

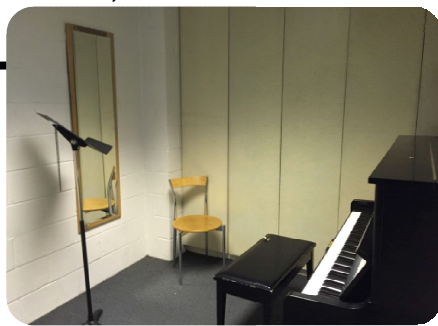
HOW TO PRACTICE EFFECTIVELY

Practice techniques for the developing musician

Practice makes ~~perfect.~~
PERMANENT

The Environment

- Find a practice space that is quiet and free from distraction.
- Make sure you have everything you need so you are not wasting precious practice minutes trying to find things (*chair, music, instrument, music stand, reeds, sticks, oil, etc.*).



The Mindset

- Start your practice session with clear goals in mind.
- Be honest with yourself. Be aware of your strengths and weaknesses.
- Always think “I am working on it” rather than “I can’t do it.”

The Music

- Warm up with scales, rhythmic patterns, and exercises.
- Practice in chunks to break it down. ‘Loop it’ when necessary.
- Repetition is key!
- Start at a slow tempo and gradually increase until you are proficient.



Some Lifelines

- Use a metronome to help you keep a steady tempo.
- Use your fingering chart for unfamiliar fingerings.
- Find a recording to hear what it’s supposed to sound like.
- Ask a fellow band mate for assistance.

“When you practice, you get better...When you don’t, you don’t.”