

“How to Practice”

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Primary Practice Tools

Love of Music

Dedication

Patience

Persistence

Repetition

Confidence that you can improve (solve the puzzles)

Planning/Time-management

Tuner, Metronome

The most efficient learning occurs when you throw your brain a curve-ball, stepping out of your comfort zone by using techniques such as the following

Ten Practice Techniques for Tough Passages

Practice the passage slowly

Ghost play

Play the passage on your mouthpiece

Change the written rhythms

Build a phrase one note at a time (A, AB, ABC, etc.)

Build the phrase backwards, adding one note at a time (Z, YZ, XYZ, etc.)

Remove tonguing from the passage

Flutter tongue the entire passage

Shift the beat within the passage

Temporarily increase or exaggerate the problem you are having with the passage

“When you are interested in something, you do it only when it is convenient. When you are committed, you accept no excuses and produce only results.”