

Practice Strategies by Category & Making adjustments

Take It Out of Context / Element Elimination

- Alter the Tempo
- Skip directly to a difficult section
- Sizzle and finger the notes adhering to dynamics and articulation
- Play a passage or entire selection in straight quarter notes while only focusing on pitch and fingering.
- Take out the Articulation, Alter the rhythm to increase or lessen challenge
- Play it backwards
- Mental Practice

Thoughtful Repetition

- Repeat one measure, Small Sections, or from beginning to end
- Chaining / Whole Part Whole
- Use the Metronome Effectively
 - Know where the pulses fall in each measure
 - Understand what note value receives the beat
 - Set the metronome either to the pulse or a subdivided pulse
- Woodshedding

Make It Musical

- Experiment with dynamics, tone color, tempo variation
- Create phrasing by exploring expressive articulation, dynamics , varied tone
- Explore numerous ways to speak a musical sentence or sequence of thoughts

Making Adjustments Along the Way.... “The 5 Rules of the Road”

1. Always slow things down
2. If you take it out , put it back
3. Don't go from zero to sixty
 - a. Always proceed gradually
 - b. Slow then gradually faster
 - c. When taking elements out put them back one by one
 - d. When woodshedding vary the starting spot
4. Use Repetition with thoughtful Intent
5. Use Pauses “what are you thinking and what you are focusing on”

