Synopsis

This book is based upon actual research, i.e., a survey of numerous choral conductors to identify specific problems that they currently encounter and the extent to which they felt they were prepared in undergraduate school to deal with these problems. This book provides clear, concise, and accurate information on the development of conducting skills, devoting a full chapter to each of the following topics: improving choral tone and diction, maintaining vocal health, children’s voices and the boy’s changing voice, understanding of diverse musical styles from various historical periods, choir rehearsal techniques, planning effective programs and concerts, and administrative matters of planning and management. For those interested in Choral Conducting, Choral Methods and Techniques, and Secondary School Choral Music.

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Customer Reviews

The book covers a broad range of topics relevant to choral conducting and choral music, an excellent introduction for someone new to the topic, and mostly practical advice (especially in the rehearsal techniques section). When it gets onto the ‘planning and management’ sections, I’m frequently reminded that this is a book from the US (for example, discussion of Junior High School choral groups and glee clubs (which is not a concept I know anything about!), but this is a minor comment as the information is still valid for UK conducting experiences. At the end of each chapter there is a suggested bibliography for further research - very helpful if you want to explore a topic further. Now it would just be nice if this book were easily available in the UK!
There are some very good and practical ideas in this book. I like the way the contents is laid out.

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