

Guitar Sight-Reading

Lesson Nine: The C Major Scale

Exercise One:

Play the notes of the C major scale while saying the note names.

⑤ ④ ③ ② ③ ④ ⑤

8 C D E F G A B C B A G F E D C

Exercise Two:

When the notes of a scale are going up, it is said to be ascending.
When the notes of a scale are going down, it is said to be descending.

Play the C major scale ascending and descending.

C Major Scale Ascending C Major Scale Descending

Exercise Three:

All major scales are constructed following a specific pattern of steps (notes that are two frets apart) and half-steps (notes that are one fret apart).

Play the notes of the C major scale on the 2nd string.
The two pairs of notes E - F and B - C are a half-step apart.
All other notes are a step apart.

8 S S HS S S S HS

TAB 1 3 5 6 8 10 12 13

Exercise Four:

Count a steady beat in four and clap this rhythm of half notes, quarter notes and eighth notes.
Write the count under the notes.

Exercise Five:

The following exercise uses the notes of the C major scale.

Write the following notes in TAB and name the notes before playing the exercise with a steady beat.

Exercise Six:

The following sight-reading exercises use the notes of the C major scale, including the C triad.

Scan each line of music to see what notes are used. Prepare for the first note of the line. Count a slow, steady beat, and play from the beginning of the line to the end.

