

**BLYNCH – BLEND AND SYNCHRONIZATION**

Objective: To assist singers in developing better blend and synchronization.

**Blend** - According to Webster's Dictionary - Blend; 1. mix: to combine or associate so that separate constituents or the line of demarcation cannot be disguised. 2. To prepare by thoroughly intermingling different varieties or grades. 3. To combine into an integrated whole. 4. To produce a harmonious effect.

**Synchronization** - Webster's Dictionary; happening, moving or existing at the same time.

In ensemble singing, blend can be described as mixing, merging and integrating individual sounds and tone qualities into one sound. No matter how good a singer is as a soloist, they will have to yield some individuality in favor of a blended sound.

In our art form synchronization is a necessary element of harmony accuracy. A lack of synchronization affects unit sound because it can mar a blended musical unit, preventing instantly matched vowels and distort a solid barbershop sound.

Synchronization goes hand in hand with attacks and releases. This not only means at the beginning and end of musical phrases, but each syllable also involves an attack and release. Internal synchronization often refers to the vertical aligning that must exist within words and within phrases if the unity of the presentation is to be maintained.

A "BLYNCH" session is a time of working with one section in a chorus to help them develop a better unit sound.

Areas that can be worked during a BLYNCH session are:

- Section blend/unity
- Resonance
- Placement of sound (forward)
- Maintaining singing space
- Tuning
- Matched vowels
- Turning diphthongs together
- Breathing in tempo
- Target vowel on the beat (not consonant)
- Smooth vocal line
- Steady tempo regardless of vocal line difficulties
- Interpretation

- Dynamic plan
- Maintaining tonality
- Riser Placement
- Section issues
  
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  - **Tenors** – singing high notes with consistent quality and control. Maintaining lightness of quality and bell like clarity.
  
  - **Leads** – consistent vocal quality, executing smooth transitions between the lower and upper registers. Singing with musical authority with clarity, brilliance, depth, and maturity.
  
  - **Baritones** – consistency of quality between upper and lower registers. Vocal flexibility.
  
  - **Basses** – singing with musical authority, consistency of vocal quality that is mellow, melodic with sufficient volume and projection on the low tones, maintaining resonance at all extremes of their register.