



# Skill Maps

# PIANO & KEYS

BEGINNER LEVEL 1: 6-12 yrs.

Taaqademy's music teachers are carefully chosen for their musical ability, teaching aptitude, live performance experience and music qualifications - pretty much in that order. We can confidently claim to have some of the country's top musicians with us. As a result, we use a proprietary method of '**Skill Maps**' to bring structure and focus

to our classes, enabling our musicians to **avoid cookie-cutter methods** when working with students. Skill Maps provide **detailed specifics** on what students should be able to accomplish at every level while allowing our teachers to use their own **unique approaches**, songs, techniques and shortcuts to get students there!

## PIANO & KEYS BEGINNER LEVEL 1: AREAS COVERED



**MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS**



**SIGHT READING**



**EAR TRAINING**



**SONG LEARNING**



**MUSCULAR TRAINING**

**DETAILS ON PG.2**



## MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- Conceptual knowledge - pitch, duration, intensity, quality
- Note names - naturals & accidentals
- Basic playing posture, hand positions, finger assignments, etc.



## EAR TRAINING

- Knowledge of basic pitch; ability to identify octaves.
- Ability to sing at least 3 - 4 distinct notes within an octave



## MUSCULAR TRAINING

- Ability to play chromatic 3-finger exercises, simultaneously with both hands, using quarter notes at 60-80 bpm



## SIGHT READING

- Basics of staff notation from John Thompson's Easy Piano Book
- Reading notes on both Treble and Bass Clefs



## SONG LEARNING

- Pieces from John Thompson's Easy Piano Book
- 2 - 3 simple melodies using just the right hand.

## HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

This question gets asked a lot! Allow us to give you a simple rule-of-thumb:

- At this level, if you **consistently** practice an avg. **30min - 1 hr. per day**, you can expect to have mastered the above in **3 months** (just **12 classes**) or less.
- If you practice around **2 hrs. per week**, this could **add 1 - 2 months**.
- If you practice **<1 hr. per week**, you could take **6 months!**