



Kim Newcomb



NewVoice

STUDIO

Vocal Development:
Intentional Skill Building



Fundamental Building Blocks

- Alignment
- Breathing
- Basic understanding of the vocal mechanism
- Vocal Development in context



Alignment

- **Ankles** - feet about hip/shoulder width apart
- **Hips** - neutral position
- **Shoulders** - relaxed
- **Ears** - use the wall, a corner, or your hands to assist



Breathing

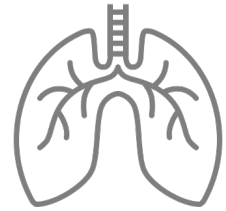
Common concerns:

- Running out of air
- Breathy tone
- Weak sound, needs more energy
- The need for more “support”

All of these concerns are valid and understandable, but too often we assume more air will solve the problem...

It's not always about the amount of air you take in, it's about how efficiently you use the air.

- **Breathing low** - Tracheal pull
- **Quiet Breaths** - a sign of a relaxed vocal mechanism
- **“Support”** - Something that happens when you are managing your air efficiently.
 - ✓ Engaging your abdominal muscles (this will happen naturally).
 - ✓ Vocal fold closure.



Breathing

How the voice works

VIDEO: How Do Vocal Cords Work When You Sing?
<https://youtu.be/P2pLJfWUjc8?t=13>

VIDEO: Vocal Tract Model Synthesis
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wR41CRbljV4>



Vocal Mechanism



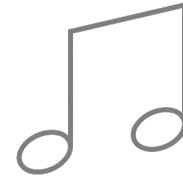
Vocal Development Exercises

- “Warm Ups” - The most important part of rehearsal! - because this is where we develop your skills.
- My favorite series of exercises:
 - Lip Trill Slide - 1---5----1
 - Lip Trill to an [i] - 5-----54321
 - [ng] - 12171 (extended - 1217121712171)
 - [ng] to an [a] - same as above
 - Tho-eh-ah - 5432171234321
 - Chords - See next slide :)

Chords - [di], [da], etc.

| | | | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|---|---|
| TENOR | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| LEAD | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 1 |
| BARI | 5 | b7 | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| BASS | 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |

Tags! - See next slide :)



**Vocal
Development**

14. Cry (I'm Sorry I Made You Cry)

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Cry (I'm Sorry I Made You Cry)'. It consists of two staves: a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 3/4. The vocal line has lyrics: 'Cry, I made you cry'. The piano accompaniment features a bass line with a prominent eighth-note pattern in the first two measures, followed by a more melodic line in the last two measures. The score is written in a clean, black-and-white style.

Brian Beck, 1983
Sung by the Side Street Ramblers

Vocal Development In Context

Think about applying what we worked on in vocal development - consistent sound, target vowels, etc.



Q & A

- General Questions?
 - PVI volunteers?
- 



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