

# the chromatic scale (symmetrically)

I often teach this scale to students at their very first lesson

the notation looks intimidating but playing it on the keyboard is quite straightforward, even intuitive, since both hands do the same thing at the same time (if the scale is started at D or Ab)

there are of course many ways to finger the scale depending on the context but this works well here we use 3 on every black key and 1 on white keys except at b-c and e-f where the 2 bridges the gap

try extending to two or three octaves and/or with eyes closed (or looking away from the keyboard)

The image shows a musical score for a symmetric chromatic scale in 3/4 time. The score is written for both the treble and bass clefs. The treble clef staff starts on D4 and the bass clef staff starts on D3. The scale is symmetric, meaning it covers the same range of notes in both directions. The notation includes fingerings: 1 for white keys, 3 for black keys, and 2 for the intervals b-c and e-f. There are also some notes with a (4) above them, indicating a fourth finger. The scale is written in a way that is easy to read and play.