

AP Music Theory Summer Assignments

Welcome to AP Music Theory! The following lessons and resources will help to prepare students for the coursework that is ahead. For AP Music Theory, students need a strong understanding of music theory fundamentals so that we can move quickly to analysis and other topics. All of the students taking AP Music Theory have a musical background, and some of this material may feel like review. Please use this review to your advantage.

All of the assignments will be reviewed during the first week(s) of school. In order to be successful for the year, this must be review and not new instruction. Consistently working through the material over the summer is key and will set you up very well for the fall. AP Music Theory moves very quickly, so a strong foundational knowledge will help ensure your success! All the exercises are individually created by the website and are randomly generated, so you can use the resource multiple times.

Assignment #1: Go to www.musictheory.net/lessons and read/work through the following “Lessons”.

1. Select “LESSONS”
2. View the following lessons in their entirety
 - a. The Staff, Clefs, and Ledger Lines
 - b. Note Duration
 - c. Measures and Time Signatures
 - d. Rest Duration
 - e. Dots and Ties
 - f. Steps and Accidentals
 - g. Simple and Compound Meter
 - h. The Major Scale
 - i. The Minor Scales
 - j. Scale Degrees
 - k. Key Signatures
 - l. Generic Intervals
 - m. Specific Intervals
 - n. Writing Intervals
 - o. Interval Inversion

If you need further clarification or information on any of these topics, a Google or YouTube search will provide a plethora of alternate lessons and examples.

Assignment #2: 1. Note Identification – Use the following links to complete the exercises (one for Treble, Bass, Alto, and Tenor Clefs. Aim for 90% or higher accuracy, speedy identification will also help you immensely in the class:

Treble Clef – www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/bgwrybynnyyky

Bass Clef – www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/nrwyrybynnyyky

Alto Clef – www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/rrwyrybynnyyky

Tenor Clef – www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/erwyrybynnyyky

Assignment #3: 1. Major Key Signature Identification – Use the following link to complete the exercise. Aim for 90% or higher accuracy, speedy identification will also help you immensely in the class:
www.musictheory.net/exercises/keysig/x000yydykyyy

Assignment #4: 1. Major Scales Identification – Use the following link to complete the exercise:
www.musictheory.net/exercises/scale/drwbbyyyrynyry
2. Minor Scales Identification – Use the following link to complete the exercise:
www.musictheory.net/exercises/scale/drwgqyyrynyry

Assignment #5: 1. Generic Interval Identification – Use the following link to complete the exercise:
www.musictheory.net/exercises/generic-interval/xrwyry9dnnyyy
2. Specific Interval Identification – Use the following link to complete the exercise:
www.musictheory.net/exercises/interval/xrwyryyh98ybnyyky

Intervals are much easier to identify when you know what accidentals are in the scale if you treat the bottom note of the interval as the scale root. Know your key signatures!

Assignment #6: 1. Interval Aural Identification (By ear, not by sight) – Use the following link and customize the exercise as needed. <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-interval>

Suggested interval combinations (scaffolding):

- a. Unison, Major 2nd, Perfect 5th, Octave
- b. Add (or isolate) Major 3rd, Major 7th
- c. Add (or isolate) Perfect 4th, Major 6th
- d. Add (or isolate) Tritone, minor 3rd
- e. Add (or isolate) minor 2nd, minor 6th, minor 7th

2. Scale Aural Identification – Use the following link to practice identifying the following scales by ear: major, natural minor, harmonic minor, melodic minor.

<https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-scale/xyyrnyngnebyyy>

3. Major/minor Chord Aural Identification – Use the following link to practice identifying major and minor chords in root position by ear. <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-chord/dyyjbyngnenyky>

Note: All of these exercises are available/customizable under the “Exercises” tab on musictheory.net: <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises> - select your topic, click on the gear icon in the upper right hand corner and change the parameters/information included in the flash cards. Just want to practice your line note names or just your flat key signatures? You can do that! Level up your practicing if you feel overwhelmed by what I have provided.

Questions? Email me at: stephanie.a.baker@mcpsmd.net