The Chromatic Scale: Both Hands

each hand two octaves, the hands together, and the mirror — the sequel to Handout 49

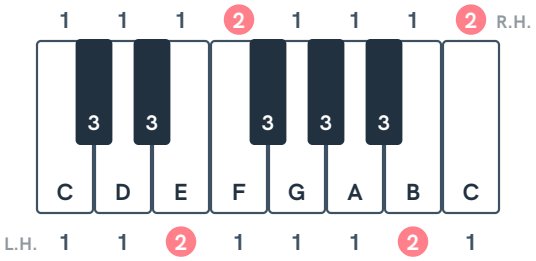
LISTEN
Scan to hear every example

One rule, both hands, every octave. Handout 49 took the right hand up one octave. Here is the rest. Play **3 on every black key**, **1 on the white keys**, and **2 where two white keys sit side by side** (E–F and B–C). Going up, the black keys are written as sharps; coming down, as flats. The keys and the fingers stay the same.

● finger 2: two white keys side by side ● the other notes (3 on black keys, 1 on white keys)

EACH HAND · TWO OCTAVES, UP AND DOWN

THE SAME KEYS, BOTH HANDS — R.H. ABOVE, L.H. BELOW



WHERE DOES THE 2 GO?

Each hand has its own two spots, one in each white pair.

R.H.: 2 on F and C, the upper key of the pair.
L.H.: 2 on E and B, the lower key.

Coming back down, the same key gets the same finger. Only the R.H.'s lowest C, where the scale starts and ends, takes the thumb: no B sits under it.

RIGHT HAND fingers above the notes

UP



DOWN

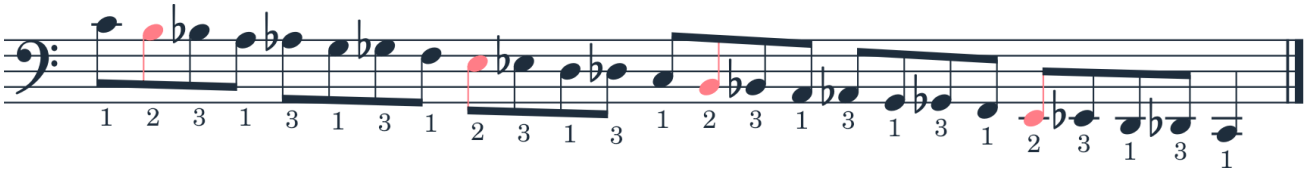


LEFT HAND fingers below the notes

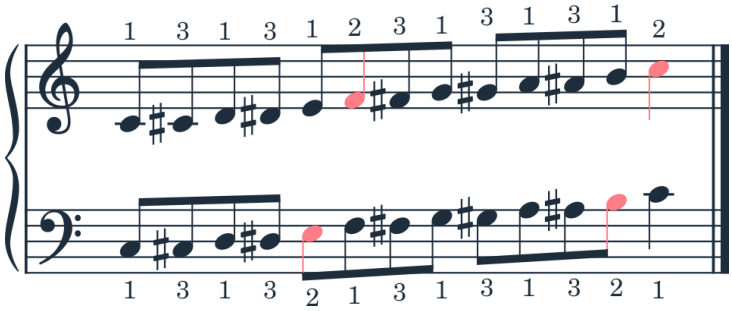
UP



DOWN



HANDS TOGETHER · AN OCTAVE APART



WHERE EACH HAND PLAYS 2, GOING UP

E — L.H. 2, R.H. 1 **F** — R.H. 2, L.H. 1
B — L.H. 2, R.H. 1 **C** — R.H. 2, L.H. 1

A 2 in one hand always meets a 1 in the other, so the hands **take turns**: never two 2s at once. Coming down, the same keys keep the same fingers.

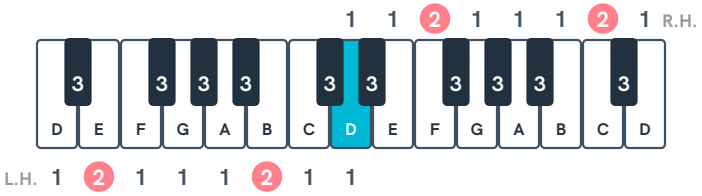
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The Mirror: Contrary Motion from D and A♭

both hands start on the same key, move apart, and play the same finger on every note

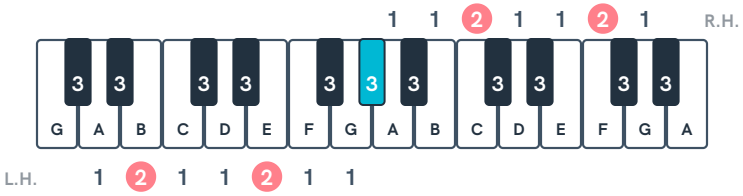
The keyboard is a mirror around D. The black keys sit in the same places on either side of D, so two hands that start on the same D and move apart meet the same pattern of black and white keys. They play **the same finger on every note**: 1 with 1, 3 with 3, 2 with 2. The only other mirror point is G♯/A♭. Exams ask for both, two octaves, the hands starting on the same note.

THE TWO MIRROR POINTS · R.H. FINGERS ABOVE THE KEYS, L.H. BELOW



FROM D

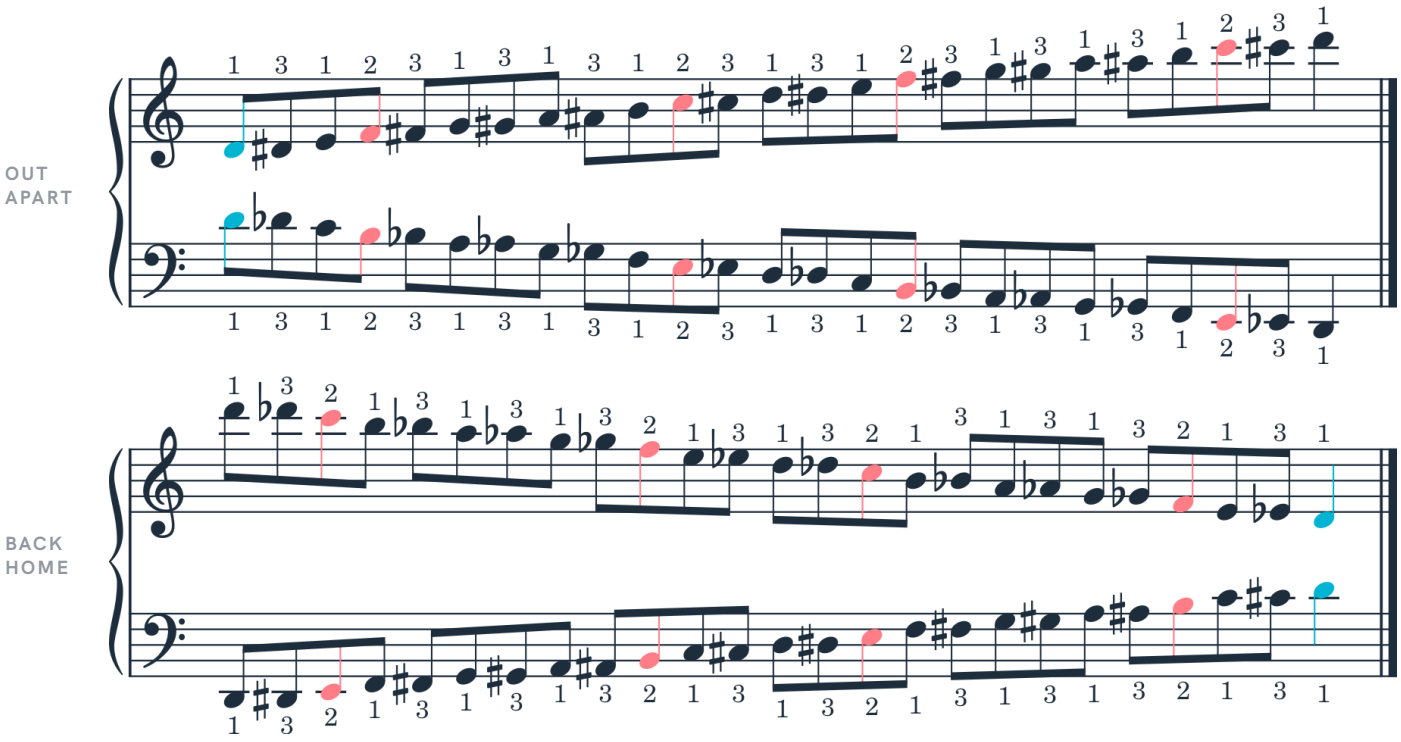
Both thumbs share the cyan **D**. Read outward from it: the numbers match key for key.



FROM A♭ (G♯)

Both 3rd fingers share the cyan black key, **A♭**. The same mirror, with a black key in the middle.

FROM D · TWO OCTAVES OUT AND BACK, HANDS TOGETHER



Try it Play the mirror from D **hands separately** first, then together and slowly, saying the finger numbers aloud: both hands say the same one, and both 2s land together. Then try it with your eyes closed. Last, start both 3rd fingers on A♭ and find the same mirror. Keep a steady metronome, two notes to a click (Handout 55).
Write them: Exercise 81.

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