



Skill Maps

PIANO & KEYS

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 2: TEEN - ADULT

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 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 2: AREAS COVERED



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS



SIGHT READING



EAR TRAINING



SONG LEARNING



MUSCULAR TRAINING



MUSIC EXAMINATIONS



LIVE PERFORMANCE



IMPROVISATION

DETAILS ON PG.2



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- Introduction to the modes of a Major scale, and the ability to play 3 Major scale modes
- Constructing chords from intervals
- Basic understanding of 9, 11 & 13 chords
- Ability to transpose a song to different keys
- Understanding chord voicings
- Rhythm studies: Rhythm standards used in various genres
- Introduction to odd meters & syncopation
- Introduction to composition, and the ability to create melodies over a simple chord progression



EAR TRAINING

- Ability to sing the Major, Minor & Pentatonic scales from memory, and 3 Major scale modes
- Ability to easily recall more complex melodies, chords & songs by ear
- Ability to identify 3rd, 5th and 7th intervals by ear



MUSCULAR TRAINING

- Practice of scales using quarter notes at 170 bpm, eighth notes at 150 bpm, and sixteenth notes at 130 bpm, both in staccato & legato
- Improving the finger-stretch, by arpeggiating notes over large chord voicings



SIGHT READING

- Sight-reading RSL Grade 2/3 pieces
- Sight-reading Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 3/4 pieces
- Sight-reading Trinity Classical Grade 2/3 pieces



SONG LEARNING

- At least 20 contemporary/pop songs, both for accompaniment and solo chords & melody
- RSL Grade 3-4 pieces; Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 3-4 pieces, Trinity Classical Grade 3 pieces.
- A minimum of 10 solos with the demonstration of technique/stylistic awareness



MUSIC EXAMINATION OPTIONS

- RSL Awards Grade 3/4
- Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 4-5
- Trinity Classical Grade 3/4



LIVE PERFORMANCE

- 3 Taaqademy Live performances
- Participation in 3 Taaqademy Jam Bands



IMPROVISATION

- Knowledge of approaches to improvisation - shape, landing notes, repetition, etc.
- Study of improvisation across 2 - 3 different styles/genres
- Ability to use Scales known to spontaneously play over simple Blues, Diatonic or simple non-Diatonic chord progressions.
- Practice of simple phrases that can be used to play spontaneously over simple Blues, diatonic & simple non-diatonic chord progressions

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 covered the above in **6-8 months (24 - 32 classes)**.
- If you practice around **2 hrs. per week**, this could **add 1 - 2 months**.
- If you practice **<1 hr. per week**, you could take **12+ months!**