

HOW DO I PICK THE "PERFECT" PRIVATE MUSIC TEACHER????



Finding and picking the "perfect" music teacher can be a tricky process. Every student and teacher have different styles and it's worth the time and effort to do some investigating. It's important to find the best match possible. Here are a few tips:

- Ask your friends who they study with. They can tell you their teacher's style, what their teacher expects and how effective they think their lessons are.
- Get several references.
- Ask for a "trial" lesson. Explain that you're looking for the right fit. Expect to pay for the teacher's time.
- Ask a prospective teacher what their teaching method is. What literature do they use? Do they offer recitals or other performance opportunities? How often and how long are the lessons? What age level(s) do they work with?
- Ask about their fee. Find out how often they expect to get paid.
- Ask about cancellations. Most teachers who collect payment on a monthly basis will offer a make-up lesson if notified ahead of time. Remember, if they don't collect ahead of time and you cancel, they don't get paid! Try not to do this!
- Respect their schedule. This is their livelihood.
- If you feel you've "outgrown" your current teacher, it's time to have a conversation. Have an open discussion about where you were, how you've grown and what you expect to accomplish. Teachers welcome this-it shows your commitment.
- Remember-your progress depends on you! Listen to your teacher, be patient with yourself, practice and you will reap the rewards!
- Don't give up! The perfect teacher for you is out there!

Good Luck!