# Strategies To Make Practice With Your Music Student As Painless And Efficient

Practice is essential for any musician, but it can be a challenge to get students to practice regularly. In this article, we will discuss some strategies to make practice more painless and efficient for both you and your student.

### **Set Realistic Goals**

One of the biggest mistakes that teachers make is setting unrealistic goals for their students. If you expect your student to practice for an hour every day, they are likely to get discouraged and give up. Instead, start with small, achievable goals. For example, you could ask your student to practice for 15 minutes each day. As they progress, you can gradually increase the amount of time they practice.



Music Practice Makeover: Strategies to Make Practice with Your Music Student as Painless and Efficient as

Possible by Hilary Jacobson

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## **Make Practice Fun**

If practice is not fun, your student is less likely to want to do it. There are many ways to make practice more enjoyable. One way is to choose music that your student enjoys. Another way is to play games or activities that incorporate practice. For example, you could have your student play a game of musical chairs or hot potato.

#### **Provide Positive Reinforcement**

It is important to provide your student with positive reinforcement for practicing. This could include praise, rewards, or simply letting them know that you are proud of them. When your student sees that you are happy with their progress, they are more likely to continue practicing.

## **Be Patient**

Learning to play an instrument takes time and effort. Be patient with your student and don't get discouraged if they don't progress as quickly as you would like. With time and practice, they will eventually reach their goals.

## **Strategies for Specific Instruments**

In addition to the general strategies discussed above, there are also some specific strategies that you can use to make practice more painless and efficient for different instruments.

## **Piano**

\* Start with simple pieces that your student can learn quickly. \* Use a metronome to help your student keep a steady tempo. \* Encourage your student to practice sight-reading. \* Have your student play duets with you or another student.

#### Guitar

\* Use a guitar tuner to help your student keep their guitar in tune. \* Start with simple chords and strumming patterns. \* Encourage your student to practice scales and arpeggios. \* Have your student play along with their favorite songs.

#### **Drums**

\* Use a drum metronome to help your student keep a steady beat. \* Start with simple drum patterns. \* Encourage your student to practice paradiddles and other rudiments. \* Have your student play along with their favorite songs.

## Violin

\* Start with simple scales and exercises. \* Use a shoulder rest to help your student hold their violin comfortably. \* Encourage your student to practice vibrato and other techniques. \* Have your student play duets with you or another student.

Practice is essential for any musician, but it can be a challenge to get students to practice regularly. By using the strategies discussed in this article, you can make practice more painless and efficient for both you and your student. With time and effort, your student will eventually reach their goals and become a skilled musician.



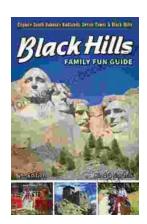
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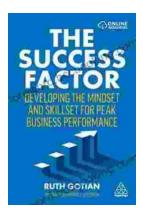
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