

Handbells 101: Conducting for Beginners

with Ellie Hodder, Clinician/Teacher

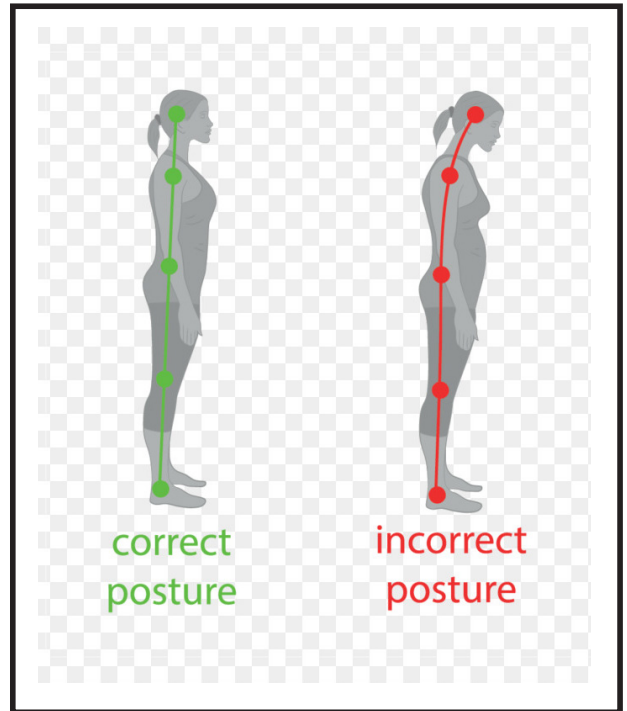
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Purposes of Conducting

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Stance/Posture

Practice cues for me:



Where's the Beat?

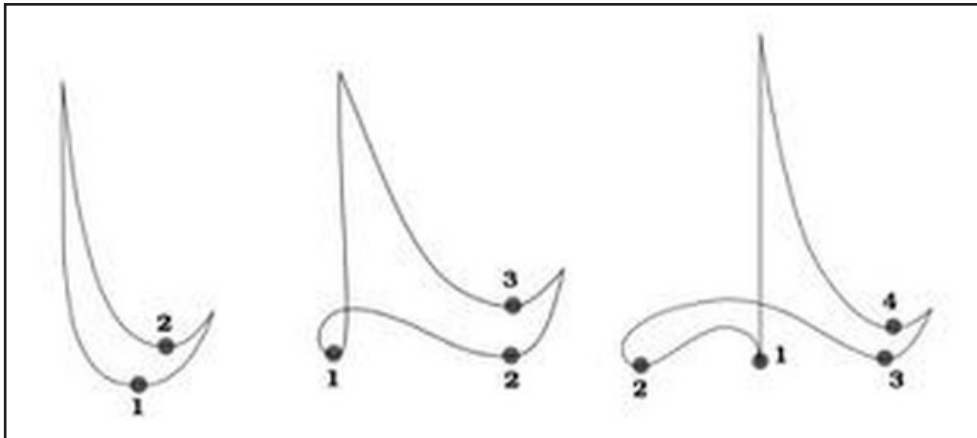
Ictus-denotes specific point in a beat pattern that articulates the pulse of the music to the ensemble.

Baseline

2-beats

3-beats

4-beats



Batons

Options

Will I use one?

Preparatory Best(s)

How much information is needed? What specific information must be imparted?

The all important BREATH

Endings/Cutoff

Closed hand

In the spirit of the music

Indicating *the end is near!*

Other Gestures

Tempo Changes

What might change

How can I indicate these? When should I indicate these?

Ritard

Accelerando

Fermata

Motion

Restarting after a fermata

Dynamics

Cues

Entrances

Other

Memorization and Eye Contact

Why Memorize

What happens if you make a mistake?

How to memorize as the director

How to help musicians memorize

Tools to help you memorize

Ideally, you will memorize the score cold. It is freeing! In the early stage of memorization, you may only know it cold once you begin! Hmmm . . . This is a great first step as it allows you to risk stepping away from the score and attempting to direct from memory. Take the risk often! The rewards are worth it!

*--Ellie Hodder
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