

Piano Proficiency Test Two

Technical Skills:

1. Play the arpeggios in all 12 major keys (hands together in octaves, or RH arpeggios with chordal accompaniment). Repeat the exercise in the minor mode. Refer to Appendix 1.
2. Play the diatonic seventh chords in all major keys up through 3 flats and 3 sharps (RH **or** LH), calling their qualities as you play them. Refer to Appendix 2.
3. Play the dominant seventh chords and their inversions, transposed to all keys. (LH only) Refer to Appendix 3:
4. Play the following scales, using proper fingering. You may play hands separately, ascending and descending through two octaves. Choose one scale to play in parallel motion, hands together.

Major Scales: C, G, D, A, E

Minor Scales (natural, harmonic and melodic): c, g, d, a, e

Fingering: RH: 123 12345 LH: 54321 321
(1)

Major Scale: B-flat

Fingering: RH: 3123 1234 LH: 321 43213
(2)

Major Scale: B major

Fingering: RH: 123 1234 LH: 4321 4321

5. Study the use of secondary dominants in Appendix 4. Perform the progressions from memory, using your left hand.

Practical Skills:

1. Play the melody and provide an accompaniment for *The Star-Spangled Banner* and *Back Home Again in Indiana*. Refer to Appendix 5.
2. Prepare a hymn or contemporary worship piece for congregational singing. Your instructor will provide a score. Your performance must include an introduction that you create.
3. Harmonize the carol *Deck the Halls* by ear, placing the melody in your RH and an accompaniment in your LH. You must use secondary dominants in the third phrase of your harmonization.
4. Prepare and perform a piece from the list given below:
Bartok: *Mikrokosmos*, Book 3 (a selection)
Bartok: *Ten Easy Pieces* (a selection)
Kabalevsky: *Toccata*
Prokofiev: *Music for Children*, op. 56 (a selection)
Shostakovich: *Children's Pieces*, op. 69 (a mvmt.)
5. Prepare and perform an accompaniment from a choral octavo. Your instructor will provide you with a score.
6. Practice the 12-bar blues progression with your LH. Once that is learned, add an improvised melody with your RH, using the stemless notes as a guide. Play twice through, varying your melody each time. Refer to Appendix 6.

Appendix One:

Appendix Two:

MM mm mm MM Mm mm half-dim

Appendix Three:

1 1 1
2 2 2
3 3 3
5 5 5

Appendix Four:

I ii iii IV V vi

1 1 1
3 2 2
5 5 5

National anthem

Appendix 5

Tune: John Stafford Smith

Piano

Chord progression for measures 1-24:
Measures 1-4: Bb, F/A, gmin, D7
Measures 5-8: gmin, C7, F, F7
Measures 9-12: Bb, F7, Bb
Measures 13-16: Bb, F7, Bb, F
Measures 17-20: Bb, C7
Measures 21-24: F, Bb, Eb, G7, c, C7, Bb/F, F, F7, Bb, C7, Bb/F, F, Bb

Back Home Again

Tune: James F. Hanley, 1917 (public domain)

Piano

Chord progression for measures 1-11:
Measures 1-4: G, E7, A7, D7, G
Measures 5-8: C, G, A7, D7, G, E7, A7
Measures 9-11: D7, e min, Eb7, G, B7, e min, c#dim, G/D, D7, G

Name: _____

Piano Proficiency Test Two Specific Requirements

1. Arpeggios - All 12 keys - Major AND minor - Hands together in octaves, or RH arpeggios with LH chordal accompaniment

Required tempo: student must play at a minimum of dotted half note = 45 (tempo range 45-72 quarter note)

Executed tempo: _____

2. Diatonic Seventh Chords - Left or Right hand
Students must identify (speak) the quality of each seventh chord as they play.
Accuracy is more important than speed.

Major Keys: C D E-flat F G A B-flat

Required accuracy: No more than one error per key.

3. Dominant Seventh Chords -- play with the LH

Students may choose to arpeggiate chords. No more than three errors.

Number of errors: _____

4. Scales - proper fingering - Hands separate - 2 octaves ascending and descending

Major scales: C G D A E B and B-flat

Minor scales: natural, harmonic, melodic - c g d a e

Required minimum tempo: 72 = quarter note -1 note per beat fluently - **Zero errors**

Choose one scale to play in parallel motion, hands together: _____

Required minimum tempo: 72 = quarter note -1 note per beat fluently - **Zero errors**

5. Secondary dominants -- Play each of the three progressions from memory.

Required minimum tempo: 72 = quarter note -1 note per beat fluently - **Zero errors**

Practical Skills:

1. Melody and accompaniment for *The Star-Spangled Banner* in a singable tempo.

Required minimum tempo: quarter note = 76; No more than 3 errors

Goal tempo: quarter note = 100

Executed tempo: _____ Number of errors: _____

Melody and accompaniment for *Back Home Again in Indiana* in a singable tempo.

Required minimum tempo: quarter note = 76; No more than 3 errors

Goal tempo: quarter note = 100

Executed tempo: _____ Number of errors: _____

2. Prepare a hymn or contemporary worship piece, provided by your instructor. Provide an introduction (at least one phrase) and play in a tempo suitable for singing. It must be free of errors that would detract from singing.

Selection: _____

3. Melody and accompaniment for *Deck the Halls* in a singable tempo. (The third phrase must modulate to the dominant key.)

Required minimum tempo: quarter note = 92; No more than 3 errors

Goal tempo: quarter note = 128

Executed tempo: _____ Number of errors: _____

4. Prepare and perform a piece from the given list (see Test Two)

Required tempo and accuracy: Students should perform at performance tempo with three (3) or fewer errors. Memory is not required.

5. Prepare a choral accompaniment, provided by your instructor. Students should perform at performance tempo, and it must be free of errors that would detract from singing.

Selection: _____

6. Play the 12-bars blues progression with an improvised melody in the RH, twice through.

Required tempo: student must play at a minimum of quarter note = 88 (tempo range 88-120 quarter note)

Executed tempo: _____