



PRACTICE SUCCESS

MAKE A PLAN

Look ahead and schedule your practice sessions.

Chances are that, if you put it on your calendar, you will do it.

Make that appointment **for yourself** at the start of each week.

PREPARATION

Do you have an inspiring practice space? You will be spending time there, so make it beautiful.

Is everything ready? Lesson notes, pencil, rubber, metronome?

Why is your phone on? Distractions won't help you.

Have you tuned? Who wants to play or hear an out of tune harp?!

BE A TORTOISE

Start by warming up slowly with exercises.

Prepare every new piece slowly: always hands separately, in small sections.

If you stop and start when playing, it's too fast, too soon, and it **will be** a struggle.

Don't aim to "get to the end". Aim to learn from your journey.

Tortoises are patient, quiet and determined.

Being a tortoise will guarantee success.

You want proof? Ask the hare!

ON THE PAGE

All the information you need for success is right there in front of you ... on the page!

Read the correct clefs, key-signatures, notes, rhythm, time-values, fingerings, dynamics.

Count how many times a teacher corrects you for what is on the page - oops!

Enjoy what is on the page. This is not a chore, it is what you have chosen.

KEEP GOING

At some point, things won't go well. What you mastered yesterday, doesn't work today.

Success is not automatic. Accept that there will be challenges. Just keep going.

Success comes in different forms, not always prizes.

There are no shortcuts, but aim to:



Show up: for your practice, lessons and commitments.



Be honest: are you putting in the time needed?



Be patient: slow work really does pay off.



Be determined: find a way, or change your way.



Just do it!