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**How to Grow Your Trombone Section  
Using the Trombone Choir**

**CLINICIANS:**

**Jon Bohls, Kimberly Shuttlesworth**

**Demo Group: Coppell Trombone  
Ensemble**

It keeps the trumpet players  
from turning around.



# How to Grow Your Trombone Section Using the Trombone Choir

Jon Bohls & Kim Shuttlesworth, Clinicians  
Coppell Trombone Choir, Demonstration Group

## The 4 "T's" to Success

### TONE

Tone is made up of the two things that allows us to play trombone - air and embouchure. Air is the most important part of tone. The breath in is divided into three parts - middle of body, chest, shoulders in that order. Embouchure should have two characteristics - flat chin and valley.

### TONGUE

There are only two types of tongue to use. One is a regular tongue. The other is a slur tongue. The regular tongue syllable is tU. The slur syllable is dU. The lower-case t and d represent the start of the note. The upper-case U is the body of the note. The U keeps the tongue low in the mouth to allow a lot of air to go into the instrument.

### TUNE

Tuning is first affected by Tone. Weak air and/or weak embouchure will cause major tuning issues that can't be solved by tuning slides or slide placement. If there is good air and embouchure then there are three ways for someone to play in tune - hear it, feel it, and see it.

### TIME

Yes, using a metronome is very important, but each player needs to, at some point, develop an internal sense of a steady beat. Everything, most importantly the breath in, should always be related to that steady beat.

SCAN  
ME



UIL  
LITERATURE  
DATABASE