Day One: Keep a Steady Beat

Tip for today:

When sight reading, you need to keep a steady beat even if you make a mistake! It is like playing in an orchestra. The oboe player can't stand up and say, "sorry everyone, I made a mistake, can we go back to bar 47?" You just have to keep going and play the next note correctly.

Preparing:

Here's the sight reading example for today. Look at it, but don't start yet.



This piece has four crotchet beats in each bar. When I am counting it, I count one number for a crotchet and two numbers for every minim. The beats would sound like this:



Let's Try:

Try clapping this example. Now play it, but keep the counts going. If you play a wrong note, don't go back and fix it – just keep the steady beat!

Evaluate:

Did you keep a steady beat? Now you can think about the notes you played – were there any mistakes?



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