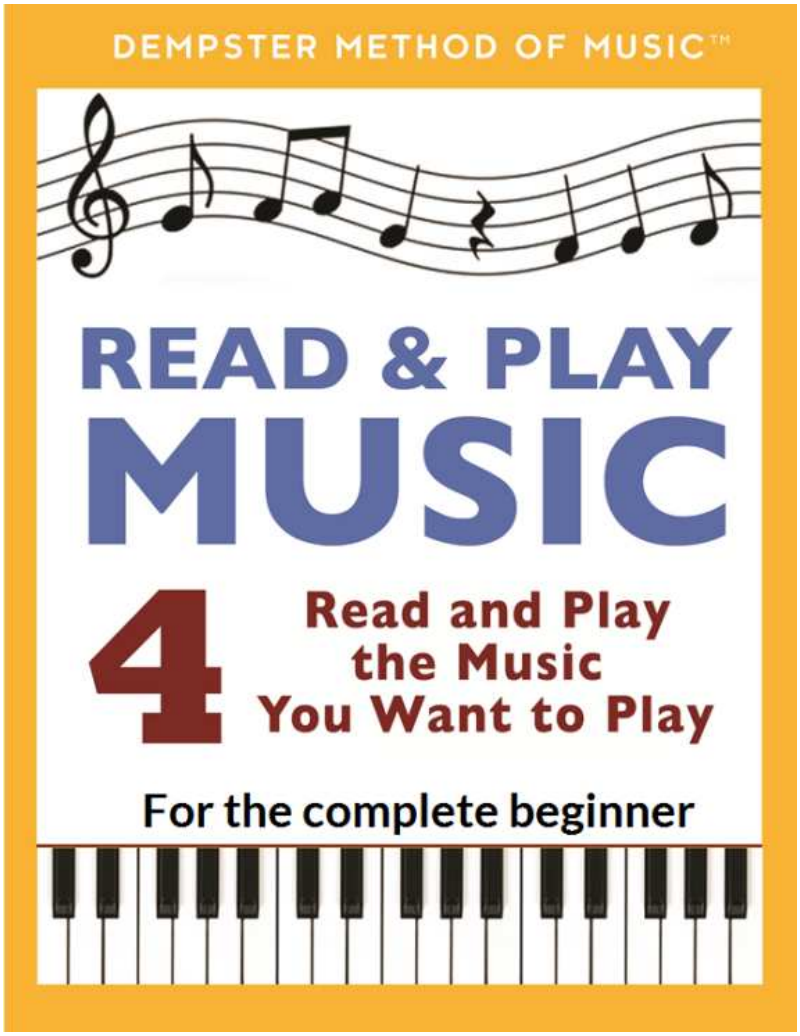

LESSON 20

REVIEW OF 7 MAJOR KEYS

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Version 1.0. 1 Aug 2018

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Tune for Refresher no. 2 - Molly Malone

Chat with David

You learned some keys with sharps, and then you learned some keys with flats. Let's do some practice with all of them mixed together.

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It's worth spending as much time as you need to on this lesson to get quite familiar with these 7 keys.

If you find you're getting the keys mixed up, or if it all seems like too much jumbled together, go back and review the lessons you just did where the keys are introduced one at a time.

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Practical

Build Your Skill

These are exercises to increase your familiarity with the scales and the key signature for each scale.

Exercise 1: Review

1. What sharps or flats does G major have? Say how many there are, and give them in their correct sequence.
    a. If you don't know or you're not certain, play a G major scale by applying the formula and observe what sharps or flats it has.
2. What sharps or flats does B flat major have? Say how many there are, and give them in their correct sequence.
    a. If you don't know or you're not certain, play a B flat major scale by applying the formula and observe what sharps or flats it has.
3. What sharps or flats does C major have?
    a. If you don't know or you're not certain, play a C major scale by applying the formula and observe what sharps or flats it has.
4. What sharps or flats does F major have?
    a. If you don't know or you're not certain, play an F major scale by applying the formula and observe what sharps or flats it has.
5. What sharps or flats does D major have?
    a. If you don't know or you're not certain, play a D major scale by applying the formula and observe what sharps or flats it has.
6. What sharps or flats does E flat major have?
    a. If you don't know or you're not certain, play an E flat major scale by applying the formula and observe what sharps or flats it has.
7. What sharps or flats does A major have?

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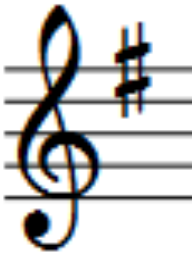
a. If you don't know or you're not certain, play an A major scale by applying the formula and observe what sharps or flats it has.

8. Repeat the above as needed until you can answer the questions easily and rapidly.

Exercise 2: Review

1. What key is this?



a. If you don't know or you're not certain, do the previous exercise again. You may also want to review the earlier lessons that introduce the keys.

b. Play the scale that has that key signature.

2. What key is this?

a. If you don't know or you're not certain, do the previous exercise again or review earlier lessons.

b. Play the scale that has that key signature.

3. What key is this?

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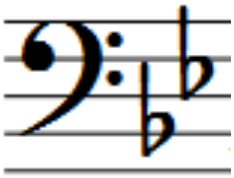
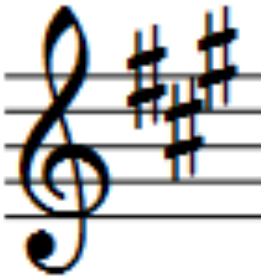


a. If you don't know or you're not certain, do the previous exercise again or review earlier lessons.

b. Play the scale that has that key signature.

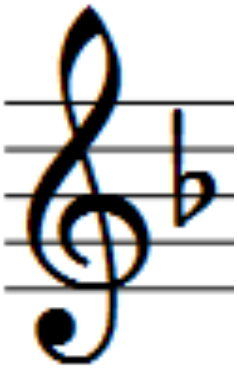
4. What key is this?



a. If you don't know or you're not certain, do the previous exercise again or review earlier lessons.

b. Play the scale that has that key signature.

5. What key is this?



a. If you don't know or you're not certain, do the previous exercise again or review earlier lessons.

b. Play the scale that has that key signature.

6. What key is this?

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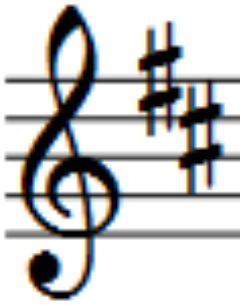
a. If you don't know or you're not certain, do the previous exercise again or review earlier lessons.

b. Play the scale that has that key signature.

7. What key is this?



a. If you don't know or you're not certain, do the previous exercise again or review earlier lessons.

b. Play the scale that has that key signature.

8. Repeat this exercise as needed until you can answer the questions accurately and easily.

Exercise 3:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below. (This one is the bass clef.)
2. Say the name of the key signature. (This one is B flat major.)
3. Say the name of the time signature. (This one is 4/4.)
4. Play it.

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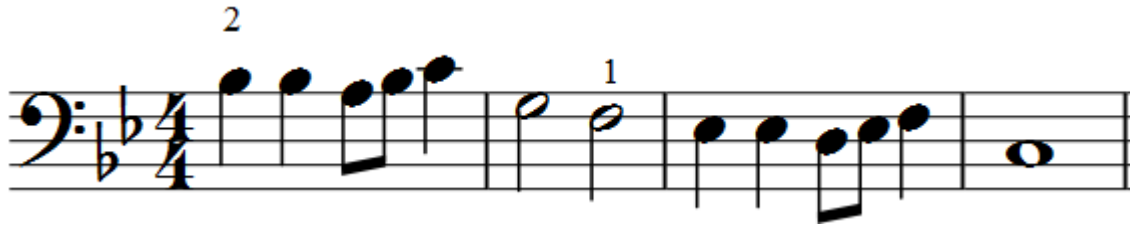
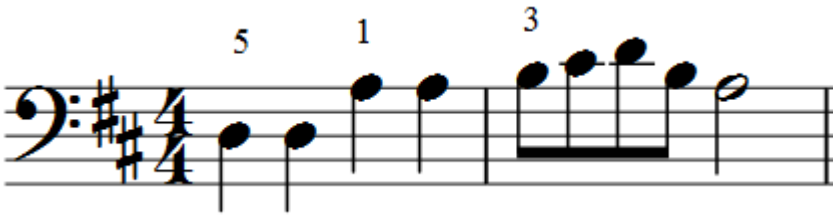


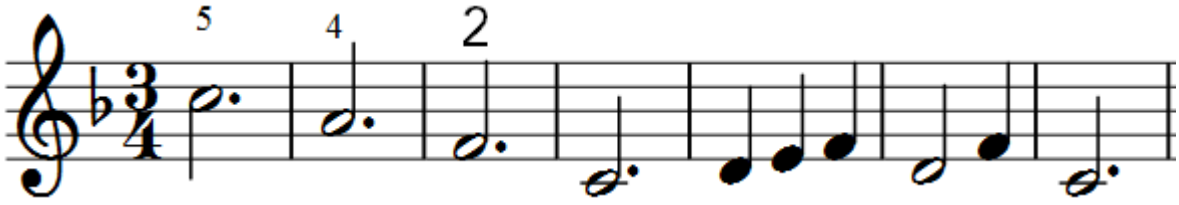
Exercise 4:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below.
2. Say the name of the key signature.
3. Say the name of the time signature.
4. Play it.



Exercise 5:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below.
2. Say the name of the key signature.
3. Say the name of the time signature.
4. Play it.



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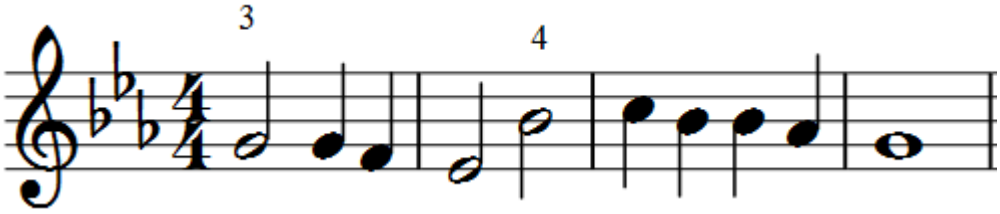
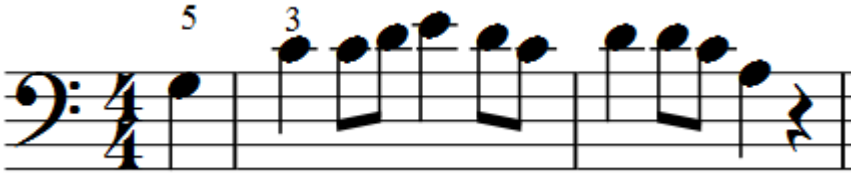
Exercise 6:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below.
2. Say the name of the key signature.
3. Say the name of the time signature.
4. Play it.



Exercise 7:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below.
2. Say the name of the key signature.
3. Say the name of the time signature.
4. Play it.



Exercise 8:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below.
2. Say the name of the key signature.
3. Say the name of the time signature.
4. Play it.

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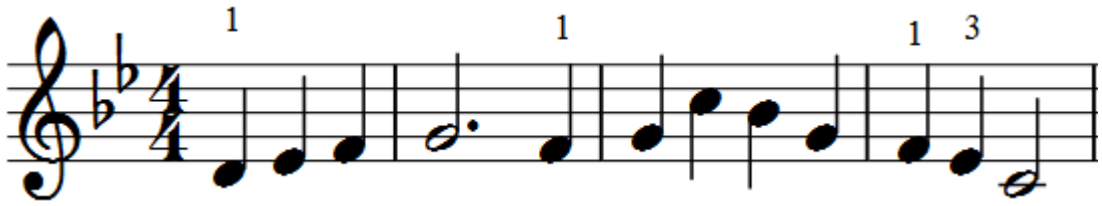
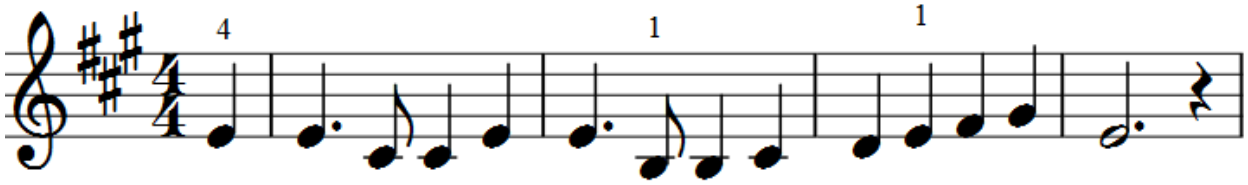


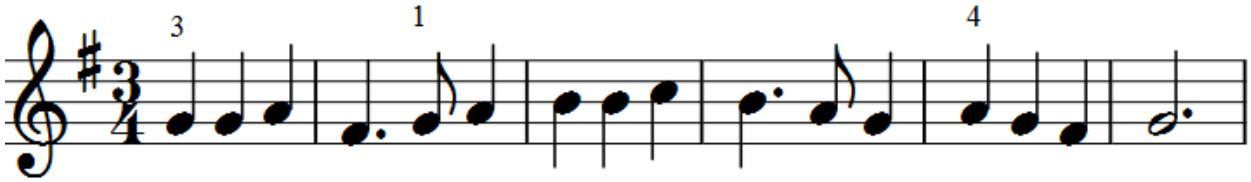
Exercise 9:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below.
2. Say the name of the key signature.
3. Say the name of the time signature.
4. Play it.



Exercise 10:

1. Say the name of the clef in the music below.
2. Say the name of the key signature.
3. Say the name of the time signature.
4. Play it.



There, we ended by doing the Queen in G. (That last tune is known in Britain as 'God Save the Queen', and in America as 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee'.)

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Chat with David

That was a bit of work, but what a step forward you've taken.

If you pick up some printed music at random, it's very likely that you'll see a key signature with sharps or flats. Before you started ***Book 4*** you would have been baffled looking at it. Now that you know about key signatures, you will understand what you are seeing in the music. And you can play tunes from the music, with all the right sharps and flats.

There is a bit more to know about reading and playing the black notes. Let's do a refresher to consolidate the ground you've gained before you carry on with your voyage of discovery.

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REFRESHER no. 2

Well done on learning to read and play 7 major keys.

We're going to integrate this new skill with what you learned earlier in this course:

- Reading and playing with two hands (Book2)
- Reading and playing interesting rhythms (Book 3)
- Reading and playing tunes in 7 major keys (new skill)

We're going to use the same Learning Procedure we used in the previous refresher. Here it is again on the next page. You might like to make a photocopy of the page or mark the place so you can find it while playing the exercises and tune.

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Learning Procedure for Book 4

1. ***Key signature.*** Notice what sharps or flats are in the key signature.
2. ***Practise pitches***. Apply 'Know Before You Go' until it's easy.
3. ***Practise timing***. Apply the four rhythm drills until you're doing them well:

   Rhythm Drill no. 1: Point the Beats, Count the Beats
   Rhythm Drill no. 2: Point the Beats, Count the Subdivisions as needed (half beat, 16th note or triplet)
   Rhythm Drill no. 3: Point the Beats, Count the Notes
   Rhythm Drill no. 4: Point the Beats, Speak the Notes

4. ***Play***. You can count aloud the beats, or the half beats, or 16th notes or triplets, whatever works best.

METRONOME: ON
Set it to a suitable speed. You can make it tick the beats, or the half beats, or whatever works best.

5. ***Play***. Count aloud as needed. Work at playing exactly on the ticks.
6. ***Speed up***. Start slow, speed up gradually, find your top speed.

METRONOME: OFF

7. ***Play***. End by playing without counting aloud.

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Practical

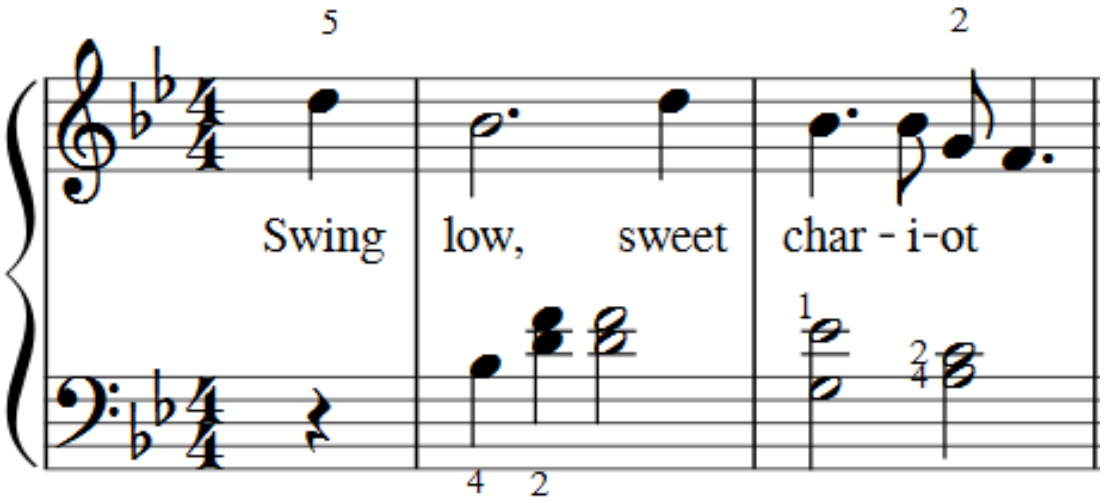
Build Your Skill

When you did the previous refresher, you only knew how to play in the keys of C major and G major. Now you know all these other keys, and it's time to put your new skill to use.

I'm giving you the same snippets of tunes as you played in the last refresher. You already know these tunes, and now you can focus on playing the correct black notes in the new keys.

Exercise 1: – Swing Low

Apply the Learning Procedure from the preceding page as needed.



Exercise 2:– She'll Be Coming Round the Mountain

Apply the Learning Procedure from the preceding page as needed.

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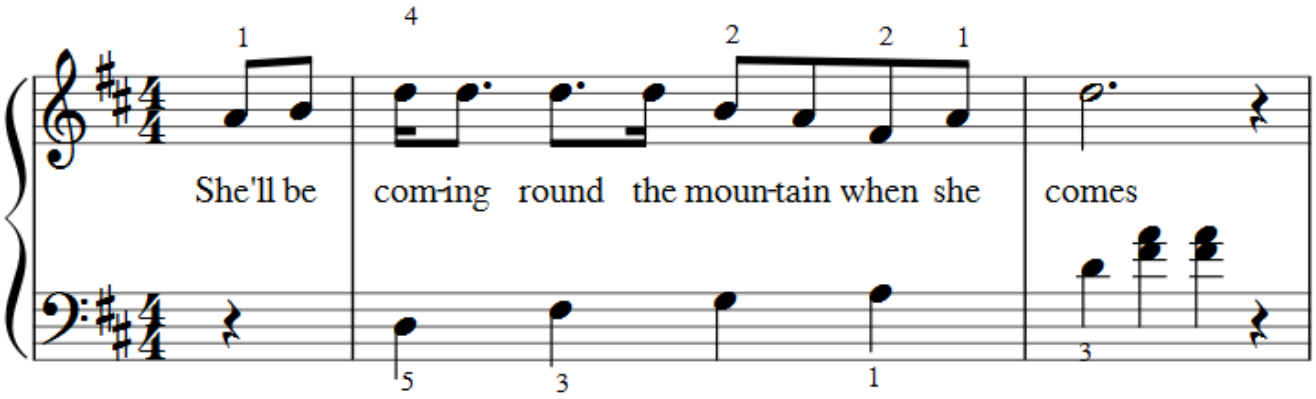
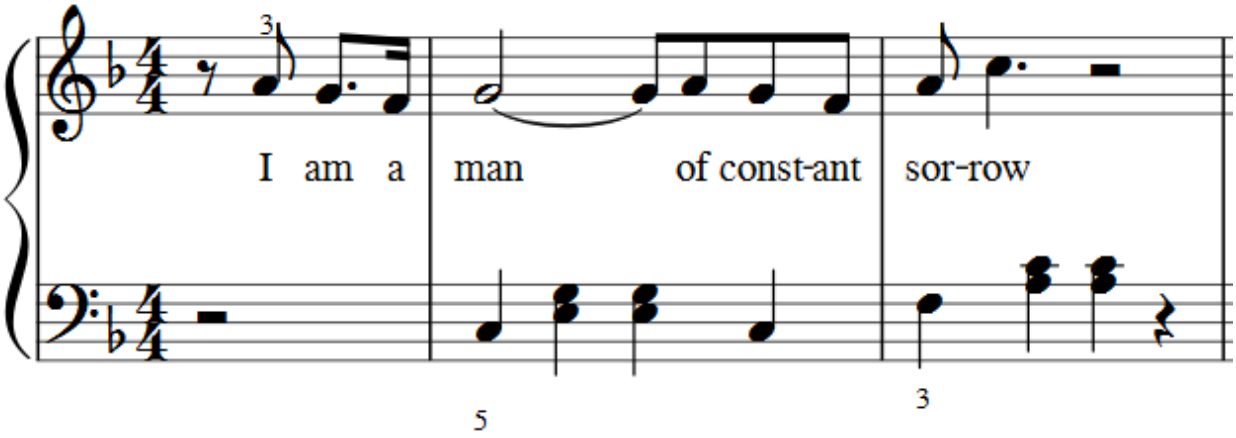


Exercise 3: – Man of Constant Sorrow

Apply the Learning Procedure from the preceding page as needed.



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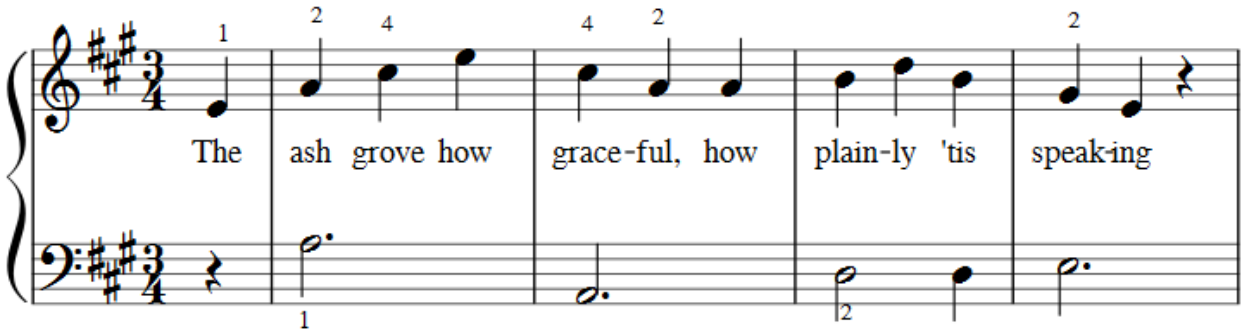
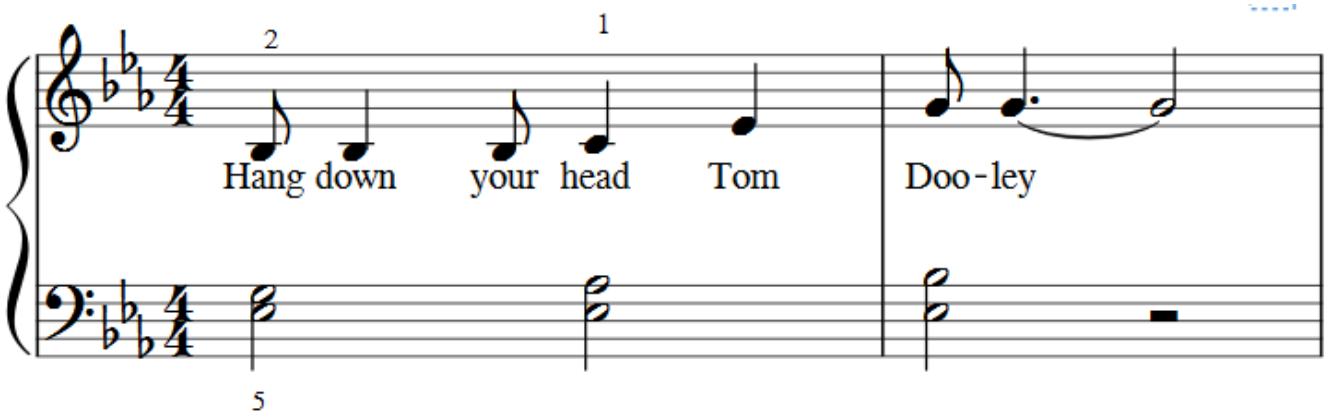
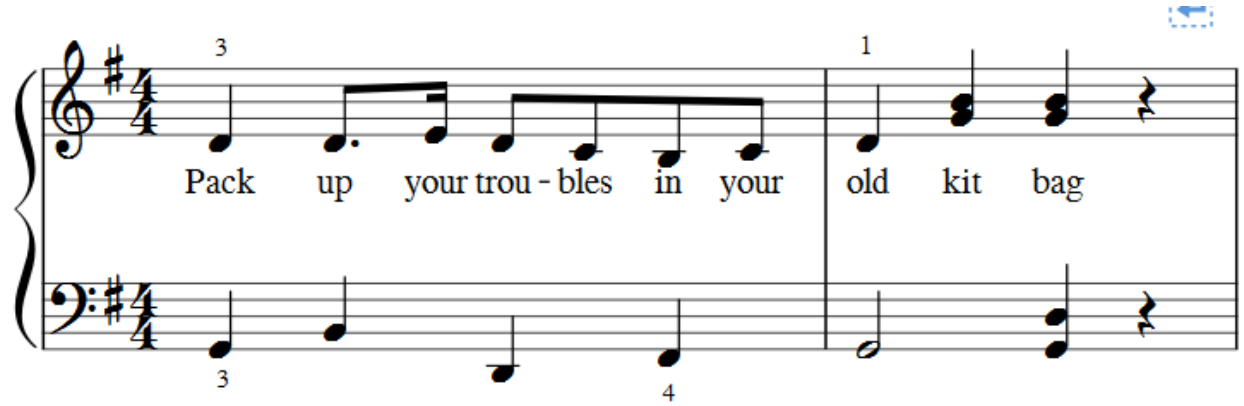
Exercise 4: - The Ash Grove



Exercise 5: – Tom Dooley



Exercise 6: – Pack up Your Troubles



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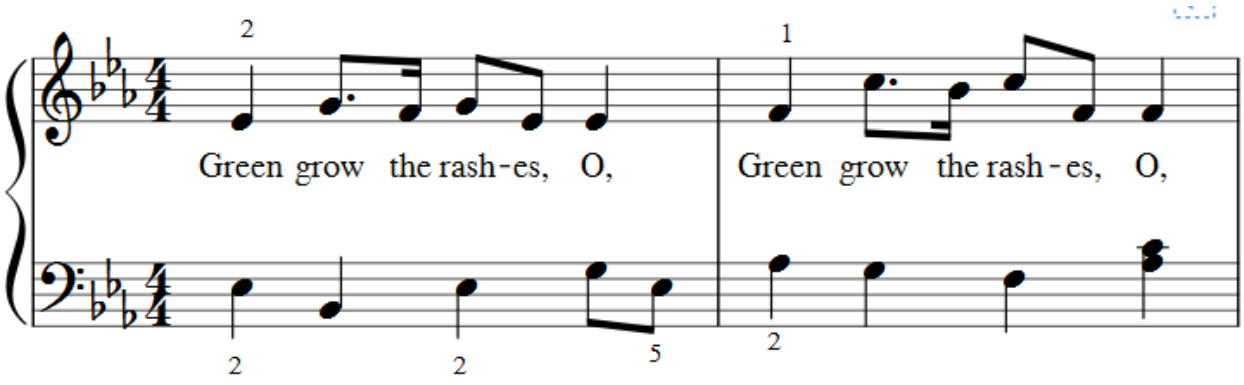
Exercise 7: – Green Grow the Rushes O



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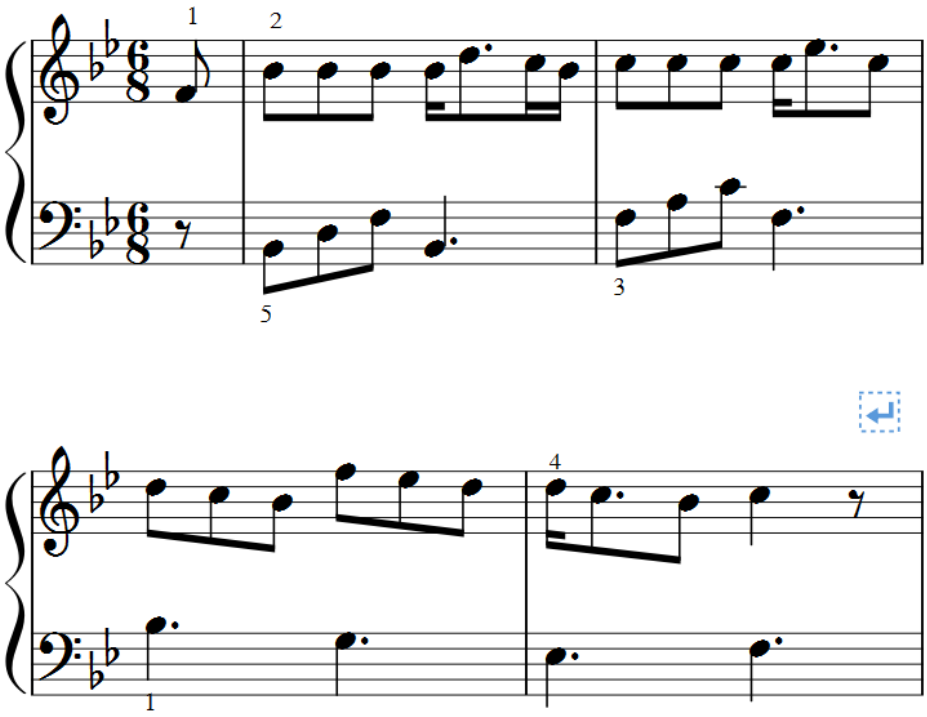
Tune for Refresher no. 2

Apply the Learning Procedure as needed.

Molly Malone



You'll find the rest of this tune in the 'Book 4' section of the Companion Tune Book.

Chat with David

Well done on learning all these 7 major keys. This is a big step forward in your musical training.

I told you earlier that one reason we have all these scales and keys is that it creates more variety and interest in the music.

Would you like to do a little experiment to test that out for yourself?

Here's what to do:

1. Play all the exercises in Refresher no. 1. You can find the page number for Refresher no. 1 by looking in the Table of Contents at the start of

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this book. The exercises in the refresher are the beginning of various tunes. All of them are in G major, because that was the only key you knew at that point (apart from C major).

2. Now play all the exercises in Refresher no. 2, the refresher you just completed. They are in a mixture of the 7 major keys you've now learned.

3. How would you describe the difference between playing all the tunes in the same key (G major) and playing them in a variety of keys?

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