

The Top Ten Secrets of Greatness for Every Musician on Earth

1

Practice at the same time each day. No days off. No excuses. Make it a habit. Schedule group rehearsals on the same day(s) each week. Work your other commitments around your music.

2

Running through song after song is not rehearsing - it's playing. Real practice involves playing weak tunes or parts of tunes over and over until

3

Let the critics be eclectic. Great musicians are notoriously well-rounded and open-minded.

4

Appreciate your music. Appreciate the talent you possess right now. Appreciate your instrument. Appreciate the fact that you can take those three things, mix them together and create something that makes people *feel*. Isn't that great?

5

Play strong and hard. It will improve your tone, increase speed, and eliminate mistakes.

6

Every day, visualize yourself giving a stellar performance. You will be more likely to give one when the time comes.

7

Never let the passion fade from your music. It is the one thing that will get you through the plateaus and bad days and burnout phases when even money, discipline, or self-bribery can't.

9

Master players are more the material result of their vision, persistence, and love of what they do than of their natural talent.

8

Musical ability takes many forms. Discover and appreciate what it is you have to offer as a musician -- your own individual proportion of talent, knowledge, experience, and soul. Then run with it.

10

Love yourself. Love your instrument. Love your music. Love your audience.