

# Articulation Slur Warm-up

It is crucial for the air to be the driver of both our sound and our articulation.  
It is therefore a useful exercise to concentrate on both when warming up.

The 16th notes in the first bar of each line are to encourage you to focus on the middle register as you prepare, and to keep the tongue and air relaxed throughout.

Play this exercise at 80-126bpm.

The image displays ten staves of musical notation, each representing a different key signature. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The first bar of each staff contains a sequence of 16 eighth notes, which are described in the text as being in the middle register. The second bar of each staff begins with a slur over a series of notes, including a half note followed by quarter notes, and continues with a descending eighth-note scale. A breath mark (a small 'v' symbol) is placed above the first note of the slur in each staff. The key signatures for the ten staves, from top to bottom, are: G major (one sharp), B-flat major (two flats), D major (two sharps), B-flat major (two flats), C major (no sharps or flats), D major (two sharps), B-flat major (two flats), G major (one sharp), B-flat major (two flats), and D major (two sharps).

Seven staves of musical notation for exercises. Each staff begins with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, followed by a melodic line with a slur and an accent (>) over the first note. The staves are in various keys: B-flat major, D major, C major, E-flat major, G major, B-flat major, and D major.

These final exercises incorporate some pedal tones. Play the pedal F, Eb and Db with same fingering as for the octave above. The pedal is achieved by slightly pushing forward the bottom lip to open the aperture, and lowering the tongue to give a greater resonating cavity in the mouth. Aim for as full a sound as possible.

Three staves of musical notation for exercises with pedal tones. Each staff begins with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, followed by a melodic line with a slur and an accent (>) over the first note. The staves are in various keys: B-flat major, B-flat major, and B-flat major. The first staff has a '1' under the first note of the melodic line. The second staff has '23' under the first note. The third staff has '123' under the first note.