

Building a Better Band
Through a Better Horn Section:
The Five Quickest
Ways to Improve Your Horns

Clinic outline for

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I. Right Hand Position and Bell Placement

(photo goes here)

- A. right hand should be slightly cupped, no gaps between fingers
- B. back of hand on inside of bell wall furthest from the body
- C. hand at 3:00
- D. bell placement depends on size of player
- E. on or off the leg?
- F. standing for solos?

G. stopped horn

a. must be played on F side of horn

b. must transpose down a half step

c. use more air and less tongue for hard attacks

d. notated with a + or with terms *stopped*, *closed*, *chiuso*, or *gestopft*

(Drill goes here)

II. MORE AIR!!

I. work on opening the sound

II. warm-up with big sound

III. straws, garden hose and paper on the wall

III. Breathing

I. breath “down”

II. what should a breath sound like

III. say ‘ho’

IV. plastic bag

V. back expands

VI. floor/book

IV. Embouchure

I. mouthpiece placement— $\frac{2}{3}$ upper, $\frac{1}{3}$ lower and centered
(embouchure picture goes here)

II. “flat chin, corners in’

III. puckered smile

IV. use slide pull ring

V. intonation

V. **Maintenance**—give them a horn that works

I. give them ownership by showing them how to maintain the horn

II. oiling the valves

III. grease the slides

IV. flush with snake and mouthpiece brush

V. every hornist's nightmare—restringing a valve

(photo goes here)

Horn Etudes and Methods cont'd

Singer Belwin	Embouchure Building for French Horn
Tuckwell Oxford	Fifty First Exercises for Horn

Discography

American Horn Quartet Studio Art Classic	In Autumn AHQ 1295
American Horn Quartet ebs records	American Horn Quartet ebs 6008
American Horn Quartet ebs 6050	The Well-Tempered Horn
Baumann, Hermann Philips/BMG	Gliere Horn Concerto D101219
Brain, Dennis EMI 55087	Mozart Horn Concertos
Brain, Dennis EMI CDC-7	Richard Strauss and Hindemith 47834 2
Cerminaro, John Crystal Records	John Cerminaro, horn CD676
Damm, Peter Berlin Classics	Romantic Horn Concertos 0093242BC
The Horn Club of Los Angeles EMI CDM 7	HORNS! 63764 2
Todd, Richard GM Recordings	Rickter Scale GM 3015CD
Varner, Tom Soul Note	Tom Varner, Jazz French Horn 121176-2