Low-note connection exercises

Casey Grev

These exercises stem from how I practice finding smooth connections between notes in the low register. I find that these exercises are most useful when done with a drone sounding the lowest pitch of the group, to help the saxophonist hear the bottom note before leaping there. In general, students that struggle to connect notes in the low register need to experiment with the following changes (assuming the saxophone is in good condition): push corners of the embouchure in more (creating a rounder embouchure shape), lower the middle of the tongue in the mouth, raise the soft palate (pop your ears!), or pushing the lower jaw slightly forward.

