



Pamela Taylor Music

Practicing & Note Finding

for Beginners and Beyond

PIANO PRACTICING STEPS

1. Look the piece over to get a general idea of how it will sound. Check for any signs and symbols.
2. Count the rhythm as you point to the notes.
3. Count the rhythm as you play one finger for each hand on the fallboard.
4. Sing the note names IN RHYTHM.
5. Find your starting position.
6. Silently and repeatedly practice any moves, using good form.
7. Sight read at a steady, sensible tempo without stopping. Be sure to record this, so you can listen back.
8. Mark spots that need work (this is where the recording comes in handy).
9. Practice each spot until you can play it ten times IN A ROW correctly.
10. Once the spots are secure, piece sections together until the whole piece is confident.

FLUTE PRACTICING STEPS

1. Look the piece over to get a general idea of how it will sound. Check for any signs and symbols.
2. Count the rhythm as you point to the notes.
3. Count the rhythm as you clap or tap each note.
4. Sing the note names IN RHYTHM.
5. Sight read at a steady, sensible tempo without stopping. Be sure to record this, so you can listen back.
6. Mark spots that need work (this is where the recording comes in handy).
7. Practice each spot until you can play it ten times IN A ROW correctly.
8. Once the spots are secure, piece sections together until the whole piece is confident.

NOTE FINDING STEPS

1. What's the nearest landmark?
2. Is this note higher or lower?
3. By what interval?
4. What's a (insert answer to #3) (insert answer to #2) (insert answer to #1)?