

Altus[®]
HANDMADE FLUTES

P R O D U C T C A T A L O G U E



Altus

Altus

HANDMADE FLUTES

FLUTES OF SUPERB QUALITY & CRAFTSMANSHIP

For over 40 years, the Altus factory, nestled among the serene mountains of Azumino Japan, has incorporated both ideas of classical aesthetic and modern science into their handcrafted flute designs.

An Altus flute is the product of brilliant engineering, modern metallurgy, and seasoned craftsmanship. All Altus handmade flute models are distinguished by a variety of tube materials and manufacturing techniques. Years of research and development have allowed Altus to pair the highest quality materials with a range of flute making techniques culminating in the prized collection of the world's finest flutes available today.

The founder of Altus flutes Mr. Shuichi Tanaka is a modern example of Renaissance man. He is an artist, musician, engineer, businessman, and most notably a master flute maker. As a teenager, Mr. Tanaka studied flute with renowned Japanese teacher and performer Toshio Takahashi. During this time he not only became a gifted flutist, but also a sensitive student of flute making with keen insight into the needs of flutists. Each Altus flute reflects his passion to produce the finest playing flutes available utilizing the finest of materials handwork and artistry.

The meticulous design of the Altus flute and its uncompromised scale receive great attention. Based on the work and recommendations of British flutist William Bennett, the Altus Scale offers excellent intonation, carefully tuned harmonics, and balanced registers. Altus flute has also developed over the years in admiration of the vintage flutes a proprietary silver alloy (Altus Silver) and innovative materials like sintered silver.

Masterfully hand-sculpted headjoints, contemporary precision standards and unique tubing produces the remarkable sound of the Altus flutes. Vintage color, pure tonal core, ease of manipulation, excellent intonation properties, response, and projection – flutists worldwide recognize the inspired Altus sound.





Altus
HANDMADE FLUTES

Altus flute factory, Azumino Japan

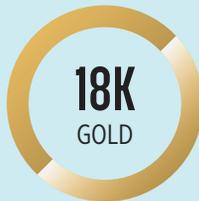




P R O D U C T

Masterful Curation

We offer four different types of silver – Altus Silver (94.6%), 997 Silver (99.7%), Britannia Silver (95.8%), and Sterling Silver (92.5%), and two types of gold – 18K and 14K gold – each have a different density, hardness, and ductility. The properties of the different metals naturally lead to differences in the flute-making process. This allows each player to choose one best suited to their individual preferences.



DESIGN

Classical Ideals & Modern Technology

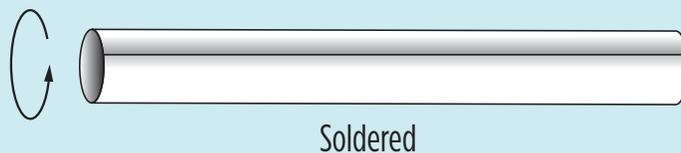
The differences in the density, hardness, and ductility of each material naturally lead to differences in the flute making process, maximizing the overall performance in terms of tone and the harmonic structure.

Seamed Tube

The A9 and AL are manufactured with a seamed tube, a method used by the great old French flute makers, where a single metal sheet is rolled, shaped and soldered forming the tube. Compared to an ordinary drawn, seamless tubing, the seamed tube method is more time-consuming and requires great skill. As the flute is played over time, the residual stresses in the metal gradually dissipate and the molecular arrangement changes to a more ideal form for producing sound.

Internal Oxidation Method

A 997 silver flute possesses supreme projecting qualities and it requires cutting-edge technology to produce. This remarkable alloy boasts the revolutionary “internal oxidation method,” designed specifically for the tubes of the PS model and the key pipes of our silver flutes. Through this groundbreaking technique, fine oxides are evenly dispersed within the exceptionally pure silver, resulting in an unprecedented level of hardness and durability. Originally developed for industrial applications, this cutting-edge technology has now entered the realm of musical instruments, allowing you to unlock a new era of performance.

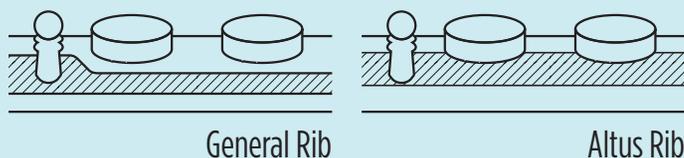


P R O D U C T

Meticulous Design

For best sound quality

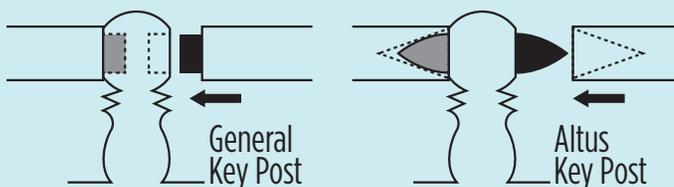
The vibration of the flute tube affects the sound, and is influenced by the ribs and key posts. All Altus flutes are equipped with a wide rib, rather than the conventional style which is set back from the tone holes. This kind of design it significantly reduces unwanted vibration from the keys, and accentuates the characteristics of the various tube materials.



Durable Structure

Delicate mechanism and smooth key actions.

Flute key mechanisms consist of rods, keys that rotate around the rod, and posts that support them. Compared to a conventional key post design, Altus adopted a combination of a tapered convex part and a conical concave part. By adopting this shape, the connection of the parts becomes a line rather than a surface, achieving both precise construction and smooth key action. This kind of design requires skill to adjust and is more commonly found only on high-end models - however, we utilize this design on all our models.

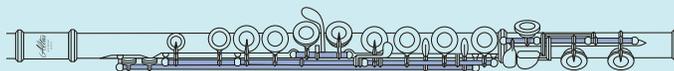


DESIGN

Increased Longevity

Keypipes made of high-purity silver for extra durability.

Our all-silver models have keypipes made from 997 silver using internal oxidation method. The characteristics of this material contribute to a longer lifetime, as it is stronger and less prone to twisting, allowing for a more reliable mechanism.



● Ag997 Pure Silver

Long-term Integrity

"Gold solder" that hardly deteriorates even after years of use.

Altus uses gold solder for the tone holes on handmade soldered models. Maintaining the long-term structural integrity and performance of the flute.

Light & Responsive Touch

Spring made of "SP-1", with excellent elasticity.

The unique Altus SP-1 springs, made from an alloy of precious metals including silver, gold, and platinum, provide excellent elasticity, which results in a light and responsive touch to the mechanism.

ALTUS SCALE[®]

The Altus Scale allows players to produce a sound with the correct harmonic structure at the correct pitch. It was carefully calculated to enable effortless intonation, perfectly-tuned harmonics, evenness of sound and exceptionally well-balanced registers.

Altus Flutes was founded on friendships, collaborations, intense research and a passionate devotion to music as an essential part of life.

Altus's Co-Founder and Chief Designer Shuichi Tanaka and renowned British flute player William Bennett shared an interest in music, culture and flute-making. Mr. Bennett combined his vast musical experience and desire for precise intonation with Mr. Tanaka's flute-making vision to create the Altus Scale. The resulting product speaks for itself in being sought after by top players worldwide.

Altus continually develops the Altus Scale through collaboration with some of the world's foremost players in order to make our flutes a better instrument for musical expression.

The size of the tone holes, their relative distance and the key height determine an instrument's scale, while for musical expression the player makes changes to the dynamics, sound palette and pitch by subtly changing the air speed and direction. A precise scale helps the player achieve the tone shade they want without compromising the pitch.

The Altus Scale is a hallmark of the Altus flute-making tradition, but more significantly it results in the ideal expressive instrument for flute players.





WILLIAM **BENNETT**
(1936 - 2022)

World Renowned Musician

Altus Model **AL**

LORNA **MCGHEE**

*Boston Symphony Orchestra
Principal Flute*

Altus Model **AL**



A professional studio portrait of Denis Bouriakov, a young man with short, wavy brown hair and light blue eyes. He is wearing a dark navy blue blazer over a white button-down shirt. He is holding a silver flute across his chest, with the head joint pointing towards the top right. The background is a plain, light grey.

DENIS **BOURIAKOV**

LA Philharmonic Principal Flute

Altus Model **PS II**

Open G#

MICHAEL **COX**

*Principal Flute of Academy St. Martins,
London Sinfonietta & London Mozart Players
Professor at the Royal Academy of Music*

Altus Model **AL II**



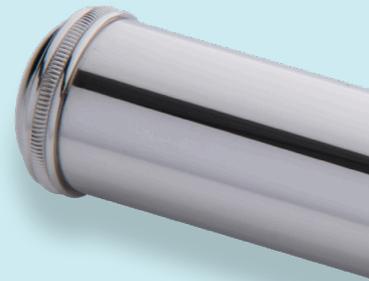
ALENA **WALENTIN**

*Royal Conservatory Hague
Royal Danish Academy of Music*

Altus Model **PS II**



LEGEND SERIES

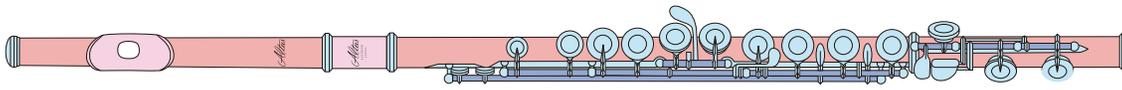




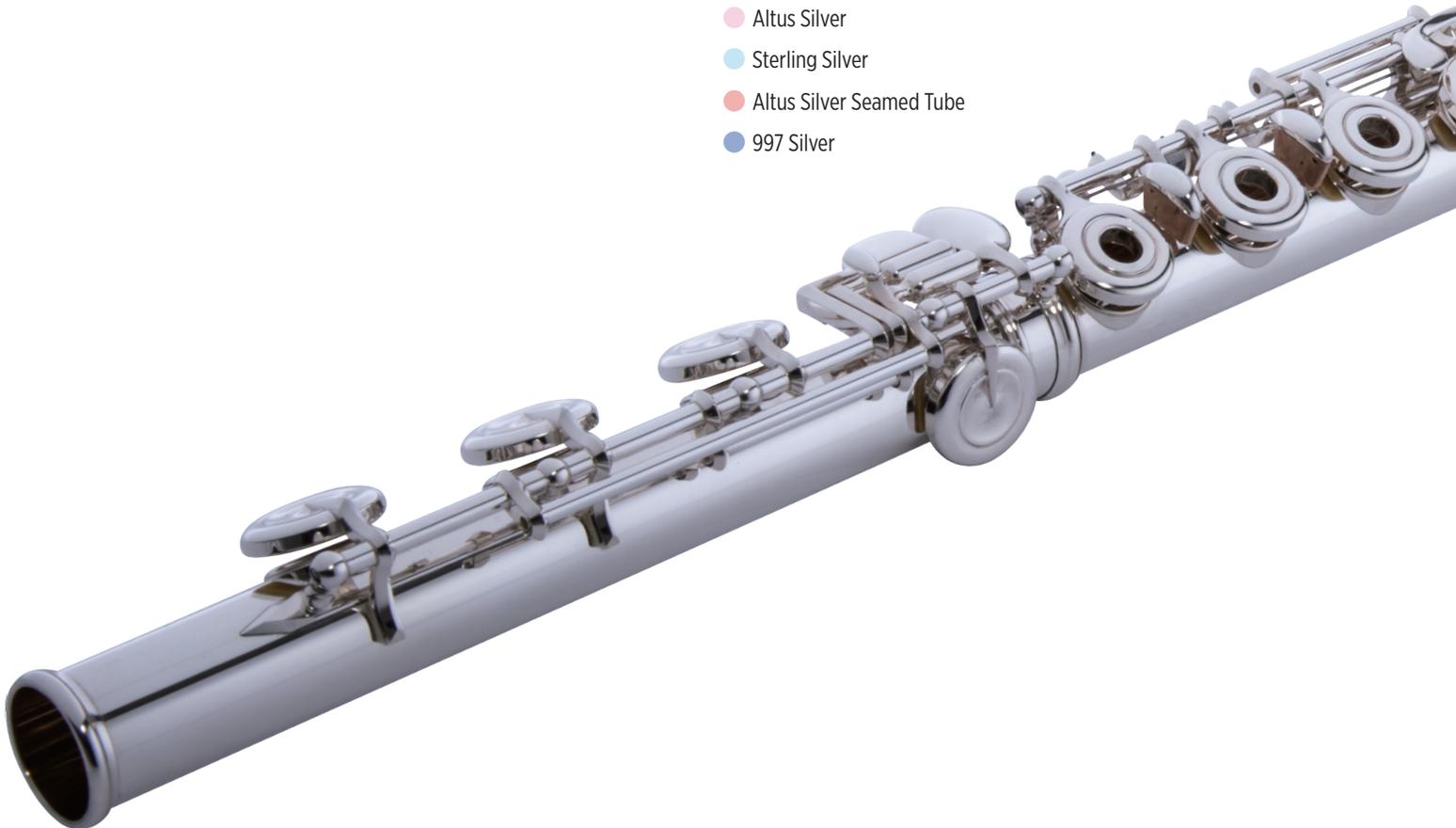
Altus Silver 946

AL II

AL II is an exclusive model made with our proprietary alloy - Altus Silver (.946 Silver) with a seamed tube. It has a beautiful sound with a full tonal color spectrum and unparalleled centered projection. For a customizable sound, the heavy wall option is available on AL II.



- Altus Silver
- Sterling Silver
- Altus Silver Seamed Tube
- 997 Silver





I love my Altus flute. It has a rich and vibrant sound, which not only gives a singing, well projected sound in a hall but also records very well. The tubes of the Altus are made with the same process as the tubes of the Louis Lot more than a century ago. This process causes the silver to have greater density than the silver in modern cold drawn tubes used by other makers. This extra density gives the tone of the flute resonance and depth. I recommend the Altus because I prefer the tone and intonation of this instrument to any other modern instrument. - William Bennett



I play on an Altus AL. I find that it is a fabulous instrument — sonorous and full of colours. It projects beautifully, with warmth and generosity. It also keeps life and resonance in pianissimo dynamics — a quality I particularly appreciate. The scale is excellent in terms of intonation. In short, it is an instrument that inspires me and allows me complete freedom of expression. - Lorna McGhee

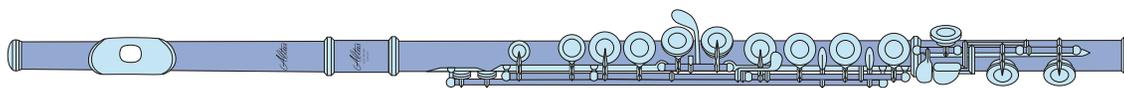


The stand out quality about my Altus flute which I find very hard to replicate in any other flute is, that it marries a wonderful warm depth of sound and a ringing clarity with a truly extraordinary tonal flexibility. It has a veritable encyclopedia of available tone colours which are fascinating to explore but at the same time the flute plays incredibly easily, well and reliably. - Michael Cox

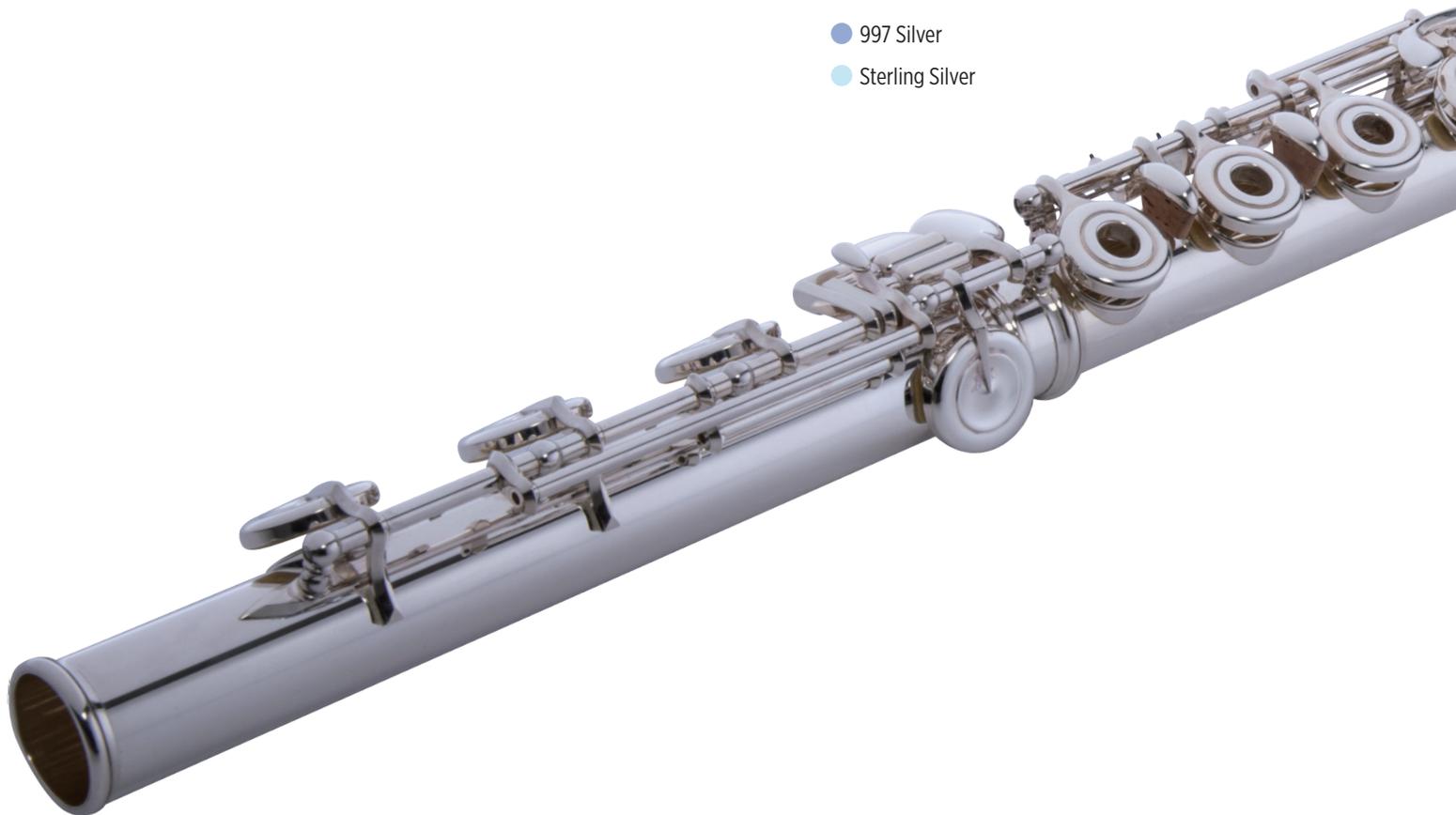
997 Silver

PS II

PS II is our one-of-a-kind model created with .997 Silver using internal oxidation method. It is a flute with unique expressiveness and impeccable sonority, capable of characteristic, powerful, and dynamic music-making.



- 997 Silver
- Sterling Silver





I love my Altus flute. It has a vast variety of tonal colors ranging from warm and silky to rich and powerful. With its superb mechanism, in addition to the best intonation of any flute maker on the market today, I couldn't wish for a better instrument. - Denis Bouriakov



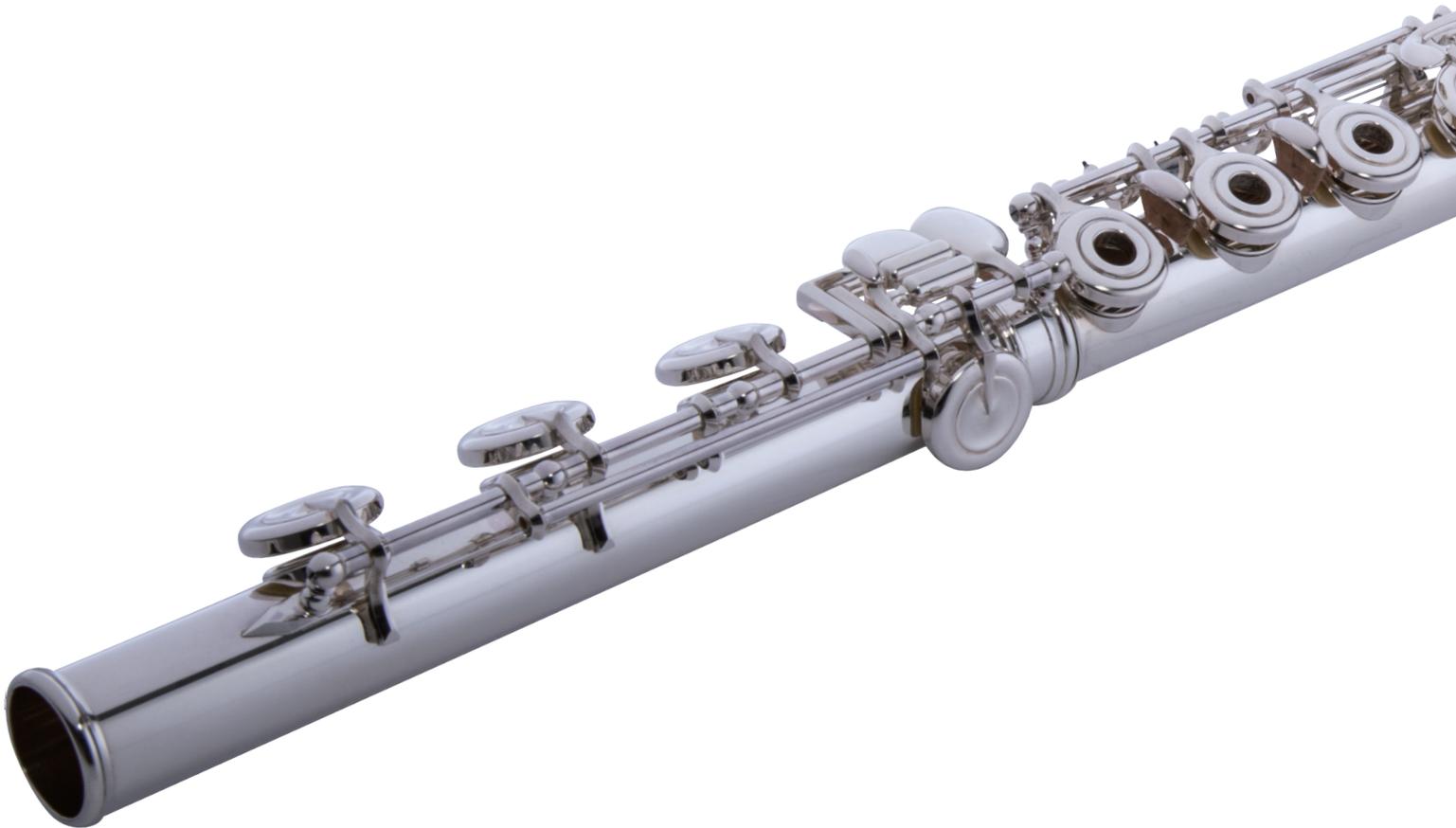
Altus flutes capture the essence of human voice. And with William Bennett's scale being at the essence of making these instruments, an intonation of the flutes is excellent. Great built and sound qualities go hand in hand in these superb flutes, which leaves no boundaries for musician's artistry. -Alena Walentin

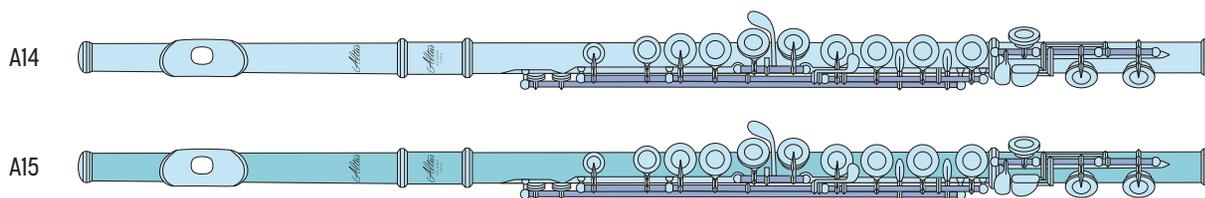
Legend Series Soldered Tone Hole

A14

A15

We offer two types of materials to choose from in the series: the traditional silver which has been used for centuries of flute making - Sterling Silver (.925 Silver), and the other Britannia Silver (.958 Silver). The two types have their distinct trait and sound, with the gold solder bringing about incredible playability and durability, meeting the expectations of any requests from the professional players.





A14

A15

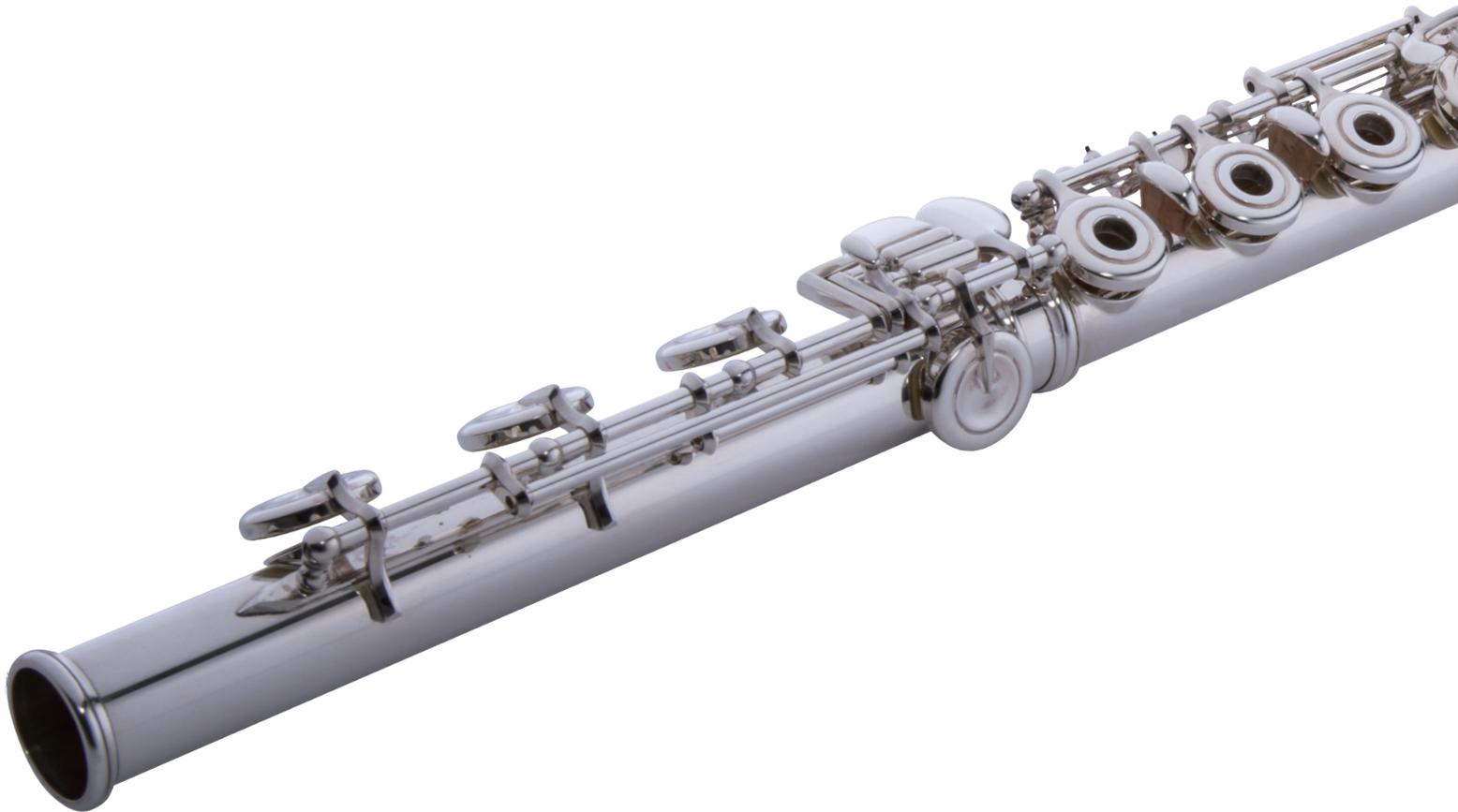
- Sterling Silver
- 997 Silver
- Britannia Silver

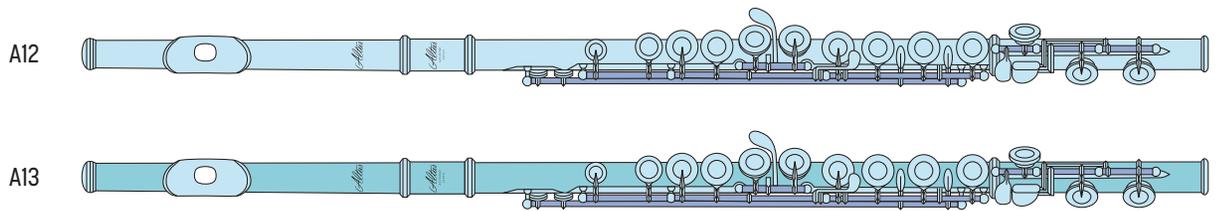
Legend Series Drawn Tone Hole

A12

A13

We offer two types of materials in the handmade drawn tone hole series – Sterling Silver (.925 Silver) and Britannia Silver (.958 Silver). With the Altus Scale, the flutes not only offer a stable pitch balance, but also rich tonal palette and overtones. With a resonant sound and balanced tonal palette, these flutes are your best tool for musical expression.





- Sterling Silver
- 997 Silver
- Britannia Silver

Gold Series

Any flute connoisseur's must-have. Altus offers 14K & 18K gold flutes with various options to choose from - from drawn to soldered tone holes. The representative models are A52, A54, A72 and A74.

18K Gold

The 18K gold flute is made of 75% gold which has higher density and malleability. It has a warm tone, pleasant sound, and smooth colors. A comfortable resistance and tender tone are unique features of Altus's 18K gold flute.

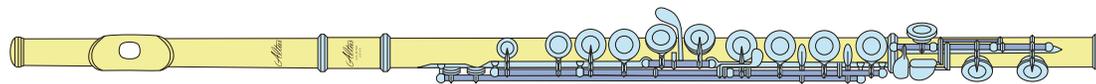
14K Gold

The 14K gold flute has more percentage of brass than the 18K gold flute. As a result, it combines both characteristics from the warm tone of the gold flute and the bright sound of the silver flute. It has flexible tone color, so it can lead the players to more possibilities.

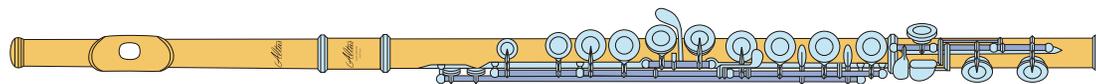




A52(Drawn)
A54(Soldered)



A72(Drawn)
A74(Soldered)



- 14K Gold
- 18K Gold
- Sterling Silver
- 997 Silver



STANDARD SERIES



Standard Series

A9

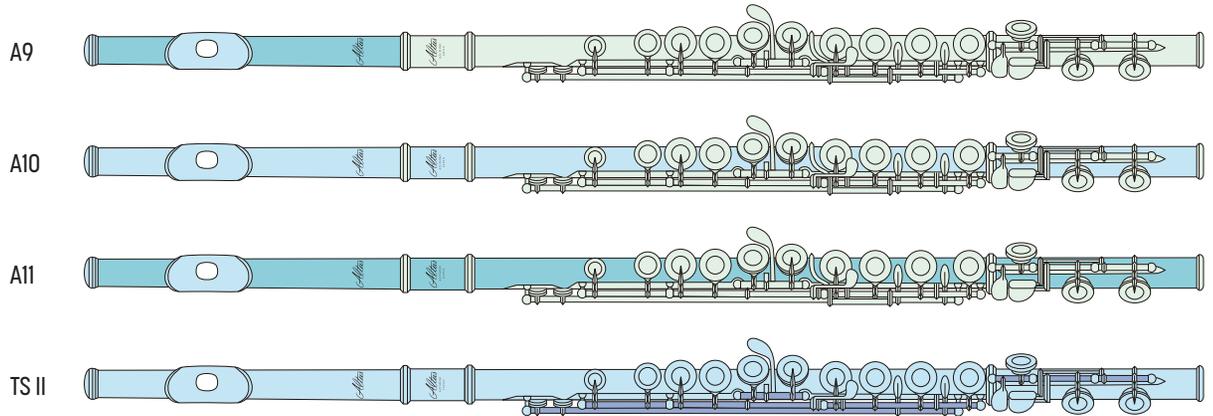
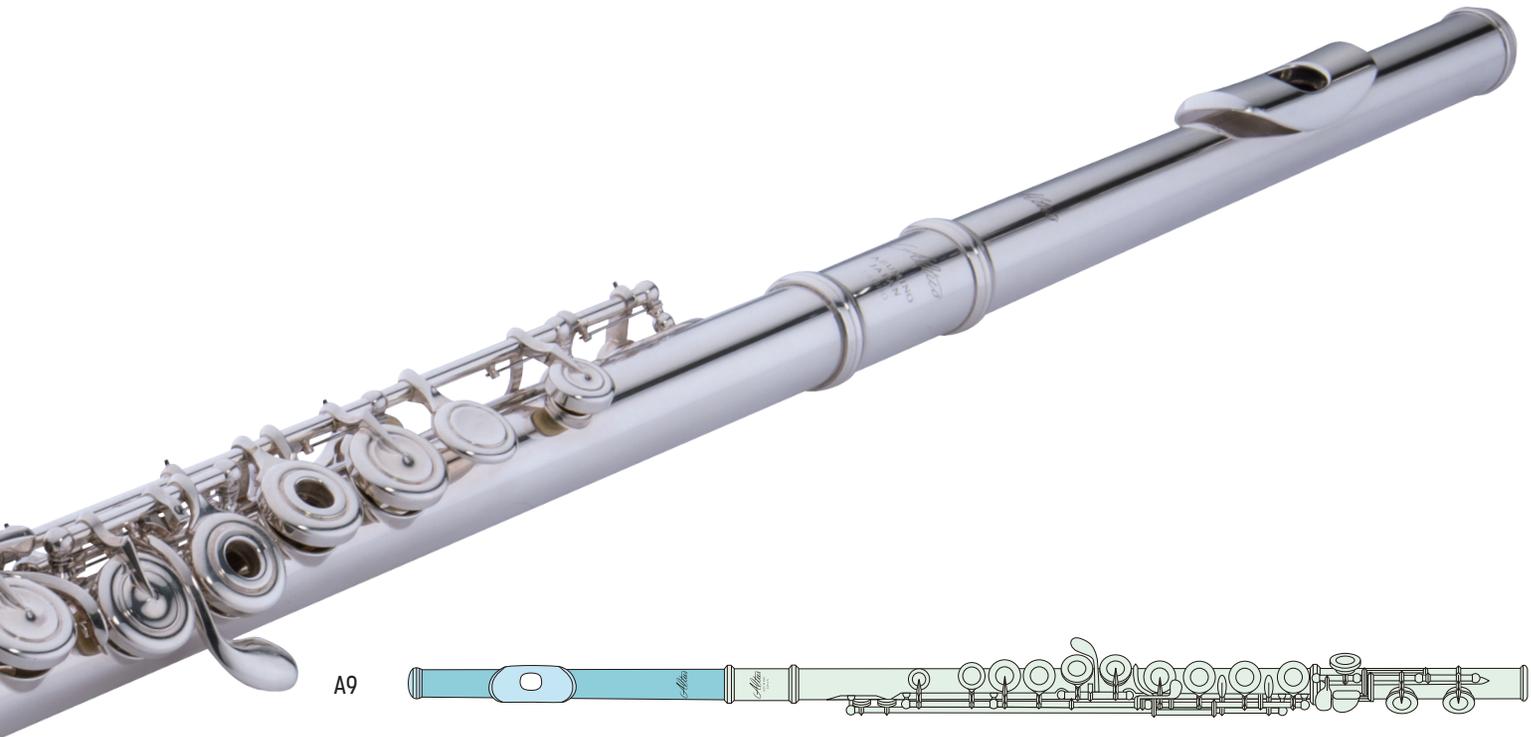
A10

A11

TS II

The Altus standard series flutes share the same design as the handmade series. In addition, the Altus Scale allows for a stable pitch balance and rich tonal palette. By finishing up with silver plating all over, Altus offers economic choices of consistent quality on standard series.





Standard Series are silver-plated all over.

- Nickel Silver Seamed Tube
- Sterling Silver
- Britannia Silver
- 997 Silver

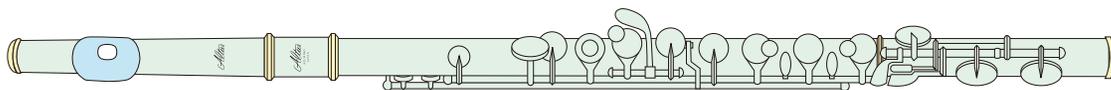
HARMONY SERIES



Alto Flute

Altus Alto flutes are designed to suit the needs for players with different preferences. Altus offers Alto flutes with variations from Nickel Silver to Sterling Silver models; from straight to curved headjoint. Our specially-designed alto flute body joint provides comfort and ease for the serious flutists who prefer a straight headjoint. Its specially-designed key system features unique placement of the left hand finger buttons, which makes it more manageable to focus airflow on the straight head.

817 / 819 / 821 / 825



817 With straight headjoint

819 With U-shaped headjoint

821 With U-shaped and straight headjoints

825 With straight headjoint and specially-designed body joint

817



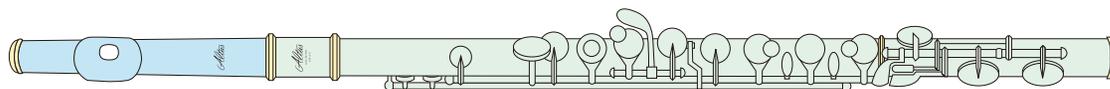
919



1025



917 / 919 / 921 / 925



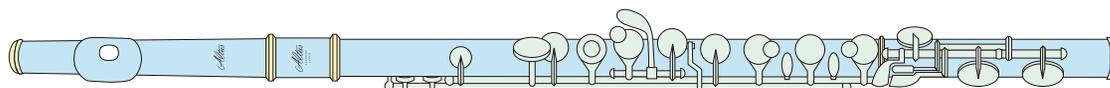
917 With straight headjoint

919 With U-shaped headjoint

921 With U-shaped and straight headjoints

925 With straight headjoint and specially-designed body joint

1017 / 1019 / 1021 / 1025



1017 With straight headjoint

1019 With U-shaped headjoint

1021 With U-shaped and straight headjoints

1025 With straight headjoint and specially-designed body joint

Alto Flutes are silver-plated all over.

- Nickel Silver
- Sterling Silver
- Yellow Brass



Flute d'Amore

1009

Flute d'Amore combines the playing ease of a C flute with the haunting open sound of the alto flute for those wishing to incorporate a unique sultry sound into their repertoire. It has a larger bore than the standard C flute and is pitched in either B^b or A.

1009B^b / 1009A Features silver-plated seamed Britannia Silver body, Sterling Silver lip plate, Nickel Silver mechanism and soldered tone holes.

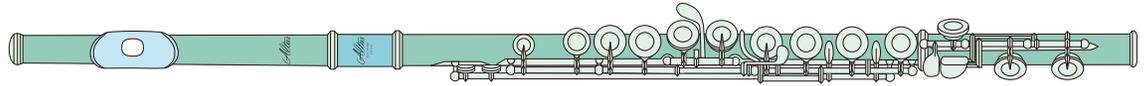


Bass Flute

823

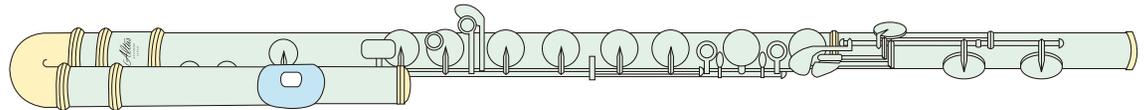
Altus bass flute is luscious and soothing as a solo instrument or in a flute ensemble. The exceptional intonation, ergonomic design, and precise mechanism make this bass flute shine as the clear choice for any professional player.





Flute d'Amore is silver-plated all over.

- Nickel Silver
- Sterling Silver
- Britannia Silver
- Britannia Silver Seamed Tube



Bass Flute is silver-plated all over.

- Nickel Silver
- Sterling Silver
- Yellow Brass

CUSTOMIZATION



Headjoint

Each Altus flute comes complete with a professional, handcrafted headjoint.

NEW S-CUT

The New S, designed for discerning musicians and advanced users who crave the classic sound with versatility in tone and color. It offers seamless transitions and effortless control. With its oval shape, the headjoint produces a rich sound with flexibility and penetrating projection.

Z-CUT (as an option)

With a more rectangular embouchure hole with minimal over and undercutting, this headjoint produces a quick response without sacrificing flexibility or control. It offers full projection over the entire range of the flute and a darker and more dramatic tone color.

VA TYPE (as an option)

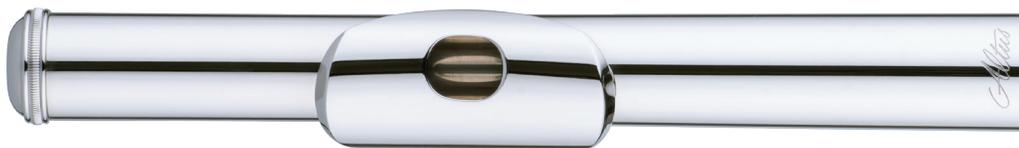
Altus has created one of its most powerful headjoints capable of producing an exceptional tonal depth without sacrificing flexibility. Featuring a high front wall and steep angled lip plate, this headjoint performs at the cutting edge of modern headjoint design. It comes with heavy crowns and 14K riser.

LIP PLATE -- 14K, 18K available (no platinum)

RISER -- 14K, 18K, platinum available

Product specifications subject to change without prior notice.

NEW S-CUT standard on all Altus



Z-CUT



VA TYPE



Engraving

Engravings are available on Models A12 and above. Customized design is quoted by special request.

Product specifications subject to change without prior notice.



STANDARD DESIGN - CROWN



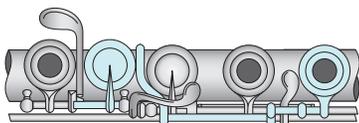
STANDARD DESIGN - LIP PLATE



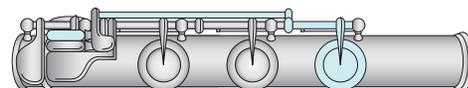
STANDARD DESIGN - KEY

Options

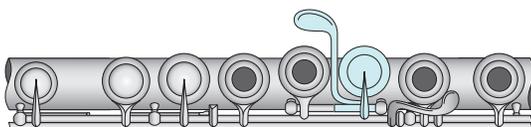
SPLIT-E MECHANISM



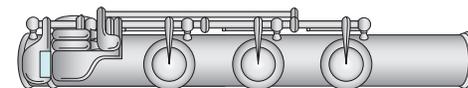
B-FOOTJOINT



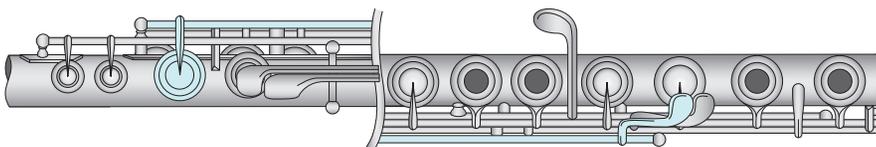
OPEN G#



D#-ROLLER



C#-TRILL KEY



Product specifications subject to change without prior notice.

	B-foot	Split E Mechanism	Open G#	C# Trill	D# Roller	Medium Heavy Wall	Heavy Wall	Lip-plate/Riser Options	Engraving	VA Type
A9	●	● (offset only)	●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
A10	●	● (offset only)	●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
A11	●	● (offset only)	●	●	-	-	-	-	-	-
TSII	●	● (offset only)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A12	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	-	-	●	●	●
A13	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	●	●	●	●	●
A14	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	-	-	●	●	●
A15	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	●	●	●	●	●
PSII	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	-	-	●	●	●
ALII	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	-	●	●	●	●
14K Gold	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	-	-	●	●	●
18K Gold	●	●	●	●	● (B-foot)	-	-	●	●	●

Platinum Plating

Altus offers plating options to all models. For Platinum-plated flutes, Altus recommends pairing with 18K gold-plated keys, which features an impeccable glamour and a nicer grip and touch while playing. The warmth and variety of color in silver is still the most dominant feature, but with the additional density and power that Platinum offers. All customization and prices are quoted by special request.

Gold Plating

18K Gold Plating adds the noticeable enhancements that gold has to offer. Because of its resistance to tarnishing, gold plating can be an assistance to the protection of silver flutes. In addition, the smoothness between registers and the dark timbres are characteristic of gold. Ease and capacity of projection is also achieved. All customization and prices are quoted by special request.



Platinum plating with 18K gold plating on keys



18K gold plating on body

Accessories

- A. Leatherette covered wood case
- B. Leather covered wood case (Cowhide)
- C. Leather covered wood case (Lamb skin)
- D. Zippered, fleece lined cover and a shoulder strap
- E. Delicate leather case cover for protection and class
- F. Cleaning rod (Wood)
- G. Cleaning rod (Acrylic)
- H. Cleaning Swab
- I. Cleaning Cloth



Product specifications subject to change without prior notice.



E



G

F



I

H

Specifications

*Pitch info: A=442

Model No.	Lip plate/Riser	Headjoint	Body	Key	Key Pipe	Key Post	Tone Holes	Spring	Plating
STANDARD SERIES									
A9	Ag925	Ag958	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Drawn	Stainless Steel	Silver Plated
A10	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Drawn	Stainless Steel	Silver Plated
A11	Ag925	Ag958	Ag958	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Drawn	Stainless Steel	Silver Plated
TS II	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Drawn	Stainless Steel	Silver Plated
LEGEND SERIES									
A12	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Drawn	SP-1	-
A13	Ag925	Ag958	Ag958	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Drawn	SP-1	-
A14	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Soldered	SP-1	-
A15	Ag925	Ag958	Ag958	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Soldered	SP-1	-
PS II	Ag925	Ag997	Ag997	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Soldered	SP-1	-
AL II	Ag946	Ag946 Seamed	Ag946 Seamed	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Soldered	SP-1	-
GOLD SERIES									
A52	14K	14K	14K	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Drawn	SP-1	-
A54	14K	14K	14K	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Soldered	SP-1	-
A56	14K	14K	14K	14K	14K	14K	Drawn	SP-1	-
A57	14K	14K	14K	14K	14K	14K	Soldered	SP-1	-
A72	18K	18K	18K	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Drawn	SP-1	-
A74	18K	18K	18K	Ag925	Ag997	Ag925	Soldered	SP-1	-
A76	18K	18K	18K	18K	18K	18K	Drawn	SP-1	-
A77	18K	18K	18K	18K	18K	18K	Soldered	SP-1	-
ALTO FLUTE									
817, 819, 821, 825	Ag925	Nickel Silver	Drawn	Stainless Steel	Silver Plated				
917, 919, 921, 925	Ag925	Ag925	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Drawn	Stainless Steel	Silver Plated
1017, 1019, 1021, 1025	Ag925	Ag925	Ag925	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Drawn	Stainless Steel	Silver Plated
BASS FLUTE									
823	Ag925	Nickel Silver	Drawn	Steel	Silver Plated				
FLUTE D'AMORE									
1009	Ag925	Ag958 Seamed	Ag958 Seamed	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Nickel Silver	Soldered	SP-1	Silver Plated

Product specifications subject to change without prior notice.



Altus
HANDMADE FLUTES

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