some of the lower flutes and think that its not possible for you to play them. Petite hands can perhaps only comfortably play a flute down to Middle E when the hole sizes are kept at a consistent size and distance throughout the scale. The bottom three holes are the ones that usually present the largest challenge on flutes.

Additionally, flutes are sometimes made with large hole sizes that cannot be efficiently covered by small finger tip pads. My good friend and mentor, Lew Paxton Price, came up with a solution to this challenge many years ago. Lew wrote a flute designer computer program that allows for extensive manipulation of the hole placement and hole sizes. What this means, is that a flute can be designed with smaller spacings and smaller hole sizes to allow a player with petite hands to play flutes several keys lower than previously thought. If you think Mid E or F is the lowest you can go, its quite possible that you can actually go to lower keys such as D or C#. I have been successfully using Lew's computer program for nearly ten years and have worked with many folks to achieve this goal. I am completely open to any feedback or questions on this or any other flute related subject. Thanks for your time, Russ