

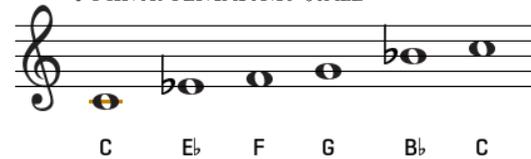
YEAR 7 UNIT 4: THE BLUES [KEYBOARDS III]

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

12 BAR BLUES CHORD SEQUENCE

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

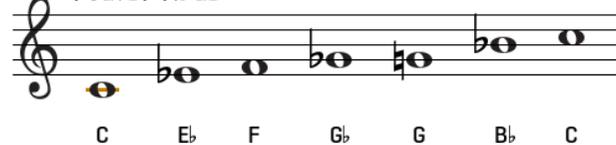
C MINOR PENTATONIC SCALE



12 BAR BLUES CHORD SEQUENCE IN C

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

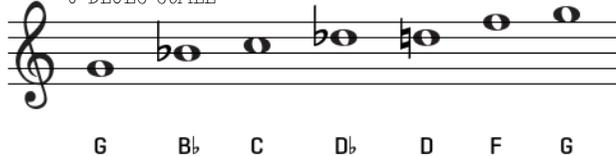
C BLUES SCALE



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

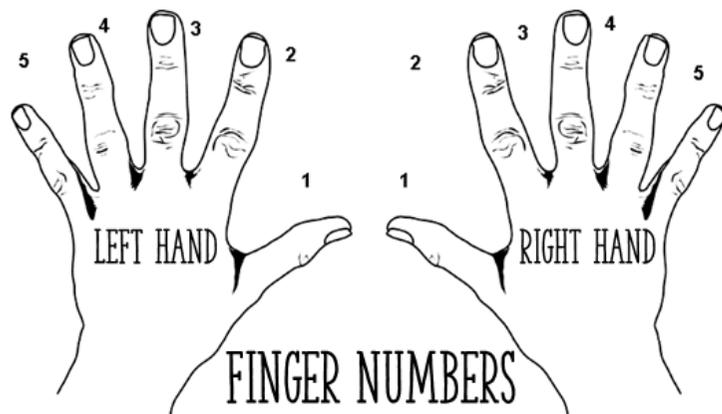
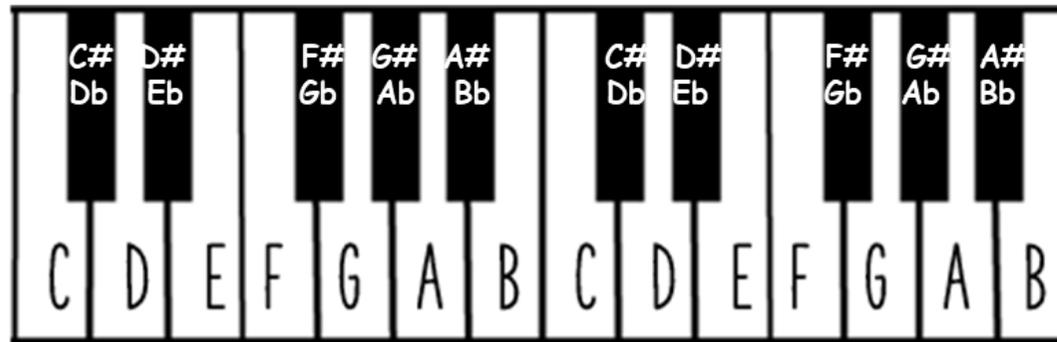
SWING RHYTHM

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! 😊