

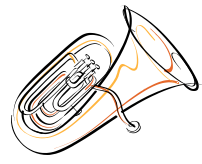


Euphonium and Tuba




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Euphonium and Tuba



Overview:

- ◆ Inspire Interest when Recruiting Tuba and Euphonium Students
- ◆ Identify Students Most Likely to Succeed
- ◆ Beginning Months of Instruction
- ◆ Embouchure & Tone Production
- ◆ Additional Considerations
- ◆ Maintain Interest and Accelerate Progress
- ◆ Resources

Euphonium and Tuba

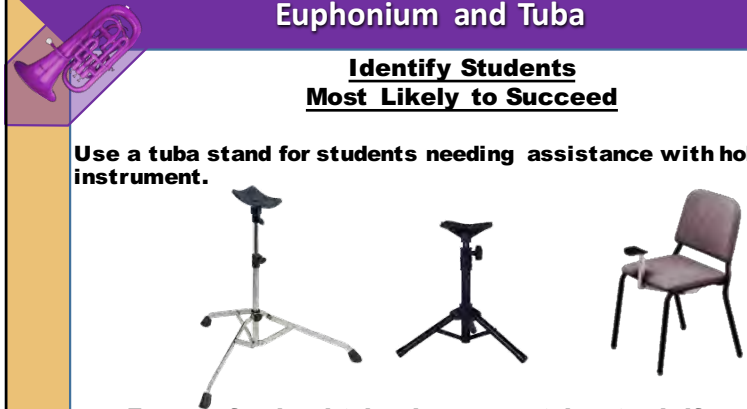
Identify Students Most Likely to Succeed

- ❖ Embouchure width
- ❖ Wide and high hard palate
- ❖ Physically able to hold the instrument (Is a tuba stand needed?)
- ❖ Sufficient philtrum height
- ❖ Allow student to try the mouthpiece
- ❖ Relaxed embouchure
- ❖ Efficient use of air
- ❖ Student height and weight is not always a predictor of success.

Euphonium and Tuba

Identify Students Most Likely to Succeed

Use a tuba stand for students needing assistance with holding the instrument.




Even professional tuba players use tuba stands if needed!

Euphonium and Tuba

Identify Students Most Likely to Succeed

Check to see if the student has enough space between the bottom edge of the nose and the vermilion border of the top lip to properly place the Tuba or Euphonium mouthpiece.




Philtrum Height

Euphonium and Tuba

Beginning Months of Instruction: Posture

- ❖ Feet flat on the floor
- ❖ Shoulders down and relaxed
- ❖ Spinal Stretch
- ❖ Pads of finger tips on valve caps
- ❖ Right Thumb between 1st & 2nd valves


NOTE: I personally do not prefer the left hand placement in this photo.



Euphonium and Tuba

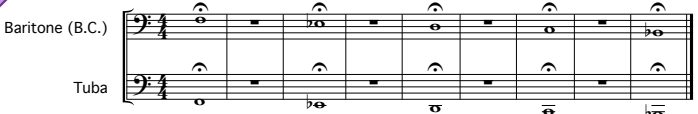
Beginning Months of Instruction: Hand Position

- ❖ Left hand position will vary depending on the design of the tuba.
- ❖ Does the bell point to the player's left? →
- ❖ Does the bell point to the player's right? →
- ❖ Right hand finger pads on the valve caps.



Euphonium and Tuba

Beginning Months of Instruction: First Notes

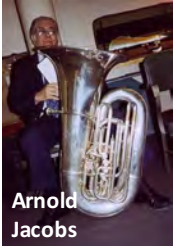


- Keep embouchure very relaxed.
- Use a full column of air, keep air speed consistent.
- No tongue at first.
- Keep an open space between the front teeth.
- Avoid pressing the lips into the mouthpiece.
- We will discuss pivot.


Euphonium and Tuba

Beginning Months of Instruction

- ❖ When not playing, lower the tuba to the floor between the player's legs. Keep the bell upward.
- ❖ The euphonium should be held in the lap with bell upward when student is not playing.



Arnold Jacobs



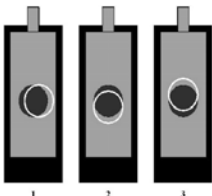
Jeff Anderson

Euphonium and Tuba

Beginning Months of Instruction

Troubleshooting

- ❖ Things are not always as they appear. Some tone quality issues might not be the fault of the player.
- ❖ Young players may accidentally loosen the valve stem that could result in the misalignment of the valve guide.
- ❖ If air will not flow freely through the instrument, check the alignment of the valves, AND check to see if a valve guide has shifted position.
- ❖ Missing or excessively worn felts/pads can cause valve alignment issues.





Euphonium and Tuba

Embouchure & Tone Production

Mouthpiece Placement

Generally, 2/3 top lip, 1/3 bottom lip.


Buzz should be the result of the air flow and should not be forced.

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Embouchure & Tone Production

- ❖ **Tone Quality**
 - Avoid pushing lips into the mouthpiece.
- ❖ Use change purse concept for corners of the embouchure.
- ❖ **Pitch accuracy**
 - Ear training
 - Singing. Important for all, but especially for brass students.
 - Mouthpiece buzz exercises



Euphonium and Tuba


Embouchure & Tone Production

- ❖ Ease and Flexibility throughout the full range
 - Lip slurs, scales
- ❖ Response and Articulation
 - Develop ALL dynamic levels
 - Insist on expressive performance practices.
- ❖ Endurance
 - Long tones
 - Extended "facetime"
 - Students should play more during class and the director should talk less.

Euphonium and Tuba

Embouchure & Tone Production

- ❖ Drop Jaw
- ❖ Keep the tip of the tongue low and forward.
- ❖ Some professional tuba players claim that their teeth are so far apart, and the tip of the tongue is so low, that they actually tongue on the backside of the lips.




Euphonium and Tuba

Embouchure & Tone Production


Mouthpiece should fit comfortably. NO MOUTHPIECE IS PERFECT. For Tuba, a mouthpiece with the same or similar dimensions as a Bach 24 AW or Bach 18 will work fine for beginners.

Move to something like a Perantucci PT-50 or PT-88 to help clarity and articulation in all ranges.

NOTE:
"Perantucci PT" is now referred to as just "Robert Tued RT".
(Long story, lots of drama)



Bach 18



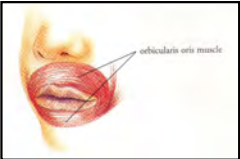
Perantucci PT-50 or PT-88

Euphonium and Tuba

Embouchure & Tone Production

For Euphonium, a mouthpiece with the same or similar dimensions as a Bach 6 1/2 AL will work fine for beginners.

Eventually, move to something like a Bach 5G.



Euphonium and Tuba

Additional Considerations


- ❖ During rehearsal, when students are not playing, encourage the habit of twisting the valve casing caps each day. This helps avoid frozen valve casing caps.
- ❖ Determine the appropriate placement within the ensemble.

Does the performance stage have a proscenium?

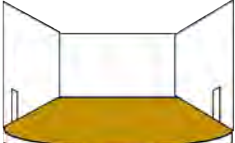
Euphonium and Tuba

Additional Considerations

- ❖ Tuba and Euphonium sound can be totally lost if placed in the back of the ensemble on a stage with a proscenium.
- ❖ Place entire band in front of the proscenium if possible.



Performance Stage
WITH
a Proscenium



Performance Stage
WITHOUT
a Proscenium

Euphonium and Tuba

Maintain Interest and Accelerate Progress

In addition to the full band experience, create opportunities for students to participate in:

Tuba & Euphonium ensembles

- Start groups at your school
- Attend a TUBACHRISTMAS event if one is in your area.

Euphonium and Tuba

Maintain Interest and Accelerate Progress

In addition to the full band experience, create opportunities for students to participate in:

Low Brass Ensembles

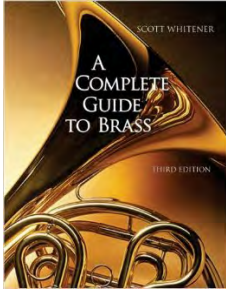
- Involve Trombones & Horns
- Perform at community events

Euphonium and Tuba

Resources

**A Complete Guide
to Brass**

by Scott Whitener

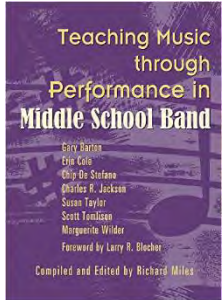


Euphonium and Tuba

Resources

**Teaching Music
Through Performance
in Middle School Band**

By
Gary Barton
Erin Cole
Chip De Stefano
Charles R. Jackson
Susan Taylor
Scott Tomlison
Marguerite Wilder



Euphonium and Tuba


Resources

**The Band Director's
Book of Secrets**

By Charles R. Jackson


Available through:

Amazon Kindle	Ciando
iBooks	Gardners
Barnes & Noble	Baker & Taylor
Kobo	Vearsa
eSentral	Copia
Scribd	



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