

INDEPENDENT PRACTICING AND LEARNING

Resources and Techniques

ONLINE RESOURCES:

★ TAB WEBSITES:

- www.ultimate-guitar.com/
- www.guitartab.com/
- www.tabcrawler.com/

★ LYRICS WEBSITES:

- www.lyrics.com/
- www.azlyrics.com/
- www.elyrics.net/

★ TECHNIQUE WEBSITES & VIDEOS:

- **SHREDDING**
 - http://www.ultimate-guitar.com/lessons/guitar_techniques/shredding_part_1_fundamentals.html
- **SPEED PICKING**
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ca0nK1IEP094&feature=Playlist&p=FE19C53E4EB01DD6&index=19>
- **DRUM FILLDS ADVANCED**
 - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fiYf-z0GCqs&feature=Playlist&p=79F347DAF7E92964&playnext=1&playnext_from=PL&index=2
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVz0lk1Ei5M&feature=Playlist&p=79F347DAF7E92964&index=3>

★ MOTIVATIONAL VIDEOS:

- JACOB ARMEN SOLO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=118cv3MmVadE&feature=related>
- COBUS SOLO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vn9Zx7mn92c&feature=related>
- THOMAS LANG SOLO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9bFPsVtXgY>
- FUNNY SINGING: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63X3GI_EMCI&feature=related
- JUSTING KING: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ge23x6FBtuQ&feature=related>

10 ELEMENTS OF INDEPENDENT PRACTICE:

1. PRACTICE EVERYDAY

- a. This is huge!! Practicing everyday helps to get your body in shape to play. It improves your coordination, muscle strength, and muscle memory.
- b. You'll find that the songs get easier and easier with each practice.

2. HAVE YOUR INSTRUMENT OUT AND READY TO PLAY. This will make you practice more.

- a. Eg. Put your guitar on a stand in your bedroom next to your bed. Make sure there's a pick with it.
- b. I guarantee that this will make you play your instrument a lot more. If it's out and ready to play, you will!

3. PRACTICE WITH THE INTENSITY OF A LIVE PERFORMANCE.

- a. Vocalists need to build up their singing muscles. If you don't sing loud in practice, you can hurt yourself, or lose your voice at a live show where you have to belt it!
- b. Guitarists will often break strings when playing live, because they play a lot lighter in practice. "YOUR INSTRUMENT NEEDS TO BE UP TO PAR IN ORDER TO LAST THROUGH THE SHOW."
- c. Drummers will be dead tired at the halfway point if they play lightly in practice. Your body needs to be conditioned just like an athlete.

4. PRACTICE THE WAY YOU WOULD PERFORM THE SONG.

- a. If you're going to perform the song standing, stand in practice. If you're going to perform sitting, sit in practice.
- b. For guitarists, it is often way easier to play seated than standing. Especially shredding.

5. PRACTICE UNTIL YOU CAN PLAY THE ENTIRE SONG WITHOUT YOUR BAND.

- a. You shouldn't need your band to finish a song. If you do, it is a good sign that you do not know your part well enough.

6. LEARN THE MAIN PARTS OF A SONG FIRST (CHORUS, VERSE). Then build off of them.

- a. Use the choruses and verses as the pillar foundation to your song. This will make your playing extremely solid.

7. PRACTICE WITH A BAND MEMBER

- a. **Work with a band mate or musical friend to learn parts or techniques. This is a great technique to motivate you to practice.**

8. RECORD YOURSELF and LISTEN TO THE PLAYBACK.

- a. **The scariest part of being a musician is hearing yourself SING! AHHH! You have to do it so you will accept your voice and allow others to hear it. At first, most people think they sound really funny.**
- b. **Once you are comfortable with your voice, you will be way more confident on stage.**
- c. **WHAT YOU HEAR WHILE YOU ARE SINGING, and WHAT YOU HEAR ON A RECORDING OF YOURSELF ARE TWO VERY DIFFERENT SOUNDS.** Recording allows you to hear problems that you can't hear while singing.

9. LEARN AS MANY PARTS OF THE SONG AS YOU CAN (Don't just learn your part)

- a. **It is very important to learn as many parts of the song as possible.**
- b. **What happens if your vocalist forgets the words in the middle of a song? You can jump in and save the day.**
- c. **ALSO, there is nothing like watching the guitarist play and mouth the lyrics to the crowd. This shows confidence and band cohesion.**

10. WORK ON TECHNIQUES & OTHER SONGS. Don't just stick to YOUR songs. Become a better musician.

- a. **There are many technique tutorials for all of the parts of a band. By improving or learning new techniques, you become a better musician, and your music will definitely sound better.**
- b. **By learning other songs you get a change of pace, which keeps practicing interesting. Also, it's a lot of fun playing a song at a get together with your friends or family. Some of the most memorable times are when you have 30 people singing with you at a get together. TRUST ME, good times!**