

6

Chord and Scale Syllabus

Quick review of course

Lessons 1 to 5 have prepared you to be able to play a chord and scale on notes G, A, C and D using whole, half and quarter notes with both the left and right hands.

Lesson 3 introduced the concept of transferability. Because of the layout of the keyboard it is possible to transfer what you have learned to other notes.

This lesson will help you to be able to play a major chord and a major scale on any **natural** note.

Major Triads

Exercises 1–3 demonstrate the chords of F major (F,A,C), E major (E,G#,B) and B major (B,D#,F#), each in turn.

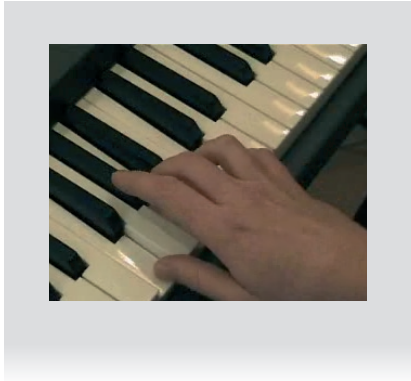
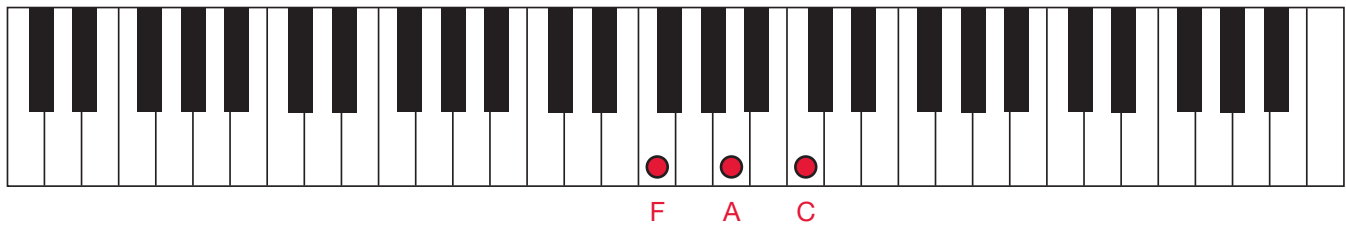
Play through each exercise carefully, repeating it as necessary and make sure you are comfortable. Remember to memorise the notes of each chord. Also, make sure you play in time and follow the fingering we have learned.

As always use the multimedia files to help you understand the chords and how to play them.

Lesson Objectives

- Review of previous lessons.
- Develop transferability of major triads and major scales.
- Develop the ability to be able to play chords and scales on any **Natural** note.
- Introduce and learn the chords of F, E and B major.
- Introduce and learn the major scales of F, E and B.

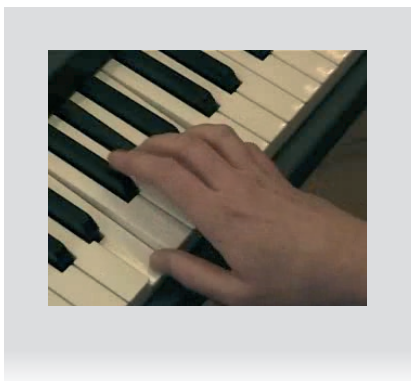
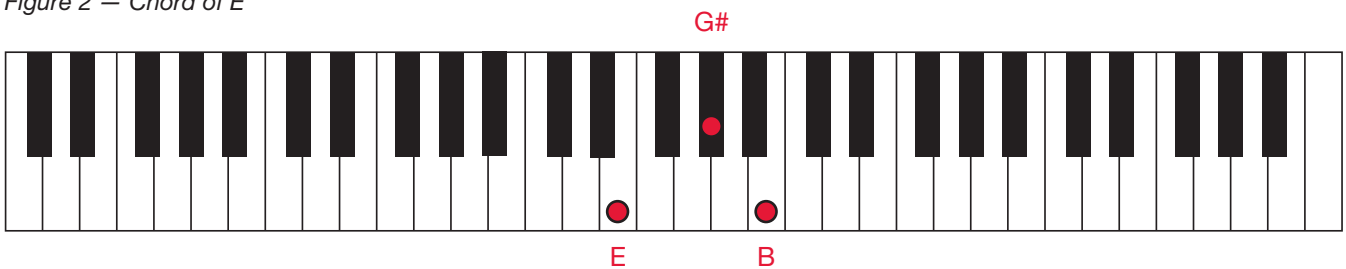
Figure 1 – Chord of F

**Exercise 1**

lesson006.ikscss.01

Play the right hand triad of F major using whole notes.

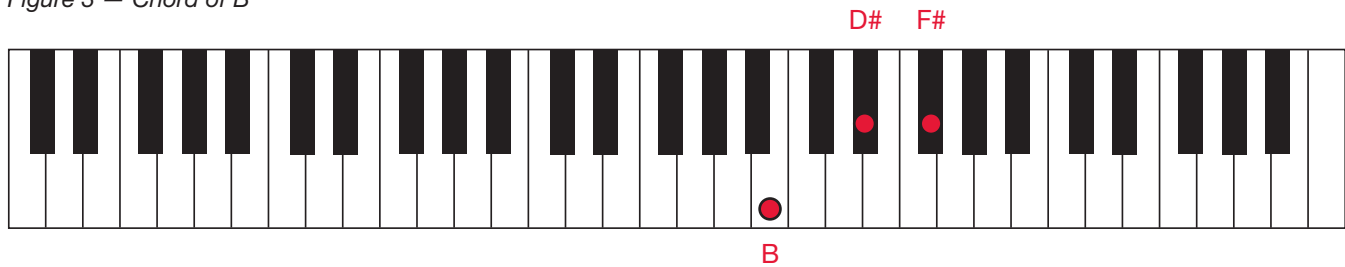
Figure 2 – Chord of E

**Exercise 2**

lesson006.ikscss.02

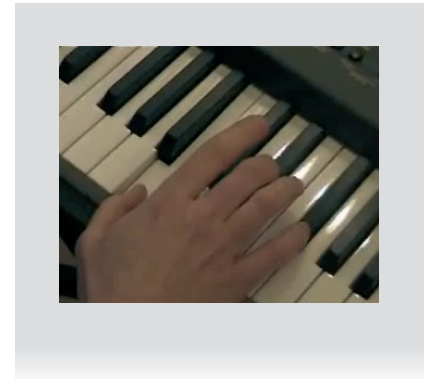
Play the right hand triad of E major using whole notes.

Figure 3 — Chord of B

**Exercise 3**

lesson006.ikscss.03

Play the right hand triad of B major using whole notes.

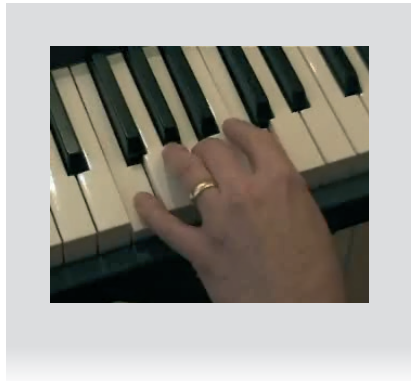
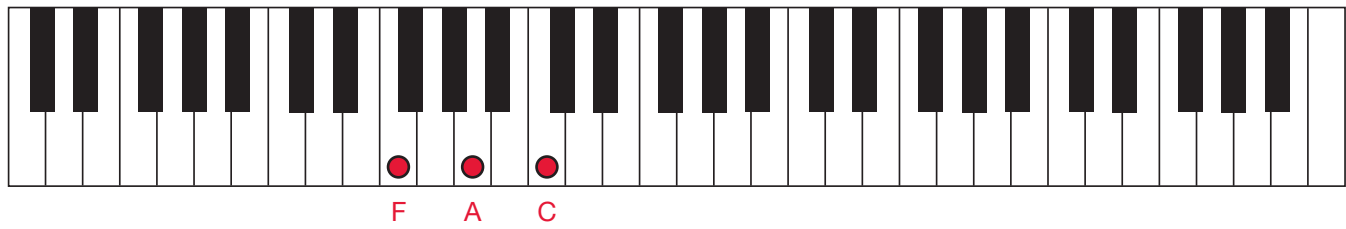


Developing Left Hand Triads

As we have done in previous lessons we need to be able to play chords in both hands, and both clefs. Accordingly, we are now going to play our three new triads, F major, E major and B major with our left hand in the bass clef.

As always, focus on forming the chords, remembering the notes in each triad, where the notes appear on the staff and play them in time and with the correct fingers. Use the supportive media files to help you get them right.

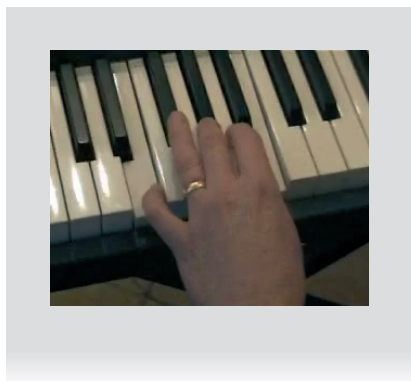
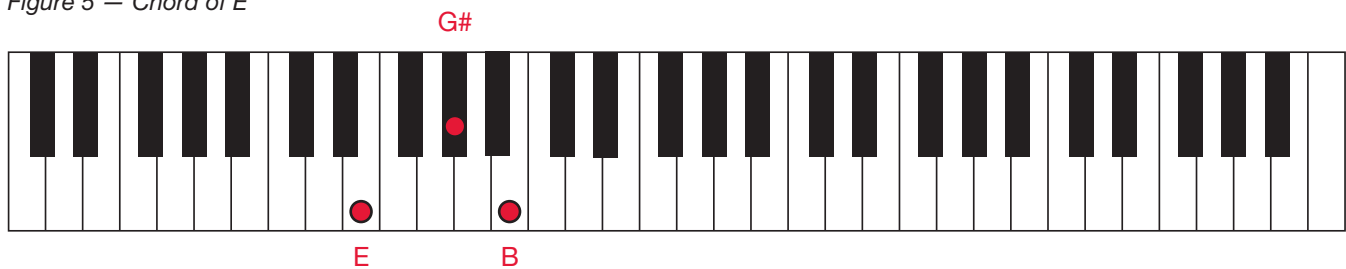
Figure 4 – Chord of F

**Exercise 4**

lesson006.ikscss.04

Play the left hand triad of F major using whole notes.

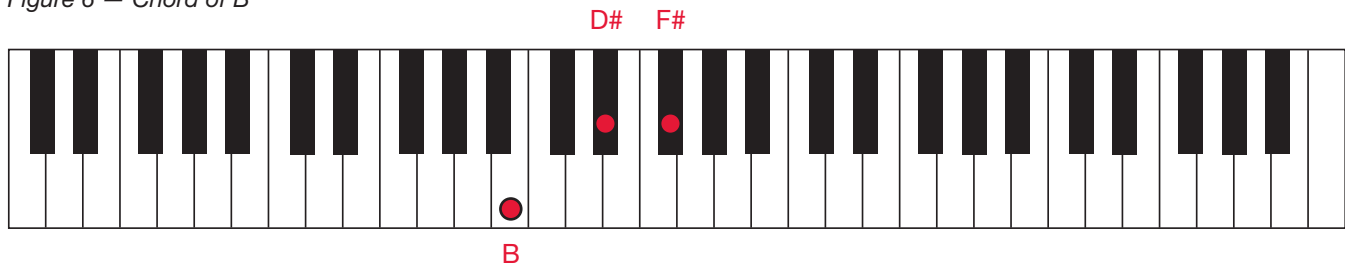
Figure 5 – Chord of E

**Exercise 5**

lesson006.ikscss.05

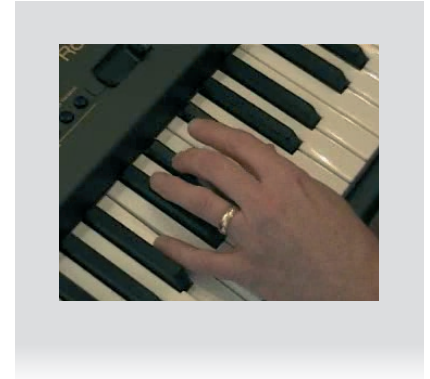
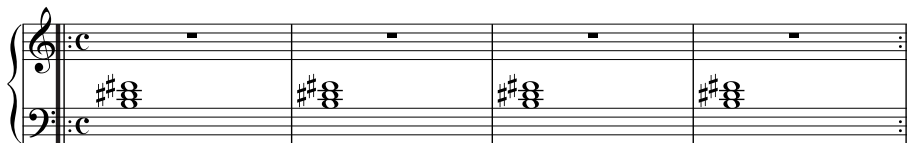
Play the left hand triad of E major using whole notes.

Figure 6 — Chord of B

**Exercise 6**

lesson006.ikscss.06

Play the left hand triad of B major using whole notes.



Review of Major Triads

You should now be able to play major triad on any Natural note. Check you can do this.

1. Pick a note.
2. Practise playing a major triad on this note using all the rhythms you know.
3. Now pick another note and repeat.
4. Repeat this process until you have played all the major triads A,B,C,D,E,F,G.

Remember to practise each hand in turn and ensure that you are comfortable with forming each chord and that you know the notes in each triad.

This is hugely important and you should take time most days to repeat this process so as to become completely comfortable with each chord and the notes contained.

Alternative 'Rule of Thumb'

For some scales the 'thumb under' technique leads to an awkward movement. These are chords in which the thumb would move under and onto a black note. To aid fluency of movement, we can alter the normal pattern so that the 'thumb under' falls onto a white note:

E.g.: The scales of F and F minor in the right hand:

From: T, 1, 2, T, 1, 2, 3, 4

To: T, 1, 2, 3, T, 1, 2, 3

The Scale of B in the left hand:

From: 4, 3, 2, 1, T, 2, 1, T

To: 3, 2, 1, T, 3, 2, 1, T

A 'rule of thumb' of classical piano playing is that, in scales, the thumb never lands on a black note.

Major Scales

As we have done throughout the course so far, it is now time to learn the scale that accompanies each of our new chords, so we are going to learn the major scales of F, E and B.

The exercises are written firstly for your right hand (*Exercises 7, 8, 9*) and then for your left hand (*Exercises 10, 11, 12*).

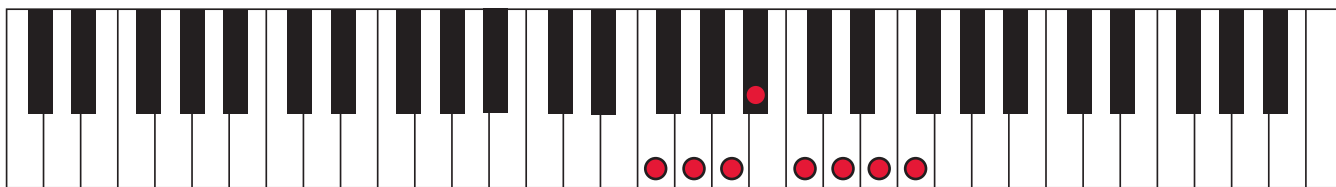
You know how to finger scales so we have written the exercise on the keyboard diagrams showing you the scale and then again on the musical staff. Use the supportive multimedia as always.

Right Hand Scales

Each of the following examples has the notes indicated on the keyboard diagrams, but you know enough now to identify each note and finger correctly.

The following exercises numbered 7, 8 and 9 are for the right hand.

Figure 7 — Scale of F

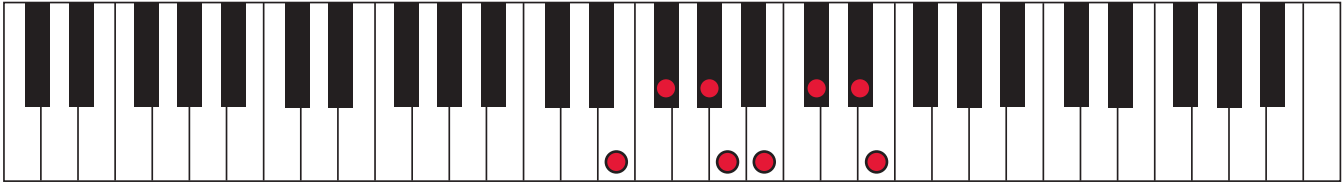


Exercise 7

lesson006.ikscss.07



Figure 8 – Scale of E

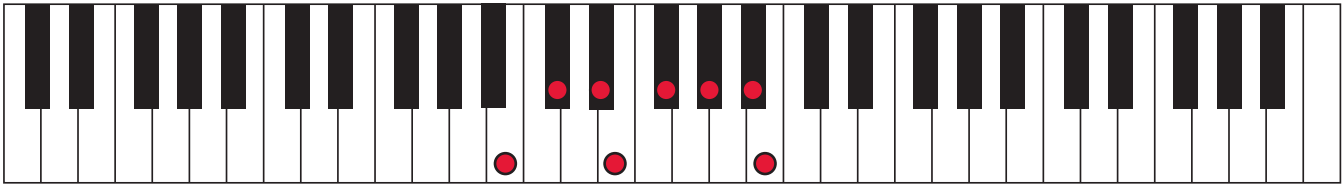


Exercise 8

lesson006.ikscss.08



Figure 9 – Scale of B



Exercise 9

lesson006.ikscss.09

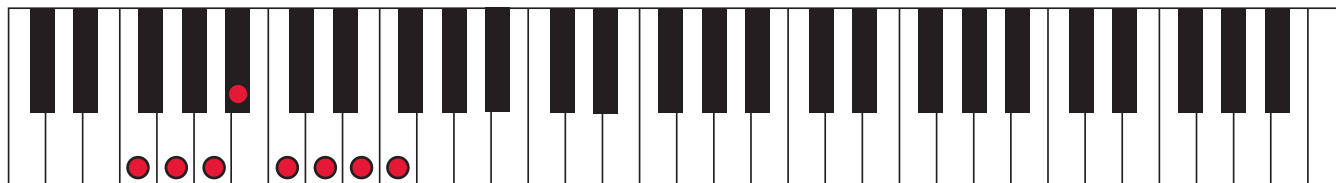


Left Hand Scales

Each of the following examples has the notes indicated on the keyboard diagrams, but again you have to identify each note and finger correctly.

The following exercises numbered 10, 11 and 12 are for the left hand.

Figure 10 – Scale of F

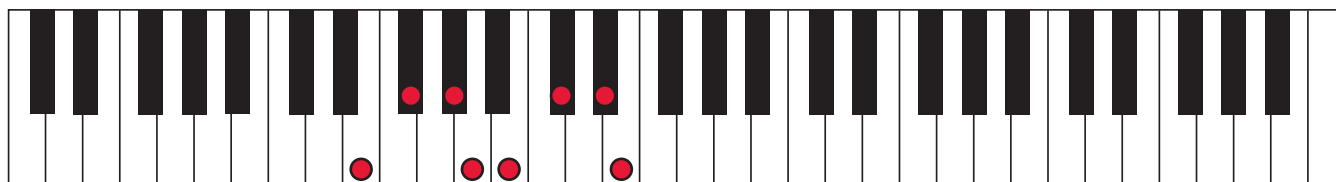


Exercise 10

lesson006.ikscss.10



Figure 11 – Scale of E

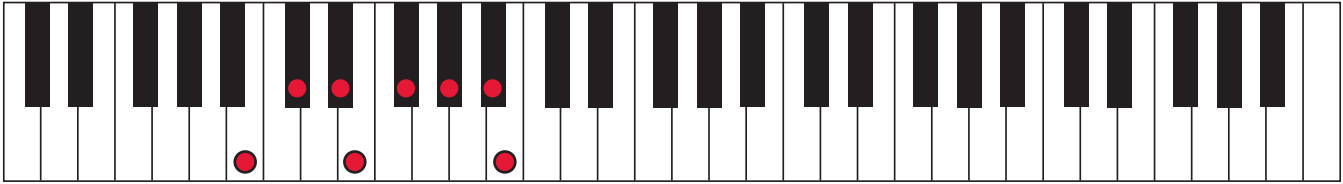


Exercise 11

lesson006.ikscss.11



Figure 12 – Scale of B

**Exercise 12**

lesson006.ikscss.12



Review of Major Scales

You should now be able to play a major scale on any natural note. Check you can do this.

1. Pick a note.
2. Practise playing a major scale on this note using all the rhythms you know.
3. Now pick another note and repeat.
4. Repeat this process until you have played all the major scales of A,B,C,D,E,F,G.

Remember to practise each hand in turn and ensure that you are comfortable with forming each chord and that you know the notes in each scale.

This is hugely important and you should take time most days to repeat this process so as to become completely comfortable with each scale and the notes contained.

Chord and Scale Together

This last section of this lesson enables you to put both your hands together playing our newly learned scales and chords, F, E and B.

We are going to practise playing a major scale in the right hand using quarter notes and a chord in the left hand using whole notes.

Before you begin going through each note, make sure that you know what you are doing.

1. Run through it mentally first.
2. Think about each hand and the notes involved.
3. Memorise the names of the notes involved.
4. Remember also the correct fingering.
5. Try to remember how it should sound and remember to play in time as well!

There is a huge amount to think about and you have done remarkably well to get this far, taking on a lot of knowledge as well as teaching your body how to play the scales and form the chords.

The exercises that follow, numbered 13, 14 and 15 are for F, E and B respectively.

Make full use of the supportive multimedia.

Exercise 13

lesson006.ikscss.013

The image shows a musical score for Exercise 13. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff (right hand) and a bass clef staff (left hand). The time signature is common time (C). The right hand plays a major scale starting on F4: F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F5 (quarter). The left hand plays four whole-note chords: F major (F2, A2, C3), F major (F2, A2, C3), F major (F2, A2, C3), and F major (F2, A2, C3). The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Exercise 14

lesson006.ikscss.014



Musical notation for Exercise 14, showing a piano exercise in C major. The right hand plays a scale: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The left hand plays major triads: C4-E4-G4, D4-F4-A4, E4-G4-B4, F4-A4-C5.

Exercise 15

lesson006.ikscss.015



Musical notation for Exercise 15, showing a piano exercise in C major. The right hand plays a scale: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The left hand plays major triads: C4-E4-G4, D4-F4-A4, E4-G4-B4, F4-A4-C5.

Developing all Natural Major Triads and Scales

You can now play major chords in the left hand and major scales in the right hand for every natural note. We have covered F, E and B throughout this lesson and you will recall that we did the same for A, G, C and D in *Lesson four*.

To become comfortable, familiar and fluent you will need to practise all of these scales and Triads as often as you can.