



Choir Virtual Learning

Men's Choir Music Theory

May 5th, 2020



Men's Choir

Lesson: Music Theory

Objective/Learning Target:

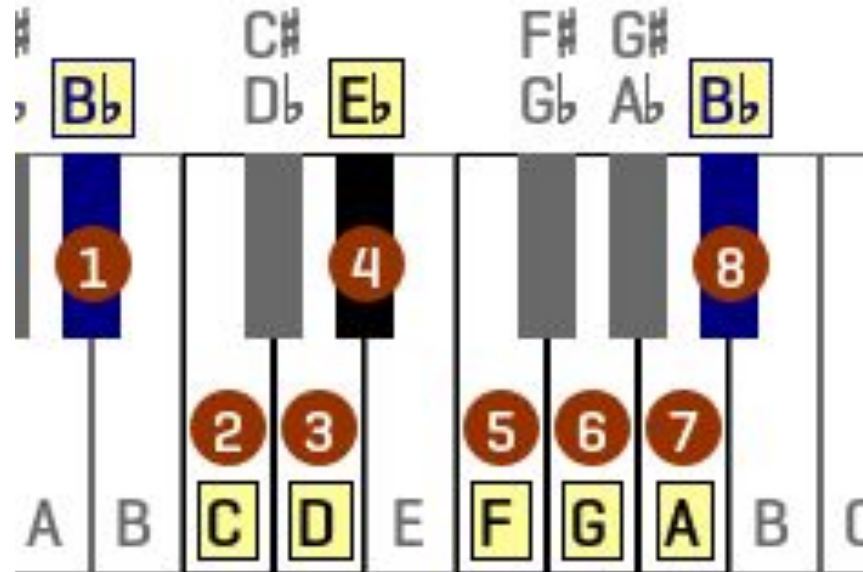
Students will be able to sight read a passage, and learn to identify the key of Bb on a piano keyboard

Warm Up/Bellwork

1. Pick one or two warm ups that are your favorite from class and try to sing them to warm yourself up vocally.
2. Practice finding the following notes on the piano found at: <https://virtualpiano.net/> Bb, D, F, A (Answers at the end) If you need help, there is a diagram on the next slide that will guide you.

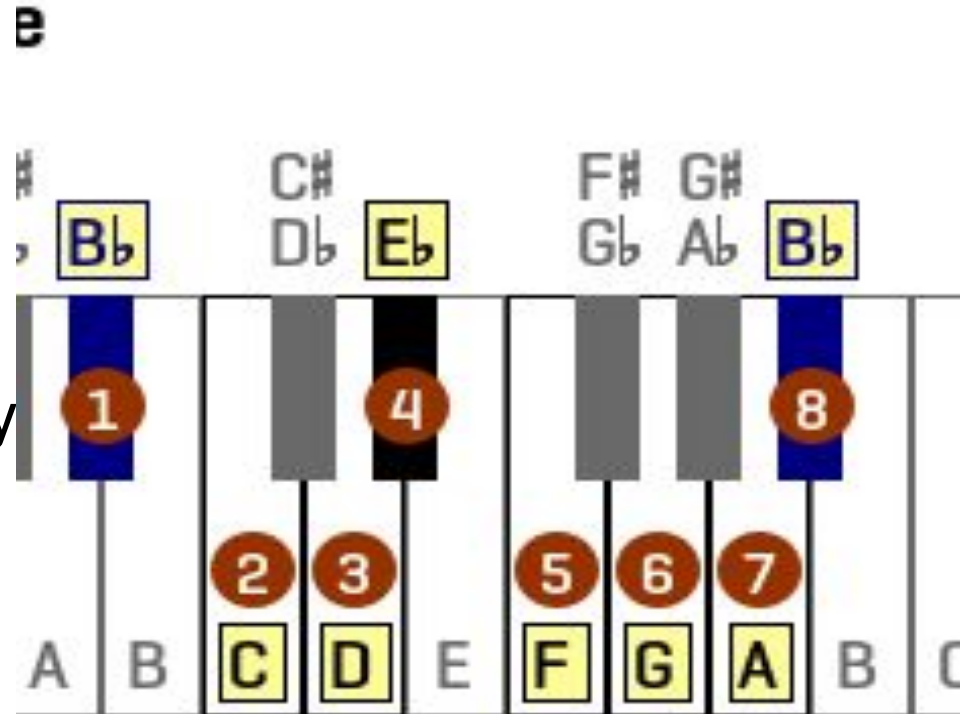
These are the notes, in order, of the Bb Major scale. You should take time and use the virtual piano app to make sure that you get a good feel for how the scale is layed out.

e



How is the Scale Built?

Every scale is built on $\frac{1}{2}$ and whole steps. In the diagram, you can see that between Bb and C, there is a note in between (the white key B). This makes it a whole step. Between D and Eb, in contrast, there is no note in between. This is a $\frac{1}{2}$ step.



What is the Pattern?

Now it's your turn to practice! Using the diagram on the previous page, find out where the $\frac{1}{2}$ steps and where the whole steps are.

Answer: Bb-C Whole, C-D Whole, D-Eb Half, Eb-F Whole, F-G Whole, G-A Whole, A-Bb Half.

That pattern will be the same for every major key going forward. It also helps if you think about this solfege diagram.



Bb Major Lesson

The key of Bb Major is the next scale from the F Major scale. In its key signature, there are 2 flats. The rule for flat keys is that we look for the second to last flat. How do we remember the flat names? There is an acronym: BEAD-Greatest Common Factor. Since we have two flats, B and E, the second to last one would be B. That's how we know it's Bb. Here is a video that explains how to play the Bb Major Scale: <https://youtu.be/UPVbuWKkpHo>



Bb Major Practice

On a separate piece of paper, list out the notes, in order, of the the Bb Major scale. (You can refer to the image on slide 4)

After doing this, assign the proper solfege syllables to each note. (Ex. Bb would be “Do”, C would be “Re”, D=”Mi”)

Now play a “Bb” on the piano app and try to sing the scale

Practice

The image shows a musical score for two voices: Soprano/Alto (S/A) and Tenor/Bass (T/B). The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the S/A part starts on a G4 note and moves stepwise up to a D5 note, then descends. The T/B part provides a harmonic accompaniment with notes that are mostly a third or fourth below the S/A part. Both parts are marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic.

Try sight-reading this passage. Use these steps:

1. Chant (Don't sing) the solfege in the tempo you will sing it Hint: It starts on "Do" (2 min)
2. Try singing it with solfege from start to finish.
3. Find out what to fix from step 2 and chant it. (2 min) Repeat step 2.

Warm Up/Bellwork Answers

Answers to 2.



Bb Major Practice: Bb, C, D, Eb, F, G, A, Bb
Do Re Mi Fa Sol La Ti Do



Solfège answers:

Do, Mi, Sol, Sol, Fa, Mi, Do, Mi, Re, Do