Music Fundamentals

Contents

Preface	хi
How to Use this Book	хi
Acknowledgements	xii
Introduction	1
The Piano Keyboard	1
Chapter 1: Notation	3
The Musical Alphabet	3
The Grand Staff	4
Writing Notation	8
Assignment 1-1	11
Assignment 1-2	13
Chapter 2: Rhythm	15
The Beat or Pulse	15
The Time Signature or Meter	15
Simple Time	16
Dotted Notes in Simple Time	19
The Phrase Mark, Slur and the Tie	20
The Tie	20
Compound Time	21
The Tie in Compound Time	24
Assignment 2-1	25
Assignment 2-2	27
Assignment 2-3	29
Chapter 3: Key Signatures	31
Writing Accidental Signs	31
The Cycle of Fourths	32
Keys with Flats	34
Keys with Sharps	37
Enharmonic Keys	39
Assignment 3-1	41
Assignment 3-2	43
Assignment 3-3	45

Table of Contents

Chapter 4: The Major Scale	47
Writing the Major Scale	48
Introduction the Solfege	50
Repeat Signs, Da Capo and More	51
Assignment 4-1	<i>57</i>
Assignment 4-2	59
Assignment 4-3	61
Chapter 5: Primary Intervals	63
Writing Ascending Intervals	65
Writing Descending Intervals	66
Playing Intervals on the Piano	68
Hearing and Singing Intervals	69
Assignment 5-1	71
Assignment 5-2	73
Assignment 5-3	<i>75</i>
Chapter 6: The Relative Minor	77
The "Cycle" with Minor Keys	78
Writing the Natural Minor Scale	78
Solfege in Minor Keys	80
Assignment 6-1	81
Assignment 6-2	83
Assignment 6-3	85
Chapter 7: Other Minor Scales	87
The Harmonic Minor Scale	87
The Melodic Minor Scale	90
Assignment 7-1	93
Assignment 7-2	95
Chapter 8: More About Intervals and Rhythm	97
The Chromatic Scale	97
Secondary Intervals	98
Subdivision in Compound Time	103
Assignment 8-1	107
Assignment 8-2	109

Table of Contents

Chapter 9: Building Triads	111
Major and Minor Triads	111
Diminished and Augmented Triads	113
Assignment 9-1	115
Assignment 9-2	117
Assignment 9-3	119
Assignment 9-4	121
Chapter 10: Music History: The Primary Eras	123
Basic Overview	123
Antiquity	124
The Medieval Era	125
The Renaissance Era	126
The Baroque Era	127
The Classical Era	128
The Romantic Era	129
French Impressionism	128
The 20 th Century	130
The 21 st Century Music	132
Assignment 10-1	133
Assignment 10-2	135
Appendix 1: Scale Degrees on the Piano	137
Major	137
Natural Minor	141
Harmonic Minor	145
Melodic Minor	149
Appendix 2: Solfege Pronunciation Guide	153
Appendix 3: Key Signatures	155
Glossary of Terms	157