


Exercise 1 to Help You “Go Over the Break”

Going “over the break” from C² to D²  on the saxophone will often show if you are breathing correctly.

The bigger the sax, the better the chances that going to D² is going to crack.

Most beginning bari players have a really hard time going over the break without cracking D².

The following exercise is the first of 2 that will help with going over the break.

I have been doing it for years as part of my warm-ups before shows. Done really fast, it is also a really good work out for your fingers.

How to do this exercise:

1. Start out really slow.
2. Tongue the first note in the set, and slur the rest.
3. Repeat.
4. Once you can do it consistently without cracking the D², speed up. Continue speeding up each repetition until you can't physically move your fingers any faster.

The goal is to have each note as clean and even as the one before and after it. Only the G¹ is tongued at the start of each pattern.

