Horn Fundamentals Routine

by Margarite Waddell

1. Mouthpiece Buzzing

Find your starting pitch on the horn or piano. Strive for a buzzy and well-centered sound.



2. Breath Attack Long Tones

These are great for improving response. Use fast air speed to start each pitch rather than articulating the beginning of each note. Try to create an easy, resonant sound at a mp-mf dynamic.



3. Easy Flexibility

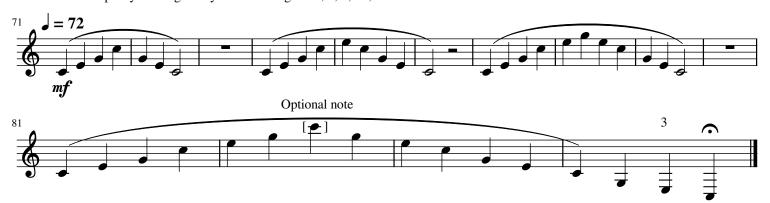
Do these on the F horn using fingerings 0, 2, 1, 12, 23, 13, 123.

Again, strive for an easy, resonant sound, and blow through every interval.



4. Major Arpeggios

Adapt these to your current range. Use fast, focused air to achieve the notes at the top of your range. Play the following on: 0, 2, 1, 12, 23



5. Articulations: legato, then staccato

Play this pattern first with a legato articulation at each metronome marking, then with a staccato articulation at each metronome marking. Try to achieve a light, detached staccato.



6. Low Horn Exercise

Have fun playing low notes at a ff dynamic. Try to produce a warm, open sound. This exercise is in cut time. You can continue the pattern lower, I just stopped at C to save space!

