

French Horn Fingering Chart

Many players prefer to use the B \flat Horn (trigger) when they reach second line G \sharp and continue to use it throughout the upper register.

C	C \sharp D \flat	D	D \sharp E \flat	E	F

F \sharp G \flat	G	G \sharp A \flat	A	A \sharp B \flat	B

C	C \sharp D \flat	D	D \sharp E \flat	E	F

F \sharp G \flat	G	G \sharp A \flat	A	A \sharp B \flat	B

C	C \sharp D \flat	D	D \sharp E \flat	E	F	F \sharp G \flat

G	G \sharp A \flat	A	A \sharp B \flat	B	C

C \sharp D \flat	D	D \sharp E \flat	E	F	F \sharp G \flat

G	G \sharp A \flat	A	A \sharp B \flat	B	C

(When more than one fingering is shown, the first is the most common.)

French Horn Harmonic Series

The fundamental pitch of the French Horn is determined by the length of the tube. Its characteristic tone quality is determined not only by the size of the opening in the tube, but also the amount of conical tubing or flare.

Regardless of the length of tubing, a natural overtone series is produced when the air inside the tube is activated through the vibration of the lips. By changing the tension of the lips and air speed, the performer can move higher and lower within the harmonic series, without changing valves. Although the harmonic series is (in theory) endless, the chart below begins with the fundamental and continues through the 16th partial.

The 7th and 11th harmonic (partial) is so flat that it is unusable in the series (note the triangular shape of the note head). For both Horn in F and Horn in B \flat the 5th partial is noticeably flat while the 3rd and 6th harmonics are slightly sharp.

Partials: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

The chart displays the harmonic series for French Horn in F and Horn in B \flat across 16 partials. The notes are shown in bass clef for the F horn and treble clef for the B \flat horn. Accidentals are provided for each note. The 7th and 11th partials are marked as unusable with triangular note heads and the text "(extremely flat)".

Partial	F Horn Note	B \flat Horn Note
1	F \sharp (C \sharp)	F \sharp (C \sharp)
2	B \flat	B \flat
3	D \sharp	D \sharp
4	F \sharp (C \sharp)	F \sharp (C \sharp)
5	B \flat	B \flat
6	D \sharp	D \sharp
7	F \sharp (C \sharp)	F \sharp (C \sharp)
8	B \flat	B \flat
9	D \sharp	D \sharp
10	F \sharp (C \sharp)	F \sharp (C \sharp)
11	B \flat	B \flat
12	D \sharp	D \sharp
13	F \sharp (C \sharp)	F \sharp (C \sharp)
14	B \flat	B \flat
15	D \sharp	D \sharp
16	F \sharp (C \sharp)	F \sharp (C \sharp)