

Visual Fundamentals Teaching Progression



Your Number One Priority

Never skip steps! You must be confident that all of the adults teaching your group are using excellent teaching pedagogy. By planning out teaching progressions you can ensure that students will learn valuable information in the correct order. We have provided an example of our visual teaching progression as an example. You must teach steps higher on the list first and reach a certain level of proficiency before moving on to lower items. These teaching progressions are essential. You would never teach a student to do Calculus before he or she learned Algebra and Geometry. Stay focused and consistent with this process.

Key Concepts to Remember

- Don't skip steps.
- Don't be in a hurry to teach a piece of music or teach the drill before the students are prepared fundamentally.
- Alternate between detailed instruction and repetition.
- Alternate between review and new information.
- Take the time to write out a teaching progression that works for YOUR band program.
- Use our template to design your music fundamentals teaching progression.
- Combine your music and visual fundamentals into hybrid exercises when the students are prepared.
- Make fundamentals FUN!

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Teaching Progression

Instructions

These are the main concepts that are important for marching band students to learn with regards to marching & movement. I suggest that you don't skip steps or teach concepts out of order. Of course, it is also important to give great feedback!

1. Warm-up and physical fitness
2. Proper Stretching
3. More physical fitness - Get the heart rate up
4. Posture checklist
5. Basics of body movement
 - Tendù and weight shift
 - Foot Positions
 - Released vs. Engaged
 - Plié
 - Lunge
6. "Fake" horns up
7. More advanced posture with instrument carriage
8. Horns up and down
9. Mark time
10. Weight shift / "push" exercises... "Point" - "50/50" - "HABiT"
11. Forward marching
12. How to "Point Close" (Halt)
13. Backward weight shift exercises
14. Backward marching

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15. Primary direction changes (forward to backward & backward to forward)
16. Slides
17. Secondary Direction changes (angles).. start with 90 degrees
18. Secondary direction changes (angles)
19. Alignment, spacing, dress, cover
20. Toe-lead marching (legato march)
21. Jazz run
22. Music rehearsal step-outs
23. Poise
24. Up for 4's Down for 4's, High mark time - Balance exercises
25. New tempos and mixed meter
26. Varied step-sizes (small and large)
27. Flip-flops (front to back to fronts)
28. Coordinate sheets, how to read a drill set
29. How to march a drill set
30. Advanced Drills
31. Advanced Dance & Body Movement

All of these concepts (and more) are covered in detail on our instructional videos available for streaming through www.dynamicmarching.com or in DVD format from your favorite [Hal Leonard](#) dealer.

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