

Unlocking the Mysteries of Trombone Slide Technique

David Vining
Northern Arizona University
david.vining@nau.edu

www.trombonetools.com



- 1. Use your ears and eyes – not your fingers. DO NOT touch the bell.**
- 2. Use your entire arm to trace a straight line with your right hand fingers. DO NOT just “throw and catch” or “use your wrist”.**
- 3. The speed of the notes determines the slide action: “notch” for slow notes and “pick it up as you go by” for fast notes.**
- 4. Keep the air moving in spite of the slide motion. Blow independently of your arm.**
- 5. Move fast and precisely when the note changes - don’t be lazy.**
- 6. Protect the condition of the slide - use Yamaha Slide Lubricant, Slide-O-Mix, Trombotine or Superslick. Have an instrument to use just for marching band.**
- 7. ADVANCED: Use natural slurs - move the slide a little slower when moving over a partial.**

