

Lip Slurs/Flexibility: Exercises from Dan Cherry, Western Carolina University
Each area requires breath control, good ears and an efficient embouchure.

1. Warm-up

Warm-up with these exercises on the mouthpiece first, continuing down chromatically through the slide positions or valve combinations. Strive for a smooth, relaxed air flow and a quickly smeared connection between each pitch.

2. Embouchure Strengthening

Blow through the end of each phrase with relentless air, holding the corners steady at all times. Continue down chromatically for each example; increase speed for a greater challenge.

3. High Range

Blow through the top note and beyond, keeping the throat open. Strive for the best possible tone in the upper register. Ascend chromatically in each example.

4. Accuracy

Work to make the pitches feel as close together as possible. The second example includes harmonic glissandos (rips). Try to “taste” each articulated note.