

MUSIC THEORY STUDY GUIDE

LEVEL B

SYMBOLS/PITCH NOTATION: Students should practice their musical calligraphy
Staff; Grand Staff; Bar lines; Measures; Double bar lines; Treble (G) and Bass (F) Clefs
Note names on grand staff up to two ledger lines above and below each clef
Notes surrounding Middle C: Unisons between clefs and Enharmonic notes
Accidentals: flats, sharps, naturals—What are the symbols? What do they do?
Repeat signs, ledger lines, slurs, ties, phrases
Notation of diatonic and chromatic half steps

SCALES/KEY SIGNATURES:

Pattern of whole/half steps of major scale: be able to identify or write
Whole and half steps vs. skips—do note names to check understanding
Keys of C, F, G, D, Bb—What do their key signatures look like?
Chromatic scale
Order of flats and sharps in key signatures

INTERVALS: basic unaltered scale tone intervals 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Know intervals melodically ascending or descending; know harmonic intervals
Know circle of perfect 5ths

TRIADS: know C, G, F, D, Bb in root position (Major AND minor)

RHYTHM:

Whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, sixteenth notes
Dotted half, dotted quarter notes; rests to match notes
Notehead, stem, flag, beam
Principle of the dot
Time signatures 2/4 3/4 4/4 6/8
What do the numbers (fractions) mean? Where are the natural accents?

TRANSPOSITION: at the Octave or P5

TERMS: (New terms for Level B are in **bold text**)

Dynamic Terms: **pp**, p, mp, mezzo, mf, f, **ff**
Tempo marks: **andante**, **moderato**, **allegretto**, **allegro**
Tempo alterations: a tempo, ritardando
Articulation/Musical Notation: legato (slurs), staccato, **accent**
Expressive text: crescendo, diminuendo
Musical Directives/Signs: da capo (DC), fine, **repeat**, fermata, 8va, ties

EAR TRAINING:

Determine melodic direction (Are the notes moving up, down, or repeated?)
Know major and chromatic scales; know scale steps of 2, 3, 4, 5 ascending only
Major and minor root position triads; half and whole steps
P4, P5, P8 ascending only; M2, M3, M6, M7 ascending only
Rhythmic dictation—half, dotted half, quarter, dotted quarter, eighth notes
Listening: determine major or minor keys
Be able to name the missing note (do samples with students)