

Piano Playing Docs | Methods

JJ van Zon, 2021

Practice Schema

I may annotate musical score, subdividing it into fragments.

For each fragment I might score myself 0 / 2 / 5 / 8 / 10 for different aspects: note reading / memorizing / technique / expression.

To perhaps focus on things with lower scores.

Example Schema

Fragment	Read	Memorize	Technique	Expression
1	-- 5 --	-- 5 --	--- 8 -	- 2 - - -
2	-- 5 --	- 2 - - -	--- 8 -	
3	- 2 - - -	- 2 - - -	-- 5 --	-- 5 --
4	-- 5 --	--- 8 -	--- 8 -	--- 8 -
3'	--- 8 -	--- 8 -	-- 5 --	--- 8 -
5	0 - - - -	--- 8 -	-- 5 --	-- 5 --
1'	--- 8 -	--- - 10	-- 5 --	- 2 - - -
6	-- 5 --	-- 5 --		-- 5 --
7	-- 5 --	-- 5 --	-- 5 --	-- 5 --
8	--- 8 -	-- 5 --	--- 8 -	-- 5 --
9	-- 5 --	- 2 - - -	-- 5 --	- 2 - - -

Details

- Subdividing in **fragments** may be the most useful step.
- Thinking in these 4 separate **aspects** might help.
- Identifying things with **lower scores**, may help **focus** efforts.
- **Writing down** the scores may be less significant.
 - Once *memorization* scores are up, scores for *note reading* might matter less.
 - Once memorized, I might do the rest of the scoring in my head. Typing it in, may seem a bit laborious then.
 - A trick might be to score **everything** with an **8**. Then selectively lower that score to **5** for the fragments that desire some attention.
- Acceptance:
 - A score of 8 might be enough to move on.
 - When scores will not go up anymore, perhaps accept this as the end result.
 - Preventing perfectionism / frustration.
 - Depends how high you set the bar.
- Reading:
 - Might include annotating with mnemonics and cheats.
 - May include my making simplified musical score or chord progressions.
- Memorizing:
 - Analyzing phrase and repetition structure may help.
 - Memorizing might at one point include memorizing the chords.
- Technique:
 - Might include fingering.
 - Annotating the musical score with arrows/symbols how to move.
 - Figuring out tricks for the harder fragments.
- Expression:
 - It may be a bit difficult to judge the expression without hearing back a recording.