

# Trumpet Solo Class Lecture #24

## “Organizing Your Practice”

### Dr. Mark Ponzo

#### **Make a schedule of all your classes.**

Fill in the responsibilities that are constant each week (regular classes).  
Fill in all playing responsibilities (Solo Class, Convocations and Concerts).  
Make 16 copies of this form (one for each week of the semester).

#### **Review and modify each day.**

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#### **Make a list of every element that you need to master in your practice.**

Graph the list and keep careful track of each element each day.  
Plan to improve each element over time.

#### **Make a list of your strengths and weaknesses.**

Work to make your weaknesses your strengths (“the ladder”).

#### **Learn what to do - Plan when to do it - Know how to do it.**

#### **Schedule your practice over three sessions. (45 - 60 minutes)**

Morning - warm up and routine.  
Afternoon - learn new music and materials.  
Evening - review and develop continuity.  
Protect your practice time from distractions.

#### **Graph all of your assignments.**

Track the learning and development of each assignment.  
Have everything fully prepared well in advance.  
Treat every lesson like the performance that it is.