

# Alfred's Premier Piano Express

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## All-In-One Accelerated Course

*Lesson ■ Theory ■ Technique ■ Performance*

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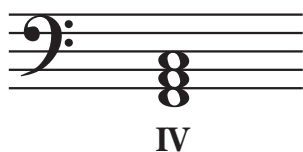




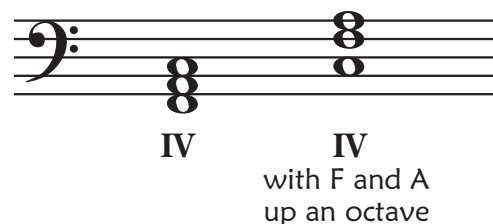
## UNIT 1 The IV Chord

### The IV Chord in C

The **IV** chord is built on the 4th note (subdominant) of the scale.



In C major, the **IV** chord often moves F and A up an octave.



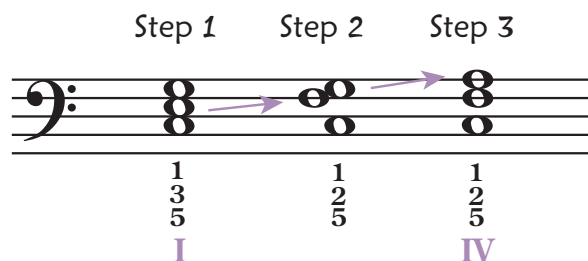
### Moving from the I Chord to the IV Chord

Use these three steps to make **I–IV** in C easier to play:

**Step 1:** Play the **I** chord.

**Step 2:** Raise the middle note a half step.

**Step 3:** Raise the top note a whole step.



### The Primary Chords in C

The most important chords in any key are the **I**, **IV**, and **V<sup>7</sup>** chords. They are called the **primary chords**.

1. Play **I**, **IV**, and **V<sup>7</sup>**, saying the chord names aloud.

*2nd time RH 8va*

*mf* I IV I V<sup>7</sup> I IV I V<sup>7</sup> I

1 2 5 1 2 5 5 3 1 5 4 1

2. Using these rhythms, play **I**, **IV**, and **V<sup>7</sup>** in C by reading the chord symbols.

#### Starting Chord

a. RH

I

b. LH

I

4/4 I IV I IV I

3/4 I IV I V<sup>7</sup> I



## UNIT 6 D Major Scale and Chords

### Preparation for D Major Scale

a. 

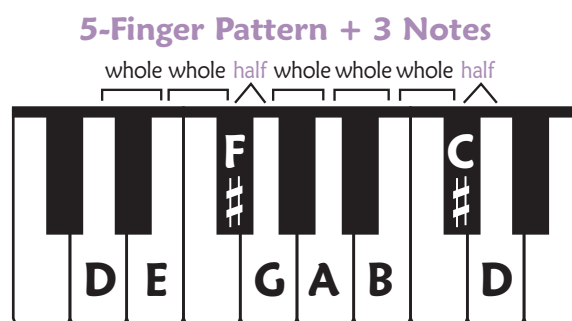
b. 

### D Major Scale

The D major scale contains 8 notes—the D 5-finger pattern + 3 notes.

Half steps occur between notes 3–4 (F#–G) and 7–8 (C#–D).

In the D major scale, there are two sharps—F# and C#.



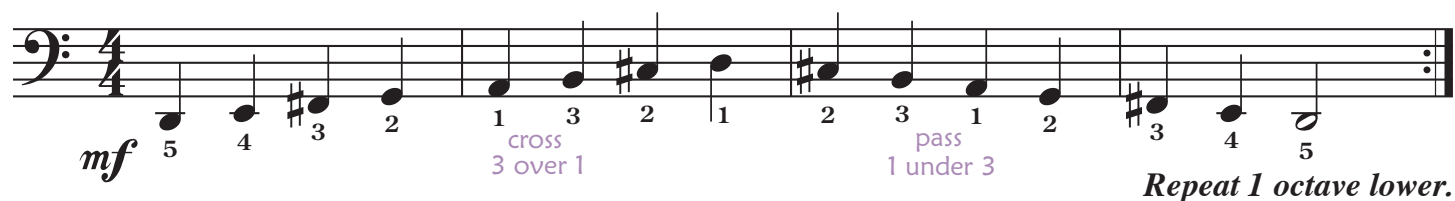
### Playing the D Major Scale (Hands Separately)

Say the finger numbers as you practice slowly. Memorize the fingering.

#### Right Hand



#### Left Hand



### Intervals in the D Scale



## UNIT 7 A Minor Scales and Chords

### Minor Scales

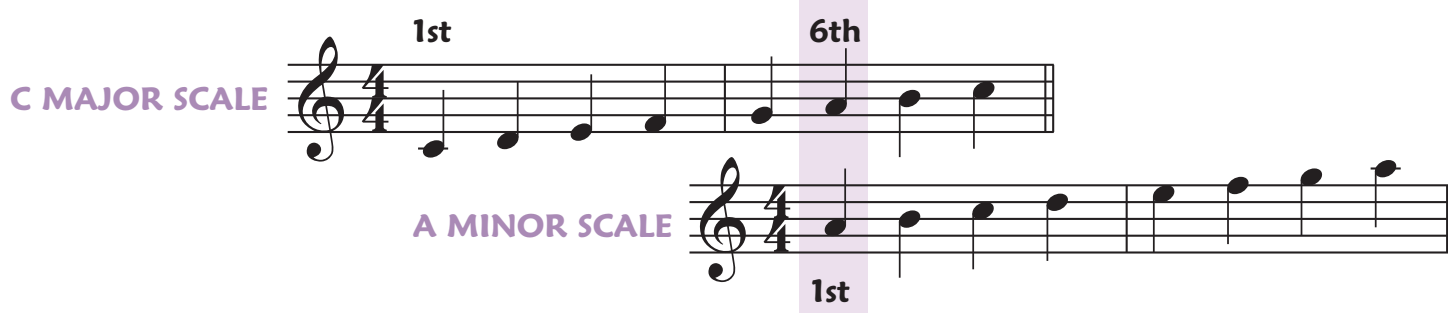
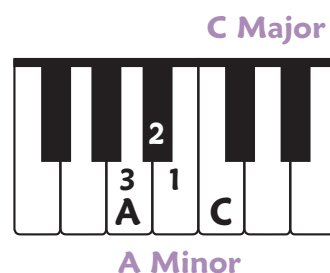
Minor scales sound different from major scales. There are 3 types of minor scales: *natural*, *harmonic*, and *melodic*. In this book, you will learn *natural* and *harmonic* minor scales.

### Relative Minor Scales

Each major scale has a *relative minor* scale. The *relative minor* scale begins on the 6th note of the major scale. The two scales use the same notes and key signature.

A minor is the *relative minor* of C major. The keys of C major and A minor have no sharps or flats in the key signature.

You can also find the relative minor by counting 3 half steps *down* from the tonic.

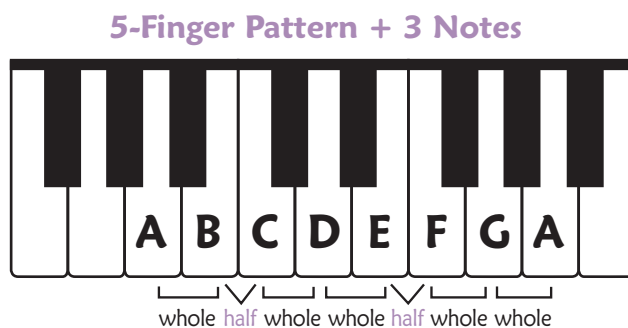


### A Natural Minor Scale

The A natural minor scale contains 8 notes—the A minor 5-finger pattern + 3 notes.

Half steps occur between notes 2–3 (B–C) and 5–6 (E–F).

In the A natural minor scale, there are no sharps or flats.



### Playing the A Natural Minor Scale (Hands Separately)

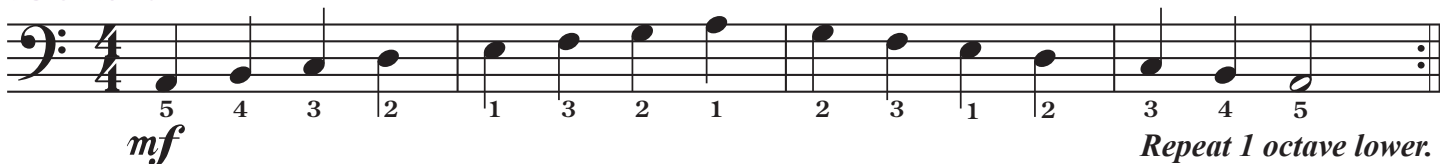
Say the finger numbers as you practice slowly. Memorize the fingering.

#### Right Hand



Repeat 1 octave higher.

#### Left Hand



Repeat 1 octave lower.

## Worksheet Sixteenth Notes

1. Change the quarter notes to sixteenth notes by adding 2 beams to each group of 4.



2. Add a beam to each group of 3 quarter notes. Then change the 2nd and 3rd notes in each group to sixteenth notes by adding a 2nd beam.

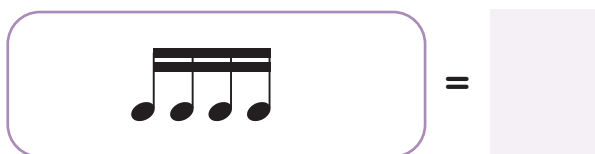


3. Add a beam to each group of 3 quarter notes. Then change the 1st and 2nd notes in each group to sixteenth notes by adding a 2nd beam.



4. Write one note in the empty box to equal the total counts of the notes in the first box.

a.



b.



c.



d.



## New Italian Terms

**Sforzando** (*sf*) = with a strong accent

**Leggiero** = lightly

**Dolce** = sweetly

**Risoluto** = boldly

## Speed Links

To play sixteenth notes quickly, link notes together with one arm motion. Play the first note of each sixteenth-note pattern with weight. Quickly play the notes that follow in the same measure by transferring weight from finger to finger.

## Arabesque\* 33

Johann Burgmüller

(1806–1874)

Op. 100, No. 2

**Allegro scherzando**

The musical score for 'Arabesque' by Johann Burgmüller is presented in three systems. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a 'leggiero' marking. The second system includes a measure with a 1/2 5 fingering. The third system includes a measure with a 1/2 5 fingering and a measure with a 1 3 5 fingering. The score features various musical notations including slurs, accents, and dynamic markings like *sf* and *f*.

\* An *arabesque* is a piece with many decorative musical figures. In Burgmüller's *Arabesque*, the sixteenth notes provide the decoration.