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The science and philosophy of music is a deep, lifelong study that provides powerful tools, tools we need if we want to become truly creative with music.

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Practicing overtones is THE way to give our tone it's full brilliance, and it's the only path to the illusive altissimo register.

9

To know and understand chords and their progressions is a vital part of improvisation. The first step on the way to harmonics.

8

To know every scale and interval, and to be able to execute them on the saxophone, is a fundamental building block for free improvisation.

7

To accurately hear/feel key changes, and to be able to respond to them, and go with them is a major achievement and the first step to successful improvisation.

6

We have to know the basic major and minor scales. A good understanding of these scales is the only key to the more advanced musical skills.

5

We have to be able to hear what is in tune and what is out of tune and why, and we must tune our inner musical world to the outside world.

4

Fluid hands and a sturdy practice ritual, which structurally continues to increase their ability, is a vital and fundamental part of being a saxophone player.

3

With an effective and comfortable embouchure we pave the way to the more advanced parts of technique, but a faulty one will hinder us at every step.

2

The engine of the saxophone. If well tuned and oiled, a solid breath support will effortlessly carry our creative ideas for the rest of our lives

1

All the above rests directly on this most vital part of our technique, and it's a lot of weight to carry. Our body must be strong in the places that matter if we want to have any chance at building the above skills successfully.

