



# Skill Maps

# VOCALS

## INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 1

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!

## VOCALS INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 1: AREAS COVERED



**MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS**



**SONG LEARNING**



**EAR TRAINING**



**LIVE PERFORMANCE**



**TECHNICAL EXERCISES**



**MUSIC EXAMINATIONS**



**SIGHT READING**

**DETAILS ON PG.2**



## MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- Understanding key signatures, with the examples of G & F
- Understanding the 4/4 time signature, repeat marks, and whole, half, quarter & eighth rest values
- Understanding whole, half, quarter, eighth, triplet-eighth, and sixteenth note values
- Knowledge of crescendo & diminuendo
- Functional knowledge of the Guitar (Acoustic & Electric) - its History, Parts & Working



## EAR TRAINING

- Ability to sing the Major & Minor scales from memory, with the root note played for reference
- Ability to identify and sing most intervals in the Major Scale - 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
- Ability to pitch any two notes of a given chord (major or minor triad), when played on an instrument
- The practice of rhythmic recall, with patterns using whole, half, quarter and eighth notes & rests



## TECHNICAL EXERCISES

- Ability to sing the Major & Minor scales, and Major & Minor scale arpeggios
- The ability to sing the intervals up to the 5th, for a given root note
- The ability to demonstrate good rhythm sense when using rests (whole, half, quarter & eighth rests)
- The practice of vocal transition from Chest voice to Head voice
- Demonstration of good posture & breathing
- The ability to identify and incorporate quick dynamic changes
- The ability to improvise a simple tune over a chord sequence, e.g. in the key of G/Em, with a metronome at 80-90 bpm
- Demonstration of the use of a dynamic microphone



## SIGHT READING

- Ability to sight-read a 4-8 bar melody in easy Major/minor keys, ranging up to the 5th interval, and including rests
- Sight-reading pieces from John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course
- Sight-reading simple rhythm patterns with rests



### SONG LEARNING

- Completion of at least 10-12 songs in their original keys
- Ability to match transposed keys when singing
- Demonstration of vocal ad-libbing for 2-4 bars, and reworking 4 bars of the melody for a given song



### LIVE PERFORMANCE

- Completion of 1 Recital, 1 Live performance & 2 Jam Bands



### MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

- RSL Grade 2/3
- Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 2/3

## 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 **4-5 months** (just **16-20 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 **8-10 months!**