



Mastering Scales:

A Practical Guide for Gospel Piano

HANDY WAYS TO USE THIS RESOURCE:

- **Nashville Number System:** Learn to assign numbers (1 to 7) to each note in the scale. This allows you to transpose songs easily and recognize common gospel progressions like 1-4-5 or 2-5-1.
- **Memorizing Chord Families:** Study the chord families of each key to understand which chords “fit” in a key and which ones stand out. This will help you identify passing chords and other embellishments in a song. The pattern you can add to any scale is M, m, m, M, M, dim, m. (ex. C, Dm, Em, F, G, Am, Bdim in the key of C).
- **Songwriting:** Use the scale and chord families to write gospel songs, using commonly found chord progressions. Experiment with adding passing chords or suspensions once you have the main foundation of your song built using your chord family.
- **Runs and Licks:** Use your major scales to create runs, fills, and riffs. The scale notes are your main guide for improvising in any key.
- **Play the Melody of a song:** Practice finding the melody of your favourite songs as you play to improve your ear training. The majority of your melody notes will come from notes found in your scale.

Key of C

	C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
RH Fingering	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH Fingering	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1



FLAT KEY SCALES AND FINGERINGS

Key of F

	F	G	A	Bb	C	D	E	F
RH	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
LH	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

Key of Bb

	Bb	C	D	Eb	F	G	A	Bb
RH	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	4
LH	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	3

Key of Eb

	Eb	F	G	Ab	Bb	C	D	Eb
RH	2	1	2	3	4	1	2	3
LH	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	3

Key of Ab

	Ab	Bb	C	Db	Eb	F	G	Ab
RH	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
LH	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	3

Key of Db/C#

	Db	Eb	F	Gb	Ab	Bb	C	Db
RH	2	3	1	2	3	4	1	2
LH	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	3

Key of Gb/F#

	Gb	Ab	Bb	Cb	Db	Eb	F	Gb
RH	2	3	4	1	2	3	1	2
LH	4	3	2	1	3	2	1	3



SHARP KEY SCALES AND FINGERINGS

Key of G

	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G
RH	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

Key of D

	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C#	D
RH	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

Key of A

	A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#	A
RH	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

Key of E

	E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D#	E
RH	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

Key of B/Cb

	B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A#	B
RH	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1

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