

PREPARATORY EXERCISES - BASS CLEF



Below are several exercises every musician should memorize and be able to play in all MAJOR, MINOR (Dorian minor), and DOMINANT 7th keys. These are basic exercises which will help you gain speed and dexterity. Begin by practicing slowly, then gradually increase speed. Strive for smoothness and slur each exercise. Keyboard and string players should play legato. After you get the feel of several, consult the ARTICULATIONS article. These exercises are great for warming up each day. You can apply these to ANY scale or chord, regardless of quality. Due to space considerations, I have only listed three qualities.

CHROMATIC SCALE ONE OCTAVE

1 Major

2 Dominant 7th

3 Minor

4 Major

5 Dominant 7th

6 Minor

7 Major

8 Dominant 7th

9 Minor

10 Major

PLAY 3 TIMES

PLAY 4 TIMES

PLAY 4 TIMES

EXERCISES ON BLUES SCALE

I strongly urge you to practice the above exercises, using as a guide any of the following root sequences to assure yourself of practice in all keys.

1. C D \flat D E \flat E F \sharp F G A \flat A B \flat B C
2. C F B \flat B E \flat A \flat D \flat G \flat B E A D G C
3. C D E F \sharp A \flat B \flat D \flat E \flat F G A B D \flat
4. C E \flat G \flat A/ D \flat E G B \flat / D F A \flat B
5. C B B \flat A A \flat G G \flat F E E \flat D D \flat C
6. C E \flat D \flat E D F E \flat G \flat E G F A \flat G B \flat A B A C

Jazz is creative. Creation involves change. How much are you willing to change?