

Mississippi Lions All-State Band Audition Scales Version 3

Tuba

Micah Everett
University of Mississippi
olemiss.edu/lowbrass

Here we are presenting the major and chromatic scales in the required sequence, with half of the major scales played two octaves and the other half along with the chromatic scale played three octaves. This tonal range can be considered an ideal to which you should aspire to play in the audition, but only attempt the larger tonal ranges if you are very proficient and comfortable doing so. The scoring rubric for the Lions Band auditions tends to grant smaller rewards for "nailing" a third octave than the deductions given for missed notes. If you are not ready for such an extended range, one of the other approaches to the scale audition presented on this website will be preferable. A tempo with the half note set at approximately 84bpm (or quarter note at 168bpm) will allow you to complete the scales in the allotted three minutes with some time remaining, though if you are able you are welcome and encouraged to go faster. Tonguing the scales while ascending and slurring while descending is a standard approach to articulation, though other approaches can be used if desired. You will notice the placement of breath marks followed by repeated notes in our presentation of the chromatic scale. This is intended as a means of counteracting the tendency to get lost in extended chromatic exercises. If you prefer, a different breathing pattern with or without repeated notes can be used. Remember that the scale portion of the audition must be performed from memory; wean yourself off of using this sheet as quickly as possible!

The musical score consists of 13 staves of music, each representing a different scale. The first 12 staves are major scales, and the 13th staff is a chromatic scale. Each major scale staff is divided into two parts: the first part covers two octaves (e.g., F2 to F4), and the second part covers three octaves (e.g., F4 to F6). The scales are: F major, C major, G major, D major, A major, E major, B major, G \flat major, D \flat major, A \flat major, E \flat major, and B \flat major. The chromatic scale spans three octaves, starting from F \sharp 2 and ending on F \sharp 5. The notation includes clefs, key signatures, and various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes) with slurs and breath marks.