Name of Instrument: Bb, A, and Eb Clarinets

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<th>Range</th>
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<td>Bb, A, Eb</td>
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Register Characteristics:

- **Bb and A Clarinets**
  - "chalumeau" (deep, rich)
  - "throat" (pale)
  - "clarion" (bright, clear, expressive)
  - "Altissimo" (shrill)
- **Eb Clarinet**
  - Neutral, inflexible (coloristically)
  - Brighter (sharply)

Use in Ensemble: Soprano, alto, tenor areas

Parts of Instrument: Mouthpiece, barrel, upper joint (right hand), lower joint (left hand), bell

Response Problems: Within throat region.

Intonation Problems: High register is doubtful. Throat tones are sharp and bland. Low register tends to be flat.

Fingering Problems: At the break. Don't dwell in this area.

Other Comments:

1. Overblows at the 12th.
2. Almost as agile as the flute.
3. Exceptional control of dynamics.
5. Use the Bb for flat keys, the A for sharp keys. The Eb's "hard and inelastic" tone lacks the warmth of the Bb and A so use it for effect or to cut through a thick texture.
6. Use the Bb in high school groups (an A may not be available) and be sure to use a key that supports the Bb.