

# Performance Assessment Techniques For Today's Music Educator

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## **Session Description**

A practical, hands-on session that examines different types of measurement tools used in performance-based assessments. Collecting data on student music achievement and using the data for determining students' grades/level will also be discussed. Participants will design and learn to develop assessment instruments for use in their own programs and studios.

## **Purpose of assessment – to improve instruction**

*“To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you are going so that you better understand where you are now so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.”*

*Stephen Covey*

*The Seven habits of highly effective  
people*

**Can you *really* assess music performances??**

**Think – TREES!!**

## ***Tonality – Rhythm – Expression – Executive Skills***

### **Types of Assessment**

#### **Formative Assessment**

*During instruction*

#### **Summative Assessment**

*End of unit or instructional  
block*

### **Scoring Instruments for Performance Assessments**

Checklists

Rubrics

Points awards

Quantitative

Qualitative

Analytic

Holistic

### **Scoring instruments**

- Checklists (yes or no categories)
- Point Systems (assigns points for completion/preparedness)
- Analytic
  - Quantitative (uses numbers to describe gradations of achievement)
  - Qualitative (uses language to describe gradations of achievement)
- Holistic (uses language to describe an overall composite of achievement)

**Good quality rubrics:**

- Help students understand what is wanted on an assessment
- Help students understand what a quality performance or product looks like
- Help students understand what they did well and what to do differently next time
- Enable students to self-assess
- Help teachers plan instruction
- Help teachers grade consistently
- Help teachers have sound justifications for grades
- Help teachers and students communicate with parents

*For more information, see the following web links.*

- NAFME: The National Association for Music Education
    - [www.nafme.org](http://www.nafme.org)
  - Music Assessment website by Ed Asmus, U. of Miami
    - <http://www.music.miami.edu/assessment>
  - Music Assessment information
    - <http://musiced.luther.edu/ed65/assessment.html>
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Checklist...

Point system...

Quantitative Analytic rubric...

Qualitative Analytic...