

Tips for Audition Success

By
Dr. Amy Dunker

1. Practice all of your material (including scales) EVERYDAY.
2. Practice slowly enough to play everything correctly. (If you play too fast and are making mistakes, you are practicing mistakes that you will later have to unlearn!)
3. Practice with a metronome right from the start. This ensures evenness of tempo.
4. Warm-up carefully each day paying attention to fundamentals of sound and technique. (If your sound is bad, your sound is bad regardless of how fast you play!)
5. Warm-down carefully each day paying attention to fundamentals of sound and technique. (If your sound is bad, your sound is bad regardless of how fast you play! – important enough to repeat!)
6. Practice the details! (Cleanliness is next to success!)
7. Play each phrase or scale three times in a row correctly before moving on. If you play something incorrectly three times, but only play it correctly once before moving on, you are only practicing mistakes)
8. Set daily practice goals! At the end of each practice session, write down what you want to accomplish in the next practice session.
9. Two weeks before the audition, you should be prepared to play the audition material completely through without errors! This gives you time to polish and to cut down on nervousness.
10. Get plenty of rest the two weeks before the audition! (and especially the two nights before the audition)

Good Luck!

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