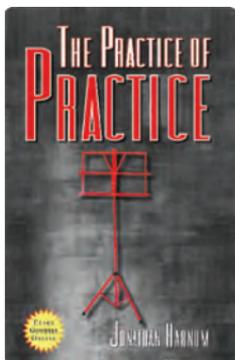


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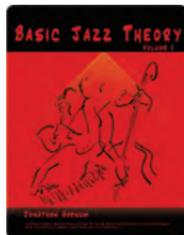
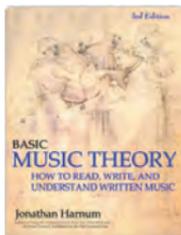
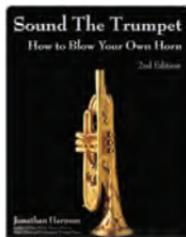
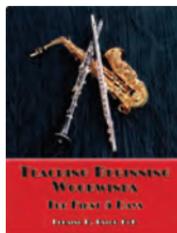
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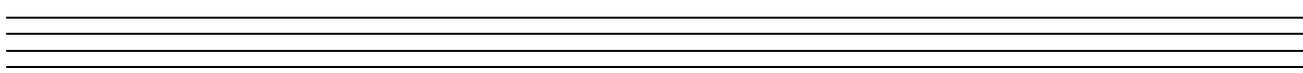
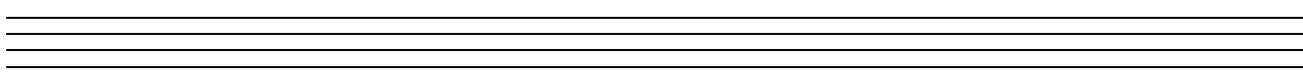
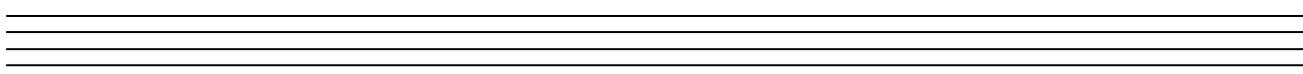
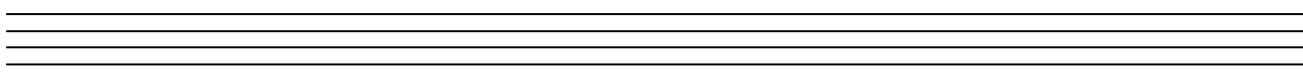
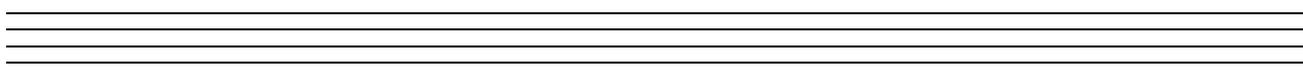
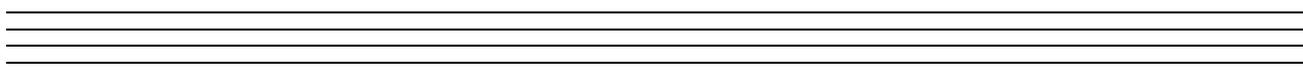
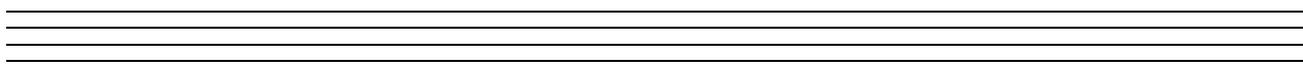
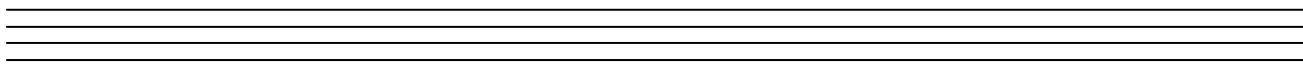
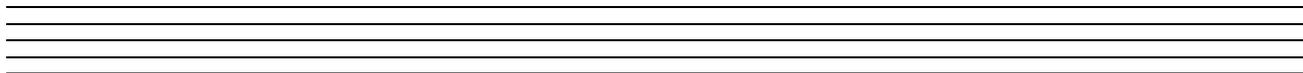
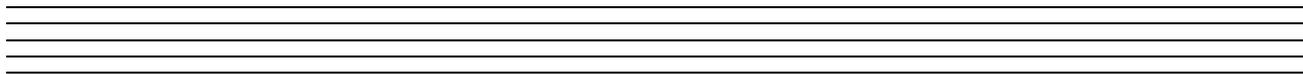




## Up Next

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Matching your pitch *exactly* with another instrument is a very important skill to learn. The trumpet's pitch can be changed slightly with the use of the slides. Some notes of the trumpet are chronically out of tune and you can use your slides to get the pitch of those notes correct. In the next chapter you'll get all the details of this important process.



# CHAPTER 11

# TRUMPET TUNING TIPS

*Human beings, vegetables, or cosmic dust, we all dance to a mysterious tune, intoned in the distance by an invisible player.*

~ Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

## In This Chapter

- What is Intonation?
- Basic Concepts
- Tuning the Whole Trumpet
- Problem Notes on Trumpet
- Using Triggers for Tuning

## Terms to Know

tuning slide: the largest slide on the trumpet. Used to tune the entire instrument.

flat: slightly below correct pitch.

sharp: slightly above correct pitch.

intonation: the accuracy of pitch.

leger lines: Small lines used below or above the staff for notes beyond the range of the staff.



concert pitch: International tuning pitch of A440. Some instruments in concert pitch are piano, flute, trombone, tuba, oboe, etc.

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## What's Tuning All About?

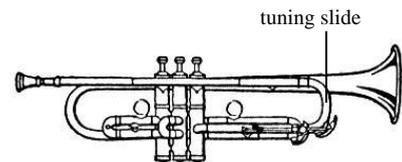
Sound is made up of invisible waves of vibration. When two or more instruments create sound, the sound waves mix together. If these waves aren't synchronized so the sound vibrates at the same wavelength, we experience this as being out of tune. The more sensitive you are to *intonation* the more uncomfortable and even unpleasant a listening experience can be if the music is out of tune. On the other hand, if things *are* in tune, a performance can be an incredible, even magical experience.



From the perspective of the performer, it is *much* easier to play and to really get into the music if everyone is in tune. When a group is perfectly in tune, the sound takes on a presence and a power that simply isn't there when the intonation is poor. The best musicians take intonation very seriously and so should you. It makes music much more beautiful and fun.

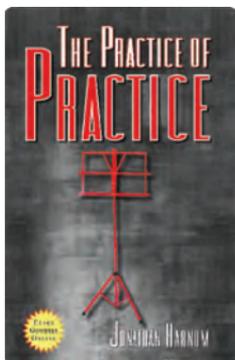
## Basic Trumpet Tuning

The pitch of any wind instrument is a factor of length. The longer a wind instrument is, the lower its sound will be. Compare the lengths of a trumpet and a tuba to see what I mean. When you tune an instrument, you're changing its pitch very slightly. This is done by either shortening or lengthening the instrument a small amount. For brass instruments like trumpet, this is done with the *tuning slide*.



Pull the tuning slide out and the pitch gets lower as the instrument gets longer. Push it in and the pitch goes higher as the instrument gets shorter. Experiment with your tuning slide: pull it almost

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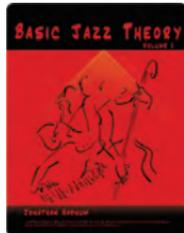
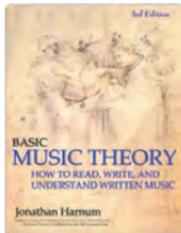
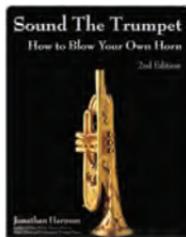
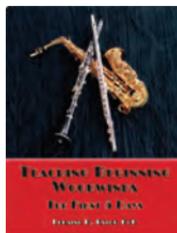
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