

Introduction

Welcome to the wonderful world of trumpet playing!

This book is the culmination of over 30 years working with beginning trumpet students. I have found the course outlined in this book to be the most concise and effective way to learn how to play trumpet.

Also included is **The Really Big Student Songbook** in its entirety! This is my best-selling book and has been used by thousands of students the world over.

Here are some tips on how to work with this method.

1. **Watch the videos!** There are three videos available at the website.

www.BolvinMusic.com. Look under Publications and I Play Trumpet.

If you have the PDF, the videos are linked. Just click the text.

2. **Spend at least one week on each lesson.** As they get harder you may want to spend two weeks on each lesson.

3. **Follow the instructions.** Each lesson is planned out exactly as you should practice it, so always go in order.

4. **Take your time.** Trumpet is a very physical instrument so your body needs time to learn how to play it. Always rest as much as you play during practice.

Never play a lesson straight through with no rest.

5. **Listen!** Each lesson has fun assignments including listening. Listen to great music every day.

6. **Never force it.** Some of the slurs and higher notes may be difficult at first. This is normal. Never force the slur or note. Make sure you have a full relaxed breath. Don't just play the high note, work up to it. Make three attempts with lots of rest in between. If you don't get it, it's OK. Come back the next day and try again.

7. **Have fun!** Playing music is fun and that's why we do it. Enjoy the lifelong process of learning the trumpet.