



Keyboard Arpeggio Study Guide



TECHNIQUE



PRACTICE

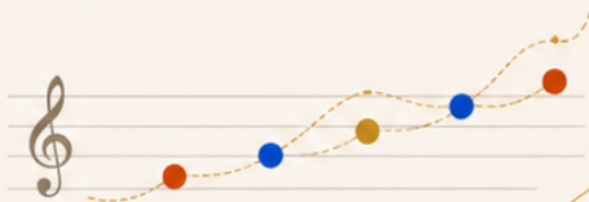


UNDERSTANDING



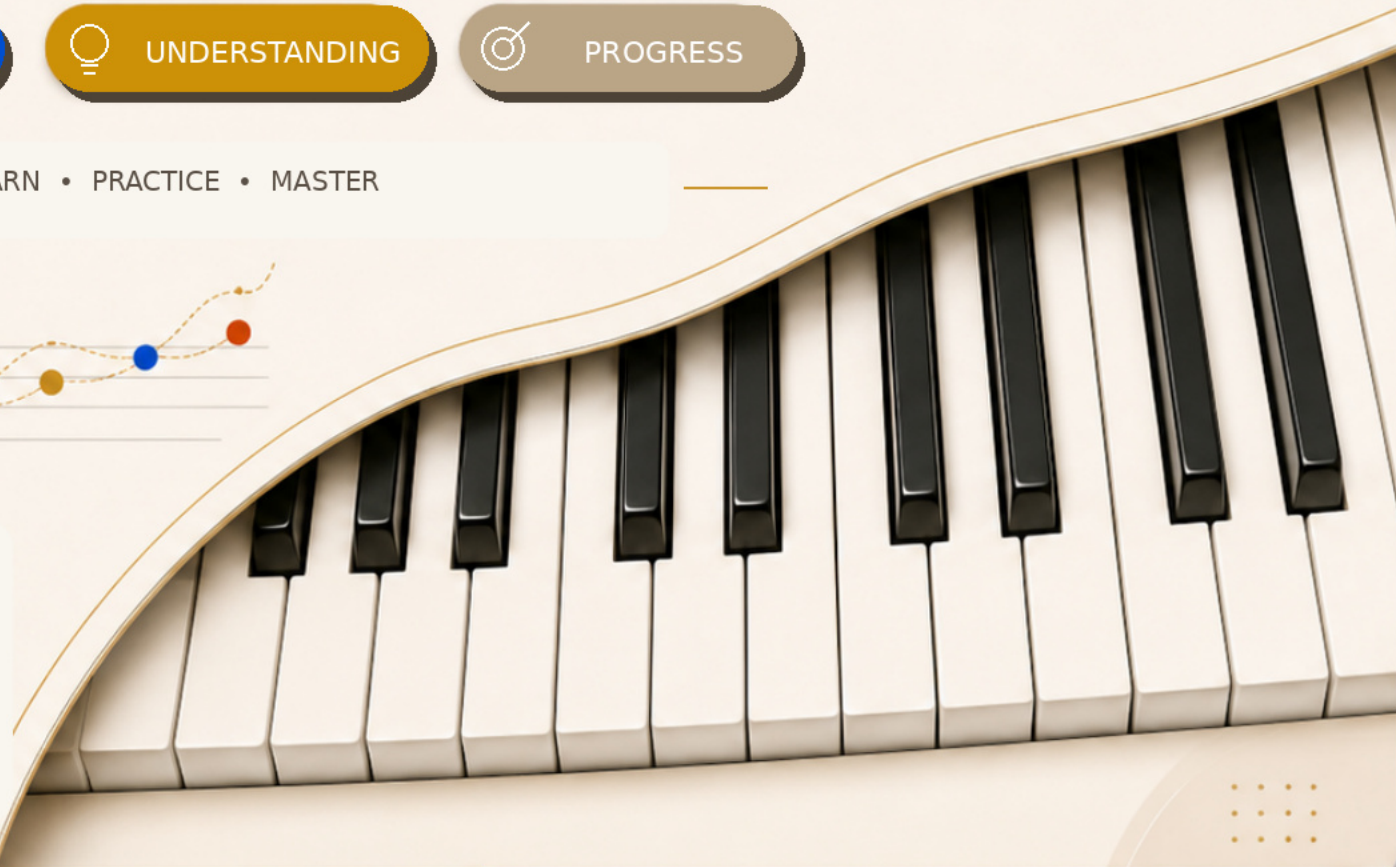
PROGRESS

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Author: Aline Fraga

Simplifying Theory





Keyboard Arpeggios

G

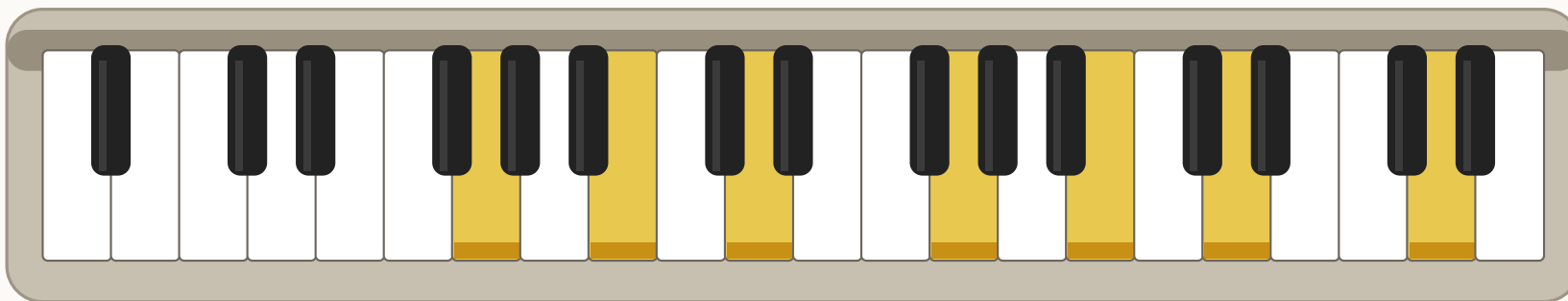
Em

D

C

B

Clear theory, keyboard diagrams, practical exercises, and a simple study plan.



Left hand: lower register

Right hand: upper register

Two-octave arpeggio

Created by Aline Fraga



1. What Is an Arpeggio?

Block Chord vs. Arpeggio

A chord is formed by notes that work together. On the keyboard, you can play those notes at the same time, creating one block of sound.

An arpeggio uses exactly the same notes as the chord, but instead of playing them all at once, you play them one after another. Your ear still recognizes the chord, but now it unfolds as movement.

Think of it this way: a chord is like a photograph; an arpeggio is like a short movie made from the same notes.

The Pattern Used in This Guide

In this study guide, each arpeggio ascends through two octaves. The left hand plays the triad in the lower register: 1 - 3 - 5. Then the right hand continues the same pattern in the upper register and ends on the octave.

The result is a seven-note sequence moving from low to high, with a smooth hand change in the middle.

How to Read the Diagrams

Highlighted key = arpeggio note.

Read the diagram from low to high.

The left hand starts in the lower register; the right hand continues with the higher notes.

2. Chord Map

Before You Play: Check the Notes

When the letter m appears, the chord is minor. Without an m, it is major. Therefore, Em is E minor and B is B major.

Chord	Name	Chord Notes
G	G major	G - B - D
Em	E minor	E - G - B
D	D major	D - F# - A
C	C major	C - E - G
B	B major	B - D# - F#

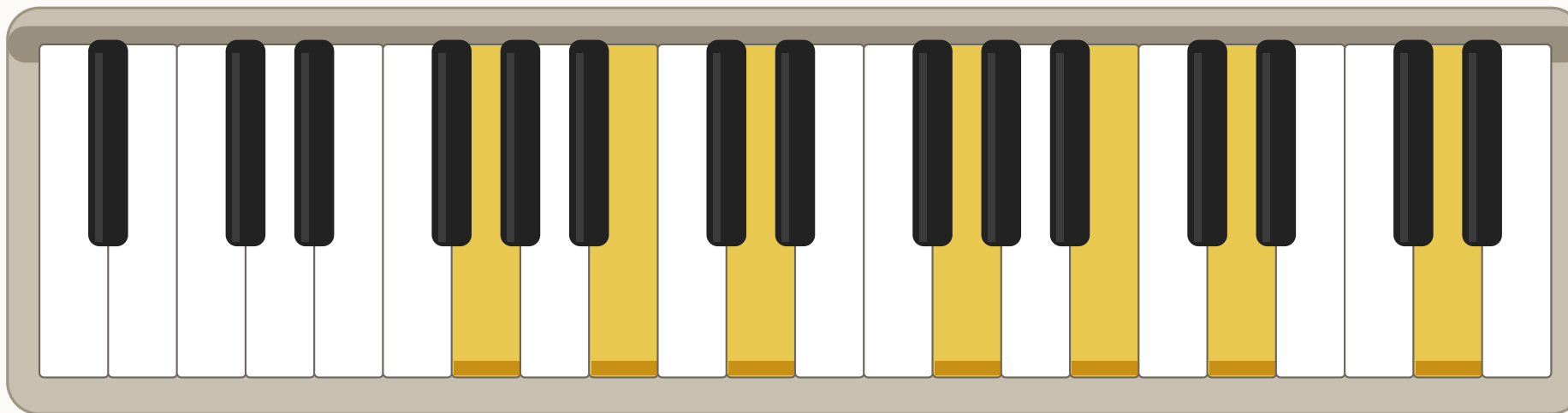
Golden Rule

Play slowly enough to hit every note correctly. Speed without clarity turns into confusion; slow, clear playing becomes music as you increase the tempo.

What to Practice First

Start with G and Em. Then move on to D, C, and B. The goal is to memorize the chord tones and recognize each shape on the keyboard without rushing.

3.1 G Arpeggio (G major)



Chord notes: G - B - D

Sequence: G - B - D - G - B - D - G

Exercise 1 - Clean Ascent

Play the full two-octave arpeggio from low to high. Use one note per metronome click at 50-60 BPM. Repeat four times without fixing mistakes mid-run: if you miss a note, stop and restart slowly.

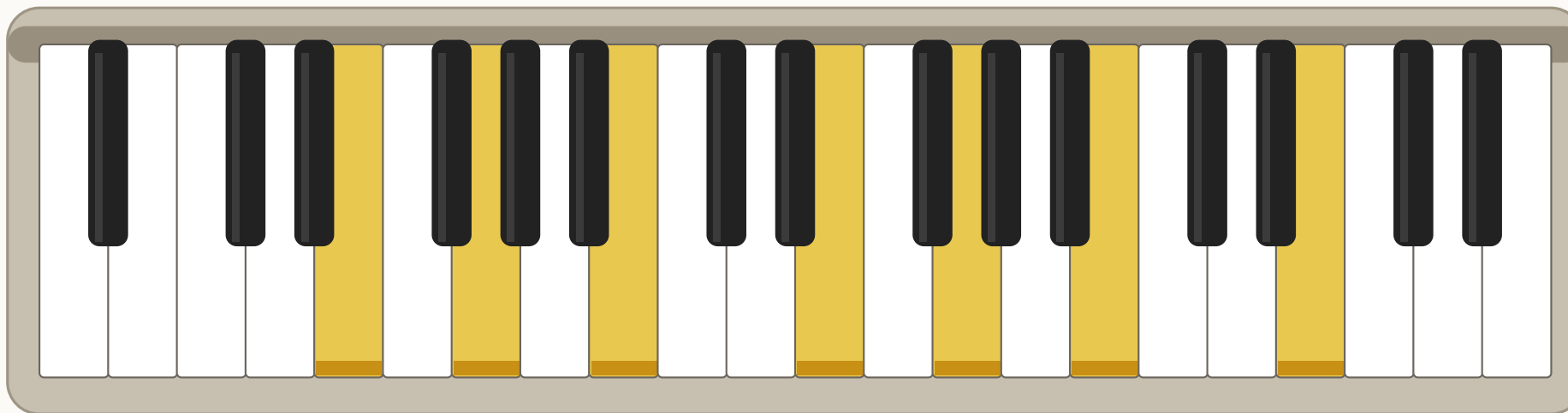
Exercise 2 - Up and Down

Play ascending and descending without leaving gaps between notes. The goal is to make the transition from the left hand to the right hand smooth.

Exercise 3 - Dynamic Control

Play three rounds: loud, medium, and soft. The notes stay the same; only your touch changes. Record yourself on your phone and check whether the rhythm stays even.

3.2 Em Arpeggio (E minor)



Chord notes: E - G - B

Sequence: E - G - B - E - G - B - E

Exercise 1 - Clean Ascent

Play the full two-octave arpeggio from low to high. Use one note per metronome click at 50-60 BPM. Repeat four times without fixing mistakes mid-run: if you miss a note, stop and restart slowly.

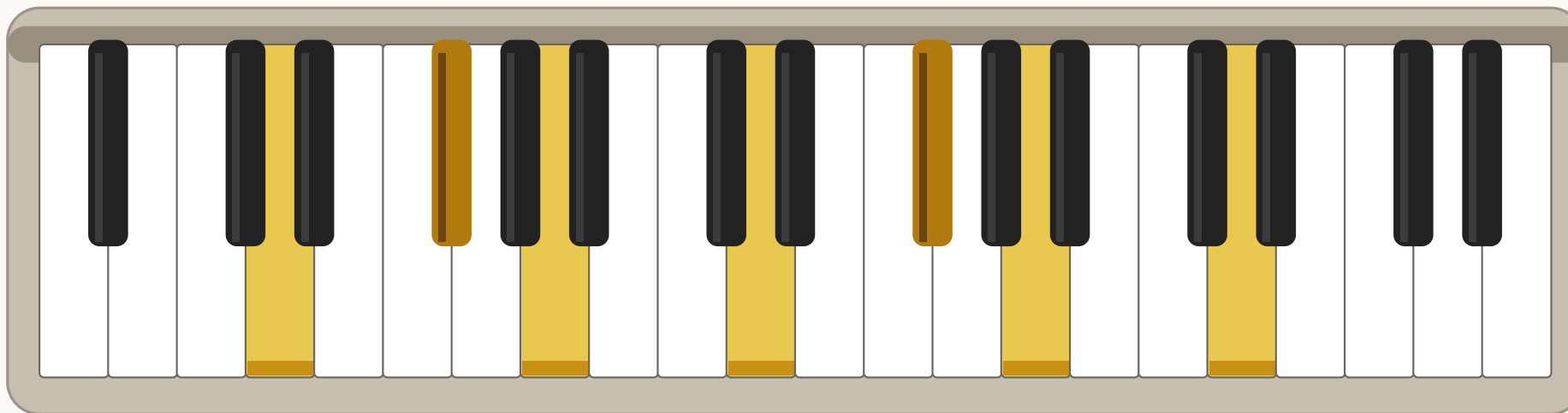
Exercise 2 - Up and Down

Play ascending and descending without leaving gaps between notes. The goal is to make the transition from the left hand to the right hand smooth.

Exercise 3 - Dynamic Control

Play three rounds: loud, medium, and soft. The notes stay the same; only your touch changes. Record yourself on your phone and check whether the rhythm stays even.

3.3 D Arpeggio (D major)



Chord notes: D - F# - A

Sequence: D - F# - A - D - F# - A - D

Exercise 1 - Clean Ascent

Play the full two-octave arpeggio from low to high. Go slowly and pay close attention to the F# keys. Use one note per metronome click at 50-60 BPM.

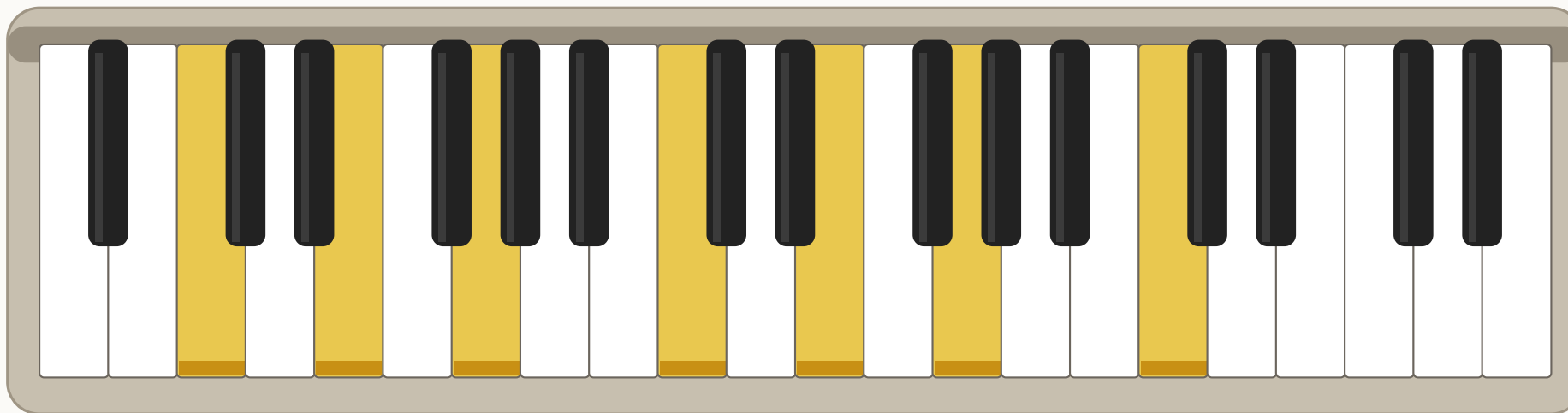
Exercise 2 - Up and Down

Play ascending and descending without leaving gaps between notes. The goal is to make the transition from the left hand to the right hand smooth.

Exercise 3 - Dynamic Control

Play three rounds: loud, medium, and soft. The notes stay the same; only your touch changes. Record yourself on your phone and check whether the rhythm stays even.

3.4 C Arpeggio (C major)



Chord notes: C - E - G

Sequence: C - E - G - C - E - G - C

Exercise 1 - Clean Ascent

Play the full two-octave arpeggio from low to high. Because this pattern uses only white keys, focus on relaxation and accuracy. Use one note per metronome click at 50-60 BPM.

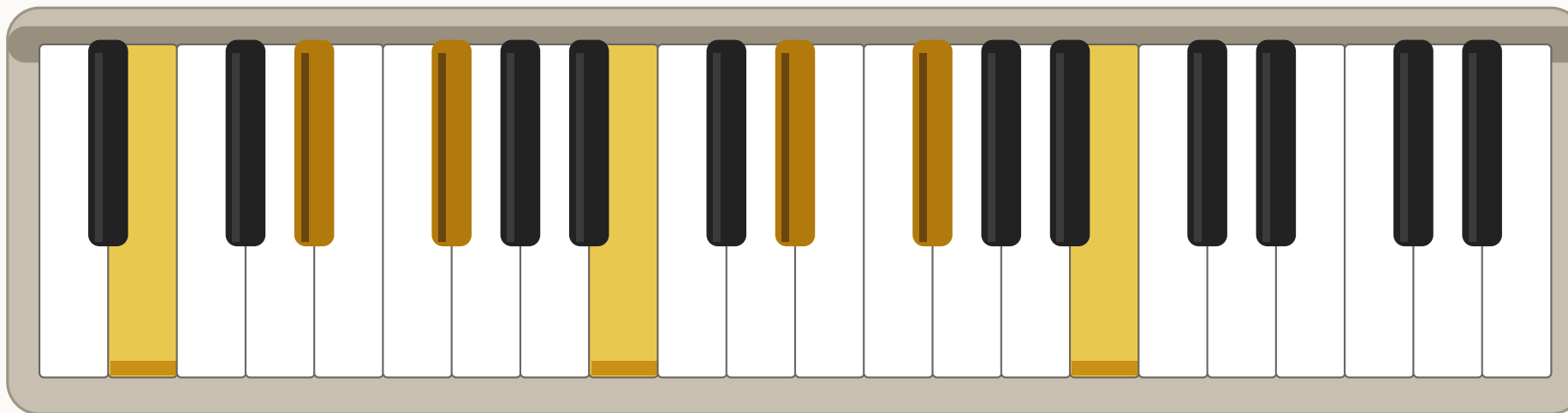
Exercise 2 - Up and Down

Play ascending and descending without leaving gaps between notes. The goal is to make the transition from the left hand to the right hand smooth.

Exercise 3 - Dynamic Control

Play three rounds: loud, medium, and soft. The notes stay the same; only your touch changes. Record yourself on your phone and check whether the rhythm stays even.

3.5 B Arpeggio (B major)



Chord notes: B - D# - F#

Sequence: B - D# - F# - B - D# - F# - B

Exercise 1 - Clean Ascent

Play the full two-octave arpeggio from low to high. Go slowly and pay close attention to the black keys for D# and F#. Use one note per metronome click at 50-60 BPM.

Exercise 2 - Up and Down

Play ascending and descending without leaving gaps between notes. The goal is to make the transition from the left hand to the right hand smooth.

Exercise 3 - Dynamic Control

Play three rounds: loud, medium, and soft. The notes stay the same; only your touch changes. Record yourself on your phone and check whether the rhythm stays even.

4. One-Week Study Plan

The idea is simple: a little each day, done very well

Use a metronome. Start at 50 BPM. Increase by 5 BPM only after three accurate repetitions with steady rhythm and a smooth hand change.

Golden rule: practice slowly, notice the mistake, correct it, and only then increase the tempo.

Day	Focus	Main Task	Daily Goal
1	Concept + G	Read the explanation, play G ascending and descending. Then write the notes G - B - D.	Name the notes without looking at the chart.
2	Em + C	Practice Em and C at 50-60 BPM. Use C as a reference arpeggio because it contains only white keys.	Move from LH -> RH without delay.
3	D + focus on F#	Play D slowly, watching the F# keys in the diagram. Alternate D and G.	Do not confuse F# with F natural.
4	B + focus on D#	Practice B in sections: first B - D# - F#, then the full arpeggio.	Remember that B major uses D# and F#.
5	Full progression	Play G -> Em -> D -> C -> B, always ascending. Then reverse it: B -> C -> D -> Em -> G.	Keep a steady pulse.
6	Dynamics and musicality	Repeat all arpeggios at three dynamic levels: soft, medium, and loud. Do not rush.	Control volume without losing accuracy.
7	Recorded review	Record all five arpeggios. Listen and check: correct notes, even rhythm, smooth hand change.	Know exactly what to improve next week.

5. Keep Learning

Once these arpeggios feel comfortable, the next step is to use them in real music: accompaniment patterns, chord symbols, reading, coordination, and repertoire.



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