

*Colorado Bandmasters Association*  
*Marching Band Judge's Tip*  
*By: Clay Stansberry*

**How to Make the Best of an Hour of  
Rehearsal Time**

1. In general 1 hour of rehearsal is not a lot...if possible plan more time, if you can't, keep reading...
2. You have to PLAN YOUR TIME!
  - a. ...AND YOU HAVE TO STAY ON TIME
  - b. Do not let yourself get bogged down – set a timer, stay on task and move on when time is up even if you did not accomplish what you wanted
  - c. If you don't get something done, make a note and come back to it with a better plan next time
  - d. If you don't get what you wanted to get done then your plan was not good enough – it is NEVER the kids fault – It is YOUR fault for not planning well enough.
3. Decide what your focus will be for the rehearsal
  - a. With an hour, you will need to focus on 1 part of the show, not the whole thing
  - b. Focus on drill or music, not both (but do both when rehearsing)
4. Try to combine things
  - a. Do your basics and your music warm up together

- b. Do your stretch and movement routine together
- c. When you run a “chunk” make sure they march and play and you focus on one or the other, not both.

5. Example Schedule:

- a. If I had an hour rehearsal for marching band today, Friday, August 17, 2012 here’s what my schedule would look like (yes I type up a schedule for every day!):

***Legacy High School Bands  
Band Camp Schedule  
Friday, August 17, 2012***

- 3:30 PM Stretch and Movement
- 3:40 PM Break – Get new drill coordinate sheets (Gulp and Go)
- 3:42 PM Basics Block
- Touch and Go Focus!
- 3:57 PM Break
- 4:00 PM Learn New Drill
- The Goal today is to learn sets 1 – 6 of the drill for the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement (without music)
- 4:28 PM Announcements

Announcements: