



# The Musician's Audition Preparation Guide

***Thoughtful preparation. Personalized guidance. Confident performances.***

*This guide is designed to help student musicians prepare with confidence, structure their practice sessions effectively, and approach auditions with professionalism and a strong mindset.*

## PLAN FIRST

*Know the expectations before you begin.*

- ☐ Confirm audition date, time, and location
- ☐ Review required music and skills
- ☐ Learn the audition format (blind or in-person)
- ☐ Confirm sight-reading expectations
- ☐ Check accompanist information

## PRACTICE SMART

*Practice efficiently and build consistent performance habits.*

- ☐ Practice in short, focused sessions
- ☐ Spread practice across multiple days
- ☐ Set daily goals (tone, rhythm, articulation, musical expression)
- ☐ Start slowly and increase tempo gradually

## FIX THE CHALLENGING EXCERPTS

*Focus on challenging sections with a plan to improve faster.*

- ☐ Identify challenging passages or transitions
- ☐ Practice small sections repeatedly (10x rule)
- ☐ Combine sections only after consistency is achieved

## PREPARE TO PERFORM

*Practice performing, not just practicing.*

- ☐ Record yourself and listen back
- ☐ Practice full run-throughs without stopping
- ☐ Perform for teachers, peers, or family
- ☐ Practice starting confidently

## TRAIN YOUR MIND

*Strong performances start with a strong mindset.*

- ☐ Use slow breathing to stay calm
- ☐ Visualize success
- ☐ Practice positive self-talk

### **Remind yourself:**

- I am prepared.
- I trust my plan and preparation.
- I am calm and focused.
- I perform with confidence and professionalism.

## AUDITION DAY

*Execute your preparation with confidence.*

- ☐ Get enough sleep
- ☐ Eat well and stay hydrated
- ☐ Warm up properly
- ☐ Dress professionally
- ☐ Arrive early

### **During the audition:**

- ☐ Breathe and stay calm
- ☐ Recover confidently from mistakes
- ☐ Remain professional

### **After the audition:**

- ☐ Say thank you in person
- ☐ Send a brief thank-you email or handwritten note
- ☐ Reflect on growth
- ☐ Celebrate your effort

*Prepared musicians perform with confidence and continuously improve.*



**Dr. J.'s Music Academy and Studio**

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