

Choir Virtual Learning

Women's Choir/Conducting 101

April 16, 2020



Lesson: April 16, 2020

Objective/Learning Target: Students will learn basic conducting patterns and expressive gestures for music making.

Bell Work:



Answer the following questions.

1. Have you ever wanted to conduct music?
2. Do you have any prior experience conducting?
3. Make sure you have some space to move around.
4. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuDbwwX-V1>

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The Conductor's Job

- A. Keeping the group together by establishing tempo.
- B. Cueing entrances and cutoffs for the group.
- C. Showing expressive gestures to enhance the musicality of the group.
- D. Correctly interpreting the score to ensure the composer's intentions are performed.

Conducting is at times like patting your head and rubbing your stomach. Your hands have to be independent of one another because each hand will have a different job.

Give it a try:

1. With your right hand pat your head, with your left hand rub your stomach.
2. Now switch

Chances are, this activity was easier depending on which hand is your dominant hand and what that hand was doing when patting your head. Keep trying if you're struggling.

Developing Independence of Hands

At a **slow and steady tempo**, clap 3 measures of quarter notes, saying, “1, 2, 3, 4.”

At the same tempo, clap 3 measures of eighth notes saying, “1 and, 2 and, 3 and, 4 and.”
Hint: You should be clapping two times for every quarter note you just clapped.



In your right hand, tap the quarter note rhythm. Once you've established the quarter note beat, add the 8th notes in your left hand.

Once you have the hang of it, switch the rhythms in your hands.

After you get good at, you will be able to switch rhythms between hands without stopping. Even if you don't become a famous conductor, developing these types of skills is great for your brain and coordination!

Some encouragement....

As we move forward, let us be inspired by an aspiring conductor!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k5-CiG0Xmol>



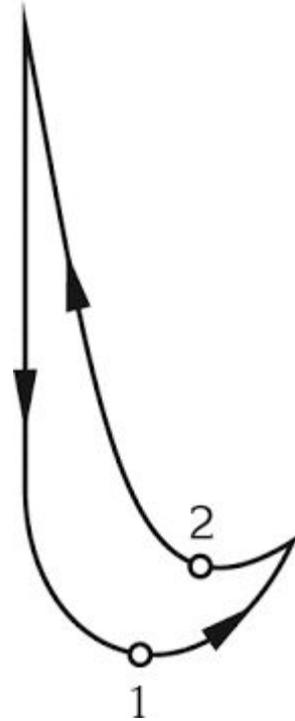


3 Conducting Patterns



2/4 Time Pattern

With your right hand, move down and then back up using the pattern to the right. Using a steady tempo, practice this down and up pattern.



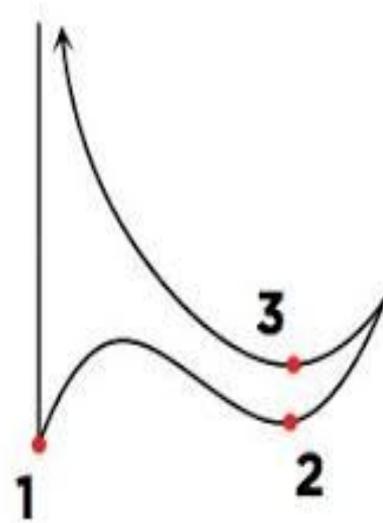
PRACTICE

Continue the 2/4 pattern in your right hand and cue the ensemble on every beat 1 with your left hand.

Let's try this with music! Make sure you conduct the entire piece so you get an idea of how physically demanding this can be. Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-7XWhyvpE>

3 / 4 Time Pattern

With your right hand, move down, out away from you, and then back up using the pattern to the right. Using a steady tempo, practice this pattern.





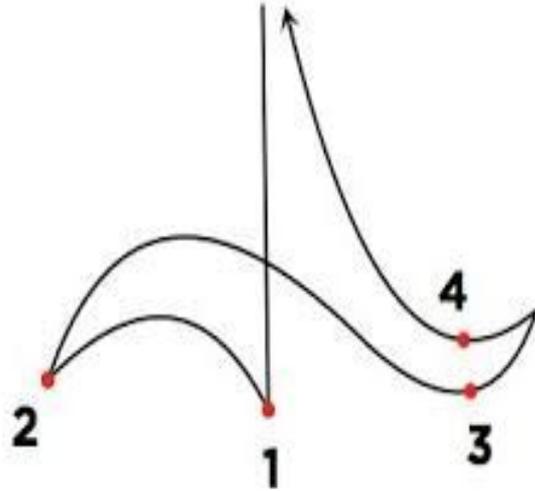
Continue the 3/4 pattern in your right hand and cut off the ensemble every 3rd beat with your left hand.

Use the same pattern and cue for this song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKI7FLg3WVA>

4/4 Time Pattern

With your right hand, move down, to your left, back out to your right and then up using the pattern to the right. Using a steady tempo, practice this pattern.





Continue the 4/4 pattern in your right hand and cue the ensemble on beats 2 and 4 with your left hand.

Use the same pattern and cue for this song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKUJP1KE8WI>

Conducting Expressively

Things a great conductor understands:

- How their movements impact sound
- The score/music, in regards to the composer's intentions and style of music.
- Their own style and what messages their movements are trying to convey.

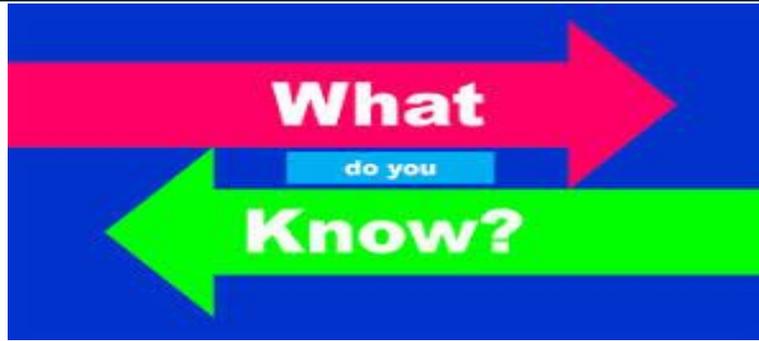
Left Hand

Generally, the right hand is for keeping time and the left hand is used to help cue, cut off the ensemble and show crescendos and decrescendos as well as to shape phrases. More advanced conductors may choose to combine gestures so that both hands look similar at some points. Expressivity is determined by the aptitude of the conductor, the ability level of the performing ensemble and the choice of literature.

Take a Look:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJ9rmYP5WnA>

**CHECK
THIS
OUT!**



What activity would like to practice that will help with the independence of your hands?

Practice some gestures that can help you to be expressive using your left hand.

What is the job of a conductor?

How does movement impact sound?

How do you conduct patterns in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4 time?

Continued Inspiration and Practice

If a child can do it....surely we can...right?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNNFtIF9CDE>

Songs for continued practice. See if you can add some expressive gestures based off the sound of the music.

- 2/4-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvmkDC4aaOI>
- 3/ 4-https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJC-_j3SnXk
- 4/4-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VX64DZO0HL0>

Great Job Conducting Today!

Keep Practicing!

Way To Go!

