Article Summary

*Pedagogy (3)*

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**Article Title**: *Beginner Instruction Series: Bassoon*

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**INSTRUMENT**: Bassoon

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**Summary:**

1. Recruiting and Selection
   1. Tuning
   2. A student with acceptable grades
   3. A student that is able to set and achieve goals. A “high achiever”
   4. A student that is large enough to play the instrument
2. Embouchure
   1. Should be as natural as possible. Not forced jaw tension
3. Taking the reed in the mouth
   1. Soak the whole reed in water, not the mouth
4. Assembling the instrument
   1. Highly important that it is done the same way every time
5. Positioning of the instrument
   1. Adjust the strap so the bocal enters the mouth without the student straining the neck up or ducking the head down to reach it.
6. The “startup” hand position
   1. Left hand vs. right hand
   2. Some key points to remember
7. The starting tones
   1. Introduce the face notes
8. Bassoon warm-up
   1. Example is provided
9. Starting the scales
   1. F is a good first scale
10. Crossing the break
    1. Once students have a good sound and have demonstrated the G scale
11. The second register and flicking
    1. Use the same embouchure without tightening
12. Extending the range down
    1. Use scales
13. Vibrato- when and how
    1. When the embouchure is more consistent and the tone is steady
14. Goals and expectations for the first year
    1. Be able to match pitches
    2. Be able to produce a dynamic contrast