

MR. DICKSON'S METHOD FOR BAND

Book One

Tuba

www.JustinDickson.com
revised July 13, 2020

--- While You Are Playing ---

Tap your foot with the beat, during all notes and rests.

Count 1-2-3-4-1-2-3-4 in your mind while you play each measure (notes and rests).

Breathe on the beat before you start playing. Breathe together to play together.

Look ahead and get ready for the next measure when you can.

Sit up straight, take a big and relaxed breath every time, don't tense up.

--- Practice ---

Practice your instrument every day. Really. Every day.

Every day you practice, you will get stronger and better;

every day you don't practice, you will get weaker and worse.

It's not about how hard you try; it's about how often you try.

If you want to get good at something, you have to do it over and over and over again slowly.

If you make a mistake, stop and fix it. Do not just keep going, or it will not get better.

Practice with a metronome, to help you count and keep a steady beat.

Practice with the Bandmate Chromatic Tuner app to check your notes.

--- Strategies For Learning New Music ---

Slowwwwwww Dooooowwwwwnnnnnnn.

Slow down the tempo until you can play it without any mistakes, then play it correctly at that tempo 5-10 times before trying to speed up. Slow down again if you make mistakes.

Say the letter names of the notes out loud.

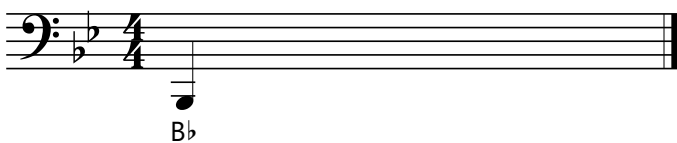
Say the rhythms out loud ("quarter quarter eighth eighth" etc.)

Tizzle, count, and/or clap the rhythm before you try to play the melody.

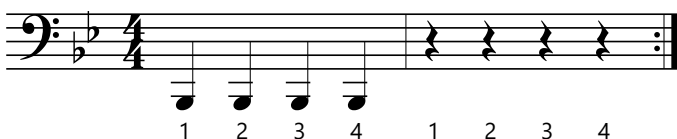
If you are having trouble playing the right notes, play through the melody holding each note for 3 seconds.

CHAPTER 1: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitches concert B \flat , C, and D; and rhythms with quarter notes and quarter rests.

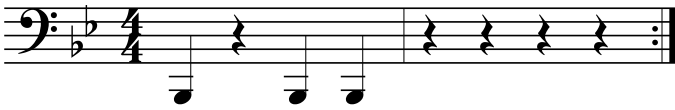
1.01 Your first note



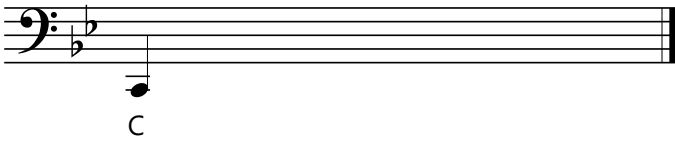
1.02 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.03 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.04 Your next note



1.05 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.06 Quarter notes and quarter rests



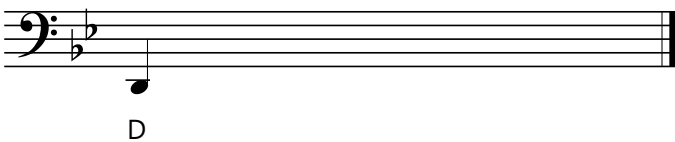
1.07 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.08 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.09 Your third note



1.10 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.11 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.12 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.13 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.14 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.15 Three note scale



1.16 "Mary Had A Little Lamb"



*continue down to
the next line >>>>*



1.17 Most excellent bonus etude. Can you handle it!?



CHAPTER 2: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitches concert Eb and F.

2.01 New note!

A single bass clef staff with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). A single quarter note is written on the second line of the staff, which is labeled "Eb" below it.

2.02 Quarter notes and quarter rests

A bass clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first measure contains four quarter notes. The second measure contains four quarter rests. The piece ends with a repeat sign.

2.03 Quarter notes and quarter rests

A bass clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first measure contains five quarter notes. The second measure contains two quarter rests. The piece ends with a repeat sign.

2.04 Quarter notes and quarter rests

A bass clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first measure contains seven quarter notes. The second measure contains one quarter rest. The piece ends with a repeat sign.

2.05 Four note scale

A bass clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first measure contains four quarter notes. The second measure contains four quarter notes. The piece ends with a repeat sign.

2.06 New note!

A single bass clef staff with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). A single quarter note is written on the first space of the staff, which is labeled "F" below it.

2.07 Quarter notes and quarter rests

A bass clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first measure contains seven quarter notes. The second measure contains one quarter rest. The piece ends with a repeat sign.

2.08 Quarter notes and quarter rests

A bass clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The first measure contains five quarter notes. The second measure contains two quarter rests. The piece ends with a repeat sign.

2.09 Five note scale



2.10 Thirds



2.11 Thirds



2.12 Thirds



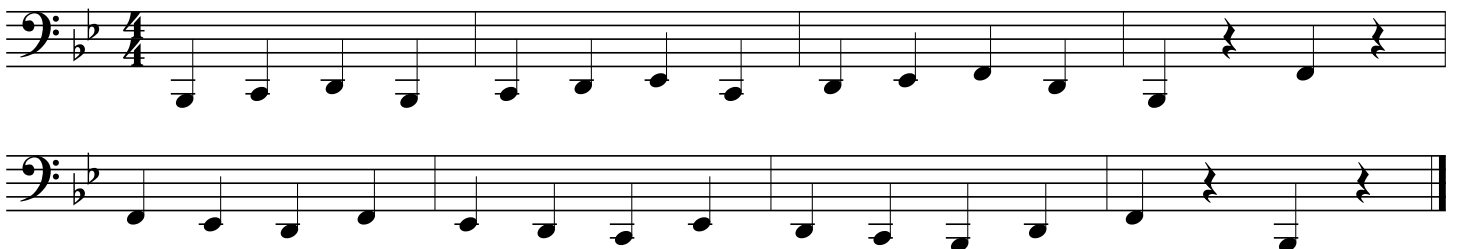
2.13 Flexibility



2.14 Get up and get down

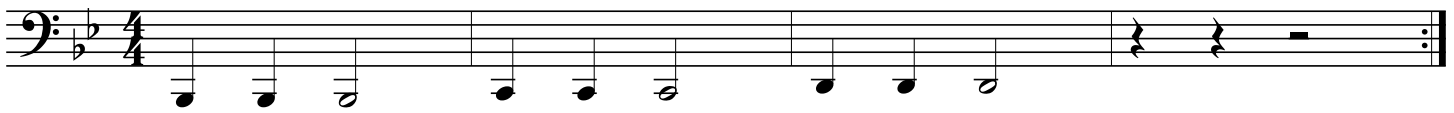


2.15 Super duper extra bonus beast mode star power etude for Narnia and Azeroth



CHAPTER 3: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with half notes and half rests.

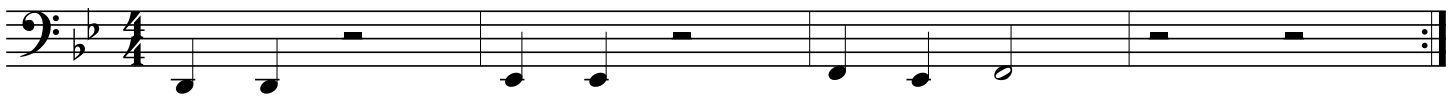
3.01 Half notes and half rests



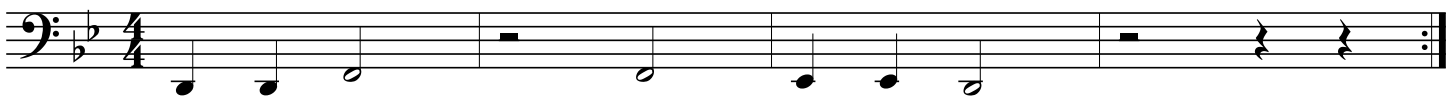
3.02 Half notes and half rests



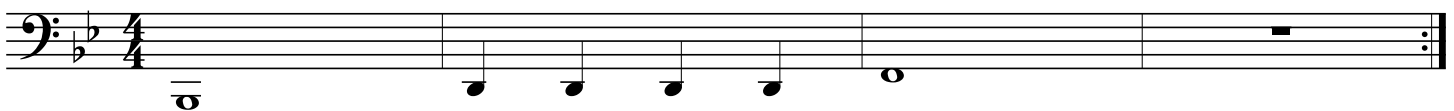
3.03 Half notes and half rests



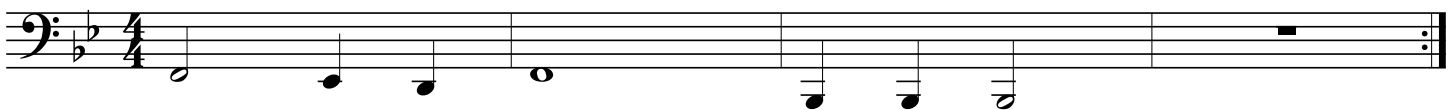
3.04 Half notes and half rests



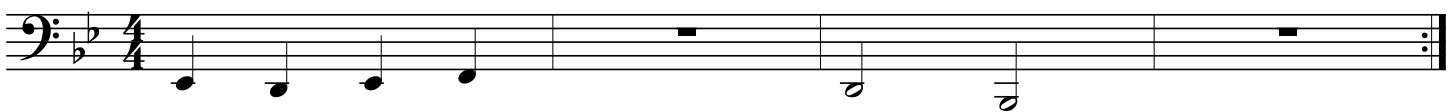
3.05 Whole notes and whole rests



3.06 Whole notes and whole rests



3.07 Whole notes and whole rests



3.08 Whole notes and whole rests



3.09 "Hot Cross Buns"

Musical notation for "Hot Cross Buns" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The piece consists of a single line of music with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

3.10 "Jingle Bells"

*continue down to
the next line >>>>*

First line of musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The key signature has two flats. The melody is a simple sequence of quarter notes.

Second line of musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody continues with quarter notes.

Third line of musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody continues with quarter notes.

Fourth line of musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody concludes with a double bar line.

3.11 "Too Much Homework Blues" - Dickson

First line of musical notation for "Too Much Homework Blues" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The key signature has two flats. The melody consists of quarter notes, with some measures containing whole rests.

Second line of musical notation for "Too Much Homework Blues" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody continues with quarter notes and whole rests.

Third line of musical notation for "Too Much Homework Blues" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody concludes with a double bar line.

3.12 "March Of The Stinky Kids" - Dickson

First line of musical notation for "March Of The Stinky Kids" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The key signature has two flats. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

Second line of musical notation for "March Of The Stinky Kids" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes, concluding with a double bar line.

3.13 "Jingle Bells" with first and second endings

Musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The piece consists of a main melody line followed by two endings. The first ending leads back to the beginning, and the second ending concludes the piece with a final double bar line.

CHAPTER 4: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch concert G.

4.01 New note!

Musical notation for "New note!" in bass clef, 4/4 time. It features a single quarter note G on the second line of the staff.

4.02 Three note scale

Musical notation for "Three note scale" in bass clef, 4/4 time. It shows a three-note scale: G (quarter), A (quarter), B (quarter), followed by a whole rest.

4.03 Help for the brass

Musical notation for "Help for the brass" in bass clef, 4/4 time. It features a four-note scale: G (quarter), A (quarter), B (quarter), C (quarter), followed by a whole rest.

4.04 "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" - W.A. Mozart

Musical notation for "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The piece is presented in three staves, showing the melody line and its accompaniment.

4.05 "Repeat Then Move On Blues" - Dickson

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody with quarter notes and rests. The second staff contains a bass line with quarter notes and a whole note.

CHAPTER 5: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with eighth notes.

5.01 Eighth notes and eighth rests

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody of eighth notes. The second staff contains eighth rests. Below the staves are counting cues: "1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +".

5.02 Eighth notes

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody of eighth notes. The second staff contains quarter notes. Below the staves are counting cues: "1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 2 3".

5.03 Eighth notes

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody of eighth notes. The second staff contains quarter notes. Below the staves are counting cues: "1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 2 3".

5.04 Eighth notes

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody of eighth notes. The second staff contains quarter notes. Below the staves are counting cues: "1 + 2 3 + 4 1 2 3".

5.05 Eighth notes

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody of eighth notes. The second staff contains quarter notes. Below the staves are counting cues: "1 + 2 + 3 4 1 + 2 + 3".

5.06 Eighth notes

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody of eighth notes. The second staff contains quarter notes. Below the staves are counting cues: "1 + 2 + 3 4 1 + 2 + 3".

5.07 "Jolly Old St. Nicholas"

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some beamed eighth notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody.

5.08 "This Old Man"

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody.

5.09 "Cafeteria Food Doesn't Seem Like Actual Food Blues" - Dickson

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The melody features dotted half notes and eighth notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody.

CHAPTER 6: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch Ab, and dotted-half notes.

6.01 New note!

A single staff of musical notation in bass clef, showing a dotted half note on the pitch Ab (the second line from the bottom).

Ab

6.02 Three note scale

A single staff of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The melody is a three-note scale: Ab (second line), Bb (second space), and Cb (third line).

6.03 "Yankee Doodle"

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 2/4 time signature. The first staff contains eight measures of eighth notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3. The second staff continues with eighth notes: A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

6.04 Slurs

One staff of musical notation in bass clef, 2/4 time signature. It contains five measures: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. Slurs are placed under the first two notes of the first measure and the last two notes of the second measure. The piece ends with a double bar line.

6.05 Slurs

One staff of musical notation in bass clef, 2/4 time signature. It contains five measures: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. Slurs are placed under the first two notes of the first measure and the last two notes of the second measure. The piece ends with a double bar line.

6.06 Slurs

One staff of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time signature. It contains five measures: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. Slurs are placed under the first two notes of the first measure and the last two notes of the second measure. The piece ends with a double bar line.

6.07 Dotted-half notes

tap your foot with the beat while you play!

One staff of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time signature. It contains seven measures of dotted half notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3. The piece ends with a double bar line.

6.08 Etude

One staff of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time signature. It contains seven measures: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3. Slurs are placed under the first two notes of the first measure, the last two notes of the second measure, and the last two notes of the third measure. The piece ends with a double bar line.

6.09 Etude

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The first staff contains a sequence of notes: a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes G-flat, F, and E-flat, then a dotted half note D-flat, and finally quarter notes C, B-flat, and A-flat. The second staff contains a sequence of notes: a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes G-flat, F, and E-flat, then a dotted half note D-flat, and finally a whole note C.

6.10 "Jurassic Park"

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The first staff contains a sequence of notes: a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes G-flat and F, then a dotted half note E-flat, and finally quarter notes D-flat, C, and B-flat. The second staff contains a sequence of notes: a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes G-flat and F, then a dotted half note E-flat, and finally quarter notes D-flat, C, and B-flat.

6.11 "Covid-19 Blues" duet, part 1

Three staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The first staff contains a sequence of notes: a quarter note B-flat, eighth notes G-flat and F, quarter notes E-flat and D-flat, eighth notes C and B-flat, and a quarter note A-flat. The second staff contains a sequence of notes: a quarter note B-flat, eighth notes G-flat and F, quarter notes E-flat and D-flat, eighth notes C and B-flat, and a quarter note A-flat. The third staff contains a sequence of notes: a quarter note B-flat, eighth notes G-flat and F, quarter notes E-flat and D-flat, eighth notes C and B-flat, and a quarter note A-flat.

6.11 "Covid-19 Blues" duet, part 2

Three staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. The first staff contains a sequence of notes: a quarter note B-flat, eighth notes G-flat and F, quarter notes E-flat and D-flat, eighth notes C and B-flat, and a quarter note A-flat. The second staff contains a sequence of notes: a quarter note B-flat, eighth notes G-flat and F, quarter notes E-flat and D-flat, eighth notes C and B-flat, and a quarter note A-flat. The third staff contains a sequence of notes: a quarter note B-flat, eighth notes G-flat and F, quarter notes E-flat and D-flat, eighth notes C and B-flat, and a quarter note A-flat.

CHAPTER 7: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies in 3/4 meter.

7.01 3/4 meter

Musical notation for exercise 7.01 in 3/4 meter. The piece is in bass clef, B-flat major (two flats), and 3/4 time. It consists of a single staff with ten measures. The notes are: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1. The notes are grouped into three sets of three, with a final single note. Below the staff, the numbers 1, 2, 3 are written under the first three notes of each group, and a final 1 is under the last note.

7.02 "The Pirates Of The Instrument Storage Room" - Dickson

Musical notation for exercise 7.02 in 3/4 meter. The piece is in bass clef, B-flat major (two flats), and 3/4 time. It consists of two staves, each with ten measures. The notes are: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1. The notes are grouped into three sets of three, with a final single note. The first staff has a slur under the first three notes of each group. The second staff has a slur under the last three notes of each group.

7.03 "We Wish You A Merry Christmas"

Musical notation for exercise 7.03 in 3/4 meter. The piece is in bass clef, B-flat major (two flats), and 3/4 time. It consists of two staves, each with ten measures. The notes are: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1. The notes are grouped into three sets of three, with a final single note. The first staff has a slur under the first three notes of each group. The second staff has a slur under the last three notes of each group.

7.04 "There's A Hole In The Bucket"

Musical notation for exercise 7.04 in 3/4 meter. The piece is in bass clef, B-flat major (two flats), and 3/4 time. It consists of two staves, each with ten measures. The notes are: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1. The notes are grouped into three sets of three, with a final single note. The first staff has a slur under the first three notes of each group. The second staff has a slur under the last three notes of each group.

CHAPTER 8: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch concert A, and rhythms with tied notes.

8.01 New note!

A single bass clef staff in B-flat major. A whole note A₂ is written below the staff, with the letter 'A' centered under the note.

8.02 Etude

A bass clef staff in B-flat major, 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with slurs grouping notes across measures.

8.03 "Hat Dance"

A bass clef staff in B-flat major, 3/4 time signature. The melody features eighth notes and a repeat sign with first and second endings.

8.03 Ties

Two bass clef staves in B-flat major, 4/4 time signature. The top staff shows eighth notes with slurs. The bottom staff shows tied notes.

8.04 Ties

A bass clef staff in B-flat major, 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes with slurs and tied notes.

8.05 "Deck The Halls"

A bass clef staff in B-flat major, 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes with slurs.

8.06 "Spooky Song" - Dickson

This _____ song is so spoo - ky, I _____ am so af - raid,

Lots _____ of ties, I _____ think I am _____ too scared to play!

8.07 "Ode To Joy" - Ludwig Van Beethoven

Musical notation for 'Ode To Joy' - Ludwig Van Beethoven, consisting of four staves of music in bass clef, 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats.

*notes with the Accent mark > should stand out,
so blow a little more air at the beginning of the note.*

8.08 "Accent Blues"

Musical notation for 'Accent Blues', consisting of three staves of music in bass clef, 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats. The notation includes accent marks (>) under several notes.

CHAPTER 9: The band will be able to read, count, and play melodies with the pitch concert G, accidentals, and rhythms with ties across the bar line.

9.01 New note!

A single bass clef staff in B-flat major. A whole note G is written below the staff, with the letter 'G' printed below the note.

9.02 Five note scale

A bass clef staff in B-flat major, 4/4 time. A five-note scale is written: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (half). The notes are connected by a slur.

9.03 Ties

A bass clef staff in B-flat major, 4/4 time. A five-note scale is written: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (half). The notes are connected by a slur, with ties extending across bar lines.

9.04 Ties

A bass clef staff in B-flat major, 4/4 time. A five-note scale is written: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (half). The notes are connected by a slur, with ties extending across bar lines.

9.05 "Like And Subscribe To This Etude" - Dickson

Two bass clef staves in B-flat major, 4/4 time. The first staff contains a melody: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (half), E3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), Bb3 (quarter), C4 (quarter), D4 (half). The second staff contains a bass line: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (half), E3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), Bb3 (quarter), C4 (quarter), D4 (half).

9.06 "January February March" - Dickson

Two bass clef staves in B-flat major, 2/4 time. The first staff contains a melody: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (half), E3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), Bb3 (quarter), C4 (quarter), D4 (half). The second staff contains a bass line: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), C3 (quarter), D3 (half), E3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), Bb3 (quarter), C4 (quarter), D4 (half). Dynamics *f* and *mf* are indicated.

9.07 "Summertime" - George & Ira Gershwin

Musical score for "Summertime" in bass clef, 4/4 time, B-flat major. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a melodic line. The second and third staves continue the melody with various note values and slurs. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a final chord and a double bar line.

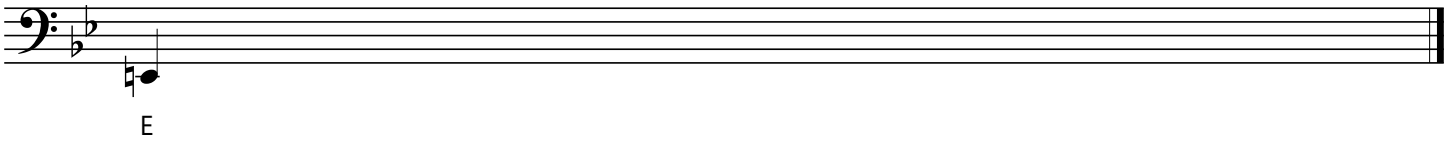
9.08 "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues" - Dickson

Musical score for "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues" in bass clef, 4/4 time, B-flat major. The score consists of three staves. The first staff starts with a melodic line featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The second and third staves continue the melody, ending with a double bar line.

9.09 "The Medallion Calls" from Pirates Of The Caribbean

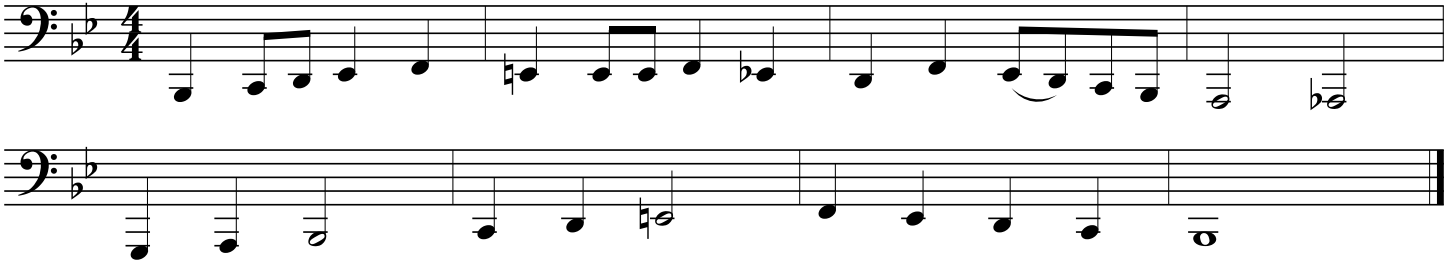
Musical score for "The Medallion Calls" in bass clef, 3/4 time, B-flat major. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a melodic line. The second and third staves continue the melody with various note values and slurs. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a final chord and a double bar line.

9.10 New note



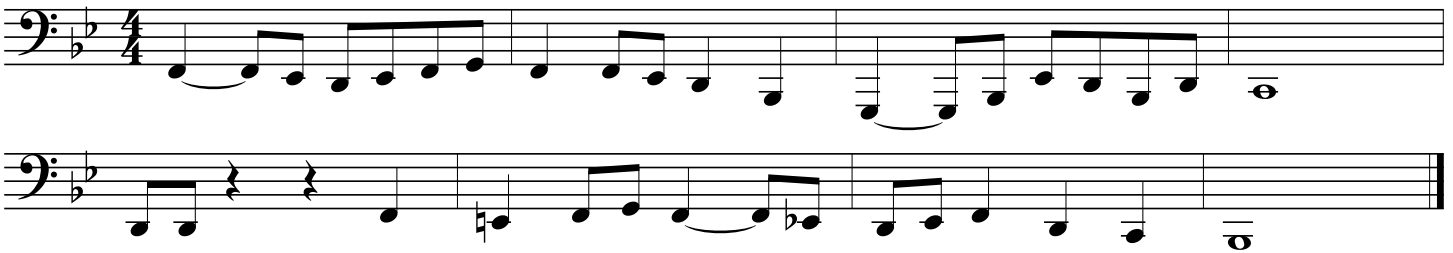
A single staff of music in bass clef, key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and 4/4 time signature. It features a single note on the second line (E) with a flat sign. The letter 'E' is printed below the staff.

9.11 Accidentals



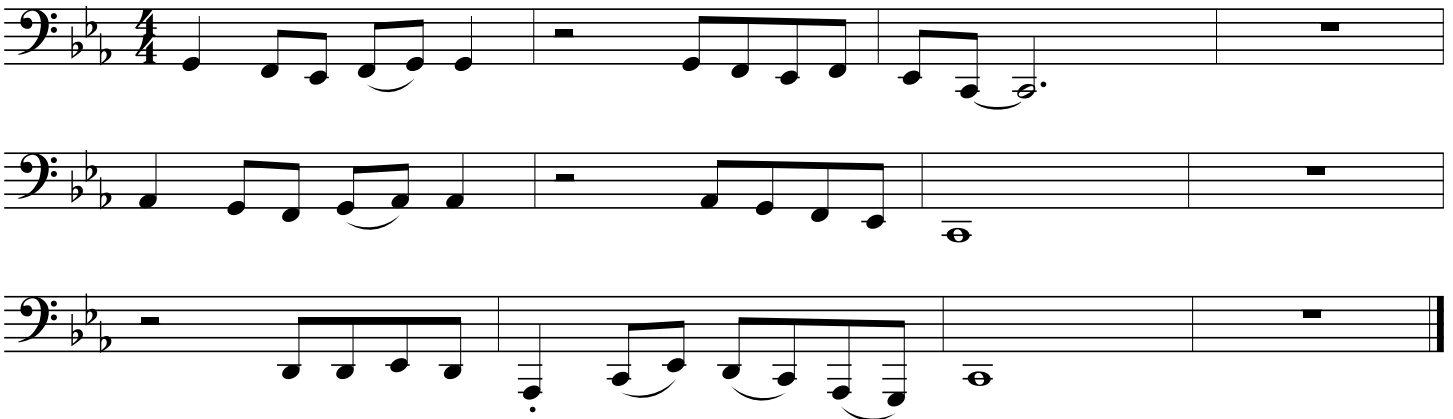
Two staves of music in bass clef, key signature of two flats, and 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes with various accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals) applied to the notes. The second staff contains a sequence of quarter notes, some with accidentals, and a final whole note with a flat sign.

9.12 "March Of The Flying Eagles" - Dickson



Two staves of music in bass clef, key signature of two flats, and 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes with various accidentals. The second staff contains a sequence of quarter notes, some with accidentals, and a final whole note with a flat sign.

9.13 "Sick Licks" - Dickson



Three staves of music in bass clef, key signature of two flats, and 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes with various accidentals. The second staff contains a sequence of quarter notes, some with accidentals, and a final whole note with a flat sign. The third staff contains a sequence of quarter notes, some with accidentals, and a final whole note with a flat sign.

During the 2020 pandemic, I wrote many new songs for my 6th grade students to learn at home. I added the best of them to Chapter 9, which is why this chapter is so long. Many of these songs have play-along recordings on my website. Some of these songs are redundant, in terms of the band curriculum, but they were good, fun to play, and I worked hard on them, so I wanted to include them in my Method anyway. Dig it.

9.14 "Linus And Lucy"

you can use this to play along with the recording of
"Linus And Lucy" by Ellis and Wynton Marsalis on Youtube

Musical score for "Linus And Lucy" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The score consists of five staves. The first two staves are the main melody. The third staff has two first endings, labeled "1." and "2.". The fourth staff contains a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and accents. The fifth staff continues the accompaniment with dotted notes and rests.

9.15 March

Musical score for "March" in bass clef, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves are the main melody with accents. The third staff contains a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and accents. The fourth staff continues the accompaniment with dotted notes and rests.

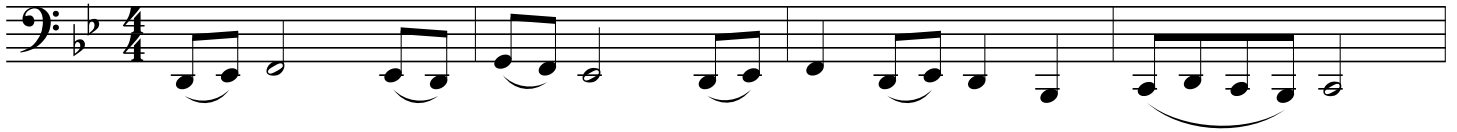
9.16 "My Locker Won't Open" - Dickson

Musical score for "My Locker Won't Open" by Dickson. The score is written in bass clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat major. It consists of three staves. The first two staves contain a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, and the third staff contains a bass line with quarter and eighth notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

9.17 "My Favorite Things"

Musical score for "My Favorite Things". The score is written in bass clef, 3/4 time, and B-flat major. It consists of seven staves. The first six staves contain a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, and the seventh staff contains a bass line with quarter notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

9.18 "Springtime Under Quarentine" - Dickson



Fine



D.C. al Fine

