

CHORAL WARM-UP PIANO ACCOMPANIMENTS

Seventeen written-out accompaniments are provided here to assist and encourage accompanists who may have inhibitions about playing supportive chords through sequential key changes for choral warm-ups without reference to notated music.

Each warm-up is numbered, allowing easy access for the conductor and accompanist. Next to the boxed number are shown the intended purposes for the warm-up, and in parenthesis, options for a complementary motion to reinforce the vocalization.

These notated keyboard accompaniments complement the "It's All in the Warm-Up" section of Chapter Twelve: Awake My Soul And Sing! - The Songster Leader (pp. 249-252), and expand on the instruction for accompanists found in Chapter Seventeen: Keyboard Worship - The Meeting Pianist (pp. 371-375). Both Chapters Sixteen and Seventeen, include helpful explanations on understanding chords and modulating between keys on the Keyboard.

1 Gentle descent from head voice, "waking up ears" by tuning using solfege (upward motion on descending notes)

*sol fa mi re do

C Ab⁷ Db A⁷ D Bb⁷ Eb B⁷

*Or commence with hm to ooh, then ooh-oh to ah (aw), then bright vowels, like ee-eh to a as the exercise ascends.

E C⁷ F Db⁷ Gb D⁷ G Eb⁷

Ab E⁷ A F⁷ Bb F^{#7} B G⁷ C

2 **2 Relaxed warm-up for younger voices, for resonance, foundational "do-sol-do" interval**
(Oliver Owl, rudely awakened, looks down and sings - Kemp)

Who are you?

G Eb/G Ab E/G# A F/A Bb F#/A# B G/B C Ab/C Db A/C#

(Switch to a neutral "ah" vowel for higher notes)

Ah_____

D Bb/D Eb B/D# E C/E F Db/F Gb D/F# G

3 **3 Resonance and relaxation of facial muscles, engagement of diaphragm**
(Index finger draw circles in middle of forehead or above head - Adams)

Brr_____

C Ab7 Db A7 Eb Bb7

Eb B7 E C7 F Db7

Gb D7 G Eb7 Ab E7

A F7 Bb F#7 B

4 Resonance, sustained breath support, unified vowels
 (Lifted circle by ears, upward motion on descending notes - Adams)

C C Ab7 Db A7

*Mee - meh-mah-moh moo
 Ee - oh - ee - oh - ee - oh

*Commence each vowel with lots of "mm" sound. Can substitute Nee, Nah...

D Bb7 Eb B7 E

Chords: C⁷, F, D^b7, G^b, D⁷, G, E^b7, A^b, E⁷, A, F⁷, B^b, F[#]7, B.

5 Unified vowels, tuning, balance and resonance

(Lifted circle by ears, upward motion on descending notes)

*Commence each vowel with lots of "mm" sound
Alternate Zee or Nee...

Chords: B^b, F[#]7, B, G⁷, C, A^b7, D^b, A⁷, D, B^b7, E^b, B⁷, E, C⁷, F, D^b7, G^b.

*Mee - meh - mah - moh - moo,

6 Resonance, air flow
(Circular hand movement by ear, arm extension up - Adams)

5

This musical score is for an exercise titled "Resonance, air flow" (Circular hand movement by ear, arm extension up - Adams). It is a 6/8 piece, indicated by the '6' in a box at the top left. The score is written for voice and piano. The voice part consists of a single melodic line with lyrics "Thoh", "ay", and "ah" under the first few notes. The piano accompaniment is written for both right and left hands. The right hand plays a continuous eighth-note melody, while the left hand provides harmonic support with chords and some eighth-note patterns. The key signature changes throughout the piece, indicated by the number of flats in the key signature: C major (0 flats), F major (1 flat), Bb major (2 flats), Eb major (3 flats), Ab major (4 flats), and Db major (5 flats). The piece is divided into four systems, each with five measures. The first system includes the lyrics "Thoh", "ay", and "ah". The second system includes the lyrics "Thoh", "ay", and "ah". The third system includes the lyrics "Thoh", "ay", and "ah". The fourth system includes the lyrics "Thoh", "ay", and "ah". The piece ends with a final chord in the key of Db major.

Thoh ay ah

C Ab⁷ Db A⁷ D

Bb⁷ Eb B⁷ E C⁷

F Db⁷ Gb D⁷ G

Eb⁷ Ab E⁷ A F⁷

B $\flat$ F $\sharp$ 7 B G7 C

7 Resonance, sustained breath support, unified vowels
 (Lifted circle bounce by ears, then upward motion on concluding melisma - Adams)

C F/C C G7/B C A $\flat$ 7 D $\flat$ G $\flat$ /D $\flat$

*Commence each vowel with lots of "mm" sound
 Alternate Zee or Nee...

D $\flat$ A $\flat$ 7/C D $\flat$ A7 D G/D D A7/C $\sharp$ D B $\flat$ 7

E $\flat$ A $\flat$ /E $\flat$ E $\flat$ B $\flat$ 7/D E $\flat$ B7 E A/E E B7/D $\sharp$



System 1: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff has a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures. Bass staff has a harmonic line with a slur over the first two measures. Chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Chords: E, C⁷, F, B^b/F, F, C⁷/E, F, D^b⁷, G^b, C^b/G^b, G^b, D^b⁷/F



System 2: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff has a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures. Bass staff has a harmonic line with a slur over the first two measures. Chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Chords: G^b, D⁷, G, C/G, G, D⁷/F[#], G, E^b⁷, A^b, D^b/A^b



System 3: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff has a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures. Bass staff has a harmonic line with a slur over the first two measures. Chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Chords: A^b, E^b⁷/G, A^b, E⁷, A, D/A, A, E⁷/G[#], A, F⁷



System 4: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff has a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures. Bass staff has a harmonic line with a slur over the first two measures. Chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Chords: B^b, E^b/B^b, B^b, F⁷/A, B^b, F[#]⁷, B, E/B, B, F[#]⁷/A[#]

B G⁷ C F/C C G⁷/B C

8 Vowel exchange, tuning descending thirds

(Mixing the light and heavy mechanism - Armstrong)

*Commence each vowel with lots of resonance on the initial consonant.

*Wee - o, wee - o, wee - o, wee - o wee.
Zoo - ma, zoo - ma, zoo - ma, zoo - ma, zoo.
Eb Bb⁷ Eb B⁷ E B⁷ E C⁷

F C⁷ F Db⁷ Gb Db⁷ Gb D⁷ G D⁷ G Eb⁷

Ab Eb⁷ Ab E⁷ A E⁷ A F⁷ Bb F⁷

Bb F^{#7} B F^{#7} B G⁷ C G⁷ C

9 Diaphragmatic support, vowel exchange, tuning descending thirds

(Bounce arms, with palms facing down, on alternate beats - Armstrong)

9

The musical score is written for a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The tempo and style are indicated by the exercise title and the instruction in parentheses. The score is divided into five systems, each containing a vocal staff and a piano staff. The piano staff is further divided into a right-hand staff and a left-hand staff. The vocal line consists of eighth and quarter notes, with lyrics 'Nee yah ah ah ah ah' under the first system. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. Chord changes are indicated by letters above the staff: C, Ab7, Db, A7, D, Bb7, Eb, B7, E, C7, F, Db7, Gb, D7, G, Eb7, Ab, E7, A, F7, Bb, F#7, B, G7, C.

Vocal line: Nee yah ah ah ah ah

Piano accompaniment chords: C, Ab7, Db, A7, D, Bb7, Eb, B7, E, C7, F, Db7, Gb, D7, G, Eb7, Ab, E7, A, F7, Bb, F#7, B, G7, C

10 **Range extension, carry the quality of the head voice downward**
 (Use a Ferris wheel motion around the head, up and over the top - Kemp)

O-ver on the top tones, light and clear the low-er tones

The exercise consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves. The key signature changes from C major to B major, then to A major, and finally to G major. The piano accompaniment features a variety of chords, including triads, dyads, and more complex structures like F/C, Gb/Db, and Bb7. The vocal line is written in a soprano range, with a focus on carrying the quality of the head voice down to lower registers.

Chords: C, F/C, C, G⁷, C, A^b7, D^b, G^b/D^b, D^b, A^b7, D^b, A⁷, D, G/D, D, A⁷, D, B^b7, E^b, A^b/E^b, E^b, B^b7, E^b, B⁷, E, A/E, E, B⁷, E, C⁷, F, B^b/F, F, C⁷, F.

11 **Range extension and flexibility, vowel exchange, tuning thirds**

*Bum- ble bee_bum-ble bee_ bum-ble bee_bum-ble bee. Bum-ble bee_bum-ble bee_ bum-ble bee_bum-ble bee.

The exercise consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves. The key signature changes from C major to B major. The piano accompaniment features a variety of chords, including triads, dyads, and more complex structures like F/C, Gb/Db, and Bb7. The vocal line is written in a soprano range, with a focus on carrying the quality of the head voice down to lower registers.

Chords: C, F/C, C, G⁷, C, A^b7, D^b, G^b/D^b, D^b, A^b7, D^b, A⁷, D, G/D, D, A⁷, D, B^b7, E^b, A^b/E^b, E^b, B^b7, E^b, B⁷, E, A/E, E, B⁷, E, C⁷, F, B^b/F, F, C⁷, F.

*Commence with lots of bounce and resonance on the consonant "b."



First system of a musical score. The top staff is a single melodic line in treble clef, starting with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The bottom staff is a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of three flats. A chord symbol D^b is written above the first measure of the grand staff. The system concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#).



Second system of the musical score. The top staff continues the melody in treble clef, now with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is a grand staff with a key signature of one sharp. A chord symbol D is written above the first measure of the grand staff. The system concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to two flats (B-flat, E-flat).



Third system of the musical score. The top staff continues the melody in treble clef, now with a key signature of two sharps (F#, C#). The bottom staff is a grand staff with a key signature of two sharps. A chord symbol E^b is written above the first measure of the grand staff. The system concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to one flat (B-flat).



Fourth system of the musical score. The top staff continues the melody in treble clef, now with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is a grand staff with a key signature of one flat. A chord symbol E is written above the first measure of the grand staff. The system concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to no sharps or flats (C major).

First system, measures 1-4. Treble clef: Bb key signature. Bass clef: Bb, Eb key signature. Chord symbol: F.

Second system, measures 5-8. Treble clef: Bb, Eb key signature. Bass clef: Bb, Eb key signature. Chord symbol: Gb.

Third system, measures 9-12. Treble clef: F# key signature. Bass clef: F# key signature. Chord symbol: G.

12

Activation of articulators, range extension

(Circular hand motion by ear, finish with both arms extended out)

Fourth system, measures 13-16. Treble clef: F# key signature. Bass clef: F# key signature. Lyrics: Pa-pa, pa-pa picked a pot of peas, of peas. Chord symbols: D, Bb7, Eb, B7, E, C7.

F Db7 Gb D7 G Eb7

Ab E7 A F7 Bb

13 Activation of articulators, relaxation and bouyancy

(Bounce bubbles with hands - Adams)

Bum bid-dl-y bid-dl-y, bid-dl-y bum

C G/B C Ab7 Db Ab/C Db A7 D A/C#

D Bb7 Eb Bb/D Eb B7 E B/D# Fb C7 F C/E

First system of piano accompaniment. The melody in the treble staff includes triplet eighth notes. The bass staff provides harmonic support. Chord symbols are written above the treble staff: F, Db7, Gb, Db/F, Gb, D7, G, D, G, Eb7, Ab, Eb, Ab, E7, A, E/G#, A, F7, Bb, F/A, Bb.

14 Range extension, facial expression
(Two arm circles, up on toes on the word "sing"- Adams)

Vocal and piano accompaniment for the second system. The vocal line is in 6/8 time and features a range extension exercise. The piano accompaniment consists of two systems of music. The first system has two staves (treble and bass) with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody in the treble staff features a range extension exercise. The bass staff provides harmonic support with chords. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a double bar line and repeat signs. Chord symbols are written above the treble staff: C, Ab7, Db, A7, D, Bb7, Eb, B7, E, C7, F, Db7, Gb, D7, G, Eb7, Ab.

15 Range extension, agility, diaphragmatic support
(Arm circles - Richmond)

15

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line features a melodic phrase that repeats with variations, while the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with various chords and rhythmic patterns.

System 1:

- Vocal: Ah - ee
- Chords: Bb/D F7(sus4) Bb, F, Bb/D F#7 B, F#, B/D# G7 C

System 2:

- Chords: G, C/E Ab7 Db, Ab, Db/F A7 D, A

System 3:

- Chords: D/F# Bb7 Eb, Bb, Eb/G B7 E, B, E/G# C7 F

System 4:

- Chords: C, F/A Db7 Gb, Db, Gb/Bb D7 G

System 5:

- Chords: D, G/B Eb7 Ab, Eb, Ab/C E7 A

Chords: E, A/C# F7, Bb, F, Bb

16 Range extension, breath support

(Arms lifts on each phrase - Ballantine)

Chords: C7, C7/G, C9

Chords: C7/G, C9(sus4), C9, C7/G, C7

Chords: Ab9, Gb/Ab, Db7, Db7/Ab, Db9, Db7/Ab

Chord symbols for the piano accompaniment:

System 1: E7, E7/B, E9, E7/B, E9(sus4), E9

System 2: E7/B, E7, C9 Bb/C, F7, F7/C

System 3: F9, F7/C, F9(sus4), F9, F7/C, F7

System 4: Db9 Cb/Db, Gb7, Gb7/Db, Gb9, Gb7/Db



First system of musical notation. The top staff is a single melodic line in a key with five flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with chords and a bass line. The chords are labeled: Gb9(sus4), Gb9, Gb7/Db, Gb7, D9 C/D, and G7. The system ends with a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#).



Second system of musical notation. The top staff continues the melody in the new key of one sharp (F# major or D minor). The bottom staff continues the piano accompaniment with chords labeled: G7/D, G9, G7/D, G9(sus4), G9, and G7/D. The system ends with a double bar line.



Third system of musical notation. The top staff continues the melody. The bottom staff continues the piano accompaniment with chords labeled: G7, Eb9 Db/Eb, Ab7, Ab7/Eb, and Ab9. The system ends with a double bar line.



Fourth system of musical notation. The top staff continues the melody. The bottom staff continues the piano accompaniment with chords labeled: Ab7/Eb, Ab9(sus4), Ab9, Ab7/Eb, Ab7, and Ab. The system ends with a double bar line and a final key signature change to two sharps (D major or B minor).

17 Number intervals/Solfege scale patterns

(May be sung as a round in two groups, with different groups entering every two beats - Allen)

GROUP 1

1 1 2 1 1 2 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 3 2 1 etc. 5
do, do-re-do, do-re - mi-re-do, do-re-mi-fa - mi-re do, etc. sol

6 7 8
la ti do¹,

GROUP 2

8 8 7 8 8 7 6 7 8 8 7 6 5 6 etc. 4 3
do, do-ti-do, do-ti - la-ti-do, do-ti-la-sol - la etc. fa mi

CODA

2 1 8 1
re do do¹ do