

The Sight Reading Drill Book Series 2nd Edition

The Sight Reading Drill Book Series 2nd Edition is an excellent resource for improving the tactile skills required for secure sight reading. Whether students are young, teenage, or mature, the drills provide the necessary repetition to coordinate the visual patterns in the score with the muscle memory in the fingers. Once these patterns are familiar, reading new music becomes easier and more enjoyable.

A complete outline of the *Series* and practice suggestions are listed on the following pages.

The Preparatory Drill Book features melodic intervals, harmonic intervals, triads, and four note chords. Clefs are absent and notation is limited to whole notes. This approach frees the student to play the drills anywhere on the keyboard, and to focus on intervallic reading rather than pitch notation. It also means the book can be turned upside down, doubling the number of exercises!

Levels 1 and 2 cover all major and minor tonalities. Level 1 has keys up to three sharps and flats, Level 2 has keys with four to seven sharps and flats. Each two page spread adds another interval to the drills. Melodies are written in quarter notes and half notes; accompaniments are written in half notes and whole notes. Fingering is provided for the first notes of each drill.

Each Level is divided into two sections. In *Levels 1A and 2A*, the melodies are limited to pentascales; in *Levels 1B and 2B* they expand to an octave range.

Although created for pianists, the *Level 1 and 2 Drill Books* can be adapted for sight singing, or as sight drills for other instruments. Simply choose the appropriate register and key, and either leave out the accompaniment or play as a duet with another instrumentalist.

Levels

Prep	white keys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • melodic intervals → beginner, elementary, intermediate • harmonic intervals → beginner, elementary, intermediate • triads → intermediate • four-note chords → advanced • seventh chords → advanced
	no clefs	

Level 1	C, a G, e F, d D, b B ^b , g A, f [#] E ^b , c	1A	seconds → beginner C a G d (hands separate) thirds → early elementary C a G e F d D A g c fourths → early intermediate B ^b E ^b f b fifths
		1B	sixths → late elementary C a G e F d sevenths → early intermediate D b B ^b g octaves → late intermediate A f [#] E ^b c

Level 2	E, c [#] A ^b , f B, G [#] D ^b , b ^b F [#] , d [#] G ^b , e ^b C [#] , a [#] C ^b , a ^b	2A	seconds → early intermediate E c [#] A ^b f thirds → advanced B g [#] D ^b b ^b fourths F [#] d [#] G ^b e ^b fifths C [#] a [#] C ^b a ^b
		2B	sixths → late intermediate E c [#] A ^b f sevenths → advanced B g [#] D ^b b ^b octaves F [#] d [#] G ^b e ^b C [#] a [#] C ^b a ^b

Using the Level 1 and 2 Drill Books

Starting a New Key

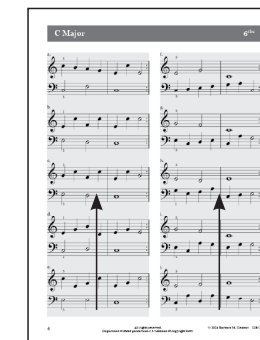
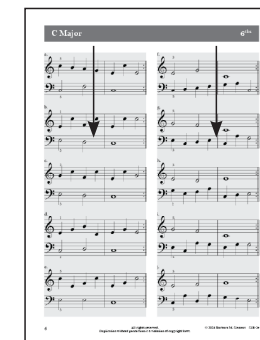
- check the key signature
- prepare the accompaniment part: play the triad in root position, broken and solid
- prepare the melodic part:
 - in Levels 1A and 2A, play the pentascale
 - in Levels 1B and 2B, play the major, harmonic minor, or melodic minor scale

Study the Score

- find and maybe circle the featured interval
- say the letter names of the melodic notes

Practicing Ideas

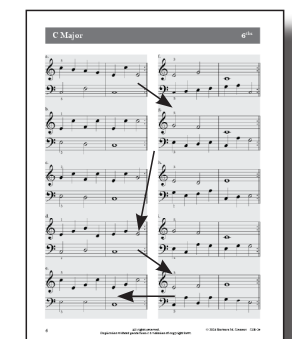
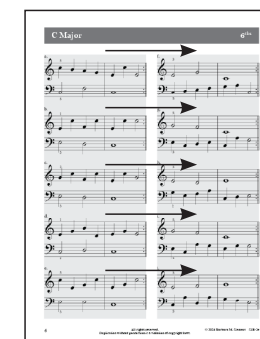
- beginners can play the melodic part without the accompaniment
- elementary students can play right hand, left hand, and then hands together
- read one column a day and repeat each example



- use the metronome to keep a steady pace
- say the letters names of the notes in the melodic part while playing
- keep eyes on the score, cover the hands to avoid the temptation of glancing down

Too Easy?

- continue from one example to the next without pausing
- increase the metronome speed and be sure to look ahead to the next drill
- read from left column to right column, then try the drills out of order



C Major

Seconds

a. 1

b. 3

c. 1

d. 3

e. 5

f. 3

g. 5

h. 1

i. 3

j. 1

C Major

Seconds

a. 5

b. 1

c. 3

d. 4

e. 1

f. 3

g. 1

h. 3

i. 1

j. 3

E Minor

Thirds

a. 

b. 

c. 

d. 

e. 

f. 

g. 

h. 

i. 

j. 

E Minor

Thirds

a. 

b. 

c. 

d. 

e. 

f. 

g. 

h. 

i. 

j. 