



Exercises for Beginners

Feel free to repeat any of these lines to reinforce muscle memory...

LESSON 1

G A B / G A B / G A B / G A B

B C B C B C B C

G B / G B / G B / D

B D / B D / B D F

hA (high A) hG (high G) F E D C B A G

LESSON 2

Arpeggios:

G B

G B D

G B D F

G B D F hA

REPEAT BUT IN REVERSE ORDER (B G, D B C, etc.)

A C

A C E

A C E hG

REPEAT BUT IN REVERSE ORDER (C A, E C A, etc.)

G B D F hA F D B G

A C E hG E C A

CAN YOU WRITE ONTO A STAFF THE LOCATION OF **ALL** OF THE ABOVE NOTES?

GRACENOTES

All lower case letters are grace notes. You may play the below on any theme note you choose. *Remember, you can only play grace notes on a theme note that is below the grace note.* For example, a D grace note can only be played on C, B, low A, etc.

g g g g g g g g

d d d d d d d d

e e e e e e e e

g d e / g d e / g d e / g d e

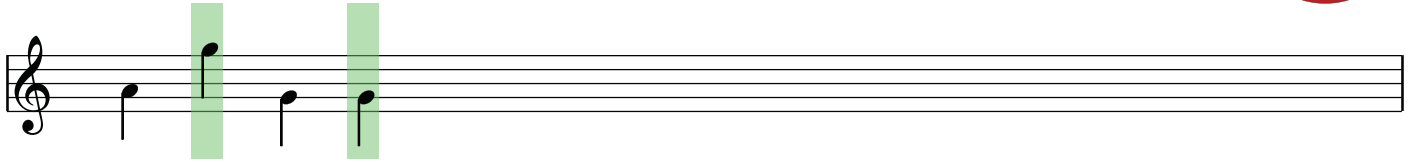
Lesson 3 - G Grace Note Breakdown



Open

Close

The image displays ten horizontal musical staves, each starting with a treble clef and a common time signature 'C'. Each staff contains a sequence of four notes: a quarter note on the second line (G4), a quarter note on the third line (A4), a quarter note on the second line (G4), and a quarter note on the second line (G4). Two vertical green bars are positioned across all staves. The first bar is labeled 'Open' and is placed between the first and second notes. The second bar is labeled 'Close' and is placed between the second and third notes. This visualizes the timing of the grace note (the second G) relative to the main notes.



Lesson 3 - D Grace Note Breakdown



Open

Close

Six musical staves are arranged vertically. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature 'C'. The first staff contains a sequence of four notes: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. The second staff contains the same sequence of notes. The third staff contains the same sequence of notes. The fourth staff contains the same sequence of notes. The fifth staff contains the same sequence of notes. The sixth staff contains the same sequence of notes. Two vertical green bars are positioned between the first and second staves. The first bar is labeled 'Open' and is positioned between the G4 and A4 notes. The second bar is labeled 'Close' and is positioned between the B4 and C5 notes.

Lesson 3 - E Grace Note Breakdown



Open

Close

The image displays eight horizontal musical staves, each beginning with a treble clef and a common time signature 'C'. Each staff contains a sequence of four notes: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. Two vertical green bars are drawn across all staves. The first bar is positioned under the second note (A4) and is labeled 'Open'. The second bar is positioned under the fourth note (C5) and is labeled 'Close'. The notes on the staves are: Staff 1: G, A, B, C; Staff 2: G, A, B, C; Staff 3: G, A, B, C; Staff 4: G, A, B, C; Staff 5: G, A, B, C; Staff 6: G, A, B, C; Staff 7: G, A, B, C; Staff 8: G, A, B, C.

Lesson 4 - 6/8 Rhythms, Cross Overs, B taps (to A)



Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eight measures. The first measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second measure has a quarter note C5, an eighth note B4, and a quarter note A4. The third measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note F4, and a quarter note E4. The fourth measure has a quarter note D4, an eighth note C4, and a quarter note B3. The fifth measure has a quarter note A3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note F3. The sixth measure has a quarter note E3, an eighth note D3, and a quarter note C3. The seventh measure has a quarter note B2, an eighth note A2, and a quarter note G2. The eighth measure has a quarter note F2, an eighth note E2, and a quarter note D2. A slur is placed over the last two notes of the eighth measure.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eight measures. The first measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second measure has a quarter note C5, an eighth note B4, and a quarter note A4. The third measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note F4, and a quarter note E4. The fourth measure has a quarter note D4, an eighth note C4, and a quarter note B3. The fifth measure has a quarter note A3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note F3. The sixth measure has a quarter note E3, an eighth note D3, and a quarter note C3. The seventh measure has a quarter note B2, an eighth note A2, and a quarter note G2. The eighth measure has a quarter note F2, an eighth note E2, and a quarter note D2.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of eight measures. The first measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second measure has a quarter note C5, an eighth note B4, and a quarter note A4. The third measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note F4, and a quarter note E4. The fourth measure has a quarter note D4, an eighth note C4, and a quarter note B3. The fifth measure has a quarter note A3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note F3. The sixth measure has a quarter note E3, an eighth note D3, and a quarter note C3. The seventh measure has a quarter note B2, an eighth note A2, and a quarter note G2. The eighth measure has a quarter note F2, an eighth note E2, and a quarter note D2.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eight measures. The first measure has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second measure has a dotted quarter note C5, an eighth note B4, and a quarter note A4. The third measure has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note F4, and a quarter note E4. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note D4, an eighth note C4, and a quarter note B3. The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note A3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note F3. The sixth measure has a dotted quarter note E3, an eighth note D3, and a quarter note C3. The seventh measure has a dotted quarter note B2, an eighth note A2, and a quarter note G2. The eighth measure has a dotted quarter note F2, an eighth note E2, and a quarter note D2.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eight measures. The first measure has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second measure has a dotted quarter note C5, an eighth note B4, and a quarter note A4. The third measure has a dotted quarter note G4, an eighth note F4, and a quarter note E4. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note D4, an eighth note C4, and a quarter note B3. The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note A3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note F3. The sixth measure has a dotted quarter note E3, an eighth note D3, and a quarter note C3. The seventh measure has a dotted quarter note B2, an eighth note A2, and a quarter note G2. The eighth measure has a dotted quarter note F2, an eighth note E2, and a quarter note D2.

Musical staff 6: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eight measures. The first measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second measure has a quarter note C5, an eighth note B4, and a quarter note A4. The third measure has a quarter note G4, an eighth note F4, and a quarter note E4. The fourth measure has a quarter note D4, an eighth note C4, and a quarter note B3. The fifth measure has a quarter note A3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note F3. The sixth measure has a quarter note E3, an eighth note D3, and a quarter note C3. The seventh measure has a quarter note B2, an eighth note A2, and a quarter note G2. The eighth measure has a quarter note F2, an eighth note E2, and a quarter note D2.



The image displays six staves of musical notation, each beginning with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notation is as follows:

- Staff 1:** Four measures. Measure 1: quarter note F4. Measure 2: quarter note F4. Measure 3: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 4: quarter note F4, eighth note G4.
- Staff 2:** Four measures. Measure 1: quarter note F4. Measure 2: quarter note F4. Measure 3: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 4: quarter note F4, eighth note G4.
- Staff 3:** Four measures. Measure 1: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 2: quarter note F4. Measure 3: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 4: quarter note F4, eighth note G4.
- Staff 4:** Four measures. Measure 1: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 2: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 3: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 4: quarter note F4, eighth note G4.
- Staff 5:** Four measures. Measure 1: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 2: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 3: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 4: quarter note F4, eighth note G4.
- Staff 6:** Four measures. Measure 1: quarter note F4. Measure 2: quarter note F4. Measure 3: quarter note F4, eighth note G4. Measure 4: quarter note F4, eighth note G4.



Lesson 8 - (The Theory Stuff...)

Listen to the following examples of different time signatures:

Simple Time (Beats can be subdivided into 2's):

- [2/4 March](#)
- [3/4 March](#)
- [4/4 March](#) (VERY common, especially in street bands from the U.S.A.)
- [6/4](#) (uncommon)

Compound Time (Beats are subdivided by 3's):

- [6/8 March](#) (infamous for having the **Long short / Long short rhythm** or **Long n Short / Long n Short**. The long part of the rhythm equals $\frac{2}{3}$'s of a pulse, and the short is $\frac{1}{3}$ rd)
- [9/8 March](#)

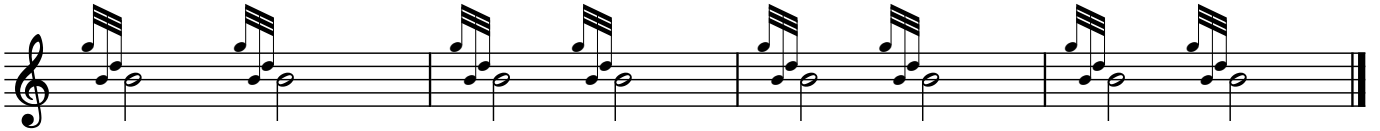
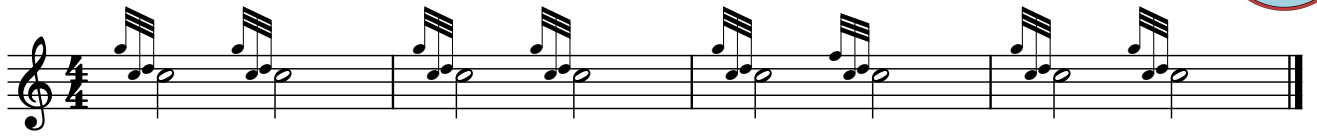
Can you tap the pulses for each time signature?

Do you notice how there is a strong pulse that repeats (in every bar)? How often does that strong pulse repeat? every 2 beats (aka duple)? 3 (aka triple)? 4 (aka quadruple)? More?

Other bagpipe idioms with the above time signatures:

- [6/8 Jig](#) (unlike the 6/8 March; the subdivided pulses are usually divided equally into 3's)
- [9/8 Jig](#) (similar to above but 3 pulses per bar).
- [12/8 Jig](#) (compound time signature with 4 pulses per bar).
- [2/4 Reel](#) (although only 2 beats per bar, they have very strong "upbeats." Are fast tempos (speeds) for dancing).
- [2/4 Hornpipe](#) (like the reel it has a strong "upbeat" and is fast for dancing, but each pulse is often subdivided into 4 note groups).
- [4/4 Strathspey](#) (pay attention to the very STRONG pulse on the 1st beat, weak 2nd, MEDIUM 3rd, weak 4th. VERY characteristic of that "Scottish" style or groove).

Lesson 9 - C Doublings, B Doublings, Crossovers



Lesson 10 - Dot Cuts; More C & B Dbl's, D Throws, E Gracenotes, Taps



A musical score for Lesson 10, consisting of eight staves of music. The first four staves are in 2/4 time and use a treble clef. The last four staves are in 3/4 time and use a bass clef. The music is written in a single melodic line. The first staff shows a sequence of eighth notes with accents. The second staff introduces dotted eighth notes. The third staff adds sixteenth-note runs. The fourth staff continues with more complex rhythmic patterns. The fifth staff introduces repeat signs. The sixth staff has more complex rhythmic patterns. The seventh staff continues with similar patterns. The eighth staff concludes with a final melodic phrase. The score includes various musical notations such as accents, dotted notes, sixteenth-note runs, and repeat signs.

Lesson 11 - More Crossovers, Dot Cuts, F & E Doublings

