



Note Accuracy on Brass Instruments

Sheryl Hadeka
French Horn

Harmonic Series

- Brass Instruments are based on the [harmonic or overtone series](#)
- Each note is a different partial on the series
- The partials get closer together as they get higher
- Valves and slide positions do not guarantee the correct note

Accuracy Strategy #1: Singing or Hearing

- Singing means the pitches are heard internally or inside one's head
- Keep the singing "inside the head" even when playing on the Instrument
- The Instrument becomes the voice

Accuracy Strategy #2: Mouthpiece Buzzing

- Take away the valves and extra metal to focus on just the pitches
- Use good core and resonance with the buzz
- Taste and feel every note on the mouthpiece

Getting Back to the Instrument

- Still taste, feel, and hear the notes
- Continue to sing along "inside the head" or internally