

Piano Practice Journal

Problem Areas	Solutions
Technique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position-body levers & bench height • Warm-ups and stretches • Exercises
Sight Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physiology of a good sight reader • Sight-reading helper • Playing partial measures in tempo • Letting go of errors • Metronome • Sight reading with others
Reduce Problem to Simplest Equation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law of 7 – plus or minus two • Pattern seeking – scales, arpeggios, chords, intervals, topography, rhythms, ‘key-ness’
Rhythmic practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For even tone • For fast passage work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uneven accents – long/short, short/long
Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overshooting/undershooting • Play/prepare • Switch hands
Musicality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texture- fabric swatches, imagery • Voicing between hands- ghost play • Voicing within hand – staccato/legato • Phrase shapes – sing, notate ‘bubbles’ for gradation, find focal point of phrase • Microcosm & Macrocosm of phrasing within section
Memorization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mind mapping • Structural analysis • Lef/right brain • Auditory recall – play one hand & sing other • Visual recall • Kinesthetic recall • Safety spots, jumping safety spots • Learn back to front – macro/micro
Peak Performance Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary learning style analysis • Stress-busters • 1st, 2nd, 3rd positions • Continuous audiation
Pedal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legato pedal • Pedal with various articulations • Sostenuto pedal • Specialty pedals