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Tips for practicing this material

1. Use a metronome. Set it slow enough so that you don't miss any notes; over a period of days, weeks, or months, gradually speed it up.

2. Practice with a partner—this allows you to rest as much as you play. Practice two bars at a time; you play two bars and your partner plays those same two bars, then you play the next two bars and so on. Perfecting short phrases narrows your focus and permits rapid progress. Team practicing gets you “honest,” too.

3. Try memorizing and playing each two bar phrase with your eyes closed before you move on.

4. Decrescendo while descending and crescendo while ascending to develop aperture control.

5. Spend more time on your “hard” keys. There are no “hard” keys, only less familiar keys.

6. Use Dr. Donald S. Reinhardt's *Twelve Standard Articulations*, presented at the bottom of every page.

7. Record yourself practicing often, and listen to your recordings from time to time.

8. Treat scale practice as something musical and enjoyable, not something boring.

9. Try using a spiderweb approach for your starting notes. For instance: start with C, then C \sharp , then B, then D, then B \flat , and so forth.

10. Use a chromatic scale for your starting notes. Maybe start on a G (just above the staff), then F \sharp , then F, then E, then E \flat and so forth.

11. Occasionally, go through and play all of the $\sharp 1$'s throughout the book. Then go back and play all the $\sharp 2$'s, the $\sharp 3$'s, etc. Invent your own strategy, too.