

Superior Musical Performance Checklist

- ✓ Perform Correct **Notes**
- ✓ Perform Correct **Rhythms**
- ✓ Perform all phrase marks or find **phrases**
 - Find the musical sentences < >
 - All “long notes” must go “somewhere”
- ✓ Perform all given breath marks or insert **breath marks**
 - *Don’t breath after long notes
 - *Don’t breath every 2 bars
 - Don’t breath in the middle of a crescendo
 - Don’t “chop” off notes when you breath
- ✓ Play in **time** – accurate with a metronome
- ✓ Play in **tune** – with self or with others
- ✓ Play in **tone** – have best tone possible, match tone of others, use vibrato if needed
- ✓ Perform all **tempo changes**
 - Gradual
 - Sudden
- ✓ Perform all **dynamics** – over exaggerate
 - Gradual
 - Sudden
- ✓ Perform all **articulations**
 - Tongued
 - Slurred
 - Accent (all kinds)
 - Staccato
 - Tenuto
- ✓ Perform clear, precise, confident **attacks**
- ✓ Perform clear, precise, confident **releases**
- ✓ Perform using correct **style**
 - Classical
 - Jazz
 - March
- ✓ Perform with good balance among your accompaniment or other ensemble members: melody if the most important aspect!

**HINT: The markings already on your music are
NOT suggestions – they are instructions!**

Your independent practice should include (EACH DAY):

- 1. Long Tones – can be from book or make ANYTHING a long tone**
 - a. 5-10 min.**

- 2. 12 Major Scales (especially those you do not feel as comfortable with)**
 - a. 10-15 min.**

- 3. Chromatic Scale (work on evenness and time in triplets)**
 - a. 5-10 min.**

- 4. Technical Exercise from Foundations (your choice – just don't do the same ones all the time)**
 - a. 5-10 min.**

- 5. Solo Project Work (refer to Superior Performance list for your “to do list.”)**
 - a. 30-45 min.**

- 6. Listening & Studying accompaniment with solo**
 - a. 5 min.**

- 7. Work on putting solo with accompaniment**
 - a. 30-45 min.**