

PRACTICING FOR PARENTS

by Tom Heany

A cheat sheet for non-musical parents.

Creative and visionary Art Director with a proven track record of leading design teams and delivering visually stunning campaigns.

Go Small, Go Slow

Piece too hard or too long? Make a copy of your piece and cut it up into small pieces. Play each piece for 1 minute each at a slow pace.

Outside Skills Learned in Practice

- Deferred Gratification
- Self-Assessment
- Setting Standards and Sticking to Them
- Finding enjoyment in something other than distraction or entertainment
- Gaining Rewards that are internal rather than external

Keep Positive!

- Celebrate effort, especially in something hard!
- Turn "I can't." into I can't yet!

But it's supposed to be fast!

The goal is not fast; it's smooth. It's easier to correct things at a slow tempo than when fast.

Non-Music Skills You Can Teach

Children aren't born with the skills to practice regularly. They need to be taught:

- Self-Discipline
- Patience
- Consistency

Consistency is Key!

- Make practice a regular part of the day
- Playing is not practicing. Practice the hardest parts first using the "Go Small, Go Slow Method."
- Don't squeeze practicing in, make space for time to make progress.



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