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more free stuff is available at: www.assafkehati.com

Remember – music is easy!

How many times have you felt you **can't do something, musically speaking?**

Most of your problems **can be easily solved**. Sometimes all you need is just an open mind and patience.

Many people will run away from things that are not easy at first attempt or will ignore material that they are not used to.

For example:

Did you ever try these easy **solutions to your problems?**

“I can't play in 5/4” – how many times did you actually try to do it?

“I can't memorize the song” – how many times did you try to play the song without looking at the music?

“I can't compose” – how many times did you sit down and tried to compose?

Those examples relate to the fact that you should try out some stuff first before forming an opinion.

The next level is dealing with stuff that you are already working on but having some trouble with.

For example:

“I don’t feel the music” – did you try listening to what your band is playing while you are playing? Did you try to follow melodies that are coming to your head?

“I am getting bored with practicing scales” – how many different approaches did you try? Did you try applying those scales to songs? Did you try to diversify your practicing by playing scales over playbacks you like?

You have to try something for some time before you can say you can’t do it.

You should also try different ways of practicing the same topic.

Remember that the musicians you like have practiced some stuff before it became second nature.

Yes, for some people ear stuff is easier, for some people rhythm stuff is easier, for some people notation is easier, etc. But every musician has to practice certain things before they feel comfortable. Some stuff feels comfortable almost right away, while other stuff only feels comfortable after many attempts and after trying different approaches. Don’t give up on what is less natural for you and remember that for each individual one approach will work better than the other. It's a quest but it can be fun if you do it right and are not intimidated by it.

Based on these examples, try to come up with a list of things you feel you want to get better at and see if there are some easy solutions like the ones I mentioned. Think about something you want to start doing or something you want to get better at and as your first solution try to think how often do you do this thing, if at all? Try to think what you like about it and what you don't or what aspect is difficult for you. Think about ways that you would feel more related to the topic. In many cases the answer why you can’t read music is that you never tried...Read music for 15 minutes a day for one year and then decide if you can or can’t read music.

I gave an example about myself in another guide I wrote. It took me some time before I could establish

a daily practicing routine of reading music in order to get better at sight reading. The key for me was to get a music book that I like to read from. Keep in mind that in order to work on your sight reading skills you can read Bach or Bill Evans or Queen or whatever has notes! As long as it makes you read music, you accomplished the mission. Try to think in the same way about any musical topic you are learning and try to find the way that makes you the most enthusiastic about it.

Good luck and take your music to the [next level!](#)

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Take care,

Assaf