Music for All

Tuba Master Class

Andy Rummel

BBb Tuba Warm-ups and Technical Exercises

Compiled by

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Introduction and Special Instructions

Well, apparently you can teach an old dog new tricks! I have been wishing for years to compile a packet of materials and exercises that I use in my daily practice routine, but until recently, had an extremely basic knowledge of music notation programs. Thanks to the tutelage and patience of one of my technologically gifted students, I have learned the basics of the program and have finally been able to get some of my ideas down on paper.

I cannot, nor will not, take credit for all of the exercises included in this packet. Many of the items contained within have been handed down to me from various teachers throughout the years. It was my desire to organize some of the tried and true exercises in one central location so my students would not have to try and decipher my failed attempts at trying to vocalize particular exercises. Hopefully you will find the exercises contained within this packet useful in your daily pursuit to become a better musician. I incorporate these exercises in my daily practice routine and I have been very pleased with the results.

That being said, it is important for you to take these exercises very seriously. All of these exercises should be performed at a very slow tempo with a medium dynamic. This is not a race, and you will find that the desired results will not be achieved if you rush through any of the exercises. Most of the exercises work best when played as slowly as possible. Set your metronome at the tempo marking provided and do your best to stick with it.

The overall goal of these exercises is to solidify your grasp of the basics of your chosen instrument. As we all know, sound is paramount and it is vital that you perform all exercises with the most amazing sound that you can. Be very critical with yourself and do not move onto the next exercise until you are satisfied with the sound that you are producing.

I hope that you enjoy these exercises as much as I do. They are very satisfying and cover almost every facet of our playing that may need attention. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me using the information below.

Good luck!

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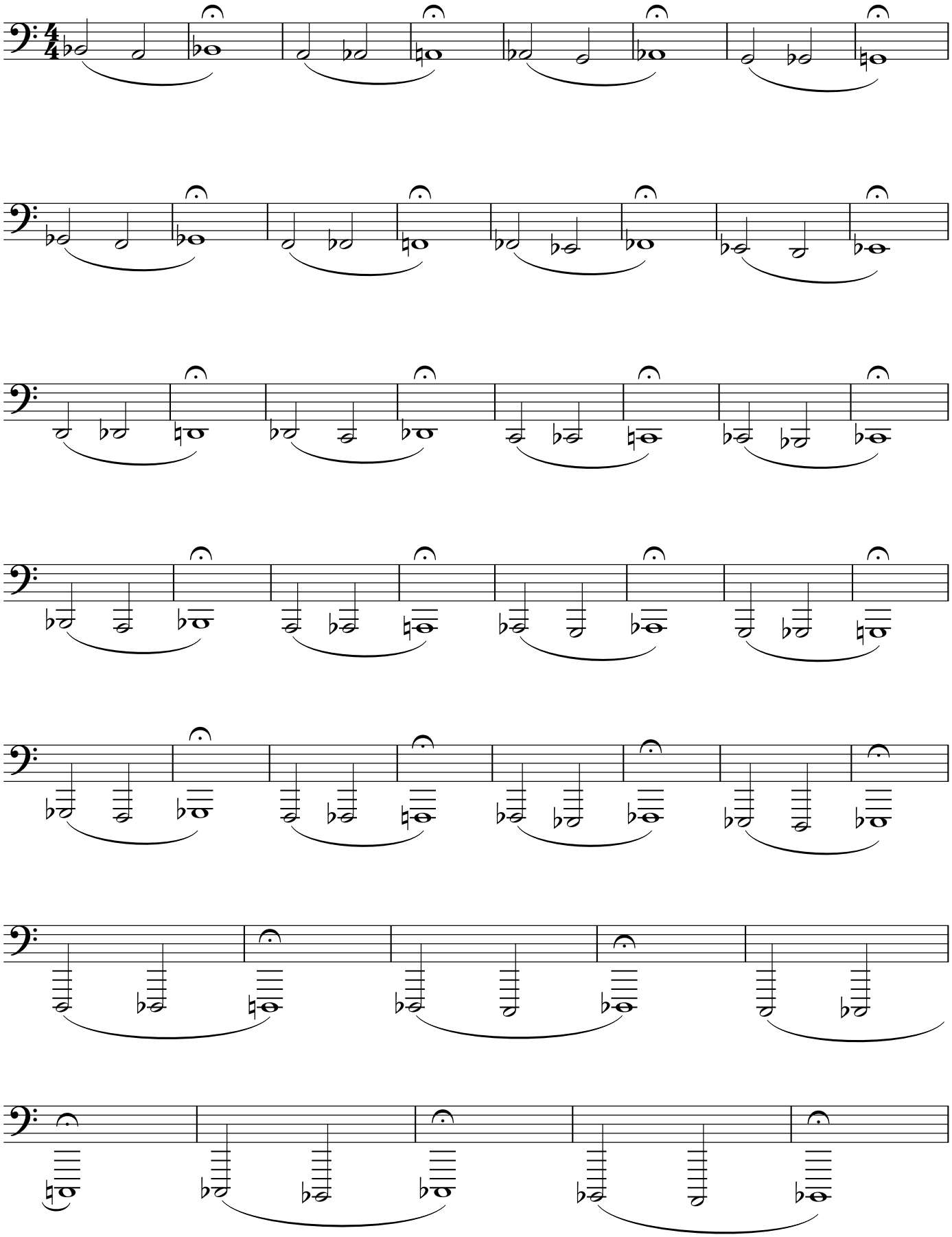
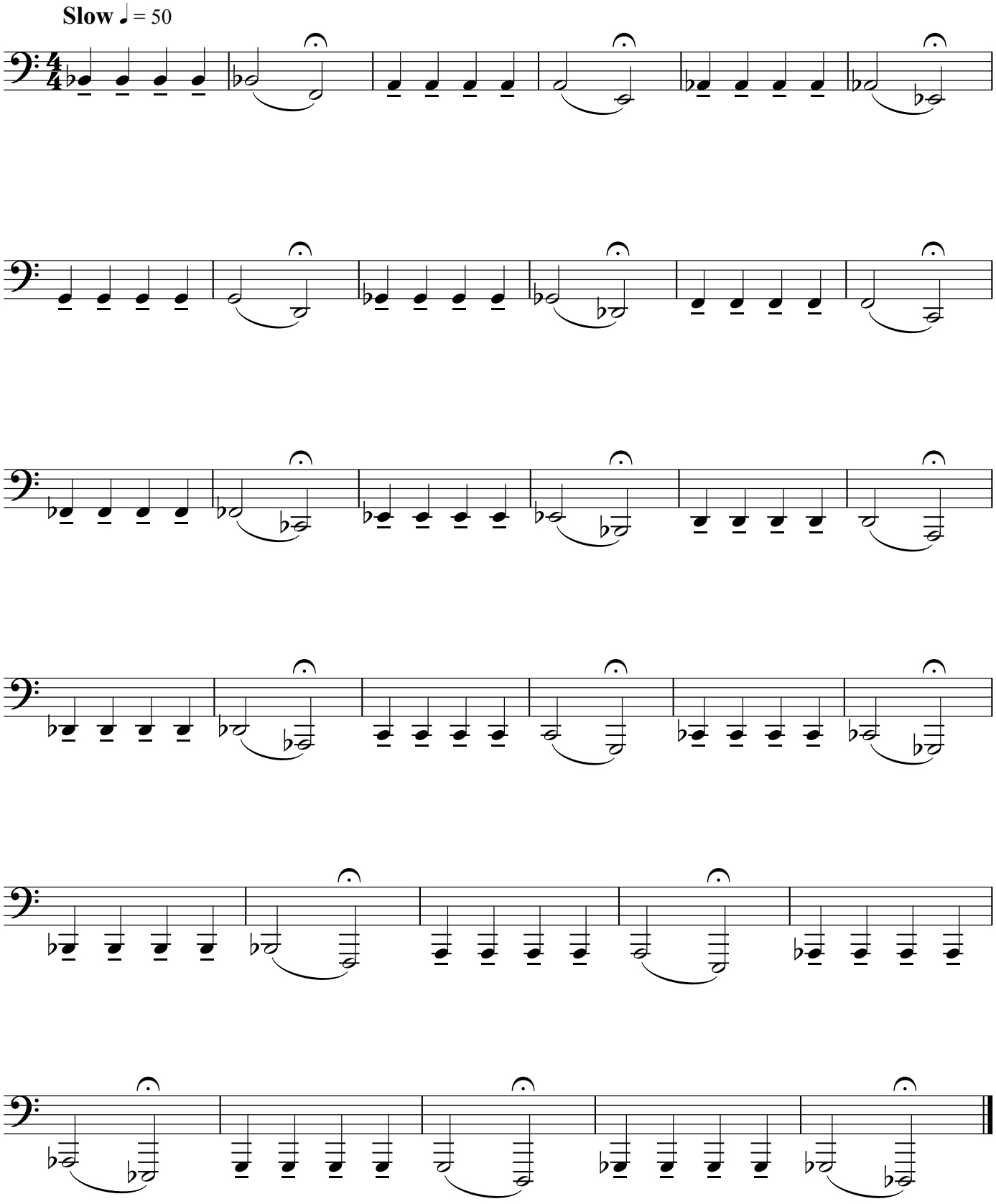
Long Tone Studies

Play as slowly as possible. Strive to make every note more beautiful than the one preceding it.

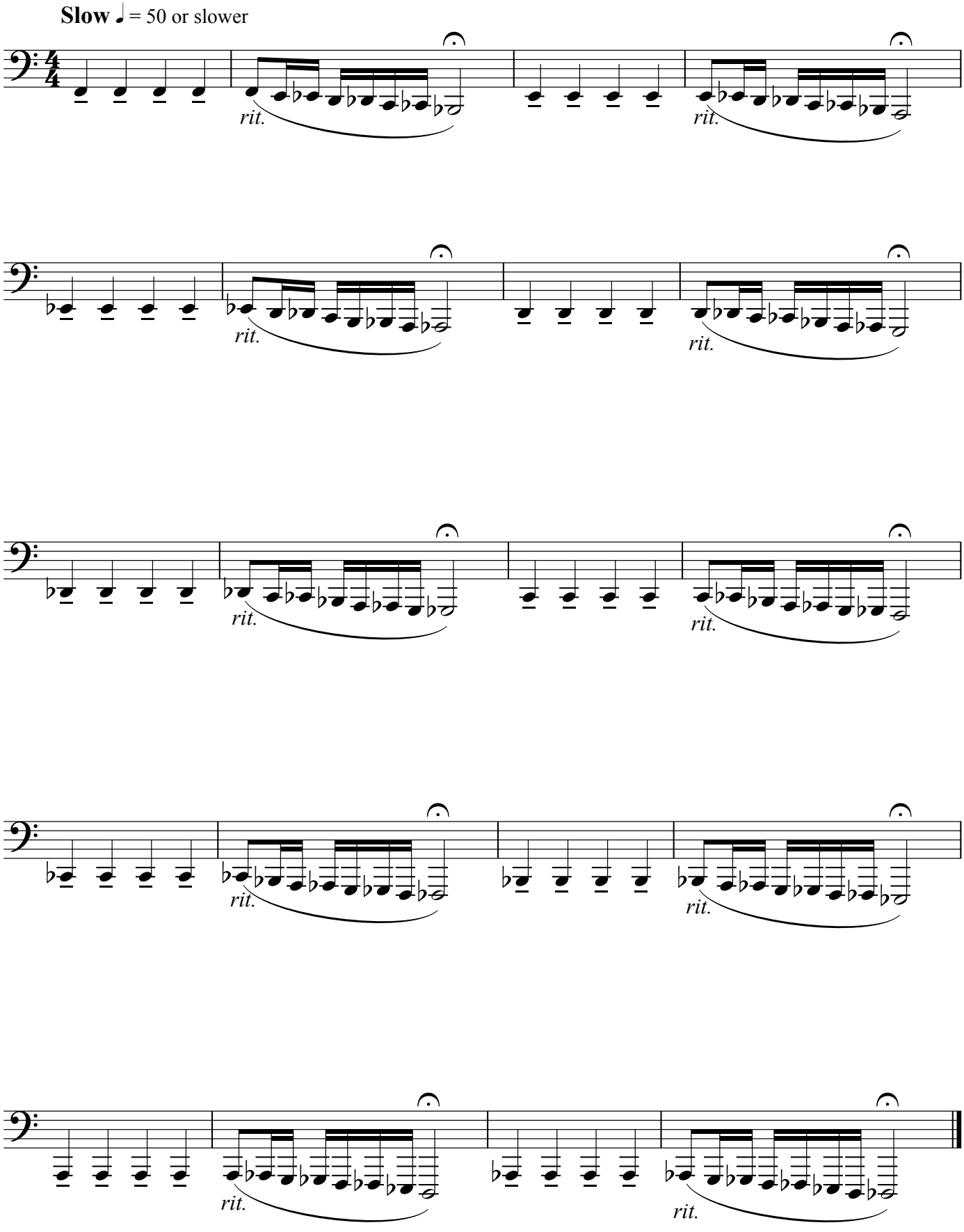


Long Tone Studies Continued

Play as slowly as you can. Hold each fermata until you run out of air. Use a gentle, legato tongue thoughout the exercise. Continue lower in the tessitura if possible.

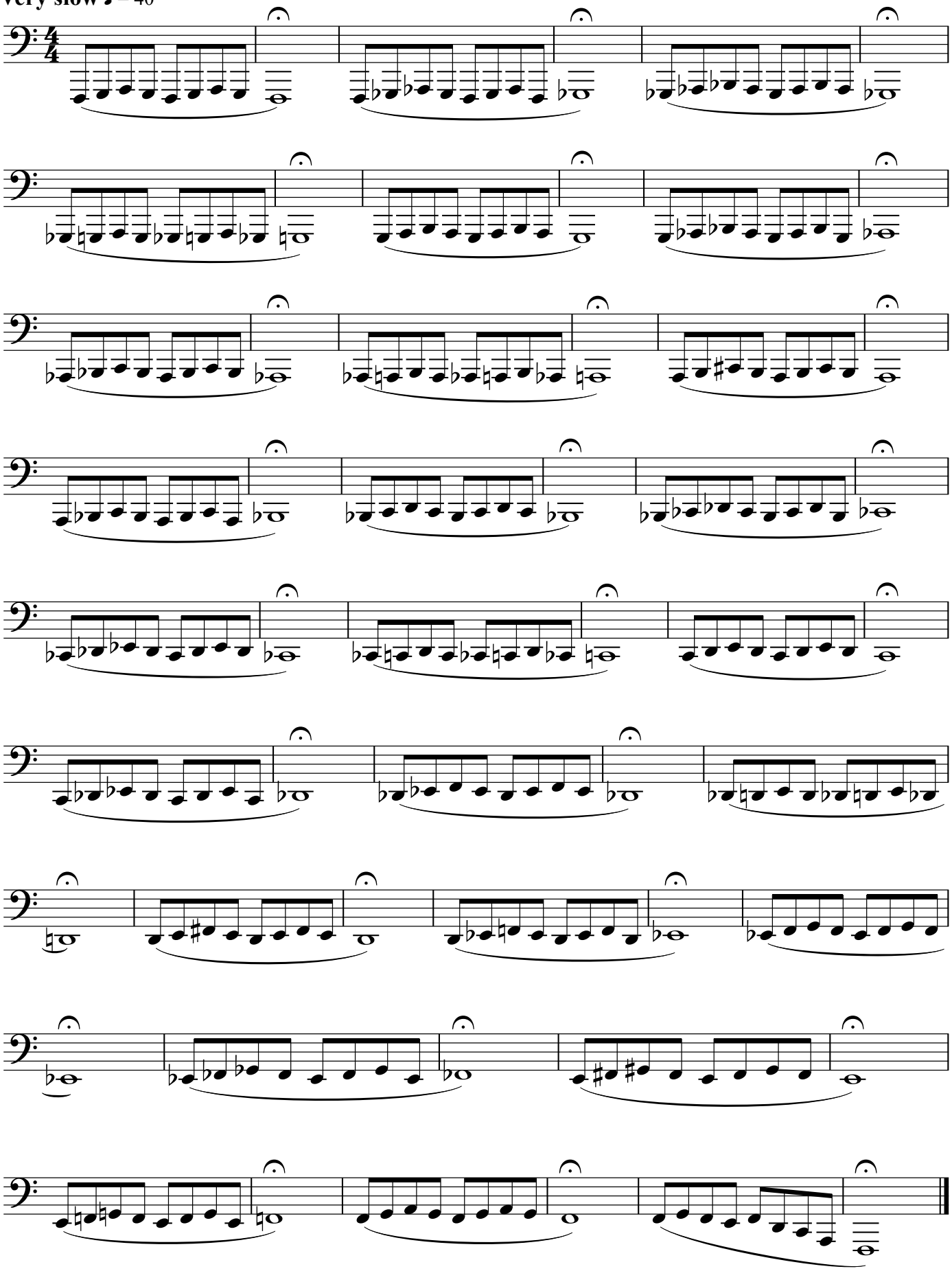


Long, lyrical playing is paramount.
Sustain each fermata until you run out of air.



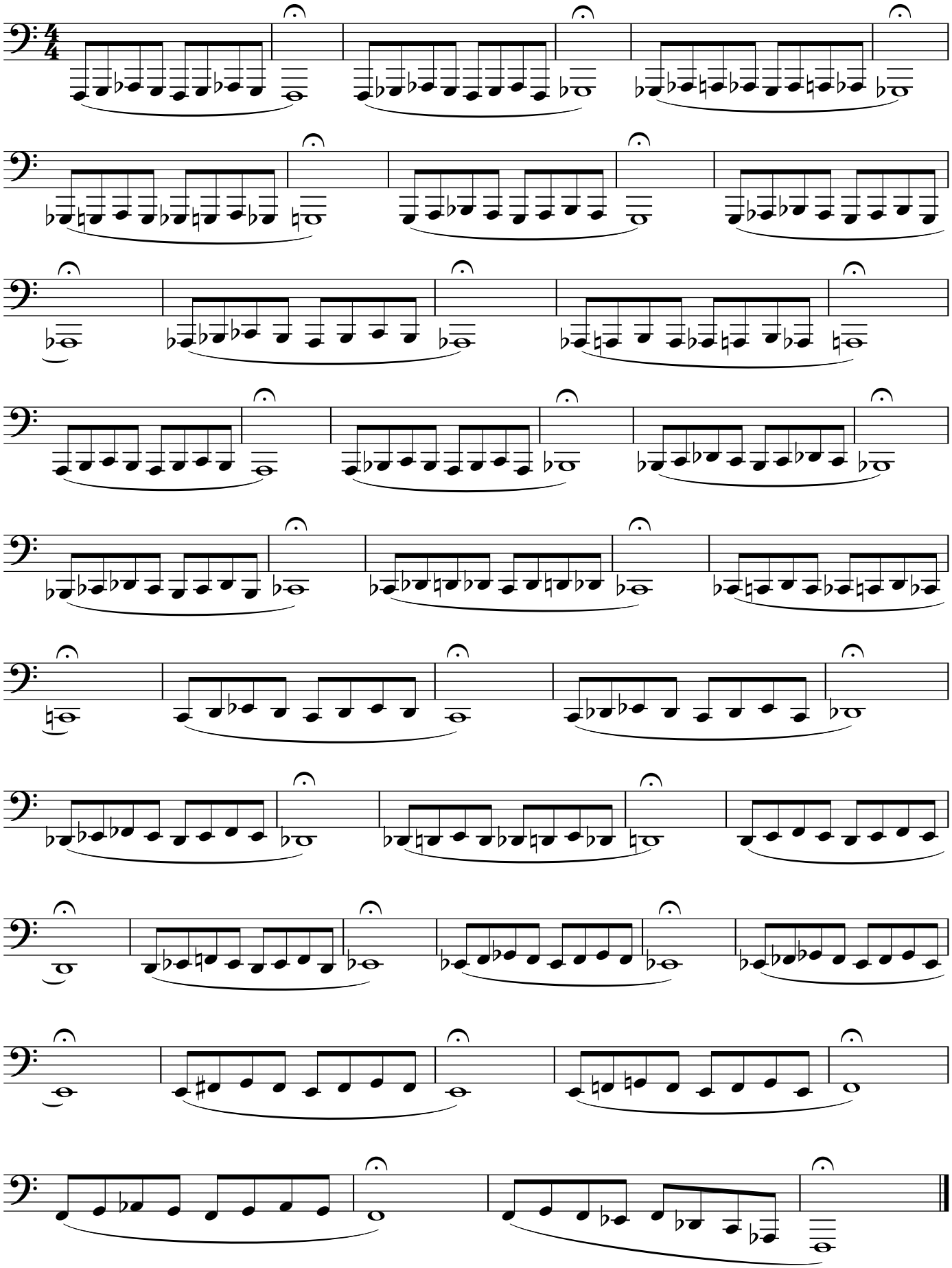
This exercise should be played as slowly as possible at a medium dynamic.

Very slow ♩ = 40



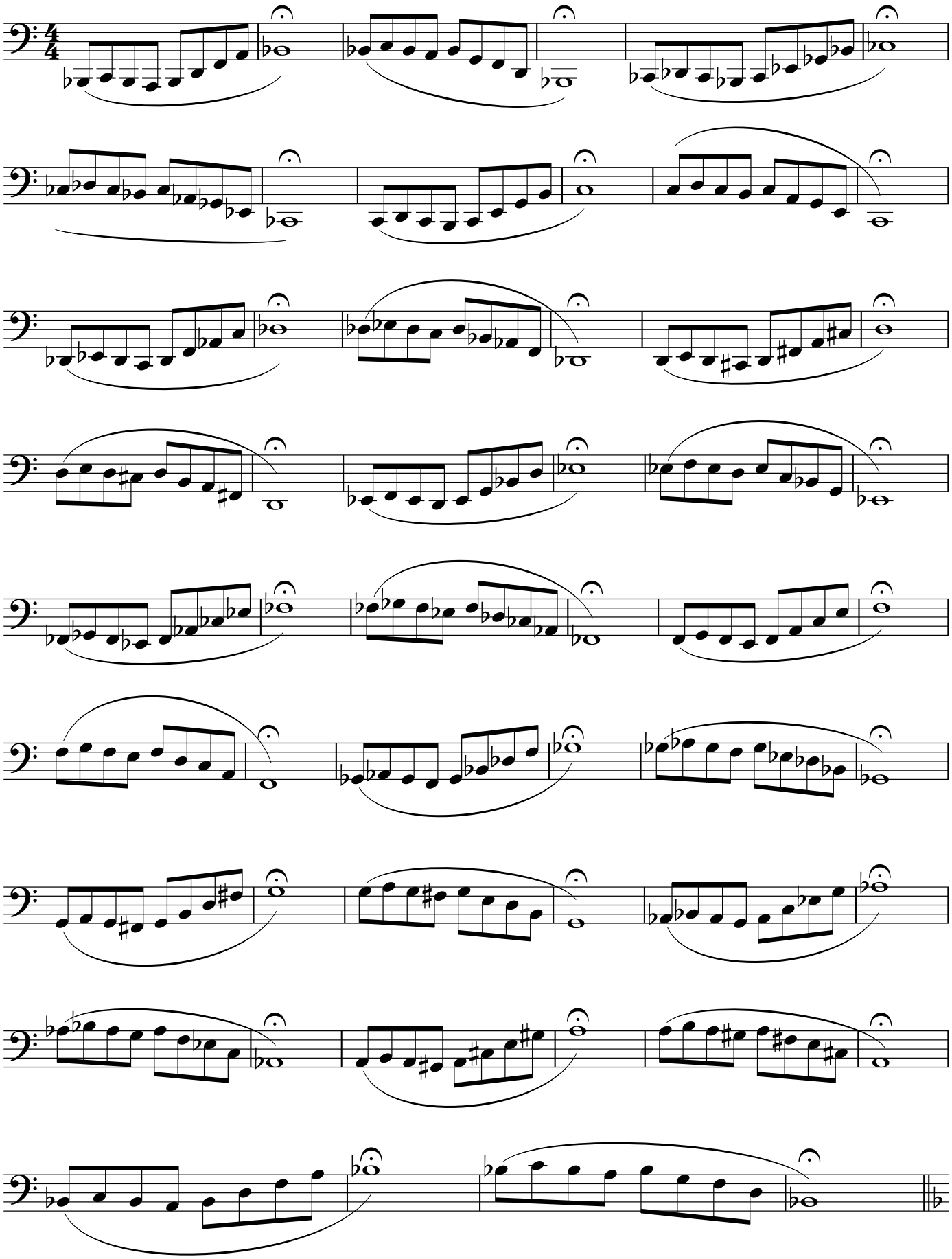
Again, play as slowly as possible.

Slow ♩ = 50



Again, play as slowly as possible with a medium dynamic.
Begin pattern lower and/or continue higher for a greater challenge!

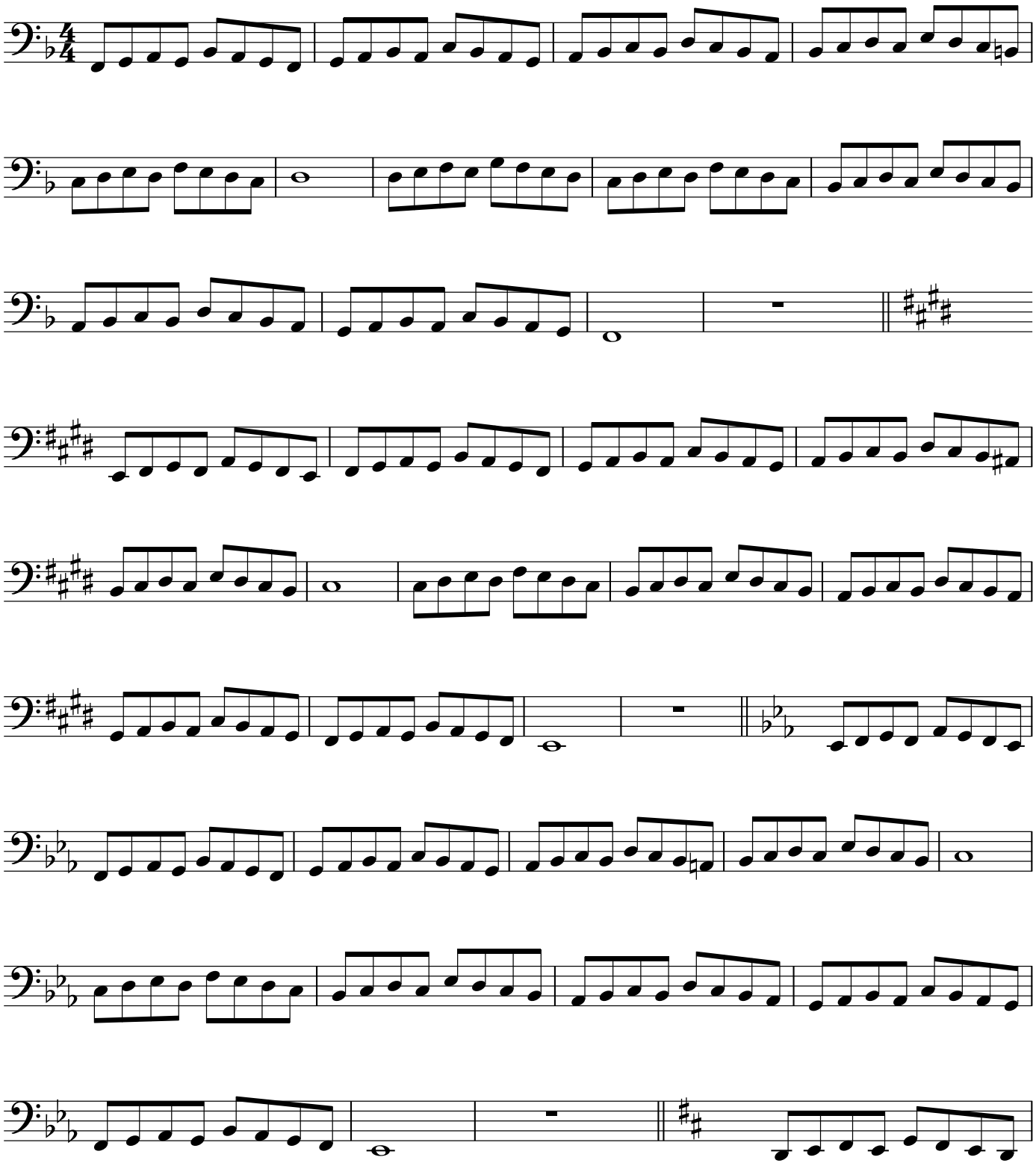
Slow ♩ = 50

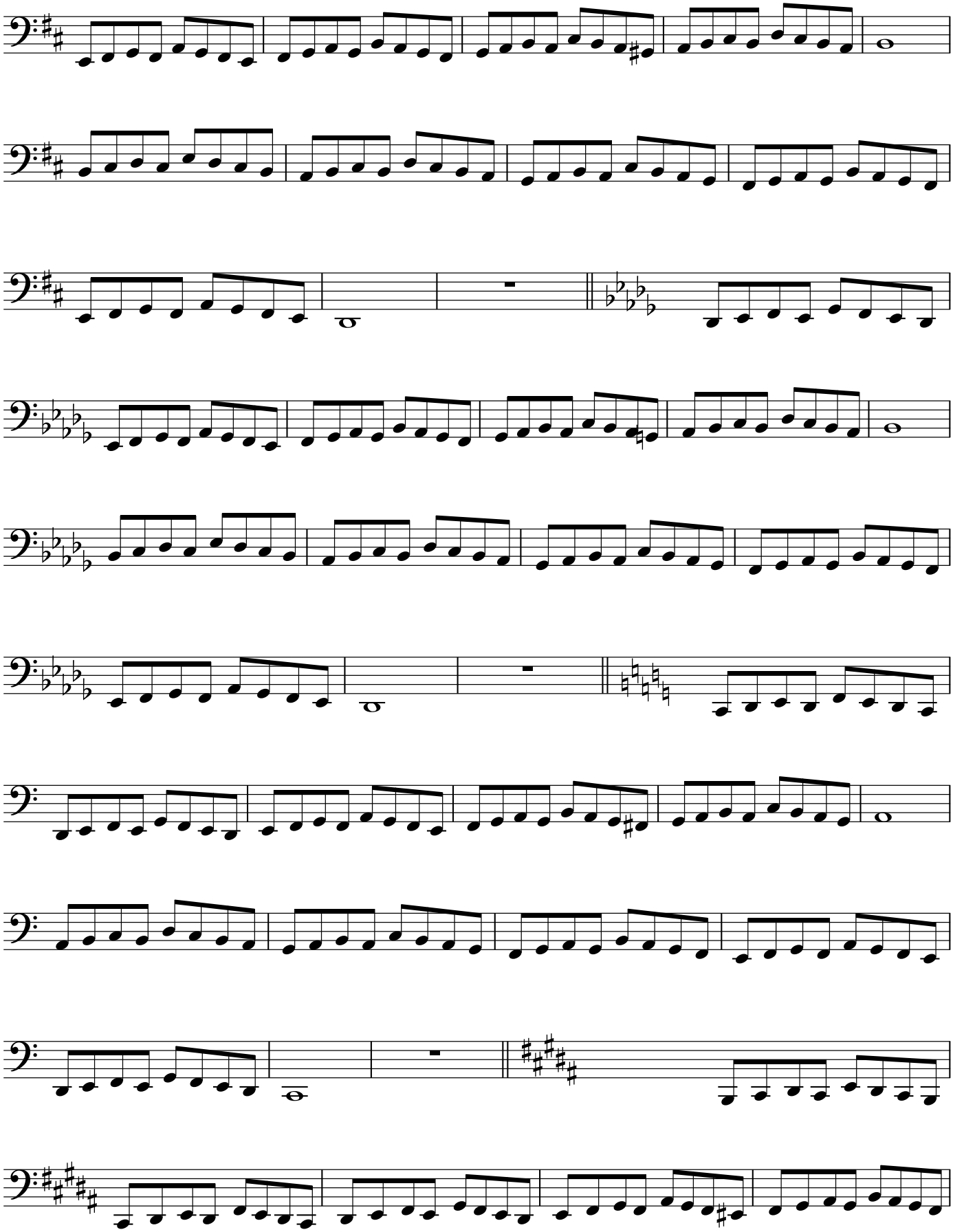


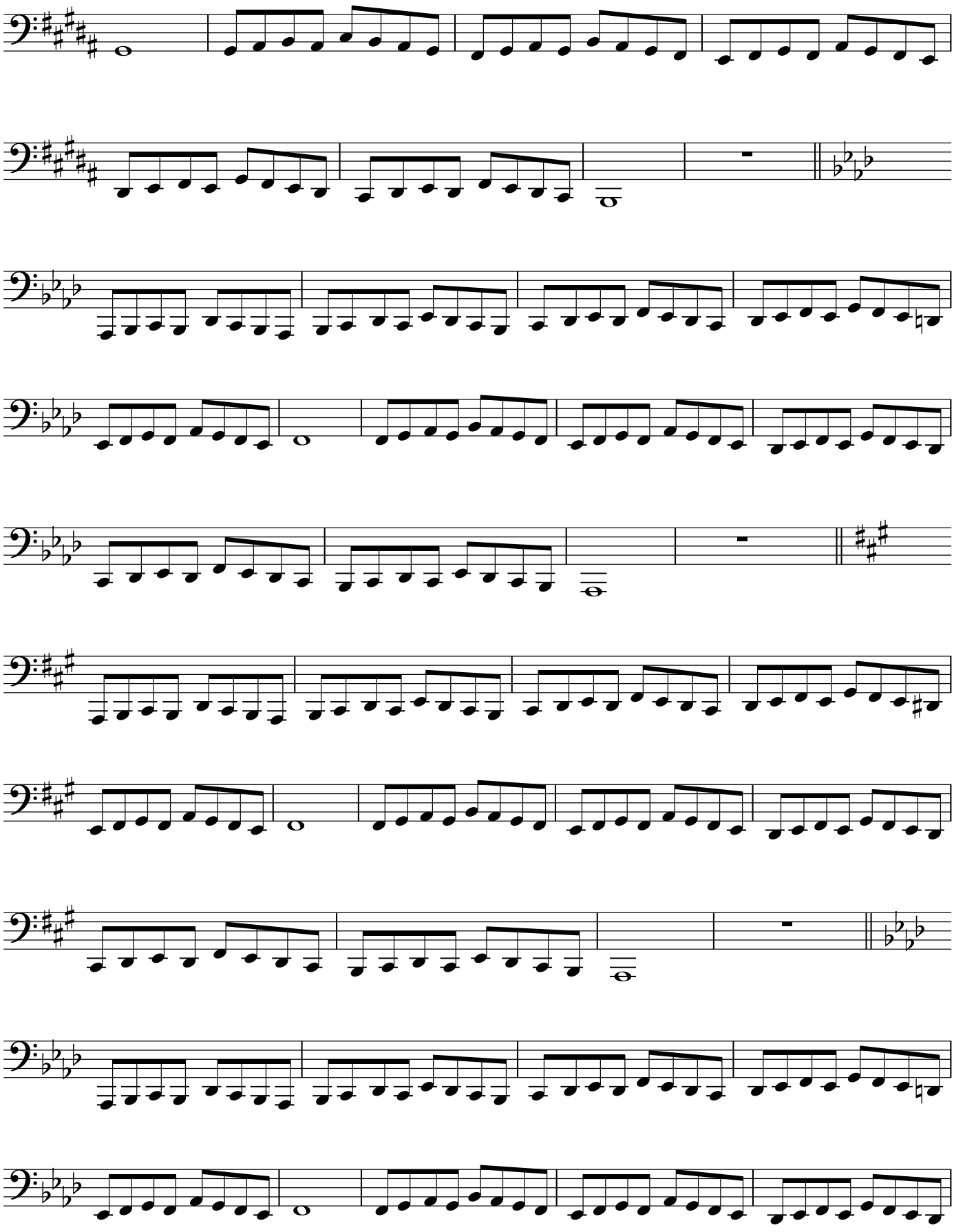
Beautiful Sounds

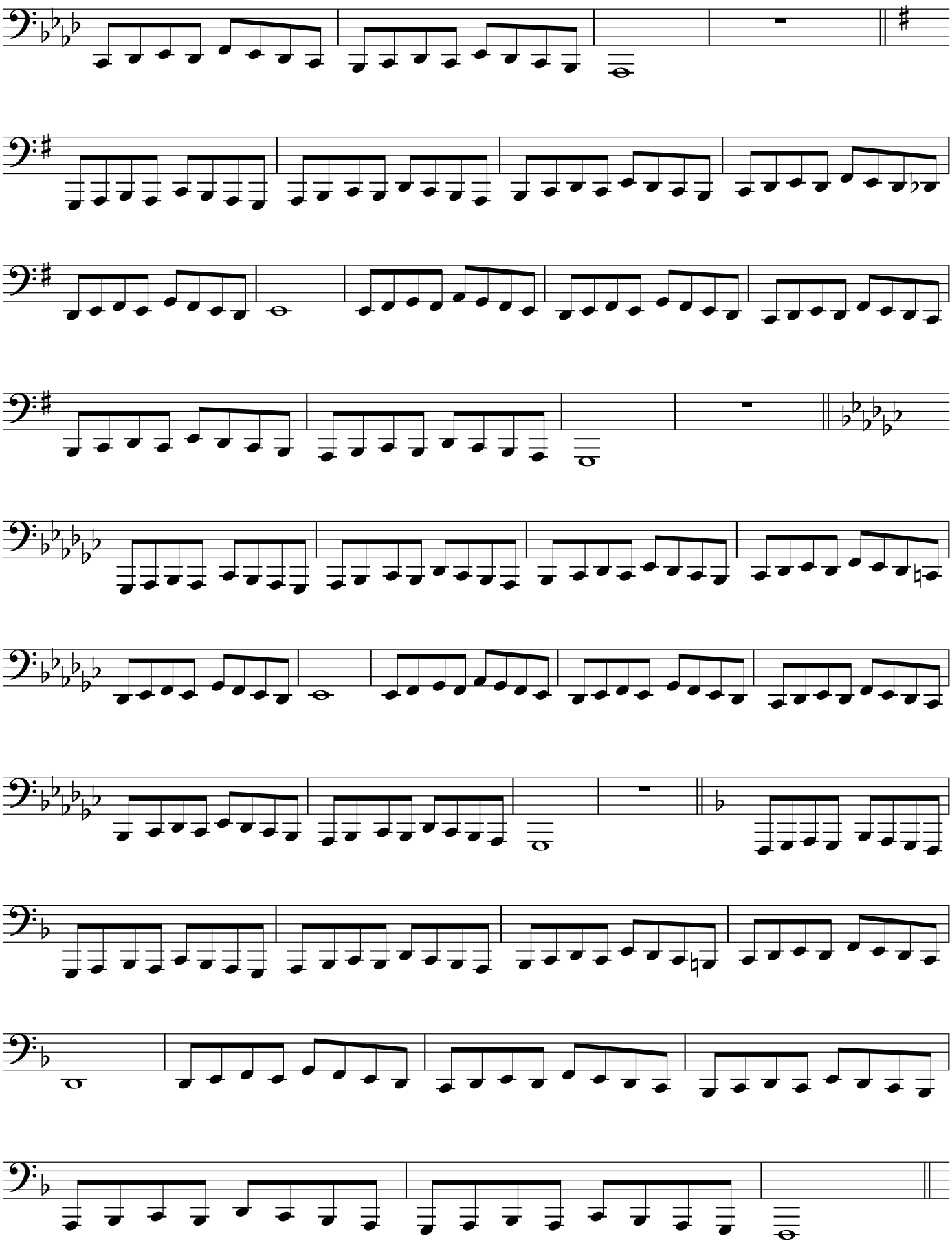
Play this entire exercise slurred. Connectivity is the key and amazing results will achieved by slow, steady practice. Strive to make beautiful, world-class sounds on each note. The tempo marking is a guide...this is not a race!

Slow ♩ = 60





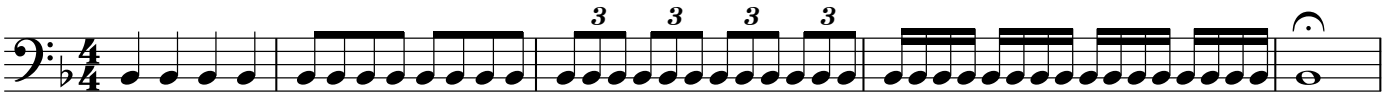




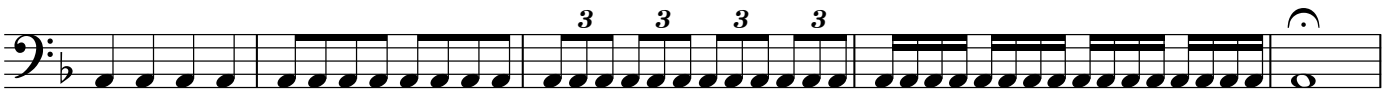
Articulation Studies

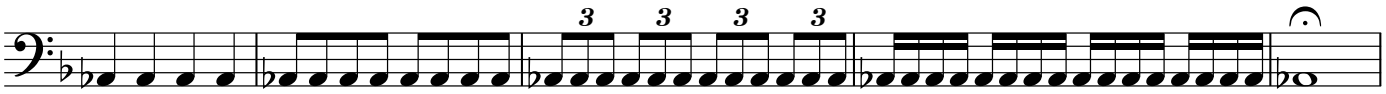
Continue down chromatically into the pedal register.

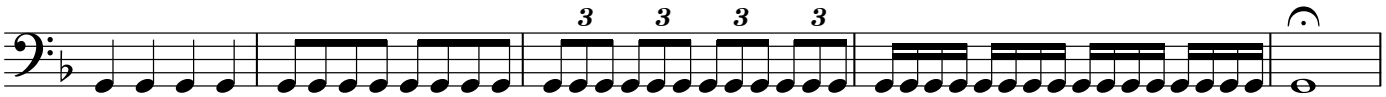
Slow ♩ = 60

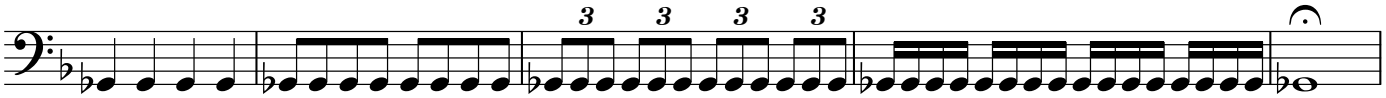


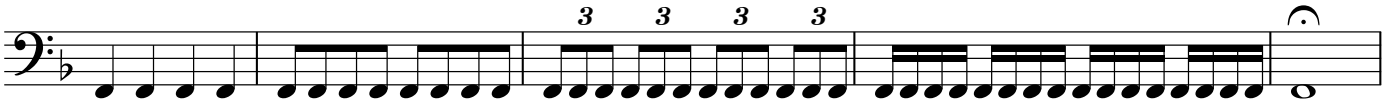
1. Legato tongue
2. Staccato

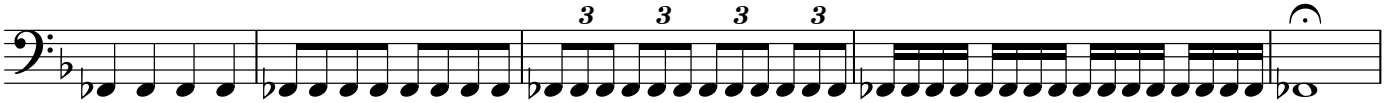


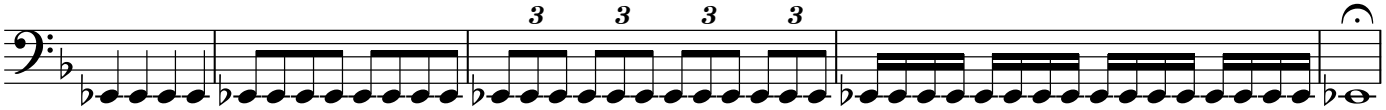


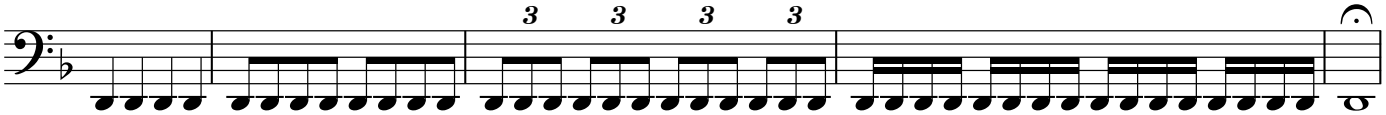


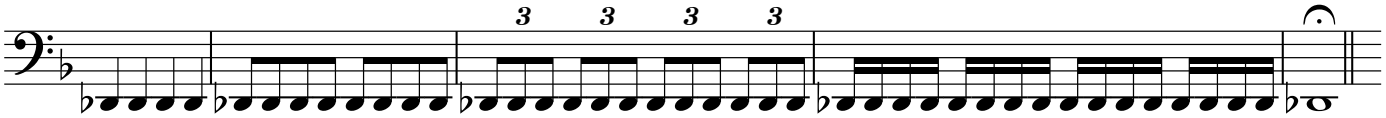






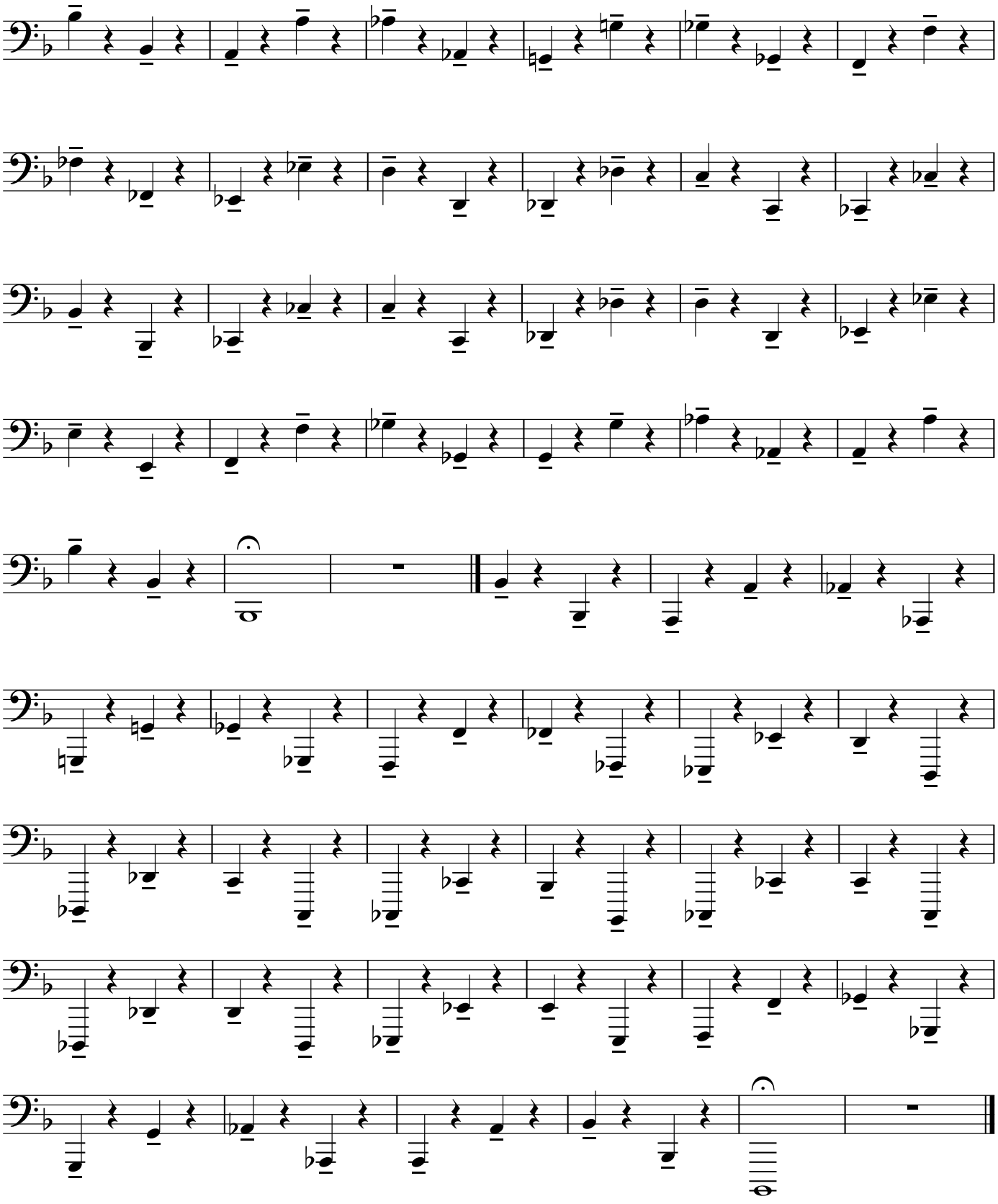


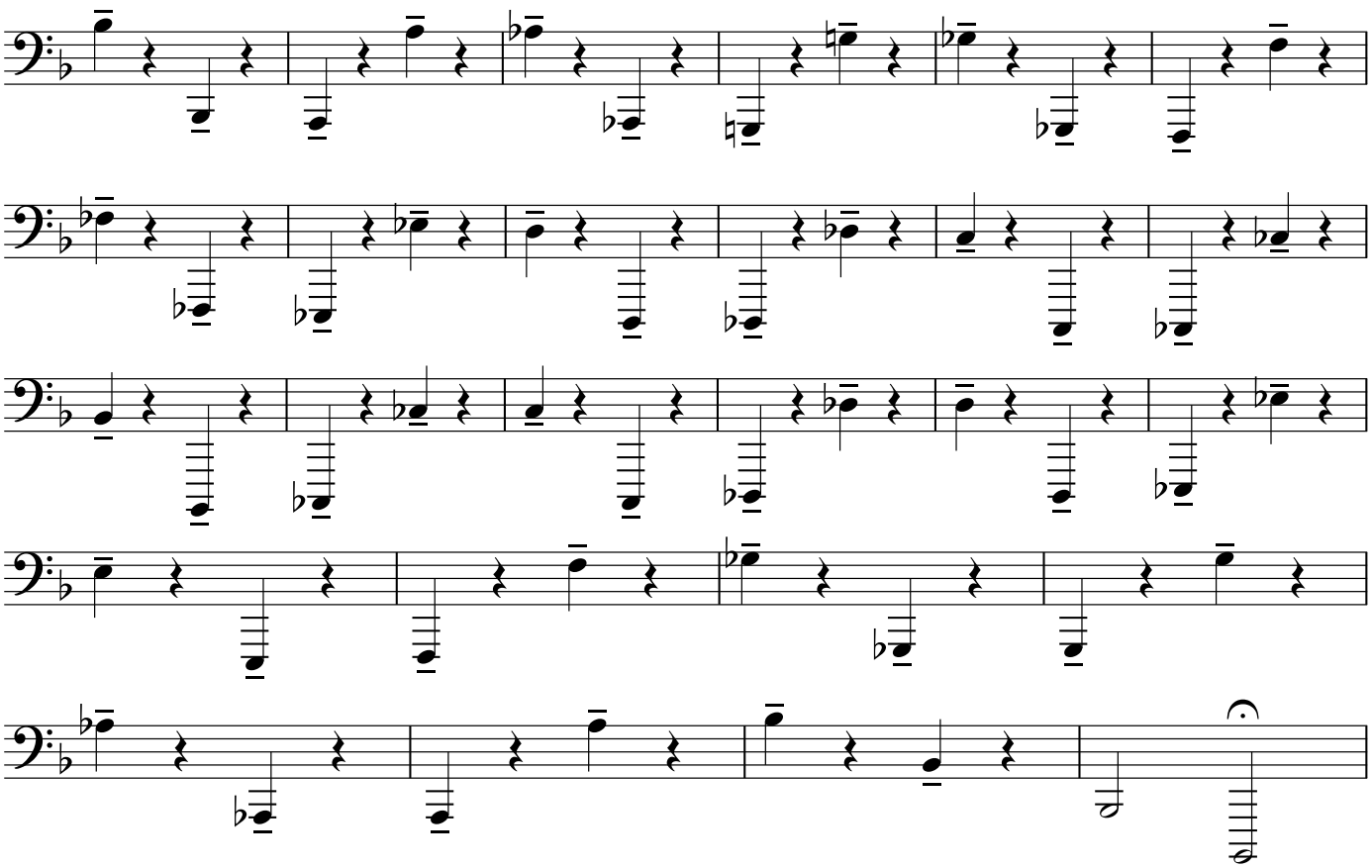




Accuracy Exercises

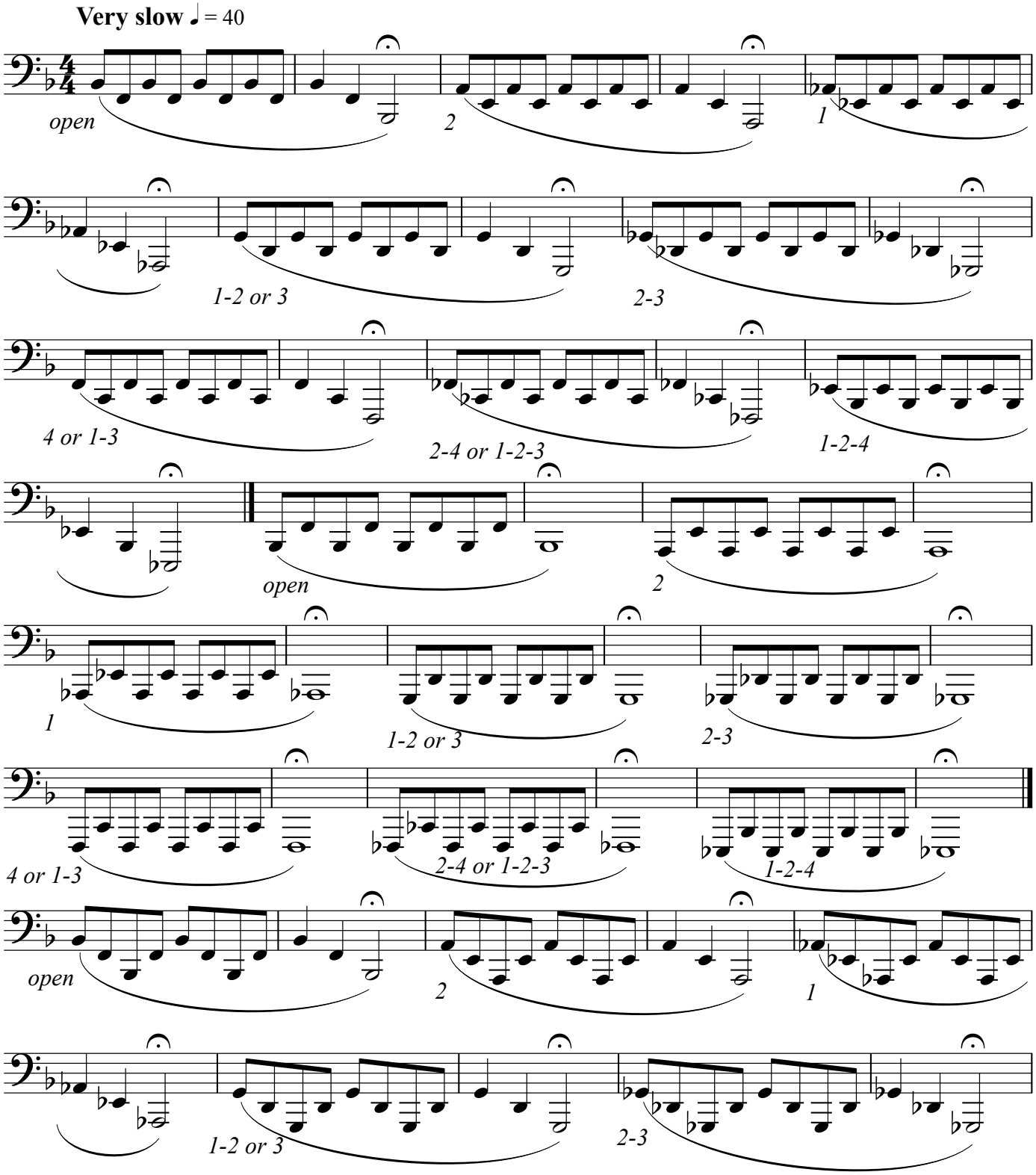
For this exercise, it is important to pull the mouthpiece off of your lips and completely reset the embouchure for each note. In doing this, you are training your embouchure to respond quickly to notes outside of your comfort zone.

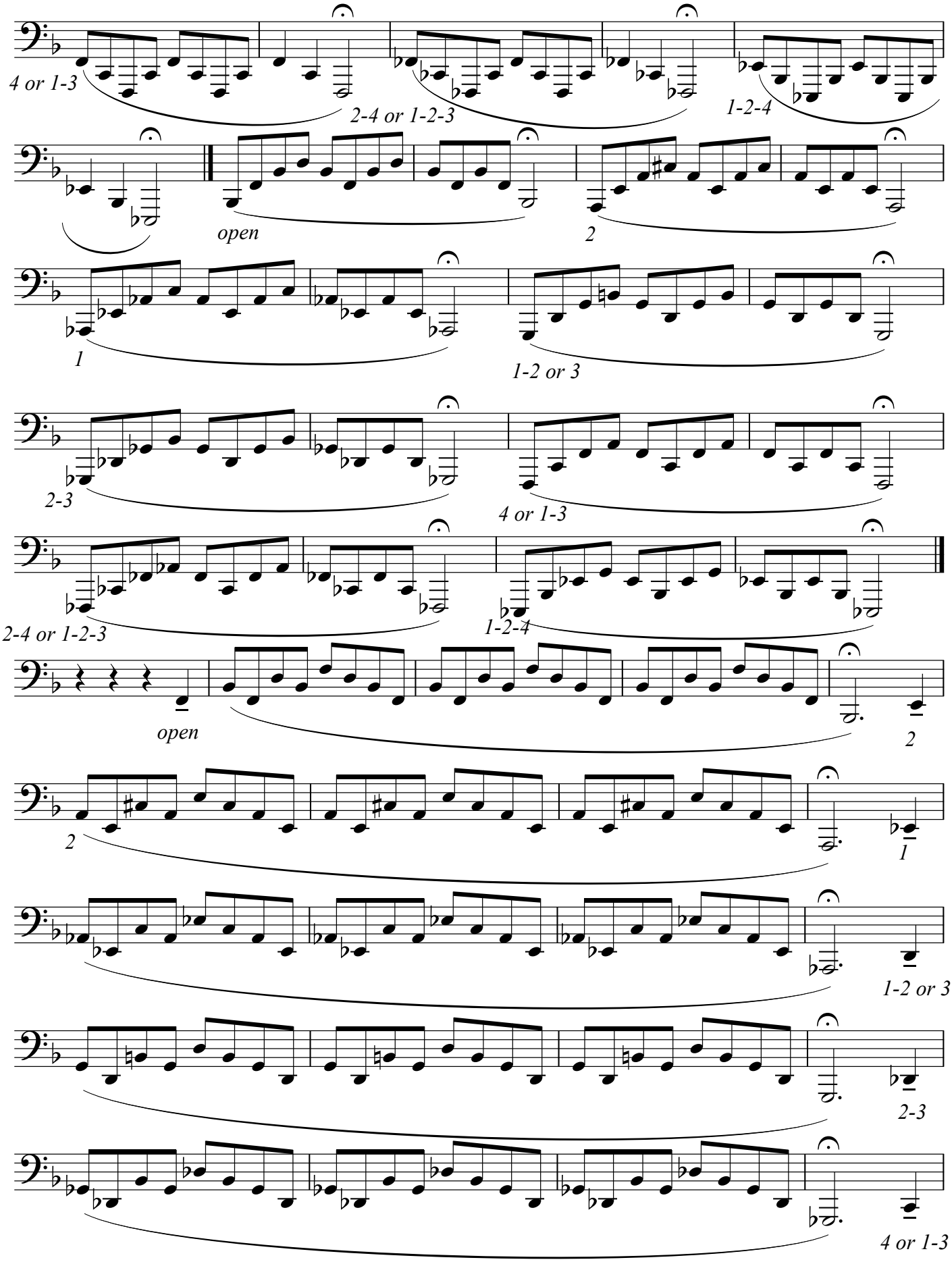




Flexibility Exercises

Strive to make transitions between notes as clean as possible. This exercise is all about clean and even shifts between each note. Start with tempo marked and slowly (and I mean SLOWLY!) work your way up the metronome. Patient practice with the following exercises will bring amazing flexibility down the road! Be honest with yourself and do not speed up until you can cleanly play the exercise at the marked tempo.
USE FINGERINGS PROVIDED!!!




4 or 1-3
2-4 or 1-2-3
1-2-4
open
2
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1-2 or 3
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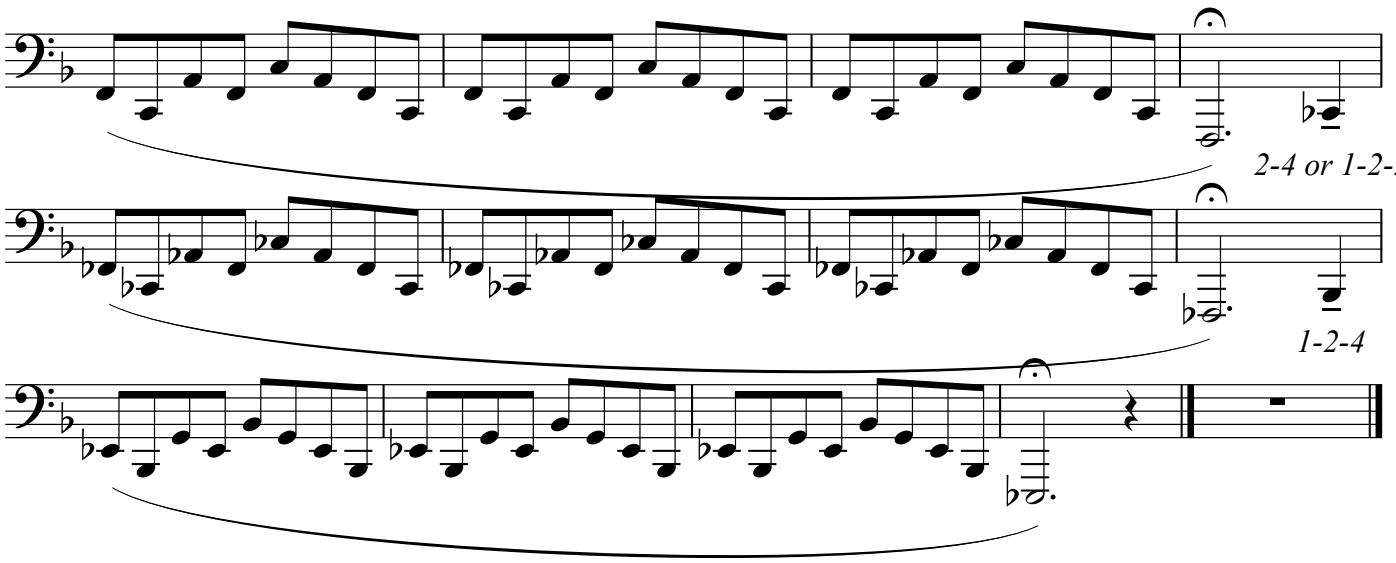
4 or 1-3


2-4 or 1-2-3
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