Practicing Bassoon Drawing: Joint Layout and Keywork Placement

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a bassoon layout with the bell at the top and the butt joint at the bottom. Label all five parts (four stacked body sections plus the bocal) and place 3 dots on the tenor joint, 4 on the bass joint, 5 on the butt joint, and 1 on the bocal.

Answer: A vertical drawing with four stacked labeled sections in order from top: bell, tenor, bass, butt, plus a bocal curve attached near the top of the tenor joint just below the bell, giving five labeled parts. Dot counts: tenor 3, bass 4, butt 5, bocal 1. Total 13 dots.

Reason: The convention fixes the bell at the top and butt at the bottom. Counting dots per section gives a simple arithmetic check: 3+4+5+1=13.

Check: Count the labeled parts (should be 5: four stacked body sections plus the bocal) and count dots in each section. Confirm no dot lies outside its section boundary.

Task 2

Redraw the same bassoon layout freehand without guide lines. Keep the same five labels (four stacked body sections plus the bocal) and dot counts. Then compare your freehand drawing to your first drawing by counting sections and dots.

Answer: A freehand drawing with five labeled parts (bell, tenor, bass, butt, bocal) and 13 total dots distributed as 3, 4, 5, and 1.

Reason: Freehand practice tests whether the layout is remembered. The check is numerical: five labeled parts and thirteen dots.

Check: List the section labels and tally dots per section. If any count differs, note which section and correct it.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Draw a bassoon layout using small circles instead of dots for keywork. Use the same counts: 3 tenor, 4 bass, 5 butt, 1 bocal. Label each of the five parts (four stacked body sections plus the bocal) with consistent x-height.

Answer: A drawing with five labeled parts (bell, tenor, bass, butt, bocal) and 13 small circles placed in the correct sections.

Reason: The rubric allows valid alternatives. Circles are acceptable if the count and placement remain clear.

Check: Count circles per section and confirm each circle is inside the correct section. Check that label x-height is consistent from baseline to midline.

Task 4

Draw a bassoon layout and add a second vertical center line offset by 1 cm to suggest side keys. Place the bass joint dots on the offset line and the tenor dots on the main center line. Keep counts 3 tenor, 4 bass, 5 butt, 1 bocal, and label all five parts (four stacked body sections plus the bocal).

Answer: A drawing with two vertical lines, tenor dots on the main line, bass dots on the offset line, butt dots in an arc, and one bocal dot. Total dots 13.

Reason: Offsetting a line is a simple way to show side keywork without inventing hardware standards. The counts remain the checkable feature.

Check: Measure the offset is about 1 cm (hypothetical). Count dots per section and confirm the bass dots sit on the offset line while tenor dots sit on the main line.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Five labeled parts are present: bell, tenor, bass, butt, bocal (four stacked body sections plus the bocal).
- [ ] Bell points upward and butt joint sits at the bottom.
- [ ] Keywork dot counts match the convention: 3 tenor, 4 bass, 5 butt, 1 bocal.
- [ ] Dots sit inside their assigned section boundaries.
- [ ] Labels use consistent x-height from baseline to midline; letter styles may vary.
- [ ] Valid alternatives such as circles instead of dots are accepted if counts and placement remain clear.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?