A little challenge · 9 notes

How to play La cucaracha (The Cockroach) on the ocarina

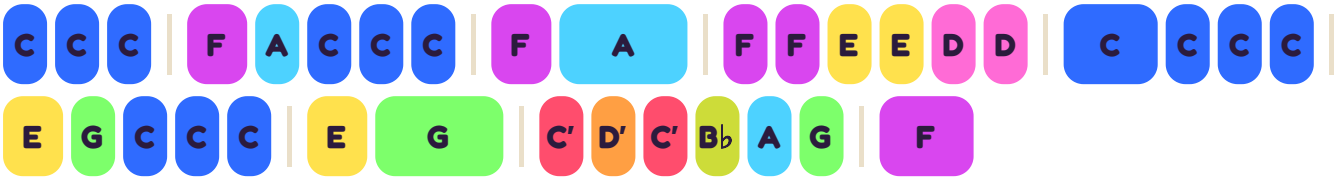


From the Spanish children's & folk songs song pack.

La cucaracha (The Cockroach) ocarina notes with color coding & letters, sheet music, fingering diagrams, and interactive audio practice.

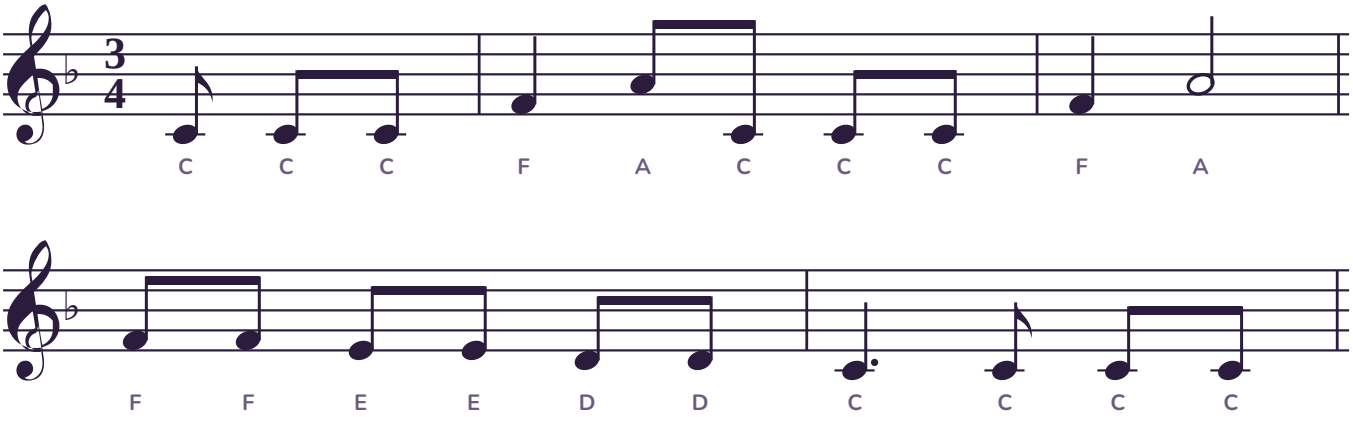
It uses 9 notes: **C**, **D**, **E**, **F**, **G**, **A**, **B♭**, **C'**, **D'**.

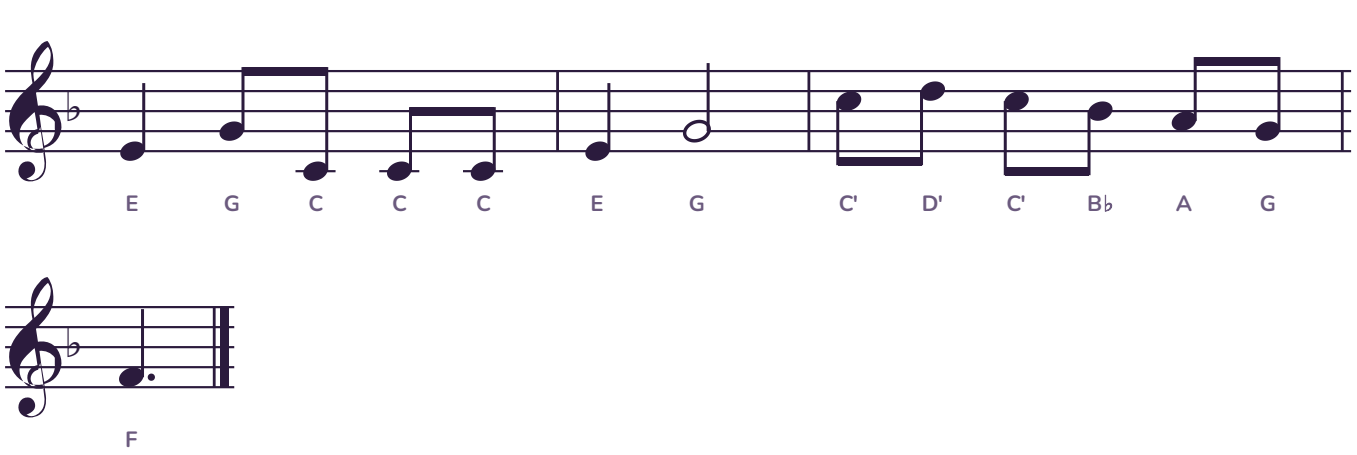
The notes & rhythm



Longer blocks are longer notes; a vertical line marks each bar.

Sheet music





Standard treble clef notation with letter guides below each note.

The notes as letters

C C C F A C C C F A F F E E D D C C C C E G

C C C E G C′ D′ C′ B♭ A G F

Ocarina fingerings

C · low C



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

D · low D



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

E · low E



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

F · F



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

G · G



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

A · A



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

B♭ · B♭



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

C' · high C



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

D' · high D



Front · finger holes

Back · thumb holes and extra sub-holes (open)

Playing tips for La cucaracha (The Cockroach)

- Start each note cleanly with a gentle tongue stroke (whisper "too" or "doo").
- Seal every hole completely with the soft pads of your fingers, not your fingertips.
- The ocarina's pitch follows your breath: blowing softer lowers the pitch, blowing harder raises it.
- The low notes need the gentlest breath of all. If a low note warbles or squeaks, soften your breath and check that your lower fingers fully seal their holes.
- B♭ uses a cross-fingering pattern. Keep the open hole free and blow with a steady, relaxed breath.