

"Keeping the Buzz"

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This exercise is designed to work both the aural and physical side of trombone playing. Be sure that when you move your slide to play a held or repeated note you are producing exactly the same note at exactly the same pitch level and timbre. Your goal is a completely smooth gliss from as low as you can play to as high as you can play (or vice versa). Take small chunks of it to start with:

6 2 T5 T1 6 1

Gliss slowly. Try not to stop the buzz when repositioning the slide. The effect you want is as close to a continuous glissando from the beginning of the exercise to the end as you can achieve. This exercise will also teach you how to access the extreme range in the context of your middle register - in fact, you may find that by the time you can do the full exercise, you have a six-octave middle register.

Eventually add chunks until you can do this:

Tb7 T1 6 1 Tb7 T1 6 2 T5 T1 6 1 6 2 6 3

6 1 6 2 6 3 6 1 1 6 3 6 2 6 1 6

3 6 2 6 1 6 T1 T5 2 6 T1 Tb7 1 6 T1 Tb7