

RESONATION

Resonance has been described as -

- intensification and prolongation of sound, especially of musical tone, produced by sympathetic vibration
- being able to evoke emotions or the condition of being full and deep in character

With that in mind, we already know that it's worth our while to work on this vocal skill. Where do we start? With two important elements:

1) Relaxation AND 2) Breathing skills

It would be great if it were as easy to accomplish as that makes it sound. The nice thing about this particular learning journey is that it's a lot of fun – as usual, frustrating to gain consistency – but fun, nonetheless.

RELAXATION

The main goal here is to remove all obstructions from the production of the tone, such as:

- excessive jaw movement
- tension in the laryngeal area
- tension in the articulators, esp. the tongue and lips

BREATHING SKILLS

- exploring the sensations of “cold” air and “hot” air
- learning to shape every breath to create the desired sound
- maintaining a lifted countenance
- maintaining the quality of the air flow (breath management) from the beginning to the end of every phrase; remembering that the resonant breath sets up the resonant sound

One last word about resonance for now...keep in mind that what we usually refer to as resonance - backspace - is an incomplete resonance without the “front” of the resonance - the mask. The journey isn't complete until we have both in play at all times.