

## Chromatic Slideruler for use with Nakai Tablature Scale (Slideruler)

Here's a tool and some steps to transpose sheet music to the contemporary Native American flute:

- 1) Along the top of this page is a chromatic ruler. Cut along the marked line to separate the chromatic ruler from the tablature ruler. This pair forms a kind of musical slide ruler that aids in transposing sheet music to tablature.
- 2) Determine which the key of the source material. Actually the name of the key is unimportant, but knowing which notes that will automatically be treated as sharp or flat is important. In the following example, you can find the key signature just to the right of the treble clef. In the two flat symbols indicate key signature.



If you lookup those flats (b) to the left on the illustration below, you will find the flat on the line is a B and flat between the lines is an E. In other words, when B and E appear later in the melody, they are treated as flattened.
And this is even true for higher and lower B and E. So all Bs and Es are

flattened.

ABCCDFC
ABCCDFC

naturals (ዛ) may appear.

flats (♭), and

additional sharps (#),

During the melody:

 Find the lowest note in the source material, and then find that same note on the Chromatic ruler.

measure. Naturals

remainder of that one

signature for the

override the key

They temporarily

basically undo the

in the key signature

effects of a sharp or flat

- 4) Line that note up to the first note on the Tablature ruler, which is the musical scale of your instrument. You can then look at how the notes of your melody line up to a particular fingering. If it looks awkward or requires the tricky half-holing, then slide the Chromatic ruler to the right and see if a better fingering appears.
- 5) Now lookup each note in the source material and transcribe it to your preferred notation: Tablature or finger guides.

For additional finger guides by flute maker, check with <a href="www.flutetree.com">with www.flutetree.com</a>. Enjoy!! -- Robert Gatliff

## Nakai Tablature Scale (Slideruler)

Cut along this line Cut along this line

