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## Teacher Introduction

Welcome to *Launch Pad for Trombone: Blast Off Tone and Technique!* This book provides teachers and students with a systematic way to build tone and technique during the beginning stages of learning to play trombone. It is intended to accompany other materials that beginners use in their band programs and private studies and is most effective when used as guided instruction in private lessons.

Several steps have been taken to insure that this book is user-friendly to the beginning trombonist:

- There are no key signatures; accidentals are used throughout each activity so students can focus more on their overall sound and worry less about playing correct notes.
- There are no tempo indications; students should play each exercise at a comfortable tempo according to their ability. Teachers should feel free to recommend tempos for various exercises when necessary.
- Each section is presented in a logical sequential order, adaptable to the needs of an individual student.
- At the beginning of each section, there is a *Goal* and *Remember* heading which designates the focus of each activity.
- Contained within each section are *Tips*, or additional tools and ideas students can follow to further improve their playing.

*Launch Pad for Trombone* is, for the most part, self explanatory although teachers should keep in mind the following guidelines when working with beginners:

1. A little mouthpiece buzzing goes a long way! Monitor students so they are not buzzing the mouthpiece more than 5 or 10 minutes a day.



# 1. Breath Support

**Goal:** Blow a lot of air out through your instrument with no trombone sound.

**Remember:** This is how you should blow to support the tone when you play!

## Scuba Diving

Blow out all your air  
through your trombone  
without making a sound

Empty your lungs . . .

Do not close your throat . . .



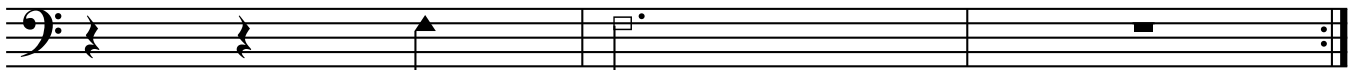
1

2

*Breathe in!*

**Blow**

**Relax**

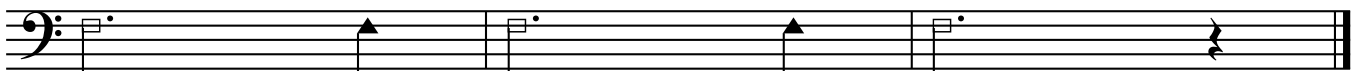
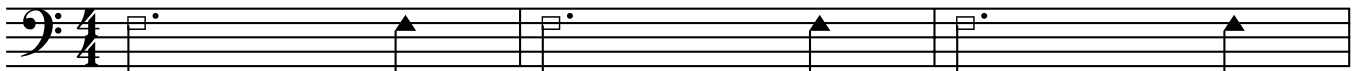


*Tip: When you breathe in, notice how it feels to fill your lungs completely.*

## Blow Out the Candles

Blow out  
through your  
trombone

Breathe In



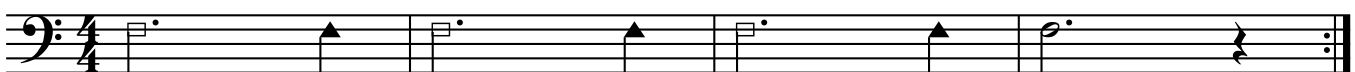
*Tip: Blow like you are blowing out the number of candles equal to your age!*

## 3, 2, 1 ... Blast Off!

Blow out  
through your  
trombone

Breathe In

**Play!**



*f*

*Tip: When you play the note, blow just as you did in the previous activity. Try playing a different note other than "F" the same way.*

