



## Lesson Fifteen

Gigajam Keyboard School Lesson 015 IKS ITA

### Introducing Triad Arpeggios

#### Lesson Objectives

- Introduce the concept of Arpeggios.
- Develop the ability to be able to perform Triads as an Arpeggio using Quarter Notes.

#### Studying Triads

Triads were first studied in Lesson 1. They are an important part of keyboard playing in popular music and because of this have been included in many other lessons throughout this Essential Keyboard Skills Course.

There are, of course, many different ways to play a Triad. This lesson will concentrate on learning to play a Triad as an Arpeggio using Quarter Notes. Arpeggios were introduced and studied in Lesson 8.

### Introducing Triad Arpeggios

So far, you have learned to play a Triad as a chord. This has involved playing all three notes at the same time. Playing a Triad as an Arpeggio means playing the three notes separately, one after another.

The first exercise in this lesson is two bars long. The first bar contains an F Major Triad played as a Whole note. All three notes (F, A, C) are played simultaneously, as usual. The second bar contains exactly the same F Major Triad, except that this time the notes are played separately, in accordance with the rhythm – one Half Note and two Quarter Notes.

Loop this exercise and practise playing it round and round until you are completely comfortable with it. Make sure you understand exactly what is involved and remember to use the correct right hand fingering.

#### Exercise 1 lesson015.iksita.01



## Quarter Note Arpeggios

The next exercise adopts the same approach – bar 1 is the Triad and bar 2 is the Arpeggio. Except that this time the Arpeggio is played as four Quarter Notes. Loop and practise this exercise until you are completely comfortable with it.

### Exercise 2 lesson015.iksita.02



The next step is to learn to play the same Quarter Note Arpeggio without repeating the Root Note at the beginning. This spells out the chord nicely and provides a natural rocking motion in the Right Hand.

Loop and practise this exercise until you are completely comfortable with it.

### Exercise 3 lesson015.iksita.03



## Adding Left Hand

Now practise playing each of these exercises again, this time playing the Triad in the Bass Clef with the left hand in bar 1, and the Arpeggio in the Treble Clef with the Right Hand in bar 2.

Make sure you use the correct fingering in each hand and concentrate on playing the correct rhythm in time with the media files.

Loop and practise each of the following exercises you are completely comfortable with them.

### Exercise 4 lesson015.iksita.04



**Exercise 5**  
lesson015.iksita.05



**Exercise 6**  
lesson015.iksita.06



## Minor Triad Arpeggios

It is also necessary for a keyboard player to be able to play Minor Triads as Arpeggios. The next six exercises (7 to 12) will help you to practise this, by adopting exactly the same approach as in the first part of this lesson.

Exercise 7 is two bars long. The first bar contains a G Minor Triad played as a Whole note. All three notes (G, Bb, D) are played simultaneously, as usual. The second bar contains exactly the same G Minor Triad, except that this time the notes are played separately, in accordance with the rhythm – one Half Note and two Quarter Notes.

Loop this exercise and practise playing it round and round until you are completely comfortable with it. Make sure you understand exactly what is involved and remember to use the correct right hand fingering.

**Exercise 7**  
lesson015.iksita.07



## Quarter Note Arpeggios

The next exercise adopts the same approach – bar 1 is the Triad and bar 2 is the Arpeggio. Except that this time the Arpeggio is played as four Quarter Notes. Loop and practise this exercise until you are completely comfortable with it.

### Exercise 8 lesson015.iksita.08



The next step is to learn to play the same Quarter Note Arpeggio without repeating the Root Note at the beginning. This spells out the chord nicely and provides a natural rocking motion in the right hand.

### Exercise 9 lesson015.iksita.09



## Adding Left Hand

Now practise playing a couple of these exercises again, this time playing the Minor Triad in the Bass Clef with the left hand in bar 1, and the Minor Arpeggio in the Treble Clef with the Right Hand in bar 2. Make sure you use the correct fingering in each hand. Concentrate on playing the correct rhythm in time with the media files.

### Exercise 10 lesson015.iksita.10



**Exercise 11**  
lesson015.iksita.11



**Practice**

In lesson 16 we are going to develop our Arpeggios further by using Eighth Notes through a series of similar exercises. Ensure that you are comfortable with the contents of this lesson, so that you can move easily forward through lesson 16.