

SCALES FOR STRINGS

by SAMUEL APPLEBAUM



To be used
as supplementary studies to any string class method
or
as material to develop a string ensemble.

FOREWORD

The Belwin SCALES FOR STRINGS is to be used as supplementary material for any of the string class methods or as interesting training material for the development of a string orchestra.

Authorities agree that scales are indispensable for the development of intonation and a sound left-hand technic. In this Scale Book, the scales and arpeggios are presented in various rhythms and bowings.

In Book I, the basic, solid bowings are used, the *détaché* and *martelé* with the entire bow, as well as in different parts of the bow.

In each key there are melodies and rounds to be played in unison and with the class as a string ensemble. The melodies that represent each key are chosen because of their technical value and because they help to develop a sense of tonality in that particular key.

Book I includes the major keys of C, G, D, A, F, B \flat and E \flat , in the first position, and in the half position for Bass.

VIOLIN and VIOLA -

In this book, the scales are fingered with open strings on the way up and fourth fingers on the way down. If preferred, this fingering may be reversed. In pieces, however, the decision as to whether to use the open strings or the fourth fingers should be dependent upon the phrasing, rhythmic grouping of the passage, and necessity for clarity and smooth string change.

THE SIGNS USED IN THIS BOOK

▢ means down-bow. ▽ means up-bow.

A note with a dot above or below means that the *martelé* bowing is to be used.

A.M. means to play above the middle of the bow.

B.M. means to play below the middle of the bow.

W.B. means whole bow (this term is approximate).

// means the bow is to be lifted. A comma (,) means to leave a slight pause, with the bow remaining on the string - usually at the end of a phrase.

p means soft. *mp* means moderately soft. *pp* means very soft.

f means loud. *mf* means moderately loud. *ff* means very loud.

cresc. or < means gradually louder.

dim. or > means gradually softer.

rit. means gradually slower.

simile means that you are to continue in the same style of bowing.

The small notes in the Violin and Viola parts are to be stopped by the fingers, but not played. The finger is to be placed on two string, for a smooth string change.

H.P. means half position for the Bass players.

^ This sign indicates that there is a half-step between the two notes.

The letter P after a number indicates that there is a piano part for that melody.

THE KEY OF C MAJOR

What Is a Scale?

The word scale means a "ladder". A scale is a "ladder" of 8 notes in alphabetical order. If we play 8 notes, going up a step at a time, so that the 8th note is an octave above the 1st note, we have a scale.

What Is a Major Scale?

If there is a half step between the 3rd and 4th notes, and a half step between the 7th and 8th notes, we have a major scale. Between the other notes, there must be whole steps. If we start on C and build a major scale we call it a C major scale.

The C Major Scale

Notice the half steps between the 3rd and 4th notes and the 7th and 8th notes. When this sign \wedge connects two notes it means that they are a half step apart.

Use the whole bow (W.B.) for each note.

Violin

1

Viola

Cello

Bass

VIOLA and CELLO - Here we have the C major scale starting on C an octave higher.
BASS - Leave a slight pause between the notes marked with dashes.

W.B. - Divide the bow evenly using a half bow for each note.

The Détaché Bowing

The Détaché is a smooth bowing that may be played in any part of the bow.

Practice this in 3 ways:

- ① Above the middle (A.M.) ② Below the middle (B.M.) ③ Pizzicato

Violin

2

Viola

Cello

Bass

The Détaché Bowing Above and Below the Middle

W.B. A.M. W.B. B.M. simile