

Name: _____

“Practice Partner”: _____

Period: (circle one): 1 2 6

Fertitta Middle School Band

8 day “Foundation Builder” checklist - Horn

Mark / or ? Here

	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8
A				

A. Assembly and Set-up

1. Carefully place the mouthpiece into the end of the lead pipe.
2. Twist mouthpiece on about one ½ turn to make sure it is securely connected.
3. Gently pull open the tuning slides so that they are approximately ½ to one full inch open. If your slides are “frozen” please bring it to Mr. Mack or Mr. Reid.
4. Make sure all valves are working properly, and if not, follow the oiling procedure as demonstrated in class.

B				

B. Posture

1. Feet flat on the floor.
2. Back away from the chair, sit on most forward part of chair.
3. Make sure back is straight at the bottom of your spine.
4. Open your shoulders and have chest “puffed” out.
5. Keep your head straight, check your chin position with your “L” hand.

C				

C. Left Hand Position

1. Position the tip of your little finger in the hook on the top of the horn.
2. Place the fleshy pads of your first, second, and third fingers on the valves.
3. Left thumb is placed on the thumb trigger.
4. Relax muscles in fingers and wrist, and keep your wrist straight.

D				

D. Right Hand Position

1. Right hand supports the weight of the horn inside the bell.
2. You must use the back of your hand only!
3. Insert hand inside bell until fingers begin to curve into the smaller section of the tubing.
4. Create a slightly curved “scoop” with the palm of your hand to “shape” the sound from the horn.
5. Keep the horn off of your right leg. . only use the leg when fatigue becomes a factor.

E				

E. Instrument Position

1. Position the horn lead pipe to the center of the body, and the bell off to the right side of your lap.
2. Allow the downward angle of the horn’s lead pipe to be determined by your embouchure and mouthpiece placement.
3. Support the weight of the horn with your hands, not your lap.
4. Position your elbows comfortably away from your body.

F				

F. Embouchure

1. Bring lips together by pronouncing the syllable “em.”
* Your upper and lower teeth should be slightly apart and approximately aligned.
2. Firm the corners of your mouth and draw your chin muscles downward to form a concavity between lower lip and chin. Check that chin is as “flat” as possible.
* Keep the corners of your mouth focused firmly inward to prevent puffy lips or cheeks.
3. Take full breath of air in through your mouth.
4. Position the mouthpiece to the center of your lips with 2/3 upper and 1/3 lower lip within the rim of the mouthpiece.
5. Blow a steady stream of air between your lips to make a long buzzing sound.

G				

G. Musical Articulation

1. Position the mouthpiece on your lips.
2. Take a full breath of air, and inhale the word “HOW” from the corners of your mouth.
* Inhaling through your nose will prevent you from taking a full breath of air.
4. Continuing the motion of the in-breath, immediately release the air though the instrument without stopping the air stream.
5. Begin the note or sound with a “doo” articulation. Keep your jaw and embouchure still.
6. Never end a note with the tongue stopping the air. Sounds should end with the taking of an inward breath. Keep embouchure firm until sound has stopped.

H				

H. Tone Quality

1. The embouchure is well formed
2. The tone starts with the syllable “doo.”
3. Tone quality and pitch resemble the model (from CD, or from instructor’s example).
4. Posture promotes full breathing potential, hands and chin are positioned properly.