

Dear Director,

Thanks for taking a moment to have a look at some samples from “**Big Band Warm Up Scales**”.

Included in the sample are score & parts to scales 1a & 4, complete trumpet part (so that you can see some of the other patterns), and mp3 audio sample.

What I’d like to highlight firstly is that

- The scales are in unison for all horns, so it doesn’t matter what size ensemble you are directing for them to be of benefit.
- All patterns are accompanied by chord progressions in the rhythm section. (notated and chord symbols).
- They are progressively more difficult throughout the book of nine patterns, and cover major and minor scales, varying rhythms, etc.

Directing big bands (especially school bands) is usually a huge race against time. As a result, rehearsals are often focussed almost exclusively on getting pieces learnt. I feel that some of the important fundamentals are neglected in this race against time including warm up, intonation, basic ensemble awareness etc.

When I became involved with school bands again a couple of years back I was faced with this but didn’t have a strategy in place. Therefore, I came up with this book of scale patterns designed to literally be a 5 minutes start to the rehearsal. It not only gives the players a short warm up, but also gives their ears an opportunity to develop intonation and ensemble awareness as everyone is playing in unison.

Really, just print a pattern or two and have it in the front of their packs. Once it’s there the hard work is done.

So please, try out one or both of these examples from the book. (They’re both on the easier level). I’ve included also an mp3 audio of a few of the samples.

If you find them beneficial you can purchase the book of nine scales for US\$18 (About AU\$24). You can purchase them via pigletmusic.com, or if in Australia feel free to contact me if you’d like to deal direct and I can organise printing for a small fee if you prefer.

Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions at pigletnotes@gmail.com.

Regards

Rob Booth
(Piglet Music)

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

Scale 1a

ROBERT BOOTH

MED SWING ♩ = 130

The musical score is arranged in a standard big band format with the following parts:

- ALTO SAX'S:** Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The melody consists of quarter notes in the first four measures, followed by a rest, and then continues with quarter notes in measures 7-10.
- TENOR SAX'S:** Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The melody is identical to the Alto Sax part.
- BARI. SAX.:** Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The melody is identical to the other sax parts.
- TRUMPETS:** Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The melody is identical to the sax parts.
- TROMBONES:** Bass clef, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The melody is identical to the other parts.
- PIANO:** Grand staff (treble and bass clefs), key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *f* dynamic. The left hand plays a steady quarter-note accompaniment. The right hand plays chords and some melodic lines. Includes "OPT FILL" markings in measures 7 and 10.
- GIUITAR:** Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The melody is identical to the other parts. Includes "(OPT PLAY SCALE OR COMP)" and "OPT FILL" markings.
- VIBRAPHONE:** Treble clef, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *f* dynamic. The part consists of chords and some melodic lines. Includes "OPT FILL" markings.
- BASS GUITAR:** Bass clef, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The part consists of a steady quarter-note accompaniment. Includes "OPT FILL" markings.
- DRUMS:** Drum set notation, key signature of two sharps, common time. Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The pattern includes a snare drum on the backbeat and a hi-hat on the other beats. Includes "SMALL FILL" markings in measures 7 and 10.

11

ALTO

TENOR

BARI. SAX.

TPT.

TBN.

PNOD.

J. GTR.

VIB.

BASS

DR.

SMALL FILL.....

Chord symbols for Piano, J. Gtr., and Vib. parts:

Measures 11-12: G⁶ B_m/F# E_m⁷ C/D A_m⁹ D⁷

Measure 13: G⁶ OPT FILL..... G⁶

Measures 14-18: C⁶ E_m/B A_m⁷ F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

ALTO *mf*

TENOR *mf*

BARI. SAX. *mf*

TPT. *mf*

TBN. *mf*

PNO. *f*

J. GTR. *mf*

VIB. *mf*

BASS *mf*

DR. *mf*

(OPT PLAY SCALE OR COMP)

D C#m7(b5) C7(#11) G/B A13 Em7 Eb7 D D9 Db9

D C#m7(b5) C7(#11) G/B A13 Em7 Eb7 D D7 Db7

D C#m7(b5) C7(#11) G/B A13 Em7 Eb7 D D7 Db7

MED SWING ♩ = 130

SMALL FILL...

6

ALTO *sim.*

TENOR *sim.*

BARI. SAX. *sim.*

TPT. *sim.* OPT 8VA

TBN. *sim.*

PNO.

J. GTR. *sim.*

VIB.

BASS

DR.

SMALL FILL...

Chord progression: C Bm7(b5) Bb7(#11) F/A G13 Dm7 Db7 C6 Am7 D9 G6 F#m7(b5) F7(#11) C/E

Chord progression: C Bm7(b5) Bb7(#11) F/A G13 Dm7 Db7 C Am7 D7 G F#m7(b5) F7(#11) C/E

Chord progression: C Bm7(b5) Bb7(#11) F/A G13 Dm7 Db7 C Am7 D7 G F#m7(b5) F7(#11) C/E

13

ALTO

TENOR

BARI. SAX.

TPT.

TBN.

PNO.

J. GTR.

VIB.

BASS

DR.

SMALL FILL...

D¹³ Am⁷ Ab⁷ G⁶ E⁷(#⁹) A⁷(#⁵) D C[#]m⁷(b⁵) C⁷(#¹¹) G/B A¹³ Em⁷ Eb⁷ D

D¹³ Am⁷ G[#]7 G E⁷(#⁹) A⁷(#⁵) D C[#]m⁷(b⁵) C⁷(#¹¹) G/B A¹³ Em⁷ Eb⁷ D

D¹³ Am⁷ Ab⁷ G E⁷(#⁹) A⁷(#⁵) D C[#]m⁷(b⁵) C⁷(#¹¹) G/B A¹³ Em⁷ Eb⁷ D

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

ALTO SAX'S

(sample)

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

Musical notation for Scale 1a, measures 1-15. The scale is in A major (three sharps) and common time. It consists of a series of quarter notes: A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, G5, F#5, E5, D5, C5, B4, A4. The first measure starts with a dynamic marking of *mf*. Measure numbers 8 and 15 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

Musical notation for Scale 4, measures 1-16. The scale is in A major (three sharps) and common time. It consists of eighth notes with accents: A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, G5, F#5, E5, D5, C5, B4, A4. The first measure starts with a dynamic marking of *mf*. Measure 6 includes the marking *sim.* (sustained). Measure numbers 11 and 16 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

TENOR SAX'S

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

mf

8

16

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf

6

sim.

11

16

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

BARI. SAX.

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

mf

8

14

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for Scale 1a. It is written in E major (one sharp) and common time. The scale consists of 14 measures. The first measure starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The notes are: E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The second measure is a whole rest. The third measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The fourth measure is a whole rest. The fifth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The sixth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The seventh measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The eighth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The ninth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The tenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The eleventh measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The twelfth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The thirteenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The fourteenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half).

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

mf

sim.

1

6

11

16

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for Scale 4. It is written in E major (one sharp) and common time. The scale consists of 16 measures. The first measure starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The notes are: E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The second measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The third measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The fourth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The fifth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The sixth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The seventh measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The eighth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The ninth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The tenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The eleventh measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The twelfth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The thirteenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The fourteenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The fifteenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half). The sixteenth measure is E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (half).

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

TRUMPETS

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

mf

8

15

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf

6

sim.

11

OPT 8VA

16

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

TROMBONES

(sample)

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130



Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130



BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

PIANO

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

C⁶ E_m/B A_m⁷ F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶ OPT FILL..... C⁹

6

F⁶ A_m/E D_m⁷ B_b/C G_m⁹ C⁷ F⁶ OPT FILL..... E_b⁷ D⁹

11 G⁶ B_m/F[#] E_m⁷ C/D A_m⁹ D⁷ G⁶ OPT FILL..... G⁶

16 C⁶ E_m/B A_m⁷ F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1 D C#m7(b5) C7(#11) G/B A13 Em7 Eb7 D D⁹ Db⁹

6 C Bm7(b5) Bb7(#11) F/A G13 Dm7 Db7 C⁶ Am7 D⁹

11 G⁶ F#m7(b5) F7(#11) C/E D13 Am7 Ab7 G⁶ E7(#9) A7(#5)

16 D C#m7(b5) C7(#11) G/B A13 Em7 Eb7 D

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

GUITAR

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

(OPT PLAY SCALE OR COMP)

Scale 1a is a 15-measure scale in C major. The notation is as follows:

- Measures 1-2: C⁶ (quarter), E_m/B (quarter)
- Measures 3-4: A_m⁷ (quarter), F/G (quarter)
- Measures 5-6: D_m⁹ (quarter), G⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 7-8: C⁶ (quarter), C⁹ (quarter)
- Measures 9-10: F⁶ (quarter), A_m/E (quarter)
- Measures 11-12: D_m⁷ (quarter), B_b/C (quarter)
- Measures 13-14: G_m⁹ (quarter), C⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 15-16: F⁶ (quarter), E_b⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 17-18: D⁹ (quarter), G⁶ (quarter)
- Measures 19-20: G⁶ (quarter), G⁹ (quarter)
- Measures 21-22: C⁶ (quarter), E_m/B (quarter)
- Measures 23-24: A_m⁷ (quarter), F/G (quarter)
- Measures 25-26: D_m⁹ (quarter), G⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 27-28: C⁶ (quarter), C⁹ (quarter)

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

(OPT PLAY SCALE OR COMP)

Scale 4 is a 28-measure scale in D major. The notation is as follows:

- Measures 1-2: D (quarter), C_{#m}⁷(b5) (quarter)
- Measures 3-4: C⁷(#11) (quarter), G/B (quarter)
- Measures 5-6: A¹³ (quarter), E_m⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 7-8: E_b⁷ (quarter), D (quarter)
- Measures 9-10: D⁷ (quarter), D_b⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 11-12: C (quarter), B_m⁷(b5) (quarter)
- Measures 13-14: B_b⁷(#11) (quarter), F/A (quarter)
- Measures 15-16: G¹³ (quarter), D_m⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 17-18: D_b⁷ (quarter), C (quarter)
- Measures 19-20: A_m⁷ (quarter), D⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 21-22: G (quarter), F_{#m}⁷(b5) (quarter)
- Measures 23-24: F⁷(#11) (quarter), C/E (quarter)
- Measures 25-26: D¹³ (quarter), A_m⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 27-28: G_#⁷ (quarter), G (quarter)
- Measures 29-30: E⁷(#9) (quarter), A⁷(#5) (quarter)
- Measures 31-32: D (quarter), C_{#m}⁷(b5) (quarter)
- Measures 33-34: C⁷(#11) (quarter), G/B (quarter)
- Measures 35-36: A¹³ (quarter), E_m⁷ (quarter)
- Measures 37-38: E_b⁷ (quarter), D (quarter)

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

VIBRAPHONE

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1 *f* C⁶ E_m/B A_m⁷ F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶ C⁹

6 *mf* F⁶ A_m/E D_m⁷ B^b/C G_m⁹ C⁷ F⁶

11 G⁶ B_m/F[#] E_m⁷ C/D A_m⁹ D⁷ G⁶ G⁶ G⁹

16 C⁶ E_m/B A_m⁷ F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1 *mf* D C^{#m}7(b⁵) C⁷(#11) G/B A¹³ E_m⁷ E_b⁷ D D⁷ D_b⁷

6 C B_m⁷(b⁵) B_b⁷(#11) F/A G¹³ D_m⁷ D_b⁷ C A_m⁷ D⁷

11 G F^{#m}7(b⁵) F⁷(#11) C/E D¹³ A_m⁷ A_b⁷ G E⁷(#9) A⁷(#5)

16 D C^{#m}7(b⁵) C⁷(#11) G/B A¹³ E_m⁷ E_b⁷ D

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

BASS GUITAR

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

mf

C⁶ E_m/B A_m⁷ F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶ C⁹

6 F⁶ A_m/E D_m⁷ B_b/C G_m⁹ C⁷ F⁶ E_b⁷ D⁹

11 G⁶ B_m/F[#] E_m⁷ C/D A_m⁹ D⁷ G⁶ G⁶ G⁹

16 C⁶ E_m/B A_m⁷ F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

mf

1 D C^{#m}⁷(b₅) C⁷(#11) G/B A¹³ E_m⁷ E_b⁷ D D⁷ D_b⁷

6 C B_m⁷(b₅) B_b⁷(#11) F/A G¹³ D_m⁷ D_b⁷ C A_m⁷ D⁷

11 G F^{#m}⁷(b₅) F⁷(#11) C/E D¹³ A_m⁷ A_b⁷ G E⁷(#9) A⁷(#5)

16 D C^{#m}⁷(b₅) C⁷(#11) G/B A¹³ E_m⁷ E_b⁷ D

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

(sample)

DRUMS

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf SMALL FILL.....

6

11

SMALL FILL.....

16

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf SMALL FILL...

6

SMALL FILL...

11

SMALL FILL...

16

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

TRUMPETS

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

mf

8

15

Scale 1b

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf

6

sm.

11

16

Scale 2

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf

7

13

Scale 3

FUNK ♩ = 90

1

mf

7

12

Scale 4

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf

6

11

16

Scale 5

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf

6

SIM.

11

OPT 8VA

16

Scale 6

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

mf

5

9

13

Scale 7a

1 *MED SWING* ♩ = 130

2
5-6

2
11-12

2
17-18

19

Scale 7 b

1 *MED SWING* ♩ = 130

2
5-6

2
11-12

2
17-18

19