

BEGINNING DIRECTING SKILLS

Tori Postma

Discuss Basic Beat Patterns and when to use them

Aspects of Good Basic Directing Style:

- Good Posture
- Firm Arm/Hand position
- Clarity in Directing the Breath
- Maintain Eye Contact and Facial Animation
- Congruence of mouth posture and hand signals
- Maintain your distance
- Use of "Power Box" no higher than your eyes, no wider than where your arms hang naturally at your sides, no lower than the plane created when you bend your elbows and the forearms are parallel to the floor

Elements for Discussion

Attacks/Releases

Dynamics

Barbershop Ballad or Ad Lib style

Steady Tempo

Downbeats and Backbeats

Energy and Sharing the Joy

Avoid: Choppy directing, knee bending, floppy wrist, extraneous body movement.

Self Improvement:

Assign someone you trust on the risers to give you good feedback on clarity of your directing style. (This should not be during rehearsal.) Consider Videotaping yourself from the center riser to analyze later.