

DETERMINING WHY YOUR CHORUS IS AT ITS CURRENT LEVEL:

1. Membership commitment to and general retention of notes and words
2. Vocal skills level of individual members
3. Variety of pitches and vocal qualities within each section (where minimal variety is optimal)
4. Balance of parts (section to section)
5. Complexity of repertoire in relation to current vocal skills
6. Synchronization errors
 - a. Vowels: some short, some long, some late
 - b. Breathing: different, late, gasping, early
 - c. Difference in internal phrase emphasis
 - d. "Mushy" or poor articulation
 - e. "Choppy" singing caused by tension in jaw and/or tongue
 - f. Lack of mental focus
7. Level of listening skills applied to team effort
8. Lack of energy (a "nice" performance)
9. Oversinging (loud for the sake of loud)
10. Music selection:
 - Too many demanding arrangements?
 - Too many songs?
 - Too few songs?
 - Too many songs of same style?
 - Too many old songs sung in old vocal patterns?
11. Overall member interest and involvement; consistency of attendance
12. Lack of a general understanding of the art form
13. Current overall musical ability of the membership