



# The One Hundred

*Effective Strategies for Successful Audition Preparation*

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## Questions to ask yourself:

- How good is good enough?
- Where do you stack up locally? Can you read the signs?
- Does your desire line up with your talent and work ethic?
- Is your goal attainable?

## The essentials:

- A beautiful sound. Without this, nothing else matters.
- Impeccable intonation.
- Exceptional musicality, including a wide dynamic range, appropriate vibrato, seamless legato, and a clear differentiation between various kinds of articulations.
- An informed sense of style.
- A superb sense of rhythm, including exhibiting what Edward Kleinhammer often referred to as “the unwritten laws of rhythmic pulse.”
- A confident, comfortable physical demeanor devoid of nervous, obsessive gestures or habits. You must pass “the weirdo test.”

## Strategies to employ:

- Question your assumptions.
- Try everything.
- Pay attention, ask questions, read, study the sources, leave no stone unturned.
- Every player’s lament: *But I can do it in the practice room!*
  - Bring the practice room to the stage.

## Remember:

- Practice does not make perfect. Practice makes permanent.
- Do not believe the lie of 10,000 hours.
- Your best may get you to the top. But it might not.
- But the top is not the only place where you may have a rewarding musical life.

*World class players do not just happen —their talents are forged in the dual furnaces of determination and diligence.*

- Edward Kleinhammer (*Mastering the Trombone*, page 7)