

GRUNT WORK



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**According to a Google search:
Grunt work is an expression used to describe
thankless and menial work. Grunt work can also
refer to jobs that either lack glamour and
prestige or are boring and repetitive.**

Sounds fun, right?



In singing, it's the work we do to make sure that when we step foot on stage, everything we do is second nature to us. We know the plan.

It helps to reduce stress and performance anxiety.



Before you get into the nitty gritty work, sing through the song and record it for posterity.

Once you have the recording, discuss and section out the song into smaller chunks



Grunt Work Steps

SING THE FIRST SECTION, IN UNISON, ON MELODY

- Lead sings the melody for the trio
- Trio joins the Lead on the melody.
- Sing through several times in unison for space, placement, resonance, vowel matching, diphthongs, sync, pacing, timing, interpretation.

ALL THE THINGS!



Grunt Work Steps

EACH PART DUETS WITH THE MELODY

- Sing in unison – then sing your own part
(The parts that are not singing will listen and coach)

Lead and Bass

Lead and Baritone

Lead and Tenor

- Then sing first section with all possible trios



Grunt Work Steps

SING YOUR OWN PART

- Sing through the first section with all 4 parts singing their own part
- Continue to the next section of the song and repeat all the steps





Summary

- Continue working all sections of the song
- Repeat all steps as necessary
- Sing the song all the way through and record for comparison



Grunt Work Steps



CHORUS USE

- Can be used in several ways
 - Modify for use in sectionals, to align the entire vocal section.
 - For duetting/trioing vocal sections, making sure everyone is on the same plan
 - To make sure the desired vocal plan is clearly communicated by the Director.

Grunt Work Steps



INDIVIDUAL USE

- This plan can be modified for individuals
 - Using an interpretation recording from rehearsal, or if the learning media matches the interp closely, sing with the recording and use a 2nd device to record yourself. Listen and coach yourself.
 - For duetting: if using learning media, sing with another "Only" vocal track. (Bass Only, Tenor Only, Bari Only, Lead Only) and use a 2nd device to record yourself. Listen and coach yourself.
 - Sing against "Your part missing" track. and use a 2nd device to record yourself. Listen and coach yourself.

Questions??



Thank You!

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