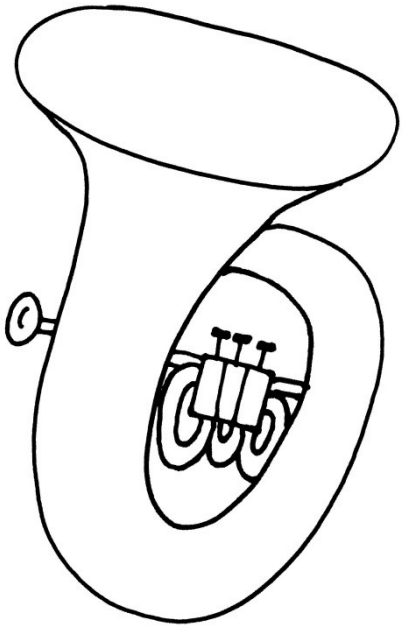
NMPAT

Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust

My Beginner Brass Book



Inspire • Nurture • Excel

Name _____

www.NMPAT.co.uk

Welcome to the Brass Team!

Hello!

My name is _____

and I will be your teacher. ☺

Lessons will normally be in school on _____

Remember to bring…

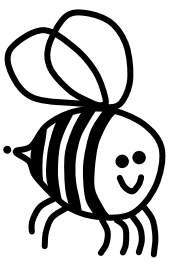
- ☑ your instrument
- ☑ this book
- ☑ your practice diary.

To become a good player you will need to play at home as well as in the lesson. Ask your family to help you with this. Look at your practice diary to see what you need to do each week.

This book will get you started. Later on you will need to buy a tutor book. I will tell you which one. (See the back page). If you want more useful stuff, check out www.NMPAT.co.uk/resources.

Good luck and good buzzing!

Let's Buzzzz...





Top Tips…

Look after your instrument.
Brass instruments have feelings too.

If there is a problem with it, do not try to fix it.
Bring it to me at the next lesson.

Valves and slides need special oil and cream to keep them working.
I will put this on at first.



You should play your instrument every day so that your lips become strong.

Always try to make the best sound that you can.

Be sure to sit or stand up straight when you play.
If you look good, you will sound good.



Remember:
Good posture doesn't cost yer!

Enjoy your playing!
You are doing something special.

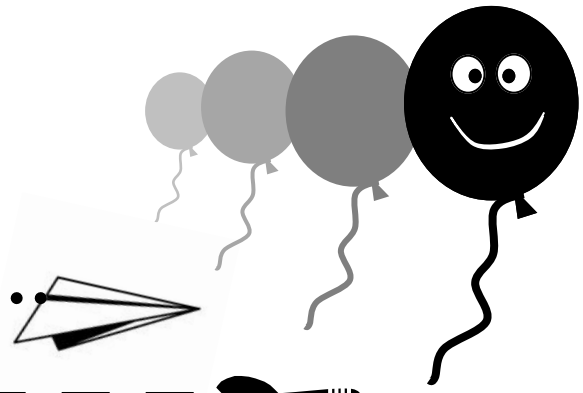
☺

Now, let's get going...

This is what we will do in your first lessons and EVERY DAY when you practice...

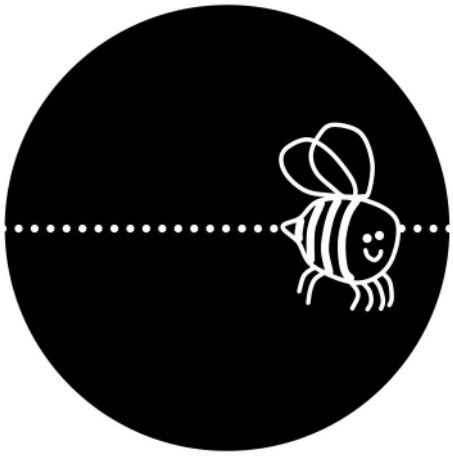
Power up!

Breathing exercises

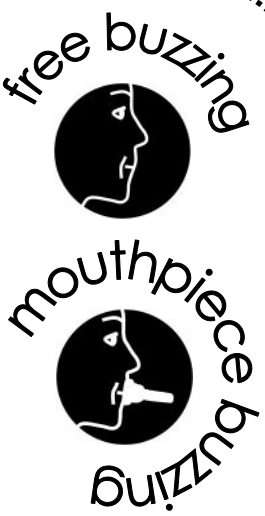


The Buzz Zone









T T Tonguing

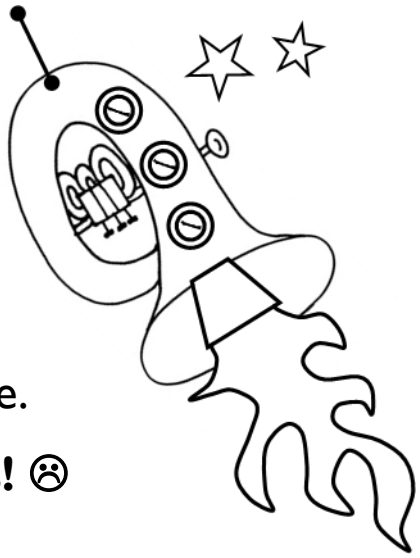


Use your tongue to start every note with a 'T' or 'D' sound.

Ten Trillion Tons of Tasty Tomatoes!

Dozy Donkeys Desire Delicious Dandelions!

Lift off!



Hold your instrument the way I showed you.

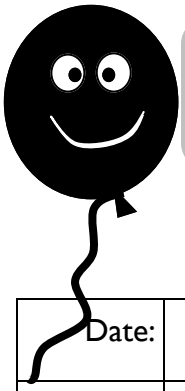
If you hold it right you will play better! ☺

Keep your lips and mouthpiece in the same place.

Never puff out your cheeks! ☹

Try this…

- ☐ Play Long Notes
- ☐ Play short notes using 'T' or 'D'
- ☐ Use your tongue to try out some of the rhythms on p5.



How many seconds can you hold a note for?

You need huge lungs to play a brass instrument.
Practice taking big breaths and playing long notes.

Date:								
Seconds:								



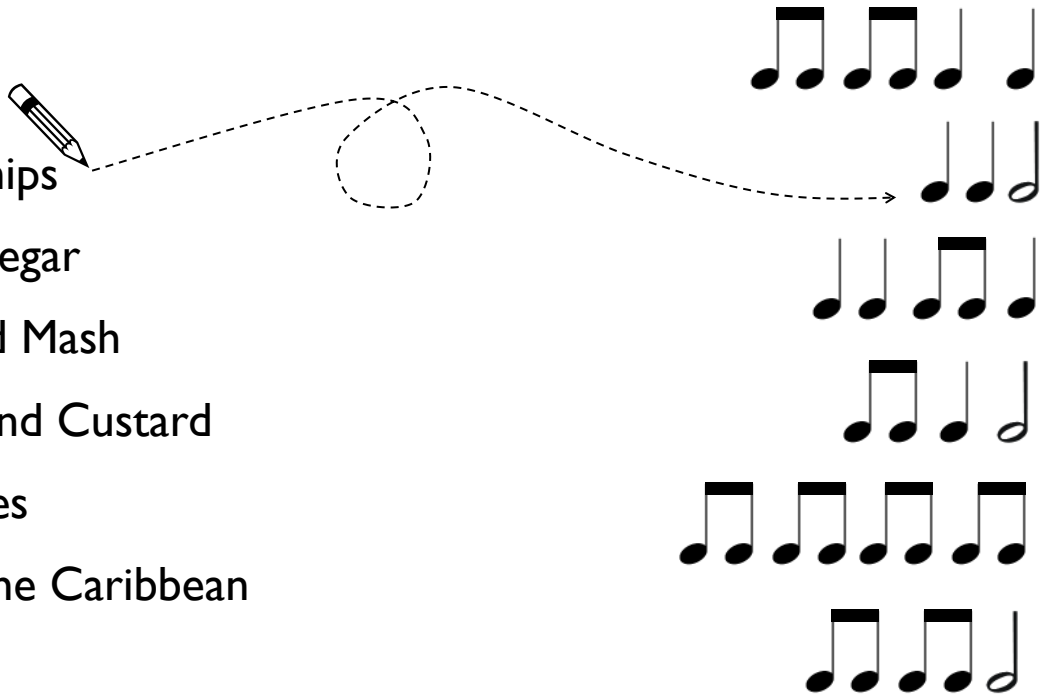
You are an **'inspiration'** when you are trying to do your best.
Look for the best in others to see if you can be inspired yourself!

What or who **inspired** you to start playing a brass instrument?

Let's make some music!



Can you guess which words match which rhythms?



Fish and Chips

Salt and Vinegar

Sausage and Mash

Apple Pie and Custard

Indiana Jones

Pirates of the Caribbean

My own rhythms:



_____

_____

_____

_____

Try them on the notes you know from the staircase.

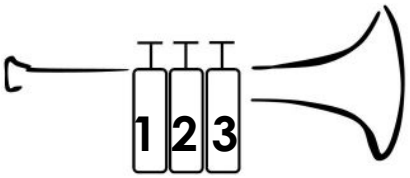
Good Habits!

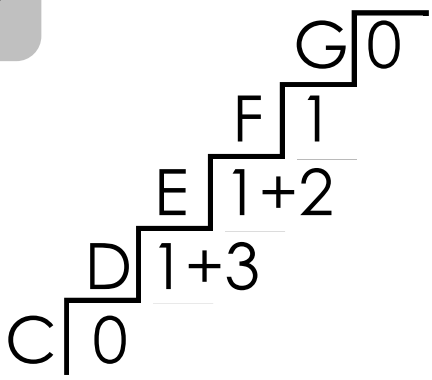
Always breathe through your mouth and not your nose!

Note Staircases - valves

Treble clef

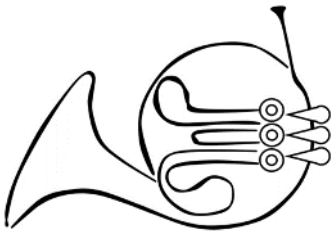


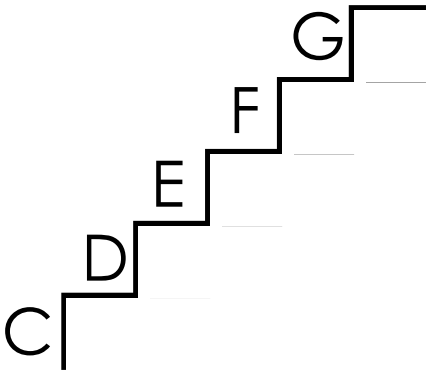




Treble clef

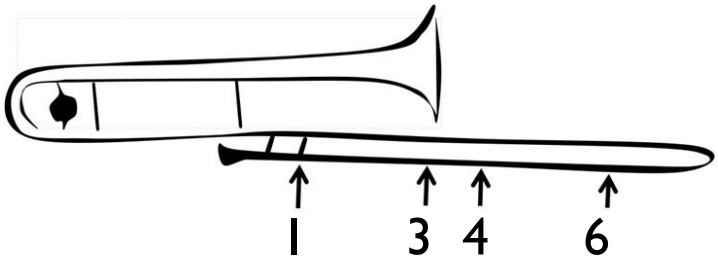






Trombones will use either treble or bass clef. Your teacher will tell you which you need to learn.

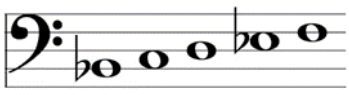
Note Staircases - slide

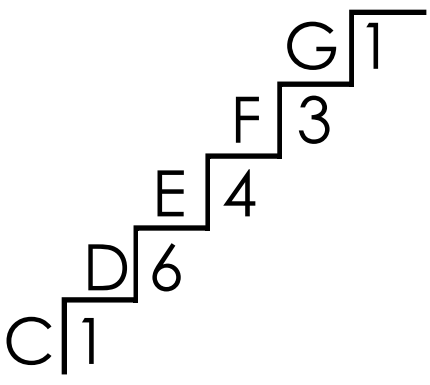


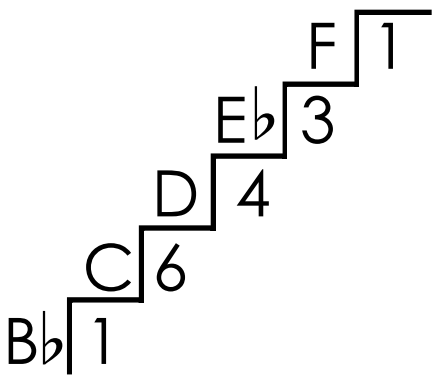
Treble clef



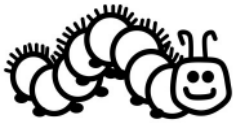
Bass clef







Bugs R Us!

Invent your own way to perform this piece.

Why not play it to your class!

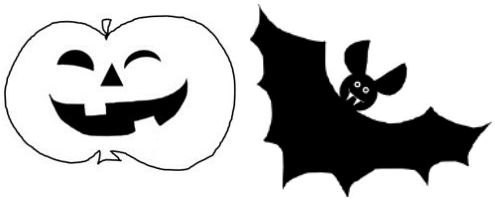
You could get them to try it as body percussion?

My tune: _____

Write your own piece using bugs, Halloween symbols or pick your own theme.

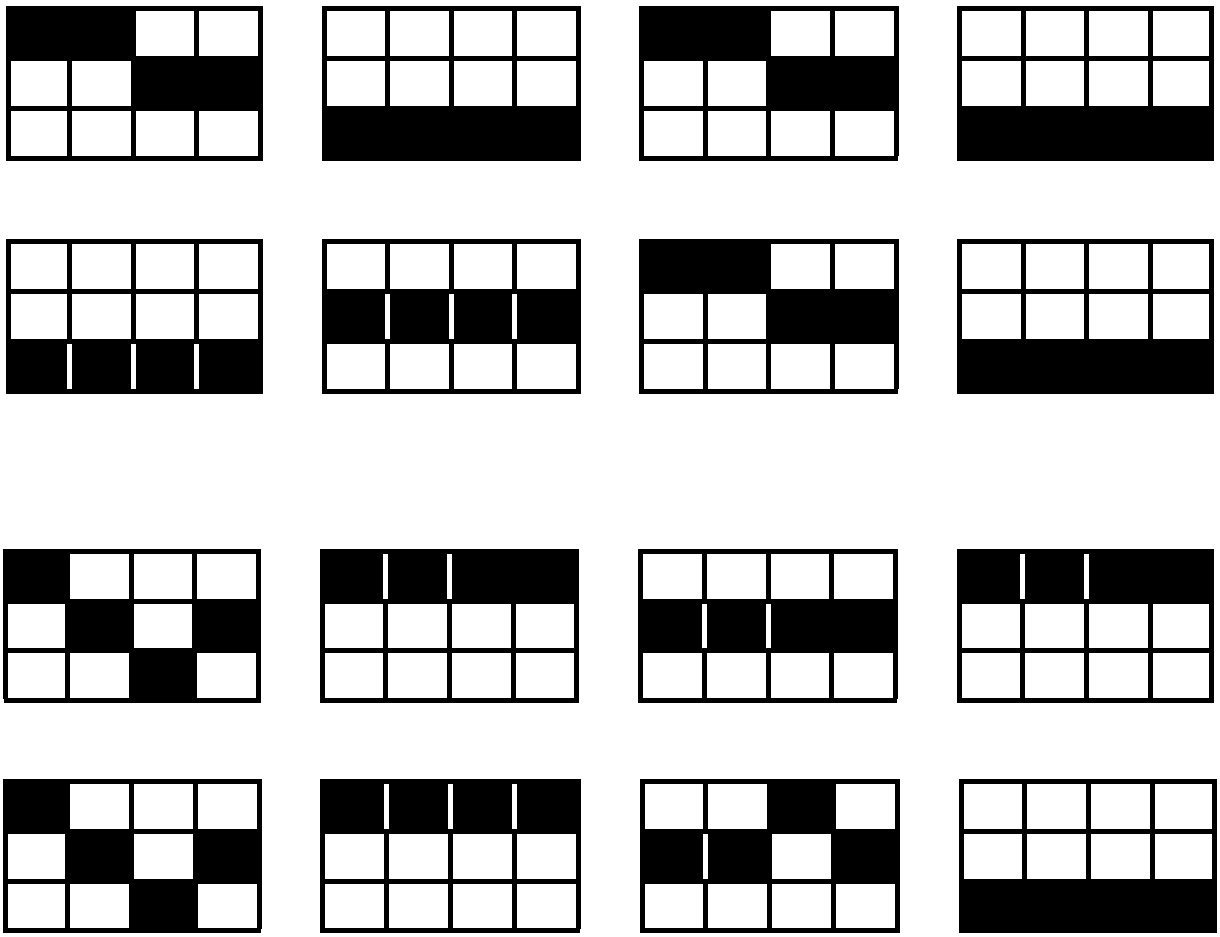
Decide which notes you will use.

Invent a cool title!



Code Cracking

Use your lowest three notes to work out these tunes…



What is this??



C C D C F E

Bb Bb C Bb Eb D

…and this??



F E D C DD DD

Eb D C Bb CC CC

How about this?



You've played this one before…

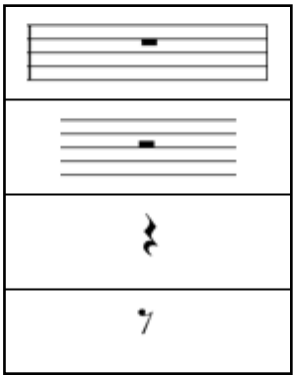


Feel the Rhythm!

Notes

	Semibreve	or	Whole Note	4 beats
	Minim	or	Half Note	2 beats
	Crotchet	or	Quarter Note	1 beat
	Quaver	or	Eighth Note	½ a beat

Rests



When you write a pair of quavers, you join them up like this...  ...that pair of quavers would add up to one beat.

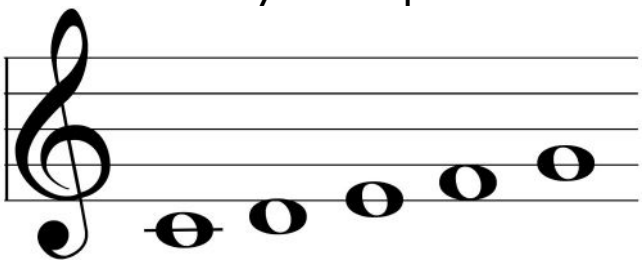
Fill in each line of the grid with notes that add up to 4 beats in total.

How many ways can you play them?

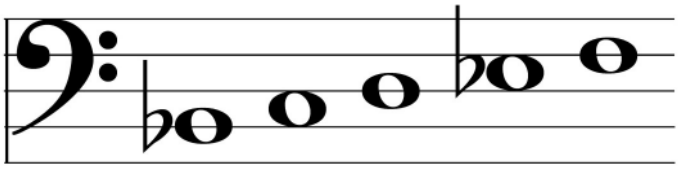
Take Note!

Are you Treble Clef 𝄞 or Bass Clef ? 𝄢

Here you can practice writing out notes, and naming them…



C D E F G



B♭ C D E♭ F

Musical Maths!

𝅗𝅥	+	𝅗𝅥	=	
𝅗𝅥	+	𝅗𝅥	=	
𝅝	+	𝅗𝅥	=	
𝅝	-	𝅗𝅥	=	
𝅗𝅥	-	♫	=	

A piece I wrote: _____

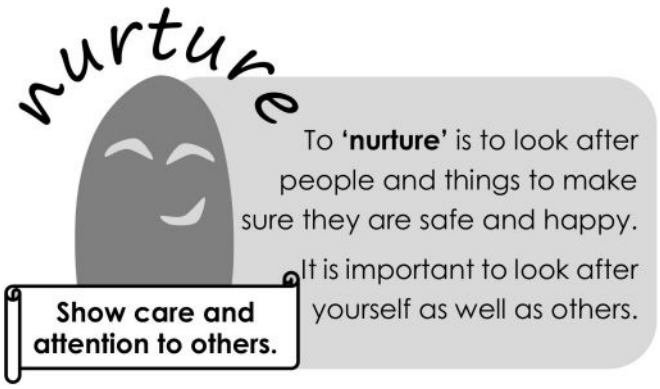
Date written:_____ Date of the first performance:_____

Woohoo! Get you!

Getting this far in your beginner book means it's nearly time for you to buy your first music book! Look on the inside back page to see which one you need to get.



Looking after your Hooter



Your instrument will play better and last longer if you look after it. Ask someone at home to help you with these tasks.

All of us need to do this…

- ☑ Empty out your water every time you play. Always put your instrument away safely in its case.
- ☑ Tuning slides need to be moved regularly and greased with special grease or Vaseline
- ☑ Keep your mouthpiece clean. Check the inside by looking down it. You can get a special brush to help you keep it clean, or pipe cleaners would do.
- ☑ The inside of the instrument needs cleaning as well and once a term you should pour warm soapy water down the bell and let it run all the way through the tubing. You can get a bendy cleaning brush to help do this. Always rinse the instrument through with clean water and then put new grease, cream and oil on your valves and slides.

What to do with Valves…

Brass instrument valves need special oil.

1. Carefully unscrew the top of one valve at a time, remove the valve and clean off any dirt.
2. Add a few drops of valve oil to the casing, rotating the thickest part of the valve.
3. Gently replace the valve in the casing, rotating the valve until the valve guide lines up with its locater. Never force the valve at this stage.
4. If you cannot blow air through the instrument, the valve is not lined up with the holes. Try twisting each of the valves until it clicks.
5. French Horn Valves need a spot of oil at the end of each spindle.

Trombone stuff…

Trombone slides need special cream.

1. Carefully remove the inner slide from the outer.
2. Clean off all dirt.
3. Put a little cream on the thickest part of the slide.
4. Work the slide up and down to spread the cream around.
5. Wipe off any excess cream and loosen with some water. A water spray bottle is useful for this.

You're ready for your first book! ☺

The one you will need is called:

☐ **Team Brass**, by Richard Duckett	Published by Faber
☐ **Essential Elements for band**	Published by Hal Leonard
☐ **Step by Step, book 1**,	Published by de Haske
☐ **Abracadabra**	Published by A&C Black
☐ _____	

You should buy the copy for_____

Valve instrument players should also get some **valve oil** and trombonists some **slide cream**.

You might also like to get:

- A mouthpiece brush
- An instrument brush
- A music stand

This can be bought from your local Music Shop or ordered on-line.

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