

FIRST YEAR BAND DIRECTOR SURVIVAL GUIDE

Welcome!

- [What I wish I knew before becoming a band director](#)
- [Dear future music educators](#)
- [30 things I learned during student teaching](#)

Conducting and score study

- [Is it time for a conducting tune up?](#)
- [Conducting: The three fundamental test](#)
- [Score study and rehearsal design](#)

**FULL BAND
REHEARSAL**

Rehearsal techniques

- [How to teach rhythmic precision](#)
- [How to teach FOCUSED listening](#)
- [Best advice for teaching phrasing and style](#)
- [Teaching intonation](#)
- [Ending phrases tip](#)

Troubleshooting

- [Why don't they sound good?](#)
- [What to do when they're not getting it](#)
- [Podium deafness](#)

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Flute

- [Flute embouchure](#)
- [Troubleshooting flute tone](#)
- [Mastering the art of flute articulation](#)
- [Expanding flute dynamics](#)
- [Solutions for common flute problems](#)

**WOODWIND
PEDAGOGY**

Clarinet

- [F# on mouthpiece and barrel quick tip](#)
- [Clarinet embouchure](#)
- [Why are my clarinets playing flat?](#)
- [Crossing the break smoothly](#)
- [4 rules to choosing the best clarinet fingering](#)
- ["Rolling to A" isn't enough](#)

Saxophone

- [Saxophone Bb](#)
- [Saxophone F# and C](#)

Double Reeds

- [Getting the most out of your double reeds in concert band](#)
- [De-mystifying double reeds](#)

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Trumpet

- Beginning trumpet tips
- When and how to use the 3rd and 1st valve slides on trumpet
- 3 common problems and suggested solutions on trumpet
- Tone centering

Horn

- 10 tips for improving accuracy on the horn
- Solving the mystery of stopped horn
- Understanding and developing range
- 3 places to oil horn valves

**BRASS
PEDAGOGY**

Low Brass

- Diagnosing brass tension
- Glissandi exercises for trombones giving pitch to air flow
- 4 tips to help beginner tuba players

Percussion

- Keyboard percussion: a long-distance relationship
- Crash cymbals 101
- Common match grip problems
- 4 ways tape can help your beginning percussionists

PERCUSSION

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Classroom Management

- [Creative classroom strategies](#)
- [It all comes down to communication](#)
- [Posture chant](#)
- [Teaching with poverty in mind](#)

Jazz Band

- [The basics of jazz](#)
- [Common swing pitfalls in young jazz bands](#)

Bits & Pieces

- [Instrumental reference recordings](#)
- [Hearing protection for band directors](#)

Inspiration

- [Why band matters](#)
- [I love being a band director because](#)
- [Standing on the shoulders of giants](#)
- [The band puzzle](#)
- [The crayon analogy](#)
- [Being a band director is totally incredible](#)
- [Lessons from almost a half century of teaching \(3 part series\)](#)

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