

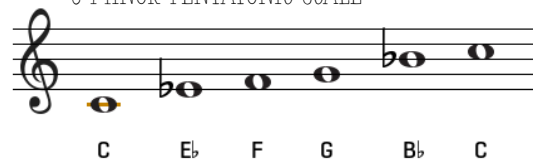
# YEAR 7 UNIT 4: THE BLUES [KEYBOARDS III]

# KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

## 12 BAR BLUES CHORD SEQUENCE

I	I	I	I
IV	IV	I	I
V	IV	I	I(V)

## C MINOR PENTATONIC SCALE



## 12 BAR BLUES CHORD SEQUENCE IN C

C	C	C	C
F	F	C	C
G	F	C	C (G)

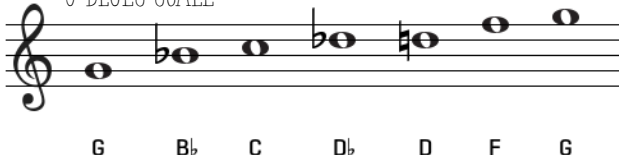
## C BLUES SCALE



## 12 BAR BLUES CHORD SEQUENCE IN F

F	F	F	F
Bb	Bb	F	F
C	Bb	F	F (C)

## G BLUES SCALE



## KEY WORDS

### 12-BAR BLUES

Traditional blues style, using 3 chords (I, IV, V) over a 12-bar cycle.

### WALKING BASS

The bass part in the Blues 'walks' up the notes of a chord creating a 'walking bass' part

### IMPROVISATION

Music that is made up on the spot by a performer, often based on a given chord progression or set of notes

### SPIRITUAL

Songs sung by slaves in the 19th century with themes of yearning for freedom, to be lifted out of suffering and the belief that a higher power will help a person persevere in tough times

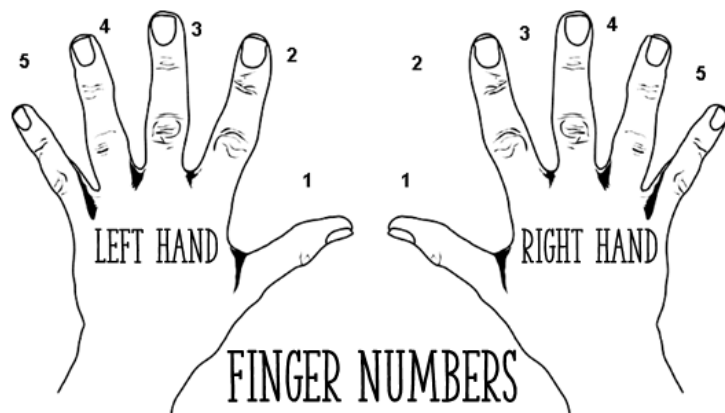
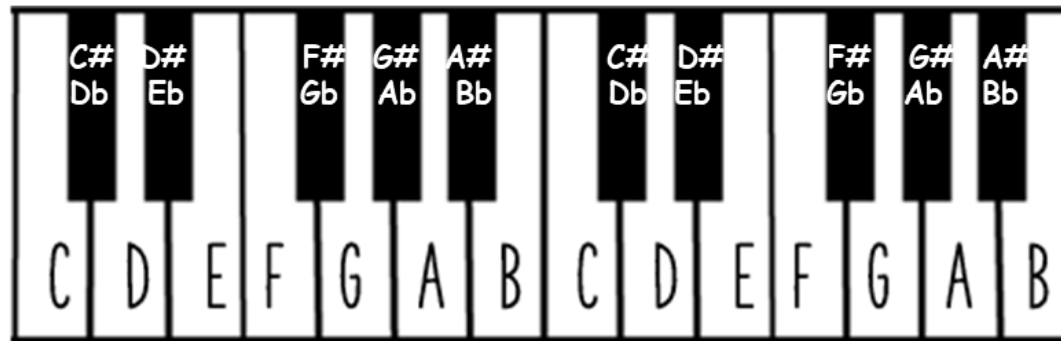
### SWING RHYTHM

When playing quavers, the first quaver is given a bit longer as it steals time from the second quaver to give the music a swinging feel.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- ⇒ In the 1600s & 1700s, millions of Africans were captured and sold as slaves. Many were taken to North America.
- ⇒ It is widely accepted that Blues music evolved from the African spirituals, chants, hymns, work songs and field hollers that were sung on the plantations.
- ⇒ Over the years, African musical features such as Call & Response singing, blended with chords was the beginning of the blues.
- ⇒ Blues lyrics often deal with personal adversity. The blues is also about overcoming hard luck, saying what you feel, ridding yourself of frustration.
- ⇒ The best blues music is visceral, cathartic and portrays genuine emotion

## NOTES ON THE KEYBOARD



## NOTES OF THE TREBLE STAFF

## FINDING THE NOTES

The black keys are grouped as follows:

2 3 2 3 etc...

Find any group of 2 black keys: we call this the **KENNEL**



The Dog (the note D) lives in the kennel! - So the white note between the two black notes is always D.

Because the notes are in alphabetical order (from A, B, C, D, E, F, G (and repeat) once we can find D - we can find all the other notes!  
It's simple! 😊