

# THE GREGG METHOD

*“Official Curriculum of The Levitical Academy of Music”*



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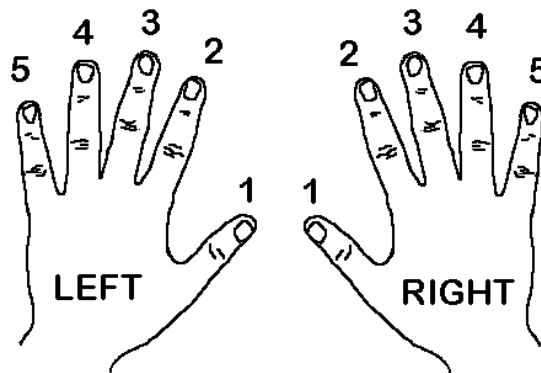
# HELPFUL HINTS & RESOURCES

## Lesson Objectives

After the successful completion of this curriculum, the aspiring, beginning, or accomplished musician will have a working knowledge and a thorough understanding of major scales, chord intervals, chord degrees, chord degrees with major substitutions, and will be adequately equipped to play proficiently in all twelve keys.

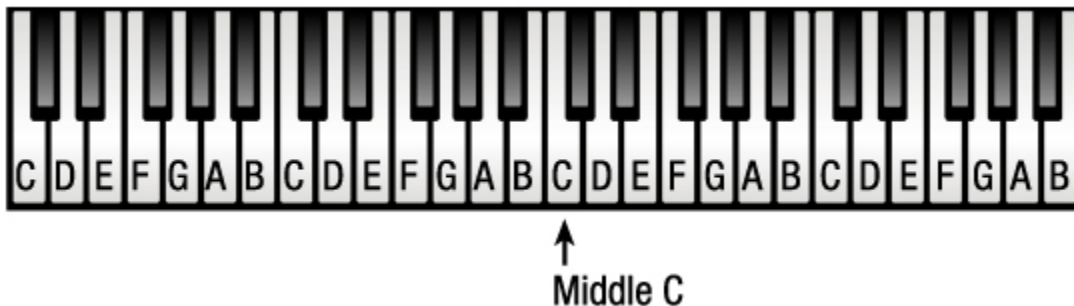
## Hands Chart

Understanding how your fingers are numbered is crucial to the successful playing of any keyboard instrument. The hands chart is the prerequisite for scales, chords, chord progressions and transitions. Develop a good understanding of the fingerings for both hands before you work through the scales, chords, chord progressions and song diagram chord sheets for each lesson. This will enable you to establish a good foundation for your success and pave the way for your personal creativity as you acquire other techniques to compliment what is presented in this curriculum.



## Identifying the Midpoint of a Keyboard Instrument

It is easy to identify the midpoint of a keyboard instrument. On spinet, grand pianos, and many organs, the midpoint is the area where the brand name of the instrument is inscribed. On electronic and digital keyboard instruments, the midpoint is usually the area where the LCD screen is located. Middle C is always to the immediate left of that area.



## Practice Routine

Practice is essential for your growth and development as a musician. The routine below was designed to give each component of your lessons an equal amount of attention. Your practice session should last for a minimum of thirty minutes. However, “structured” flexibility is encouraged until mastery in each area is achieved. Give your weakest area(s) the most attention. An excellent way to monitor your progress is to record your practice sessions with an audio recording device. At the end of the session play the recording back for self-reflection and evaluation. Use a simple kitchen timer to keep you on track. Set the timer for the designated number of minutes before getting started and record your progress on the practice log (pages 32-35). Permission is granted to reproduce the practice log with the purchase of this curriculum.

Technique	Left Hand	Right Hand	Total Minutes	*Self-Evaluation		
				M	S	U
Scales	2 minutes	2 minutes	4			
Chord Intervals	2 minutes	2 minutes	4			
I-IV-V-I Chord Progressions	2 minutes	2 minutes	4			
Chord Degrees	2 minutes	2 minutes	4			
Chord Degrees with Major Substitutions	2 minutes	2 minutes	4			
Song Diagram Chord Chart	5 minutes	5 minutes	10			

**KEY: M – Mastery S – Satisfactory U - Unsatisfactory**

## Song Diagram Chord Chart Directions

Song Diagram Chord Charts follow each lesson and have been carefully designed to reinforce the concepts and techniques that are addressed in each lesson. The majority of the song diagram chord charts in this curriculum are hymns or segments of hymns. Mastering hymns will teach you how to play transitions in other songs; learn to love the hymns of the church! An excellent rule of thumb is to let your right hand teach your left hand when learning music. Another effective strategy is to listen closely to the music that you are trying to learn for your specific keyboard instrument through headphones. This allows you to get a “close” sense of the chord progressions that make up a song. For instructional emphasis, however, this curriculum starts with a focus on the left hand first for foundational intention, and then on the right hand to tie it all together. Before working on the song diagram chord chart for any particular lesson, be sure to begin by positioning the left hand note or left hand chord far enough to the left of the keyboard so as to not overlap with the right hand chord, but not too far that it sounds muddy when playing full or inverted left hand chords.

Begin the right hand chord by first identifying the midpoint of the keyboard instrument. Remember, each song begins at, near, or slightly below the midpoint of the keyboard. Once you identify this point, move to the starting chord interval for the right hand. Remember, *Read the chart from left to right and you will be alright!*

1. Learn the left hand to mastery in isolation of the right hand. The section labeled **LH** is for your left hand note or chord and the section labeled **LHF** (left hand fingers), tells you which fingers to use to play the left hand note or chord. The fingerings in this curriculum have been included to provide ease and simplicity, but feel free to use fingerings that are most comfortable for you.
2. Learn the right hand to mastery in isolation of the left hand. This section is labeled **RH**.
3. Practice the song with both hands until you achieve mastery—someone should be able to sing while you play.
4. Commit the song to memory and add personal creativity. You must be able to “feel” your music!
5. Learn the song by playing full chords, inversions, tritones, and open chords with your left hand, and with transitions, passing chords, and fill-ins with your right hand. Finally, tie all together by mixing and stirring as you like.

## Extra Mile Challenge and Transpose Feature

Learn the challenge song in each of the other keys in order to become well-rounded. The key to this is to apply the principles and techniques presented in one lesson/key to another one. While we appreciate this technology, **please do not limit yourself by using the transpose feature**; transpose your fingers!

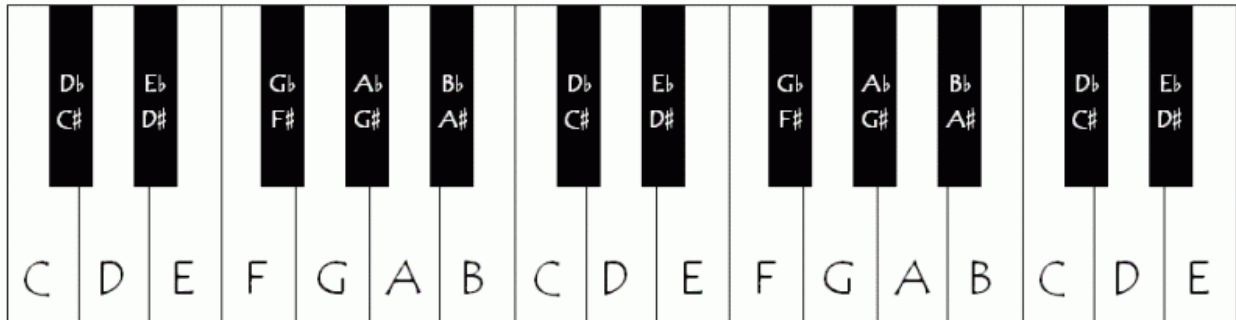
## LESSON 1: THE KEY OF C MAJOR

### The C Major Scale

The C major scale has no sharps (#) or flats (b).

<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
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**Highlight the C Major Scale on the piano chart below.**



**Now practice playing the C major scale with both your left and right hand.**

<b>Hand</b>	<b>KEY</b>	<b>Scale Fingerings</b>
<b>LEFT HAND</b>	<b>C MAJOR</b>	<b>14321321</b>
<b>RIGHT HAND</b>		<b>12312341</b>

\*Play the scales in ascending and descending order

### C Major Chord Intervals

<b>Root Position</b>	<b>First Inversion</b>	<b>Second Inversion</b>
<b>C E G</b>	<b>E G C</b>	<b>G C E</b>

**Extension:** Play the chord intervals with your left and right hand.

### I-IV-V-I Major Chord Progressions

<b>LH Fingerings</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>LH Bass Note</b>	<b>I-C</b>	<b>IV-F</b>	<b>V-G</b>	<b>I-C</b>
<b>RH Major Chord</b>	<b>C E G</b>	<b>C F A</b>	<b>D G B</b>	<b>C E G</b>

**Extension:** Play the right hand chords with your left hand and then with both hands.

### C Major Chord Degrees

<b>Degrees</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>IV</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>vii<sup>o</sup></b>	<b>I</b>
<b>LH Scale</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>LH</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>RH</b>	<b>C E G</b>	<b>D F A</b>	<b>E G B</b>	<b>F A C</b>	<b>G B D</b>	<b>A C E</b>	<b>B D F</b>	<b>C E G</b>
<b>Chords</b>	<b>C Root</b>	<b>Dm</b>	<b>Em</b>	<b>F Root</b>	<b>G Root</b>	<b>Am</b>	<b>Bdim</b>	<b>C Root</b>

**Extension:** Play the chord degrees with your left hand and then with both hands.

### Major Substitutions

<b>Degrees</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>IV</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>VI</b>	<b>VII</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>LH Scale</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>LH</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>RH</b>	<b>C E G</b>	<b>D F A</b>	<b>E G C</b>	<b>F A C</b>	<b>G B D</b>	<b>A C F</b>	<b>B D G</b>	<b>C E G</b>
<b>Chords</b>	<b>C Root</b>	<b>Dm</b>	<b>E<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>F Root</b>	<b>G Root</b>	<b>F<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>G<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>C Root</b>

**Extension:** Play the chord degrees and substitutions with your left hand and then with both hands.

### Challenge/Reinforcement:

**“Days of Elijah” Vamp/Tag & “Alleluia” Song Diagram Chord Chart**

## "Days of Elijah"

(C Major I-IV-V-I Song Diagram Chord Chart—Lyrics by Robin Mark, 1997 Daybreak Music Ltd.)

### *Play the I-chord seven times*

Lyrics	There's	no	God	like	Je-	-ho	-vah,
LHF	5						
LH	C /CEG	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
RH	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG

### *Play the IV-chord seven times*

Lyrics	There's	no	God	like	Je-	-ho	-vah,
LHF	2						
LH	F /CFA	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
RH	CFA	CFA	CFA	CFA	CFA	CFA	CFA

### *Play the I-Chord seven times*

Lyrics	There's	no	God	like	Je-	-ho	-vah,
LHF	5						
LH	C/CEG	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
RH	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG	CEG

### *Play the V-chord seven times*

Lyrics	There's	no	God	like	Je-	-ho	-vah,
LHF	1						
LH	G/DGB	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
RH	DGB	DGB	DGB	DGB	DGB	DGB	DGB

~End the routine by playing a C Major Chord over C in the left hand~

**\*\*THIS WILL BE YOUR I-IV-V-I PRACTICE ROUTINE FOR EVERY KEY\*\***

## Notes

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# "ALLELUJIA"

(C Major Song Diagram Chord Chart-Lyrics by Jerry Sinclair, 1993 Manna Music, Inc.)

## Chorus

Lyrics	Al-	le-	lu-	jia		Passing Chords			
LHF	5	5	3	3		2	1		
LH	G	G	C	C		D	G		
RH	CEG	CEG	EGC	EGC		CD#F#A	DFBb		

Lyrics	Al-	le-	lu-	jia		Passing Chord			
LHF	3	2	1	1		2			
LH	C	E	F	F		A			
RH	EGC	DGB	CFA	CFA		DEA			

Lyrics	Al-	le-	lu-	jia		Turnarounds			
LHF	3	2	1	1		3	2		
LH	D	F#	G	G		A	B		
RH	CF#A	EAC	DGB	DGB		CFA	DGB		

*For this line, play the left hand note by walking up from the low A near the starting point!*

Lyrics	Al-	le-	lu-	jia		Passing Chords			
LHF	3	2	1	1		2	1		
LH	A	B	C	C		Db	D		
RH	CFA	DGB	CFA	CEG		BbDbEG	ACEG		

## Notes

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## THE LEVITICAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC PRACTICE LOG

Key: M- Mastery S-Satisfactory U-Unsatisfactory

DATE	Technique	Left Hand Time	Right Hand Time	Total # Minutes	Self-Evaluation		
					M	S	U <span style="font-size: small;">✓</span>

