



# Skill Maps

# PIANO & KEYS

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 3: 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 3: 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

- Ability to play all the modes of the Major scale
- Understanding of modes of Harmonic Minor & Melodic Minor Scales
- Ability to play Aug & Dim chords, and use chord voicings and inversions based on style
- Rhythm studies: use of odd meters, syncopation, techniques, and approaches across different genres
- Introduction to composition: creating melodies and chord progressions



## EAR TRAINING

- Ability to sing the Major, Minor, Pentatonic scales and Major Scale Modes with or without root as reference.
- Ability to identify the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th intervals by ear
- Ability to learn and play more complex songs & solos by ear; ability to quickly 'jam' with an ensemble



## MUSCULAR TRAINING

- Practice of scales using quarter notes at 190 bpm, eighth notes at 170 bpm, and sixteenth notes at 150 bpm, both in staccato & legato
- Ability to play arpeggios between 100-120 bpm



## SIGHT READING

- Sight reading RSL Grade 4 pieces
- Sight reading Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 5 pieces
- Sight reading Trinity Classical Grade 4 pieces



## SONG LEARNING

- Familiarity and ability to perform at least 25 - 30 songs across a variety of contemporary music and classical (if that is the focus).
- RSL Grade 4 pieces, Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 5 pieces, Trinity Classical Grade 4 pieces.
- Demonstration of technique/stylistic awareness



## MUSIC EXAMINATION OPTIONS

- RSL Awards Grade 4/5
- Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 5/6
- Trinity Classical Grade 4/5



## LIVE PERFORMANCE

- Regular performances at school/college/semi-pro/Taaqademy events



## IMPROVISATION

- Ability to improvise fluently over 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 (not mastered!) the above in **8 - 10 months (32 - 40 classes)**.
- If you practice around **2 hrs. per week**, this could **add 2 - 3 months**.
- If you practice **<1 hr. per week**, you could take... well, who knows?