

ILMEA Scales and Triads

Major scale: straight forward on solfege.

do re mi fa sol lat ti do ti la sol fa mi re do

The image shows a musical score for the major scale in D major. The treble clef has a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. The bass clef accompaniment consists of a simple harmonic line. The lyrics are: do re mi fa sol lat ti do ti la sol fa mi re do.

Natural minor scale: recommended--la based minor, alternate--do based minor.

la ti do re fa mi fa sol la do sol te fa mi re fa do me ti la do

The image shows a musical score for the natural minor scale in D minor. The treble clef has a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. The bass clef accompaniment consists of a simple harmonic line. The lyrics are: la ti do re fa mi fa sol la do sol te fa mi re fa do me ti la do.

Harmonic minor scale: recommended la based minor because there is only one solfege alteration from standard solfege whereas the do based has two.

la ti do re fa mi fa si la do si ti fa mi re fa do me ti la do

The image shows a musical score for the harmonic minor scale in D minor. The treble clef has a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. The bass clef accompaniment consists of a simple harmonic line. The lyrics are: la ti do re fa mi fa si la do si ti fa mi re fa do me ti la do.

Melodic minor scale: three choices, la based has two alterations on the ascending but pure descending. Do based has only one alteration on the ascending, but three on descending. Hybrid has the fewest alterations, but is somewhat unorthodox and requires the singers to sing a whole step while switching from Do to sol on the descending.

la ti do re fa mi fi si la do sol te fa mi re fa do me ti la do
do re me fa sol la ti do sol sol fa mi re do do ti la

The image shows a musical score for the melodic minor scale in D minor. The treble clef has a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is written on a single staff with two lines of lyrics underneath. The bass clef accompaniment consists of a simple harmonic line. The lyrics are: la ti do re fa mi fi si la do sol te fa mi re fa do me ti la do / do re me fa sol la ti do sol sol fa mi re do do ti la.

Major triad: this occurs starting on do of the major scale, very straight forward.

do mi sol mi do

Minor triad: this occurs on minor scale one or major scale six. La is an obvious first syllable. Alternately, do-me-sol can be used (this is a major triad with a lowered middle note).

do me sol me do

Diminished triad: this occurs on major scale 7, so one choice would be to use ti-re-fa since it occurs without alteration. Alternately, la-do-me works since a diminished triad is essentially a minor triad with a lowered top note.

ti re fa re ti
la do me do la

Augmented triad: this doesn't occur anywhere without some sort of alteration. It is essentially a major triad with a raised top note, so the solfege do-mi-si is obvious here.

do mi si mi do