

to fit and securely glued in but not protruding into the barrel interior. With PVC, simply tape over the hole.

If the note is flat, which should be the case, raise the pitch by enlarging the hole's diameter with a rounded needle file, enlarging primarily toward the labium. The larger the hole diameter and the nearer it is to the labium, the higher, or sharper, the note produced. Enlarge the hole in small increments, checking the hole's note periodically to avoid over-enlargement. Repeat the procedure for each hole, working from the foot toward the mouthpiece.

When the finger holes are completed, sand the exterior with medium grade paper to eliminate blemishes and anomalies as desired, and then finish sand with a fine-grade paper (220 works well). Clean the interior and apply a coat of lacquer. If the flute is PVC, apply lacquer to the exterior as well. For bamboo and wood, finishing oil, such as tung oil or linseed oil, can be applied to the exterior, but oiling will be required periodically to prevent the wood or bamboo from drying out which can cause splitting, especially with bamboo.

The length of the Anasazi flute will present a playing challenge for most people with small to average size hands. By using the above formula and finger-hole percentages, you can easily craft smaller flutes that utilize the same scale but in higher keys as detailed in Figure 1. If you have trouble reaching the holes and want to preserve the original key, a larger bore flute may result in a slightly shorter length and more easily reached finger holes, but it may be more difficult to produce sound properly due to bore size.

Crafting the Modern Native American Flute

The modern Native American flute (see Figure 3) is commonly referred to as a Plains or Woodlands flute. The differences between Plains and Woodlands flutes are mostly superficial.

Both have an air chamber and sound chamber that are connected by a channel, or flue, that directs air across the labium to create sound. The Plains flute channel is cut either into the flute's body or into the base of the *bird*, or fetish, that sits above the channel. The Woodlands flute channel traditionally is cut into the body of the flute, but sometimes it's cut into the fetish or by adding a thin piece of wood to the bottom of the fetish from which the channel is cut, which will be detailed in the fetish crafting section. The angled labium is blunt-edged on most Woodlands flutes and sharp-edged on Plains flutes. Plains flutes are sometimes tapered toward the mouthpiece while Woodlands flutes sometimes have a blunt-

