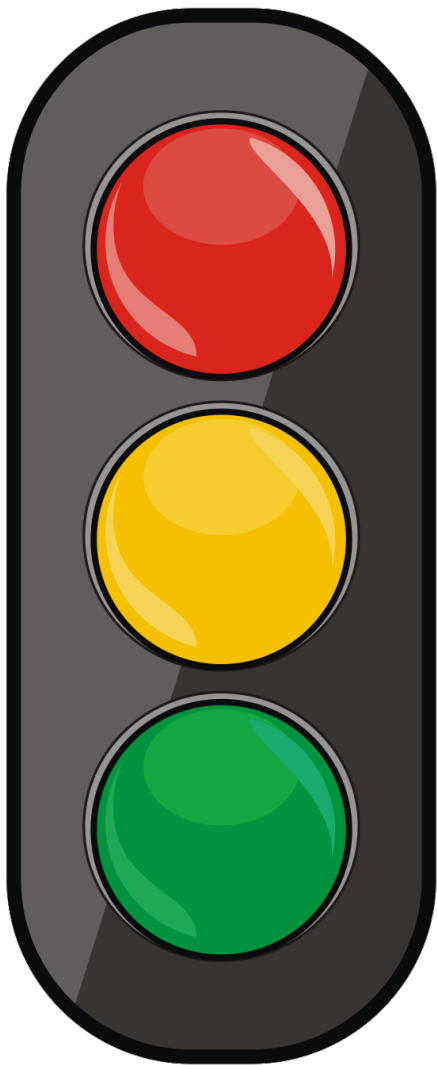


# How To Practice: Traffic Lights

Used in conjunction with our other practice strategies, the *Traffic Lights* system offers a powerful reminder of how to master challenging music and techniques rather than just approximating them. You can apply it to bite-sized chunks of a melody or longer phrases, but for today we'll presume you've identified the trickiest section and reduced it down to just a handful of notes as a starting point.



**STEP 1:** Take it super-mega-ultra-slowly! Not just a little slow... Properly slow. And perfectly steadily too...

**STEP 2:** Increase the tempo a bit, but not so much that your accuracy will suffer. The musical details still need to be obvious.

**STEP 3:** Test how fast you can play the phrase accurately, and if you know about using metronomes make a note of the BPM\*.

\*BPM = Beats Per Minute. Use the 'tap tempo' function of any free metronome app to tap in your beat and find out how fast you're going!

Your green-light tempo will increase for each day that you apply our **How To Practice** tools. After a couple of days you will be ready to skip the red-light step completely and go straight to amber (yellow) or green!

You can find the video lesson for *Traffic Lights* in the Video Directories page of my website, [MusicLessonsWithMrTaylor.com](http://MusicLessonsWithMrTaylor.com) 😊