

How To Practice A Difficult Passage

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Scherzino by Anderson measures 17-24 and 104-107

1. First difficult passage and below the first steps for practice.

Remember to practice each style at least 5x in a row.

The first system shows the original passage in 3/4 time, consisting of four measures of eighth-note runs. The second system shows the first step for practice, which is a simplified version of the passage with slurs over each note, also in 3/4 time.

2. Pretend the passage is just long tones and practice SUPER SLOW!

Don't forget to repeat at least 5X!

The first system shows the original passage in 3/4 time. The second system shows the passage with slurs over each note, indicating it should be practiced as long tones.

3. The next 2 examples explore 2 note patterns.

The first system shows the original passage in 3/4 time. The second system shows the passage with slurs over each note, indicating it should be practiced as long tones.

4. The next 4 examples explore 3 note patterns.

The first system shows the original passage in 4/4 time. The second system shows the passage with slurs over each note, indicating it should be practiced as long tones.

The first two staves of the musical score show a complex four-note pattern. The top staff features a sequence of four groups of four notes, each group slurred together. The bottom staff continues this pattern with similar slurred groups, maintaining the same rhythmic and melodic structure.

5. These last 4 examples explore 4 note patterns.

The first two staves of the practice section show four-note patterns. The top staff features a sequence of 12 groups of four notes, each group marked with a triplet '3' below it. The bottom staff continues this pattern with similar triplet groups, maintaining the same rhythmic and melodic structure.

The last two staves of the practice section show four-note patterns. The top staff features a sequence of 12 groups of four notes, each group slurred together. The bottom staff continues this pattern with similar slurred groups, maintaining the same rhythmic and melodic structure.

After practicing each of these patterns a minimum of 5 times each, go back to the original difficult passage and see if you can play it any faster. Keep repeating daily until you are able to play it at your desired speed. Lets see now if you can apply these patterns yourself to other difficult passages. This is a very effective way to practice difficult passages.