Trumpet Lessons 101

Leadpipe Exercises

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These exercises are based on the Bill Adam leadpipe exercises I learned from James Stokes and Pharez Whitted. I have taken the exercises from these great teachers and formed my own variations. This document is written for Bb cornet since it has a larger lead pipe than the Bb trumpet. Trumpet players use the version for Bb trumpet.

These leadpipe exercises form the foundation for my playing and address these four important areas:

Playing with proper air support

Developing a beautiful sound

Increasing flexibility

Expanding range

I hope these exercises will be a help to you in your daily studies. Take the exercises listed below and tailor them to your needs as a trumpeter. Be flexible and always strive to grow everytime you play.

How to play these exercises:

- 1. Remove the tuning slide from the trumpet
- 2. Hold the trumpet with a light loose grip parallel to the ground
- 3. With your body relaxed inhale one beat prior to each exercise using the syllable HO
- 4. After inhaling air immediately exhale focusing on producing a steady even sound
- 5. When playing each section imagine placing every note further away from you while projecting your sound
- 6. Slur all of the exercises and remember to play them relaxed and moderately soft around mp-mf
- 7. Once you are comfortable with each section move on to the next letter

