

# Performance Readiness Checklist

## Do I know it?

*(Intention)*

- Can I sing/hum it, out loud or in my head?  
*(Have I listened to it enough to internalize it?)*
- Do I understand the patterns?  
*(Key relationships, scales, arpeggios, sequences, form)*
- Do I know the context?  
*(Is it a dance? a song? part of a larger piece?)*
- Do I know the composer?

## Can I play it?

*(Execution)*

- Does it feel easy?  
*(balanced posture, little tension, efficient hand position)*
- Is the tone clear?  
*(with variation of colour, volume, and vibrato when appropriate)*
- Are all the notes correct?
- Is the pulse steady?  
*(with appropriate variation on fermata, rit, etc.)*
- Is the rhythm accurate?  
*(are subdivisions steady & precise?)*
- Am I using all the expressive elements I need to convey the mood of the piece?
  - Articulation  
*(legato, staccato, slur, etc.)*
  - One phrase in one breath  
*(motion in melodic line, phrase shaping)*
  - Phrase endings are graceful  
*(tapered endings, sustained ending notes without going flat)*
  - Dynamics
  - Appropriate style  
*(tempo, ornaments, mood, etc.)*
  - Am I doing all these things consistently?
- Can I play with accompaniment?
- Can I keep going if I make an error?
- Do I sound confident?  
*(no hesitations)*
- Do I remember to bow correctly at the end?

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