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An Annotated Guide to Select Trombone Method Books

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**Annotated Bibliography of Method Books**

**Schlossberg Daily Drills and Technical Studies for Trombone**

The title of this method book gives the student an overview of what to expect. The content of this method book is filled with tone production, articulation, flexibility, and technique exercises. This exercise booklet can be used for high school, undergraduate and graduate level trombone students. This book is excellent for students in need of different long tone and lip slur exercises.

**Bordogni Melodious Etudes (Book 1, 2 & 3)**

This set of etudes can be used for high school, undergraduate and graduate level trombone students. The content within this three-volume set includes 90 etudes ranging from simple to very difficult. The Bordogni etudes are a great help for students to help them exercise and improve tone production, flexibility, and technique. Legato tonguing is a difficult task to perform on the trombone. This book set can be useful to the trombonist who is trying to master the art of legato tonguing while playing melodies in a singing manner.

**Blume 36 Studies for the Trombone**

This exercise booklet is another tool that can be used for high school, undergraduate and graduate level trombonists. The book is broken up into three distinct sections, which provide exercises for beginners, advanced and experienced trombonists. A great resource for students looking to exercise their technique, flexibility, and articulation, the Blume Method booklet contains articulation studies that will test the technique of the trombonist.

**Kopprasch Sixty Selected Studies for Trombone**

This booklet is one of the trombone standard method books that have been used for many years. Each etude gives the trombonist something different to work on, whether it is technique, flexibility or articulation. There are not too many exercises that deal with tone production in this booklet, but it is an excellent resource for articulation exercises. It also contains some exercises in tenor clef and can be used for all high school and undergraduate level trombonists.

 **Voxman Selected Studies**

This method book contains intermediate to advance etudes, scales, and arpeggios in all major and minor keys. It also includes etudes, which challenge the technique and flexibility of the trombonist. This method book presents exercises in various time signatures as well. I typically would issue articulation etudes within this exercise booklet. While this book would be beneficial for a freshman to work on etudes in different keys, this exercise book can be used for an experienced sophomore up to graduate level.

**Ralph Recital Pieces for Unaccompanied Trombone**

This booklet provides a select number of legato etudes that help to showcase the instrumentalist’s emotional side. There are also some pieces by named composers that have been transcribed for the trombone. This booklet would serve well for an upperclassman in preparation for a recital. This book contains exercises, which test the instrumentalist’s flexibility and technique. There are many intervallic challenges with this method book.

**Blazhevich Clef Studies**

This booklet is used by all undergraduate and graduate level students. Blazhevich presents the exercises in different keys and time signatures, while the clef alternates between bass, tenor, and alto. Blazhevich breaks down each clef by slide position so that it is easy to comprehend. He also presents exercises that encourage the instrumentalist to work on tone production, technique, flexibility, and articulation.

**Arban’s Famous Method for Trombone**

The Arban is one of the oldest method books for the trombone. It was initially written for the trumpet. The contents of this book cover a vast amount of technical issues that come with the trombone. The source discusses the correct use of articulation and how to apply it to technical and lyrical passages. It also explains the process of double and triple tonguing. There are exercises, which focus on the tone, flexibility, and articulation. All grade levels from high school to professional utilize this book. There are also etudes available in the back of the book for the trombonist to work on at his/her convenience.

**New Method for the Modern Bass Trombone**

This book is for experienced bass trombonists but is also encouraged for tenor players to help them widen their range.

**Blazhevich 70 Studies for BB-Flat Tuba**

This book is for experienced bass trombonists and tubists but is encouraged for tenor trombonists to help them widen their range, as well.

**The Art of Trombone Playing: by Edward Kleinhammer**

This book has everything that a trombonist needs to know to be a proficient player. The book breaks everything down to a science. MUST HAVE!!!

**The Trombonist Handbook: by Reginald Fink**

 Similar to the book listed above, this book is another must have resource and an essential component of any trombonist’s arsenal.