

Making Your Band Better Without Saying a Word: Ten Steps to Becoming a More Effective Conductor

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- I. Ten Steps to Becoming a Better Conductor
 - A. **Step 1: Correct Body Position**
 1. Feet
 2. Waist
 3. Shoulders
 4. Arms
 5. Head
 - B. **Step 2: Defining Your Levers**
 1. Shoulder
 2. Elbow
 3. Wrist
 - C. **Step 3: Controlling Your Baton**
 1. Function
 2. Grip
 3. Position
 - D. **Step 4: Patterns**
 1. Clarifying your Basic Patterns
 - E. **Step 5: Rebound**
 1. Efficiency of Motion
 - F. **Step 6: Dynamics**
 1. Body Position
 2. Baton Position
 3. Size of Gesture
 4. Function of Left Arm
 - G. **Step 7: Style**
 1. Legato/Tenuto
 - a. Horizontal vs. Vertical Conducting
 2. Staccato/Marcato
 - a. Horizontal vs. Vertical Conducting

H. Step 8: Attacks

1. Effective Prep Beats
2. Breathing with the Ensemble
3. Eye Contact
4. Ictus

I. Step 9: Releases

1. Definition Through Gesture
2. Expressive Releases
3. Reinforcing the Release

J. Step 10: Using Your New Repertoire of Gestures and “Removing the Mask”

1. Conducting What the Music Expresses
2. Knowing Your Role
3. Effective Facial Gestures

II. Conclusion

- A. Will These Ten Steps Make a Difference in My Ensemble?
- B. How and When to Implement These New Techniques