

SOUND THE TRUMPET

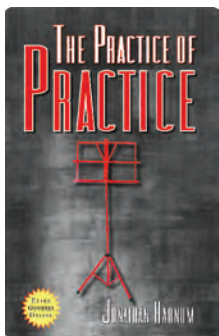
HOW TO BLOW YOUR OWN HORN



JONATHAN HARNUM

*Author of Basic Music Theory: How to Read,
Write and Understand Written Music*

BETTER = SMARTER + FASTER



Practice takes many shapes. The word means different things to different people. What does it take to get better?

The Practice of Practice will help you understand ways of getting better more clearly. The information will help you become a more aware musician, a more informed teacher, and a more effective parent of a young musician.

Whether you play Beethoven or Bach, are into Indie pop or classic Rock, *The Practice of Practice* will help you become a better musician.

The book covers 6 aspects of practice:

Written by a musician, *The Practice of Practice* is a result of 8 years of research, including interviews with world-class professional musicians in many genres: jazz, singer-songwriting, Western classical, Indian classical, West African djembe, and others.

Jonathan Harnum, PhD, is a multi-instrumentalist, has played music for over 30 years, has 20 years of teaching experience, and is the author of five books.

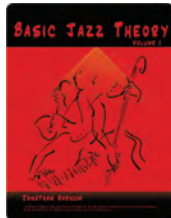
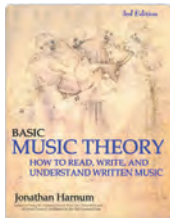
- » **WHAT:** Definitions, and what music practice does to your brain.
- » **WHY:** Motivation is crucial. Learn ways of keeping the flame lit in this section
- » **WHO:** A lot of people including yourself will impact your practice. Learn to use them to your advantage.
- » **WHEN:** This section covers how much, and what times of the day are best for practice, & more.
- » **WHERE:** Where you practice matters, & more.
- » **HOW:** The longest section of the book includes information about goals, structuring your practice, as well as specific techniques tested by researchers, and specific strategies pros use to get better.

**BE A BETTER MUSICIAN.
DON'T PRACTICE LONGER, PRACTICE SMARTER.**

THEPRACTICEOFPRACTICE.COM

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CHAPTER 0 - THE CHAPTER EVERYONE SKIPS

Say all you have to say in the fewest possible words, or your reader will be sure to skip them; and in the plainest possible words or you will certainly be misunderstood.

— John Ruskin (1819-1900)

This Chapter Covers:

- *Why Sound the Trumpet?*
 - Book Overview
 - Chapter Overview
 - How to use the book
-
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Welcome to *Sound the Trumpet!*

Hi, and welcome to the fun-filled world of playing trumpet! If you're new to trumpet playing, this book will get you started and help instill good learning habits. If you already play or are a teacher, this book may give you new insight and information. The goal of this book is to help you along in your journey toward mastery of the trumpet and to give you the necessary resources to achieve your goals. Once you've absorbed this book, you'll have a great foundation from which to build a lifetime of playing music on your trumpet. That's the whole point, right?

Why *Sound the Trumpet?*

Starting anything new can be difficult, confusing, and sometimes even a little scary. When that something new is learning an instrument, you can throw in bewildering and frustrating as well. But if you're armed with the right attitude and some knowledge, new things are also exciting, challenging and rewarding. *Sound the Trumpet* aims to help you find the right attitude and contains the information you need to have a great time and succeed.

This book will help ease you into the world of playing trumpet with the knowledge and tricks I've learned from over 25 years of playing and 15 years of teaching. You'll start with the most basic ideas and build on them until you've learned about the trumpet from end-to-end, inside and out.

If you're already a player, this book is a great resource for things you already know, and maybe some things you don't. Use it as a reference to review your skills, to beef up your CD collection, to study for an audition, or to practice your scales.

All that being said, you still should use this book in conjunction with *all* other trumpet books you can lay your hands on. Get information from any source you can find and don't limit yourself to one source. Though this book is pretty comprehensive, it doesn't cover *everything*, and even if it did, you'll benefit from getting the same information from a different source using a different approach. Be a learning sponge.

Overview of *Sound the Trumpet*

General Information

Sound the Trumpet will take you through all the basics of trumpet, from its history, to recorded trumpet music, and of course, how to actually play the thing. All this information is shown to you in small doses so you won't feel overwhelmed by all that needs to be learned. Chapters are short and easy to get through, though mastering the information they contain will continue long after the chapter has been read.

That's a good thing. This book is meant to be a reference, which means you *will* come back to it again and again on your journey towards trumpet Mastery. Reading the book one time through will certainly increase your understanding, but you'll have to spend some serious time with these concepts to make them truly stick and become a part of your musicianship. Come back to the book from time to time for a review.

Sound the Trumpet deals with specific aspects of playing the trumpet and not much time is spent on the skills of reading music. Basic concepts will be explained, but for more specific information on reading music, check out *Basic Music Theory: How to Read, Write, and Understand Written Music*. You can find it at www.sol-ut.com (including free samples of the book), ask for it at your local music or book store, or find it at Barnes & Noble or Borders Books and Music.

The Structure of the Book

The Parts

Sound the Trumpet is divided into large sections called Parts. Within each Part are several chapters of related information.

The Chapters

Chapters contain information on one technique and they're short enough to take in without feeling overwhelmed. There are anywhere from six to eight chapters per Part. At the beginning of each chapter you'll see a brief overview of the chapter and a list of terms the chapter covers.

The Interludes

Interludes come between Parts and cover information that isn't directly related to playing trumpet, but is essential to becoming a well-rounded player. The first Interlude is about how to practice and the other is about cleaning your horn. Fun and necessary stuff! There is also a Postlude that covers the didgeridoo, an ancient Australian aboriginal trumpet that produces a magical, bizarre, and exciting sound.

The Icons

Icons in this book will alert you to things you should know as a trumpet player. Here they are:



Memory Tip

This icon is placed near methods used to improve your memory of terms, notes, and other fun stuff. These little memory tricks will save you some brain strain.



Notice!

This icon is placed near information that is particularly useful to know. Heed this information and you'll avoid common mistakes.



Theory Geek

This icon has two functions: it tells you things about reading music which are helpful, and is also next to information which isn't absolutely necessary but which you might find interesting.

The Codicil

This is an appendix that won't need to be removed surgically. In the back of the book you'll find fingering charts, scales of many types, a glossary of musical terms, lists of great trumpet and related web sites, an index to find things easily in this book, blank staff paper, blank practice journals and practice sheets, skill checklists, forms to track your progress, a piano keyboard to help you understand some music theory concepts like intervals and transposing, and information about how to find a trumpet for your very own.

Sound the Trumpet: Overview

Part I: The Bare Necessities

Chapter 0: The Chapter Everyone Skips

You're reading it. Information of a general sort to get you started on the right foot; or the left foot, if you're goofy-footed.

Chapter 1: A Brief History of Trumpet

From ancient Egypt and Australia, to old Scotland, to middle ages Krakow, to the Himalayan mountains, to 17th century Europe, all in a few short pages. In this chapter you'll hear about the origins of the trumpet and the evolution of its physical form.

Chapter 2: Listen!

This chapter is before any information about exactly how to play the trumpet because you don't need any special skills to push *play* on your CD player, MP3 player, radio, or whatever you use to listen to music. And it's important that you start listening to trumpet music as early as possible because it will help you understand how the horn can sound. This is a large and incomplete list of many of the best recordings around.

Chapter 3: Creating a Buzz

In this chapter you'll learn a bit about the parts of a trumpet, then get started making sounds to use with the horn. You'll learn about the embouchure (how to form your lips for playing), the mouthpiece, the lip buzz, lip buzz drills, and mouthpiece buzz drills. Also included is important information about mouthpieces.

Chapter 4: Doin' the Mess Around

Finally we get down to actually playing the trumpet. This chapter gets you started and shows you how to hold it, what the valves do, and some basic exercises to get you on your way. Fun stuff!

Chapter 5: Fast Fingers

It's time to start training the three fingers of your right hand. In this chapter you'll find the details about fingering and how to make it cleaner, faster and more rhythmic. Also in the chapter are exercises to help you get your fingers limber and coordinated.

Chapter 6: Avoiding Bad Breath

We're not talking halitosis here. One of the most important aspects of playing a wind instrument is breathing. Learn the basics of what taking a good breath is all about in this chapter as well as exercises to increase your awareness of breathing and to increase your lung capacity.

Interlude One: The Practice of Practice

It takes steady and persistent effort to get better at anything, and playing trumpet is no different. There are ways to make your progress more enjoyable and more rapid. In this chapter you'll find suggestions about how to practice which will help you become a better player as quickly as possible. Though there are as many ways to practice as there are players, there are certain things the best players do which will help you, too. Learn about them here.

Part II: Getting Into It

Chapter 7: Taking Notes

Once you've got a good solid tone on trumpet, you'll start to be more specific about what you're playing. This chapter introduces how trumpet notes look when written down. In this chapter you'll learn fingerings for five notes, complete with, of course, more exercises and some duets. Be sure to visit the web site companion to this book. You'll find sound clips of all the exercises and duet parts to play along with. If you'd like a CD with these exercises and duets, it's also available on the web site (www.sol-ut.com).

Chapter 8: Tongue Tips for Trumpet

The tongue is an essential part of playing every wind instrument. Tonguing separates notes, the tongue can help you play higher, and different uses of the tongue can give your sound new textures. Start learning how to use your tongue correctly in this chapter.

Chapter 9: Lip Slurs and the Oral Cavity

No, this oral cavity won't require a visit to the dentist. When you change from one note to another without tonguing and each note has the same fingering, you're playing a lip slur. Lips slurs increase your flexibility and dexterity on the horn. The size and shape of the space inside your mouth (oral cavity) can make this challenging skill much easier. Learn how to do it and get some exercises to practice.

Chapter 10: Simple Tunes

Now that you've got a handle (Handel?) on the basics of playing trumpet, you can get started with some simple songs. These are tunes most of us know and are low in the trumpet range. Also included are some duets to play with another trumpet player or other *Bb* instrument, and a very cool Gypsy jazz tune, Dark Eyes.

Chapter 11: Tuning Tips for Trumpet

Because of how trumpets are made, certain notes are chronically out of tune. When playing in the extremes of your range, either high or low, the horn will tend to go out of tune. Temperature will also affect the pitch of the horn as will how loud you play and any mutes you stick in the bell. In this chapter, you'll learn about all the things that make trumpet go out of tune and, most importantly, how to prevent and correct these problems.

Chapter 12: How Low Can You Go? Pedal Tones

The trumpet can make sounds way below the actual lowest note on the horn (a low F#). These ultra-low notes are called pedal tones and are great to do as a warm-up or warm-down. Pedal tones are useful because they get your chops loose and relaxed, they require a lot of air and they train your ears because notes way down there don't "lock in" like notes within the normal range of trumpet. Learn all about pedal tones and their benefits in this chapter.

Chapter 13: Home on the High Range

Playing a brass instrument, and especially trumpet, is a physically demanding endeavor. Good breath support is the prime source of high range, but it also takes strength in lip and other muscles, and correct posture. There are specific exercises and attitudes that will help you develop high notes on the trumpet, and these will allow you to play with more presence, more loudly and of course, higher. If that wasn't enough, these exercises will also allow you to play more quietly.

Chapter 14: Endurance

Playing a long performance can be a grueling affair both for your chops and your brain. Training for such a thing is important and your strength and endurance can be increased by paying attention to certain exercises in your practice schedule and by using specific techniques while playing. Learn how to increase your endurance in this chapter.

Interlude Two: Clean Up Your Axe

Many strange things can and will grow inside your trumpet if you don't clean it. Learn how to scrub it out without hurting the horn in this chapter. Included are a list of supplies you'll need and a blow-by-blow description of taking your instrument apart and putting it back together the right way without damaging the instrument.

Part III:

Chapter 15: Shakes, Whinnies, Sighs and Groans

The trumpet is capable of a whole range of sounds in addition to regular notes. You can make the trumpet speak by incorporating these techniques into your playing. In addition to the items listed in the chapter title, learn about vibrato, lip trills, flutter tonguing, doits, falls, turns, mordents, and the use of alternate fingerings.

Chapter 16: Mutes and Dampers and Plungers, Oh My!

There is a bewildering array of things you can (and will) stick in the end of your trumpet to change its sound. In English they're called *mutes*, but are called *sordinos* in Italian, *dampfers* in German and *sourdines* in French. In this chapter you'll learn about all the mutes and why the plunger isn't just for bathrooms anymore.

Chapter 17: The Transposing Trumpeter

In a perfect world, all written notes would have the same relative pitch, but it just doesn't work that way. If you want to play orchestral trumpet music, you must be able to transpose. To transpose, you play a different note than what is written on the page. What must you do to read and play music that must be transposed? If you don't know, this chapter will help you understand.

Chapter 18: Trumpet Repertoire

Repertoire is the music that is recognized as crucial to a player's vocabulary. There is so much material out there that it's nearly impossible for one person to get to all of it. Here's where you'll start making choices about what you want to play. Even if you know you want to play jazz or are sure that classical music is for you, or know that you will be the next big country music trumpet star, you should familiarize yourself with the standard repertoire for each style because certain techniques will cross over into the other style. If you want to get paid to play trumpet, learning all styles is almost mandatory. Studio musicians do it. So can you.

Chapter 19: Gear to Grind Through

What is a metronome and what kind should you use? What is a condenser microphone and should you mic your trumpet with one? How *do* you mic a trumpet? How do you play with a mic when the mute is in? What kind of stuff do you need if you want to play with a band that doesn't have extra sound equipment? What kind of options for recording equipment do you have so you can listen to yourself? All these questions and more will be answered in this chapter.

Chapter 20: The Practice of Performance

This is the gravy, the frosting, the reward. It's the reason most of us buzz our lips into this brass tubing so often. Performing can be fun and frightening and incredibly rewarding all at the same time. Find out how to prepare for performances, what to expect when you perform, how to deal with performance anxiety, where to find opportunities to play and how to make opportunities to play.

Chapter 21: Trumpet All-Stars

In this chapter you'll learn about some of the greatest trumpet players, both now and in the past and in many different styles. This list of trumpet greats is far from complete. I have included only players who have made some significant contribution to trumpet playing, to music in general, or to the betterment of our world.

Postlude: How Do You Didgeridoo

Want to learn how to play the oldest trumpet on the planet? Didgeridoo is an Australian instrument made from a termite-hollowed eucalyptus tree limb. If you think that's weird, wait till you hear it. The didgeridoo produces a bass drone and with the right rhythm, the sound can be truly hypnotic and primal-sounding. Playing didgeridoo will even help you to play trumpet better. In this chapter find out just what the didgeridoo is, how to play it, and how to develop the mysterious skill of circular breathing.

Codicil

Where and What to Buy

If you're in the market for a trumpet you'll find places to look and what to look for in this section.

Practice Journal

Keep yourself on track by recording your practice time on this handy sheet. It's a good reference tool to refer to and a good morale boost when you look back to see how much time you've put in.

Web Sites

The Internet is a vast, amazing and ever-shifting place. In this section I've listed some of the best web sites I could find (as of the publication date) on trumpet, sheet music, recordings, and general interest.

Scales!

Find the following scales in all 12 keys: Major, natural minor, harmonic minor, major pentatonic, minor pentatonic, and blues. Also find patterns to use on these scales. There are always more scales to learn how to use, so start now!

Tracking Form

Keep track of your progress on the exercises you're working through with this form. There is also a form to keep track of your progress through the many scales.

Glossary of Musical Terms

Pretty self-explanatory. If you want to know what *senza sordino* means, look here.

Book Index

Look up a topic you're interested in. If it's in the book, the subject and page number will be listed here.

Fingering Chart

Find all the fingerings up to high E as well as alternate fingerings.

Piano Keyboard

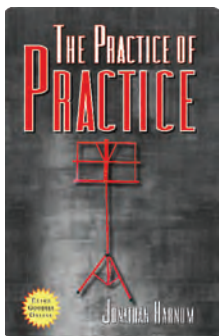
The piano is the best instrument there is for understanding many musical concepts from intervals to chords and beyond. That's why you'll find a paper piano keyboard in the back of the book. Included are the regular notes of the piano keyboard and also the names for trumpet notes.

Up Next

Whew! Lots of information, but it's a great idea to have in mind what you're getting into. Hope you read the chapter and it wasn't too long-winded for you.

Next up is a chapter about the origins and history of the trumpet. You might be surprised how old the instrument is.

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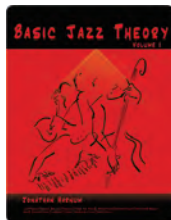
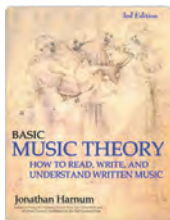
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DO YOU WANT TO PLAY THE TRUMPET?

How do you make a sound on this hunk of brass? How do valves work? How do you play higher? What are some good exercises for trumpet? What's it like to perform?

Sound the Trumpet answers these questions and more as it takes you through the fun world of trumpet playing with a clear, concise style that is sometimes funny and always friendly.

The author has more than twenty years of experience playing trumpet, over ten years of experience as a teacher, and is the best-selling author of *Basic Music Theory*. Chapters are short, well-paced and enjoyable.

Whether you're new to the world of trumpet, whether you're an experienced player who wants to bone up on your skills, or whether you teach trumpet and need a fun way to do it, you'll find this book valuable and will refer to it again and again.

YOU WILL DISCOVER HOW EASY IT IS TO:

- **Make your first sound** on the trumpet.
- **Progress quickly** with easy lessons designed and used by a professional teacher and player.
- **Learn skills:** fingerings, buzzing, lip slurs, double and triple tonguing, flutter tongue, pedal tones, bends, shakes, the ever-popular horse whinny, and more!
- **Learn tricks** to make playing easier and more fun.
- **Perform in top form** using these tips and suggestions: How, when, where and why; what it can be like and how to prepare, and how to make opportunities to play for others.
- **Find the best music** in many styles, performed by some of the greatest trumpet players the world has known.

INTERLUDES ON:

- **Ultra-brief history** of the trumpet. When, where, how, and maybe even why.
- **How to practice.** Some topics: where-when-how to practice, how much to practice, equipment, how to improve, tracking your progress, ear training, listening, private teachers, and more.
- **Clean your trumpet.** Many strange things can and will grow in your horn. Learn how to take it apart, clean it, and put it back together.

SPECIAL FEATURES

- **Exercise Tracking Forms**
- **Scales and Patterns**
- **Listening Discography**
- **Sheet Music Lists**
- **Method Book Lists**
- **Audition Repertoire**
- **Web Site Lists**
- **Musical Terms Glossary**
- **Extensively cross-referenced**
- **Book Index**

THIS BOOK HAS HELPED OVER 50,000 PEOPLE LEARN HOW TO PLAY TRUMPET, WORLDWIDE.* IT CAN HELP YOU, TOO!

“My sincere thanks and heartfelt admiration for what you have done in *Sound the Trumpet: How to Blow Your Own Horn*. Truly a marvel. I've never before seen so much good musical knowledge in one place. Wow!”
—Kent Larabee, Silverdale, WA

SolUt challenges everyone to be responsible to future generations.

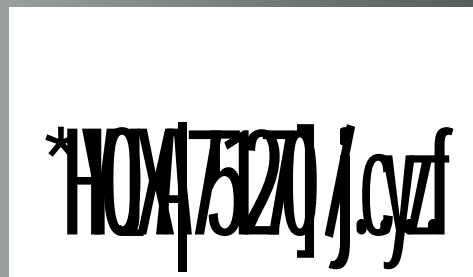
This book was developed using recycled paper. A portion of profit from this book goes to reforestation programs and music education scholarships.

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* Since 2004 we have given away over 135,000 *Sound the Trumpet* eBooks to trumpet students all over the world.



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