

Performance Tips

Getting Prepped

Record your practices. Listen back together and discuss.

How will you arrange yourselves on stage? Will you sit or stand?

Have a run-through close to the performance, perhaps a dress rehearsal for friends.

Plan your set. Start with something comfortable. End with high energy.

Performing

Your attitude affects your performance. The audience wants to believe that you're happy and that you're enjoying playing for them.

Act like a professional and the audience will believe that you are!

You can get energy from the audience, but you need to start it.

Smile at the audience & each other; make eye contact.

Choose an audience member or two to focus on; expand from there.

Keep the set moving; either play or talk at all times. Don't over-tune.

If you make a mistake, don't react. If another band member makes a mistake, step forward and act like your part is more important than theirs, so that you draw attention away from them.

Be prepared for an encore.

Video or audio record your performances at least now and then.

Talking to the Audience

As a musician, you are an entertainer. Being an entertainer involves more than just playing the music.

The audience wants to get to know you. Don't be afraid to talk to them.

Introduce the band members. Refer to each other by name.

You may need to choose a spokesperson, though audiences like to hear a little from each person.

It's ok to talk among yourselves ONLY if you include the audience.

Ask direct questions; try to involve the audience.

Speak directly into the microphone.

Give your website/facebook.

Tell the audience when there's one more tune left.

Thank the audience, the concert sponsor, the sound person, etc.