

The Five “P”s...

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How to Have a Successful Quartet Rehearsal EVERY TIME!

Rehearsals are difficult. There is always SO much to do and never seems to be enough time. So how can you and your Quartet be as successful as possible within the limited amount of time that you have. Knowing how to make the most of a rehearsal is a learned skill. Whether you are a time management guru or easily distracted by something shiny...This class should give you tools to utilize and ideas to play with that will help YOUR quartet be the very best it can be!

The First “P”...ALWAYS Have a PLAN!

- ♪ Know where you are going. What are your goals individually and as a quartet?
- ♪ How are you going to achieve these goals, including milestones along the way?
- ♪ Recognize success and celebrate as you achieve each step by objectively monitoring your success.

I cannot stress enough that you MUST have a discussion with your quartet about the plan. If the goals differ it is difficult to feel successful if every desire isn't being taken seriously. There have been many times that friends form a quartet only to discover they can't stand singing together! Don't let this happen to you!

MY PERSONAL PLAN.

WHAT ARE MY GOALS?

OUR QUARTET PLAN.
WHAT ARE OUR GOALS?

The Second”...Preparation is ESSENTIAL

♪ Selecting musical literature that is appropriate for both the current level of the Quartet that line up with the Quartet Goals.

- Coaching
- Competing
- Gigs

♪ What Roles does each member in the quartet fulfill? EVERYONE should have job!

- Rehearsal
- Communication
- Paperwork and Publicity
- Music
- _____
- _____

♪ Doing your homework...and trusting that the other 3 will do theirs! ☺

♪ Keeping the lines of communication open. What is your 100%?

Sometimes even the best laid plans are rocky...How do you deal with and avoid bumps in the road?
Commitment is a large part of the Second P. How hard are you willing to work to achieve the goals you have set?

OUR QUARTET JOBS

WHO DOES WHAT?

“P” Number Three...PRACTICE aka the Rehearsal itself!

- ♪ Going into rehearsal prepared and knowing the plan.
 - Communicating goals prior to rehearsal
- ♪ Having a rehearsal and achieving what you have set out to accomplish
 - Setting the schedule and sticking to it as best as possible
- ♪ Leaving rehearsal knowing what the homework is for the NEXT rehearsal
 - Follow-up Communication

EXAMPLE QUARTET REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

(BASED ON A 3 HOUR PRACTICE)

<i>6:00-6:20</i>	<i>Warm-Ups</i>
<i>6:20-6:30</i>	<i>Set Rehearsal Schedule</i>
<i>6:30-7:00</i>	<i>Run Contest Up-Tune and work intro</i>
<i>7:00-7:15</i>	<i>Break and Discuss Quartet Business</i>
<i>7:15-8:30</i>	<i>Tonal Exercises on first 3 pages of new Ballad</i>
<i>8:30-8:50</i>	<i>Run Show Songs</i>
<i>8:50-9:00</i>	<i>Assign next homework for next week</i>

The Fourth”...PEOPLE, People who need People...

Besides the obvious personnel in your quartet, EVERY quartet can benefit from the use of a coach. Some quartets choose to work with one, others many. Finding the person or persons to fulfill the role of “5th” ear is important.

♪ Choose someone you respect because they have proven they can listen analytically and will have a positive effect on the morale of the quartet.

♪ 5th Ears are...

- to help you listen for your current milestones/goals
- to help and teach you to identify problems with basics such as
 - Balance
 - Tonal Quality
 - Vowel Unity
 - Synchronization
 - Emotional Delivery
 - Tuning
- to give and teach you tools in order to better yourself as individual musicians and as a quartet when they are NOT there

WHAT DO WE WANT FROM A COACH OR COACHING SESSION?

IDEAS FOR COACHES...

“P” Number Five: Basic PROCEDURES to help with Basic PROBLEMS!

🎵 Tonal Exercise

🎵 Breath Support & Vocal Strength

🎵 Unison Singing for Synchronization

🎵 By the Book

THE SECRET SIXTH “P”!!!

PLAYTIME!

Spend some time together that doesn't involve singing, rehearsing, or performing...Sometimes you just need to CUT LOOSE! 😊 Quartets that play together...STAY together!

