

# PRACTICE TIPS!

## Home Practice = Responsibility to the Band

1. Set up a regular time in a place with no distractions
2. Use good posture at all times.
3. Practice in front of a mirror – Watch lip formation, embouchure, hand position, etc.
4. Be sure that the chin is pointed down. Percussionists – watch for flat hands and that the mallets/sticks move straight up and down
5. Reeds, watch your embouchure in the mirror, make sure your lower lip is curled under, teeth on top.
6. Always use a proper warm-up every day. Brass should always buzz into a mouthpiece before playing.
7. Start each practice session with long tones. Listen for good tone!
8. Count each exercise before you play it. Be sure you count properly.
9. Practice exercises Miss Daneker has assigned until mastered, then go to tunes you would like to play.
10. Practice challenging passages slowly at first, then gradually speed up.
11. Work on range daily. Work on good tone on the outer ranges of your instrument and also the ability to attack the tone cleanly on the first attempt.
12. Always listen to yourself, and strive for a better tone each day.
13. Don't allow any careless mistakes in your practicing. Be fussy and try to be perfect in all your practice sessions at all times.
14. Listen to good recordings of your instrument and try to imitate the tone.
15. We all have weaknesses, so work daily to eliminate them.