APPENDIX 6  KEYBOARD EXERCISES (SCALES, TRIADS, AND CHORD PROGRESSIONS)

Playing Major Scales on the Keyboard

Play the following major scales using the finger number given above the scale for the right hand and finger number below the scale for the left hand. Notice that we have five digits, but the scale consists of eight notes. In the first five scales (C, G, D, A, E), three fingers will play twice. In the last two scales (B, F), the fifth finger does not play in one of the hands.

- Beginning with the thumb on each hand, the digits are numbered from one to five. The thumb is referred to as a finger for convenience.
- For the first five scales (C G D A E): when ascending in the right hand (RH), the thumb crosses under the third finger. When descending, the third finger will cross over the thumb.
- For the first five scales (C G D A E): when ascending in the left hand (LH), the third finger crosses over the thumb. When descending, the thumb crosses under the third finger.
- For the last two scales (B F), the fingering changes for one of the hands.
- Practice slowly, hands separately. If possible, then play hands together, one octave apart as shown in the C major scale below.

C major

![C major scale diagram]
G major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RH</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LH</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RH</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LH</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RH</th>
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<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LH</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RH</th>
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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LH</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B major (LH begins with the fourth finger and does not use the fifth finger. When ascending, the fourth finger crosses over the thumb. When descending, the thumb crosses under the fourth finger.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RH</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LH</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F major (RH does not use the fifth finger. When ascending, the thumb crosses under the fourth finger. When descending, the fourth finger crosses over the thumb.)

Playing Minor Scales on the Keyboard

Play the three forms of the minor scales using the finger numbers given above the scale for the right hand (RH) and finger numbers below the scale for the left hand (LH). Slowly play hands alone ascending and descending, listening carefully for the changes in the sixth and seventh notes in the harmonic and melodic forms. Notice that the first five notes of the three different forms are always the same.

Or you may wish to play the scales using both hands to play one octave.

• Begin with the left hand playing the lower four notes with four consecutive fingers.
• Play the upper four notes with four consecutive fingers of the right hand. For example:

The fingering is provided for all three forms of the A minor scale. For subsequent scales, the fingering is given only for the harmonic form, which is the most useful form of the minor because of its harmonic implications.
APPENDIX 6

1. A natural minor

```
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1
```

2. E harmonic minor

```
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1
```

3. D harmonic minor

```
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1
```
4. G harmonic minor

```
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1
```

5. C harmonic minor

```
1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1
```

6. F harmonic minor

```
1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1
```

Playing Triads on the Keyboard

Play the following groups of triads, noticing the notes that change.

1. 

```
CM Cm CM C Cm CM C+
```

2. 

```
FM Fm FM F Fm FM F+
```
Playing Triad Inversions on the Keyboard

1. G major inversions (Note: You may use the suggested fingerings given below the triads.)
2. G minor inversions

![G minor inversions](image)

### Playing Chord Progressions

1. ![Chord Progressions 1](image)

   CM: $\text{I IV}^\flat V_6 I$  
   AM: $\text{I IV}^\flat V_6 I$

   Cm: $\text{i iv}^\flat V_6 i$  
   Am: $\text{i iv}^\flat V_6 i$

2. ![Chord Progressions 2](image)

   FM: $\text{I IV}^\flat V_6 I$  
   FM: $\text{I IV}^\flat V_6 I$

3. ![Chord Progressions 3](image)

   CM: $\text{I IV}^\flat V_6 I$  
   AM: $\text{I IV}^\flat V_6 I$

   Cm: $\text{i iv}^\flat V_6 i$  
   Am: $\text{i iv}^\flat V_6 i$