

Practice sessions

- Warm-up/Routine
- Review/Etude Material
- New Literature

Schedule your time

- Practice in short blocks
- Spread out your sessions throughout the day
- Be careful to avoid concentrated practice when you are tired
- Warm up before your classes start

Technique Sheet

- List all the aspects of playing
- Address specific elements each day, alone or in combination
- Keep track of everything that you practice

Literature Sheet

- New material - lesson assignment
- Convocation/Recital materials
- Ensemble music
- Keep track of lesson/convocation/recital/performance responsibilities

What to Consider when you Practice

- Once you have a plan of when to practice and what to practice, you must determine which elements you are going to focus on during each segment of your practice.
- Musical analysis leads to a better understanding of the techniques required to play the piece and the composer’s intent.
- Develop your own technical exercises to overcome musical requirements.
- Use a metronome, tuner, and recorder device each day.
- Have a clear outline of what you want to accomplish and how to do it. Set small goals, achieve them, and then the process of practicing will be more rewarding.
- Do not practice by watching the clock. Try to work in blocks of time, not in the number of minutes.