

## Introduction

This guide is based on the new ABRSM syllabus for piano. It is written specifically for students who are weaker in scales and arpeggios, to help them 'see' patterns in scales and arpeggios using keyboard diagrams. The main concern here is to offer a visual learning method using diagrams as opposed to linear learning by reading notes. This will also help students to learn scales and arpeggios better from memory – a requirement of the ABRSM exams.

## Basic Instructions on how to use the guide

### Playing Scales:

#### C major for left hand

**Lower C**

Shows you where to start. Lower C here refers to the key one octave below middle C (for lower grades) or two octaves below middle C (for higher grades)

Row 2

Row 1

Follow the fingering in row 1 when starting or ending. Follow the fingering in row 2 when turning up or down. E.g. use the fingering 5-4-3-2-1-3-2-1 when ascending, use 1-2-3-1-2-3-4-1 when descending until the last octave, use 1-2-3-1-2-3-4-5

Shows the patterns formed by the scale

Pattern 1

Pattern 2

#### E $\flat$ Major for right hand

**Middle C**

Row 2

Row 1

Similarly, for black keys, follow the fingering in row 1 when starting or ending and in row 2 when turning up or down. E.g. use 2-1-2-3-4-1-2-3 when ascending, and use 3-2-1-4-3-2-1-3 when descending until the last octave, use 3-2-1-4-3-2-1-2

Pattern 2

Pattern 1

#### A Melodic Minor for left hand

**Lower C**

For melodic minors, use the fingering in black when ascending and the fingering in grey when descending. E.g. use 5-4-3-2-1-3-2-1 (fingers 3 and 2 on F# and G#) when ascending, and use 1-2-3-1-2-3-4-1 (fingers 2 and 3 on F and G) until the last octave, use 1-2-3-1-2-3-4-5

Pattern 1

Pattern 2

*\*Fingering instructions similar for arpeggios and broken chords*

# Grade 1

Scales: major scales (hands separately, 2 octaves)

Left Hand Fingering	Right Hand Fingering
<b>C Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>
<b>G Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>
<b>D Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>
<b>F Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pattern 1      Pattern 2</p>

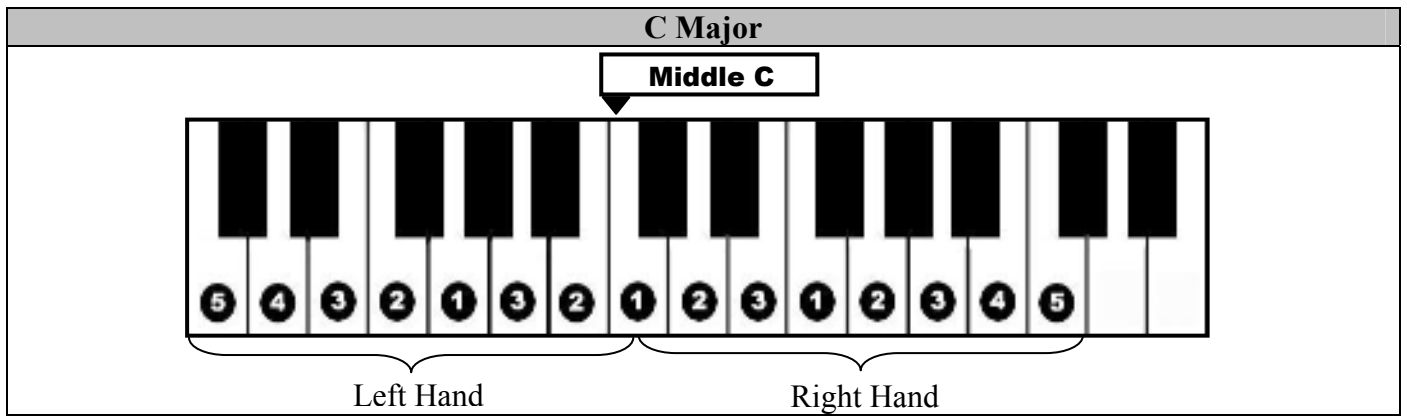
Scales: harmonic minor (hands separately, 2 octaves)

Left Hand Fingering		Right Hand Fingering	
<b>A Minor</b>			
<b>Lower C</b>		<b>Middle C</b>	
<b>D Minor</b>			
<b>Lower C</b>		<b>Middle C</b>	

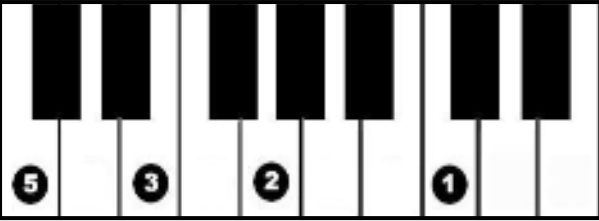

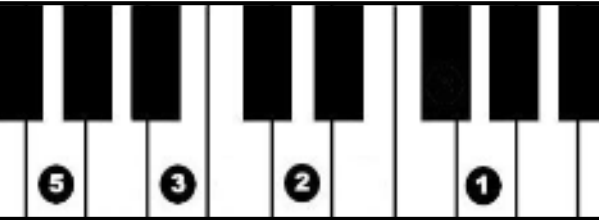
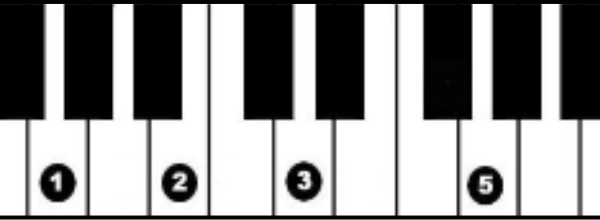
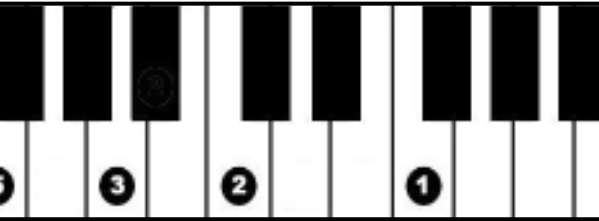
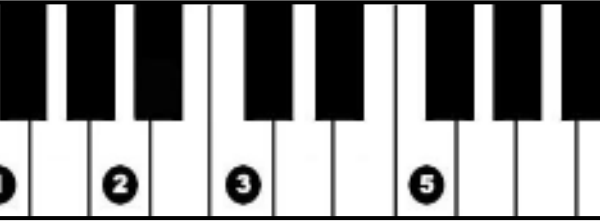
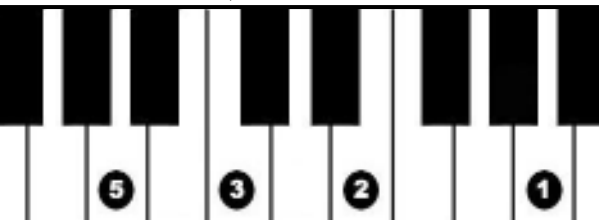
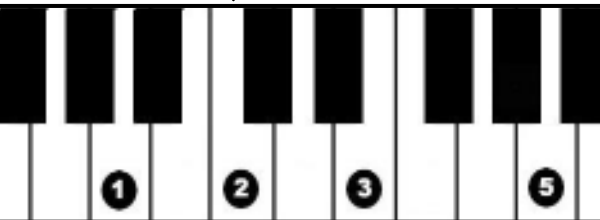
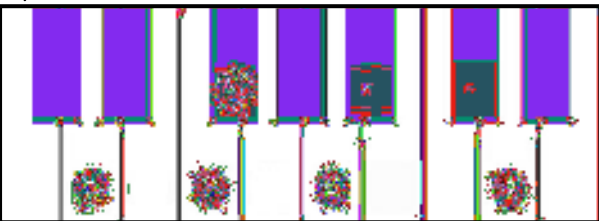
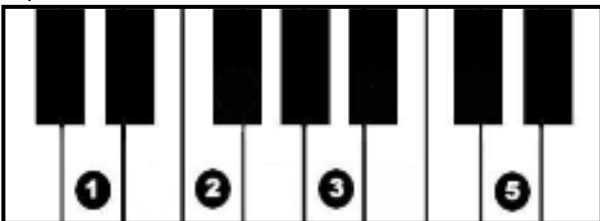
Scales: melodic minor (hands separately, 2 octaves)

<b>A Minor</b>			
<b>Lower C</b>		<b>Middle C</b>	
<b>D Minor</b>			
<b>Lower C</b>		<b>Middle C</b>	

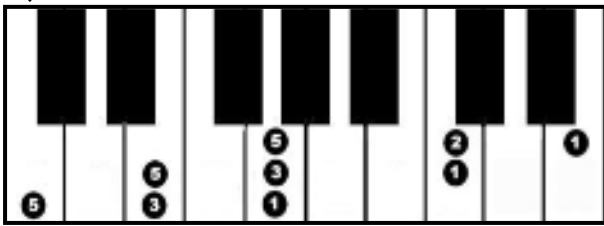
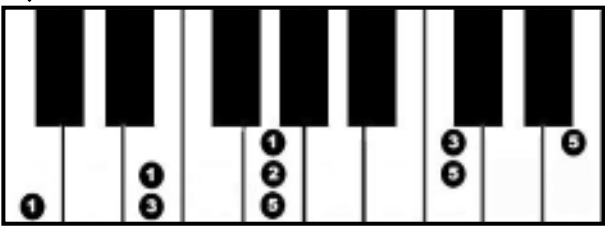
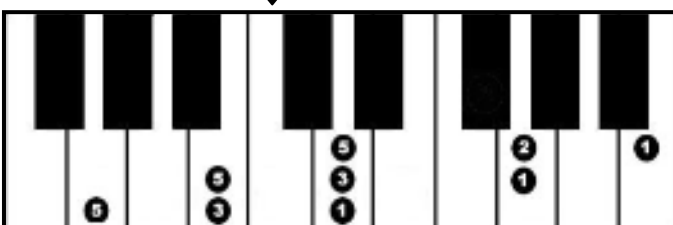
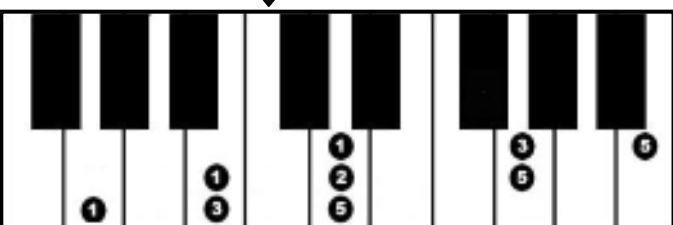
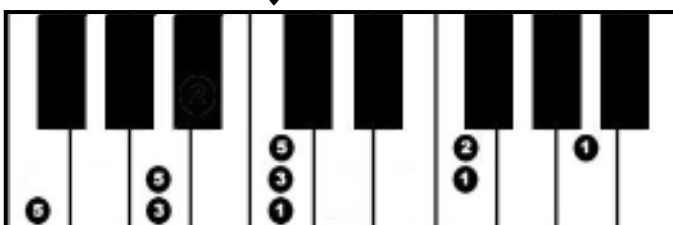
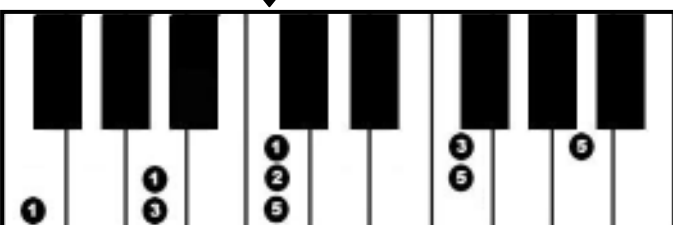


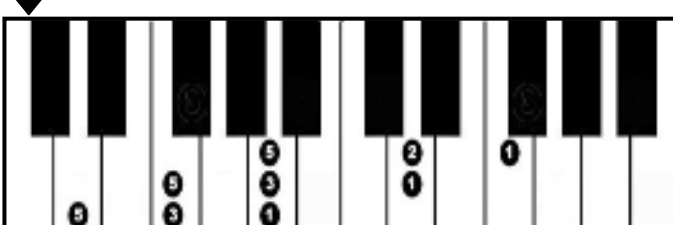
**Scales:** contrary motion (1 octave)



Arpeggios: major and minor chords (hands separately, 1 octave)

Left Hand Fingering	Right Hand Fingering
<b>C Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>G Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>F Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>A Minor</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>D Minor</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 

**Broken Chords: major and minor chords (hands separately)**

Left Hand Fingering	Right Hand Fingering
<b>C Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>G Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>F Major</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>A Minor</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 
<b>D Minor</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower C</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middle C</b></p> 