

How Can I Get Better??

If you are asking yourself this question, you are in the right place. Here are some simple pointers:

How and What to Practice

1. Warm Up! Brass players: Buzz for a few seconds and play something easy that you know well. Woodwinds: Play some full long tones in the middle register of your instrument. Do this until you feel comfortable and your sound is good.

Practice your scales here!

2. Review. Use the method that we use in class. Whatever day of the month tomorrow is, use the last number to determine what we will review in class. For instance, if tomorrow's date ends with a 4, do all numbers that end in 4.

3. Practice for your upcoming test. Practice slowly until you get all of the notes right. Then work hard for MUSIC: Dynamics, Articulations, etc.

4. Work on the current lessons. Where are we in the book? That is where you need to be.

5. Concert music, if applicable. Learn everything about the concert music. Be PREPARED BEFORE CLASS!

6. Fun stuff. Play the lines that you enjoy in the book. Make up some music. Play something you like by ear! If you can, go to the music store and get some solo books with a CD and use them!

7. Wind Down. Play some long tones to reinforce your sound!!

Remember to have a GOAL in mind for each day, week, month and year and WRITE IT DOWN!

Think BEFORE you get your instrument out about what you plan to accomplish that day.

DO IT!!!!!!

Tim McMillen