One-Octave Scales: G, F & D

the thumb-under travels to new keys — including F major's famous rebellion

Same recipe (W-W-H-W-W-W-H), same tuck — new homes. G major and D major use exactly the C major fingering: 1-2-3-tuck-1-2-3-4-5. But **F major breaks the rule**: because B♭ must not be played by the thumb, the right hand plays **1-2-3-4, then tucks** to finish 1-2-3-4. Accidentals are colored: raised notes cyan, lowered coral.

G MAJOR — ONE SHARP, STANDARD FINGERING



F MAJOR — ONE FLAT, REBEL FINGERING: 1-2-3-4 / 1-2-3-4



D MAJOR — TWO SHARPS, STANDARD FINGERING



Try it The thumb rule that explains everything: **thumbs prefer white keys**. Check each scale: in G and D the thumb lands on G/C and D/G — all white. In F, the old fingering would put the thumb on B♭ — forbidden! — so the hand regroups as 4+4. Play all three slowly, then spot next week's pattern: every new sharp key keeps the standard fingering until the thumb hits a black key. Check yourself: Exercise 63.

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