

Better by Sight

(Four Steps to Mastering Sight Reading)

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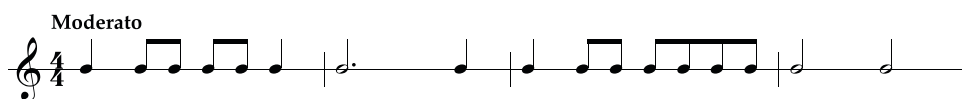


Music that Inspires™

How to Use

The beauty of **Better by Sight's** system is its simple step-wise structure. Each base unit is set up in a similar format: four steps which progressively add musical concepts until by step four, the entire etude is presented. This creates an internal priority for the musician, who begins to view each etude in this way before and during sight reading. Additionally, a "mastery" step is included at the conclusion of each basic unit for an entirely fresh sight reading experience.

Step
1



Step 1: Rhythm & Time The first concept presented for each exercise is rhythm and time. Focus on counting, clapping, or playing the rhythm on a single pitch.

Step
2



Step 2: Key & Pitch adds the exercise's pitch and key to the exercise. Think of this as building on to the foundation that was set for the exercise during the rhythmic step.

Step
3



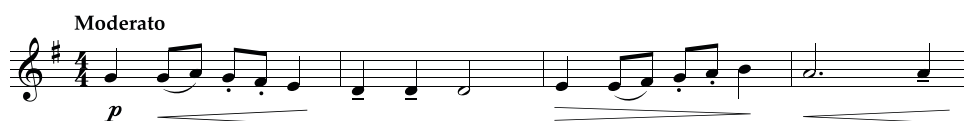
Step 3: Dynamics begins layering in more expressive concepts on to the foundation set by the first two steps. Focus on the dynamic contrast and variations of dynamic indicators.

Step
4



Step 4: Style The final step is two-fold. Initially, this is where we add the musical "details" to the exercise, including slurs, tempo alteration, articulations, and other stylistic markings/texts. Beyond that, this reinforces the priority map with the first "complete" presentation of an etude.

MASTERY



Mastery: The **Mastery Etude**, in all its forms should be considered a full and complete sight reading etude. This exercise can be used to apply whatever specific pedagogy you employ prior to sight reading, while also focusing on concepts that were reinforced in the previous unit.

Extended Mastery Etudes: At the conclusion of each unit (Units 1 –7) as well as the final unit of the book (Unit 8.1 – 8.3) - Much larger **Mastery Etudes** are presented for authentic sight reading practice.

MASTERY

1

MASTERY

2

MASTERY

3

MASTERY

4



RHYTHM & TIME

Moderato

4/4

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8



KEY & PITCH

Moderato

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8



DYNAMICS

Moderato

1 *p* 2 3 4

5 *f* 6 7 8 *p*



STYLE

Moderato

1 *p* 2 3 4

5 *f* 6 7 *p* 8

Pizz.



MASTERY

Moderato

1 *f* 2 3 *p* 4

5 *f* 6 7 *p* 8 *f* *p*

Pizz.

Moderato



RHYTHM & TIME

4/4

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

Moderato



KEY & PITCH

4/4

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

Moderato



DYNAMICS

4/4

1 2 3

5 6 7 8

f *p*

Moderato



STYLE

4/4

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

f *p*

Pizz.

Moderato



MASTERY

4/4

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

f *p*

Pizz.

MASTERY
1

Moderato

Musical score for Mastery Etude 1, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Moderato. The first staff contains measures 1-5, with dynamics *f* and *p*, and a 'Pizz.' marking at measure 5. The second staff contains measures 6-10, with dynamics *f* and 'Arco' markings at measures 9 and 10. The third staff contains measures 11-16, with dynamics *p* and 'Pizz.' markings at measures 13 and 15. A circled number '9' is placed above measure 9.

MASTERY
2

Moderato

Musical score for Mastery Etude 2, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Moderato. The first staff contains measures 1-5, with dynamics *p* and 'Pizz.' markings at measures 5 and 5. The second staff contains measures 6-10, with dynamics *f* and 'Arco' markings at measures 9 and 10. The third staff contains measures 11-16, with dynamics *p* and 'Pizz.' markings at measures 13 and 15. A circled number '9' is placed above measure 9.

MASTERY
3

Moderato

Musical score for Mastery Etude 3, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Moderato. The first staff contains measures 1-5, with dynamics *p* and 'Pizz.' markings at measures 5 and 5. The second staff contains measures 6-11, with dynamics *f* and 'Arco' markings at measures 9 and 10. The third staff contains measures 12-16, with dynamics *p* and 'Pizz.' markings at measures 13 and 15. A circled number '9' is placed above measure 9.

MASTERY
4

Moderato

Musical score for Mastery Etude 4, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Moderato. The first staff contains measures 1-5, with dynamics *f* and *p*. The second staff contains measures 6-11, with dynamics *f* and 'Arco' markings at measures 9 and 10. The third staff contains measures 12-16, with dynamics *p* and 'Pizz.' markings at measures 13 and 15. A circled number '9' is placed above measure 9.