

MUSIC AND THE BASSOON

Unit 37

1. E Major Scale

Jensen

The musical notation consists of three staves of music for bassoon. The first staff starts with a bass clef, a key signature of two sharps (E major), and a common time signature. It contains eight notes: a half note followed by a whole note, then six quarter notes. The second staff begins with a half note, followed by a whole note, then five quarter notes. The third staff begins with a whole note, followed by a half note, then six quarter notes.

“Arpeggio” is an Italian word that means “harp-like”. A major arpeggio consists of the first, third, and fifth steps of the major scale played in any order.

2. E Major Scale & Arpeggio

Jensen

The musical notation shows a single staff of music for bassoon. It features a bass clef, a key signature of two sharps (E major), and a common time signature. The melody consists of eighth-note patterns that alternate between eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note groups, creating a rhythmic pattern that includes the first, third, and fifth steps of the E major scale.

As you practice examples with sixteenth notes, be sure to take a tempo slow enough that you can use correct fingerings, and play with a beautiful tone, in tune, and with musical gestures. Practicing music sloppily will only make you better at sloppy playing.

3. Bb Major Etude

Jensen

The musical notation consists of three staves of music for bassoon. The first staff is in 2/4 time with a dynamic of *mf*, featuring sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes. The second staff is in 3/4 time with a dynamic of *mp*, also featuring sixteenth-note patterns. The third staff is in 2/4 time with a dynamic of *f*, continuing the sixteenth-note patterns. The music is characterized by its rhythmic complexity and technical difficulty.

As you slur the Eb octave, remember to use the slur fingering for the Eb3.

4. Waltz of the Octaves

Jensen

mf

p

f

5. Stodola Pumpa

Czech Folk Song

Fine

D.C. al Fine

Before playing this example, count the rhythm and clap the beat. Be sure to make a difference between dotted eighth-sixteenth and straight eighth note rhythms.

6. The Golden Vanity

Anglo-American Ballad

7. The Battle Hymn of the Republic

William Steffe

The musical score for "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" by William Steffe. The score is written for bassoon or cello and consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a sixteenth-note pattern. The second staff begins with eighth-note pairs. The third staff continues the rhythmic pattern established in the first two staves.

Cantabile means “in a singing manner” in Italian.

8. Duet

Joseph Kuffner

The musical score for a duet by Joseph Kuffner. The score features two parts: "Student" and "Teacher". The "Student" part is in bass clef and 6/8 time, with dynamics "p" and "cantabile". The "Teacher" part is also in bass clef and 6/8 time. The music consists of four systems of music, each with two staves. The "Student" part has slurs and grace notes, while the "Teacher" part has eighth-note patterns.