

Top Tips for Musicians

How to Practise an Instrument or Voice effectively.

- Choose an appropriate piece of music that is at your standard. (Speak to your instrumental teacher for extra support)
- Set a specific time to build on your practice and do not get distracted. (Suggested time 15- 30 minutes). (Find a space that will help you to focus and relax).
- Set yourself a goal - breakdown the piece into chunks and have a clear routine (warm up with scales etc.)
- Listen to the original composers or artist's intention - analyse the piece and read the score/leadsheet.
- Practise your piece slowly - this will improve your fluency and control.
- Use a metronome while you practise as it will help strengthen your internal clock and understand the composer's intended tempo.
- Chunking down and focussing on ONE area that is difficult. It is more valuable to focus on one section rather than play the whole piece over and over with mistakes. Remember to keep track of your mistakes and speak to your teacher for extra support.
- Be patient with your progress. It will take time to perfect your craft.
- Be realistic - do not be hard on yourself.
- Record your practice and perform to others in order to gain more confidence and feedback.
- Have fun and enjoy the progress over time.

Progress Diary: Set yourself a week practice schedule.

Here is an example.

Date	Time	Goal	Outcome
13/6/23	20 minutes	I will listen to the piece 'Somewhere over the rainbow' and choose the version suitable for my voice.	I am singing the original piece by 'Judy Garland' as it is suitable for my vocal range. I will get a score ready for the next session and choose the right key.