

Melodic Minor Scales for Exams

Learn each scale and listen for tone quality. Using fast air and the exact embouchure position for the octave you're in is paramount. Then play each scale by memory & listen for glorious musicality, phrasing and richness of sound. Always maintain the most rich and ringing tone quality.

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A

C Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the C Melodic Minor scale in treble clef. The scale is written on a single staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. It consists of two lines of music: the first line shows the ascending scale from C4 to C5, and the second line shows the descending scale from C5 to C4. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb).

C# Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the C# Melodic Minor scale in treble clef. The scale is written on a single staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. It consists of two lines of music: the first line shows the ascending scale from C#4 to C#5, and the second line shows the descending scale from C#5 to C#4. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#).

D Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the D Melodic Minor scale in treble clef. The scale is written on a single staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. It consists of two lines of music: the first line shows the ascending scale from D4 to D5, and the second line shows the descending scale from D5 to D4. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb).

Eb Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the Eb Melodic Minor scale in treble clef. The scale is written on a single staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. It consists of two lines of music: the first line shows the ascending scale from Eb4 to Eb5, and the second line shows the descending scale from Eb5 to Eb4. The key signature has three flats (Bb, Eb, and Ab).

E Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the E Melodic Minor scale in treble clef. The scale is written on a single staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. It consists of two lines of music: the first line shows the ascending scale from E4 to E5, and the second line shows the descending scale from E5 to E4. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

F Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the F Melodic Minor scale in treble clef. The scale is written on a single staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. It consists of two lines of music: the first line shows the ascending scale from F4 to F5, and the second line shows the descending scale from F5 to F4. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb).

F# Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the F# Melodic Minor scale in treble clef. The scale is written on a single staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. It consists of two lines of music: the first line shows the ascending scale from F#4 to F#5, and the second line shows the descending scale from F#5 to F#4. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#).

G Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the G Melodic Minor scale, starting on G4. The scale is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (F major). The notes are G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G. The scale is marked *mf* and is enclosed in a large slur.

G# Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the G# Melodic Minor scale, starting on G#4. The scale is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major). The notes are G#, A, B, C, D, E, F, G#, A, B, C, D, E, F, G#. The scale is marked *mf* and is enclosed in a large slur.

G# and Ab minor both shown here; same scale.

Ab Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the Ab Melodic Minor scale, starting on Ab4. The scale is written in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (Eb major). The notes are Ab, Bb, C, D, Eb, F, G, Ab, Bb, C, D, Eb, F, G. The scale is marked *mf* and is enclosed in a large slur.

A Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the A Melodic Minor scale, starting on A4. The scale is written in treble clef with a key signature of no sharps or flats (C major). The notes are A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G. The scale is marked *mf* and is enclosed in a large slur.

Bb Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the Bb Melodic Minor scale, starting on Bb4. The scale is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb major). The notes are Bb, C, D, Eb, F, G, Ab, Bb, C, D, Eb, F, G. The scale is marked *mf* and is enclosed in a large slur.

B Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the B Melodic Minor scale, starting on B4. The scale is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# major). The notes are B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G. The scale is marked *mf* and is enclosed in a large slur.

C Melodic Minor

Musical notation for the C Melodic Minor scale, starting on C4. The scale is written in treble clef with a key signature of no sharps or flats (C major). The notes are C, D, Eb, E, F, G, Ab, C, D, Eb, E, F, G, Ab, C. The scale is marked *mf* and is enclosed in a large slur.

Two rhythmic forms possible

Play these two versions slurred in fours to notice the differences in articulation placement.

A Melodic Minor with turn-around, in one breath.

The notation shows a single melodic line in 4/4 time. It starts with a half note A4, followed by eighth notes B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5. A slur covers the next four notes: G5, F5, E5, D5. A bracket above these four notes is labeled "no breath". The scale continues with C5, B4, A4, and ends with a half note G4. A fermata is placed over the final G4.

A Melodic Minor with repeated top note (easier).

The notation shows a single melodic line in 4/4 time. It starts with a half note A4, followed by eighth notes B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5. A slur covers the next four notes: G5, F5, E5, D5. A bracket above these four notes is labeled "breath". The scale continues with C5, B4, A4, and ends with a half note A4. A fermata is placed over the final A4.

Articulation Patterns for Each Scale

Once you've memorized each all-slurred scale, I recommend playing it as shown below, in all these articulations. At first, the easiest rhythmic form will be repeating the top note, but as you speed up with the metronome, experiment.

E Melodic Minor Sample - All Articulations

B All Tongued

The notation shows a single melodic line in 4/4 time, starting with a half note E4. The scale is played with all notes tongued. A fermata is placed over the final E4.

Tone quality should be exactly as glorious and ringing as when all slurred!

C Two Slurred, Two Tongued

The notation shows a single melodic line in 4/4 time, starting with a half note E4. The scale is played with two slurred groups of four notes and two tongued groups of four notes. A fermata is placed over the final E4.

D Two Tongued, Two Slurred

The notation shows a single melodic line in 4/4 time, starting with a half note E4. The scale is played with two tongued groups of four notes and two slurred groups of four notes. A fermata is placed over the final E4.

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E Melodic Minor with articulations continued....

E Three Slurred, One Tongued

Note: Do not play staccato too short; it is there to increase visibility only.
All notes must ring with great tone regardless of slurred or tongued.

F One Tongued, Three Slurred

G Slurred in Twos

H Slur in Fours

Less commonly requested articulations, but needed for University Auditions.

I One Tongued, Two Slurred, One Tongued

J Tongue first note, then slur in twos.

tu oo tu oo tu oo tu oo tu oo tu oo tu oo

Articulations for Turn-Around Peaks Melodic Minor Scales

D Melodic Minor - Note: play all slurred for tone and keep that great tone for articulations.

mf ringing tone at peak *f*

mf ringing tone at peak

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

Count: 4 - 1 4 - 1 4 - 1 4 - 1

mf

mf repeat from memory

Melodic Minor Scales for Flute Exams

G Melodic Minor - Note: play all slurred for tone and keep that great tone for articulations.

mf ringing tone at peak

mf ringing tone at peak

mf

mf

mf pauses etc.

mf

mf

mf 4 - 1

mf

o = Bb Thumb key off

repeat from memory

F Melodic Minor - Note: play all slurred for tone and keep that great tone for articulations.

The image displays eight staves of music for the F Melodic Minor scale. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The scale is written in eighth notes. The first staff includes the instruction "ringing tone at peak" with a horizontal line above the notes. The second through seventh staves feature various articulation marks, including slurs and accents, and are marked with *mf*. The eighth staff concludes with a repeat sign and the instruction "repeat from memory".

Melodic Minor Scales for Flute Exams

F# Melodic Minor - Note: play all slurred for tone and keep that great tone for articulations.

The image displays eight staves of music for the F# Melodic Minor scale. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The scale is written in eighth notes across four measures per staff. The first measure contains the notes F#, G#, A, B, C#, D, E, F#. The second measure contains G#, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G#. The third measure contains A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G#, A. The fourth measure contains B, C#, D, E, F#, G#, A, B. The notes are slurred together. In the first staff, there is a specific instruction: "ringing tone at peak" with a double line underneath the notes. In the fourth measure of each staff, there are two notes marked with a circled 'b' (B-flat), which are B and C. The piece concludes with a repeat sign and a key signature change to three sharps.

repeat from memory

C# Melodic Minor - Note: play all slurred for tone and keep that great tone for articulations.

mf ringing tone at peak

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf repeat from memory

Melodic Minor Scales for Flute Exams

Eb Melodic Minor - Play all slurred for tone and then keep that great tone for articulations.

The image displays ten staves of musical notation for the Eb Melodic Minor scale. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab), and a common time signature. The first staff includes the dynamic marking *mf* and the instruction "ringing tone at peak" with a horizontal line underneath. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with various slurs and accents. The final staff concludes with a repeat sign and a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#).

repeat from memory

Certain scales will take more time to get great tone on at first, and may require slower tempi. You can add pauses, and you can re-group.

B Melodic Minor

mf ringing tone at peak; spend time here.

Over several days you may have perfected the scale to this format.

pause, breathe then restart

mf ringing tone at peak

When you revisit the scale in another few weeks, you may be able to play it now in this format, with the turnaround peak.

mf ringing tone at peak

Then add each articulation in turn while you memorize the scale.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11.

For review, return to page 1 to play all scales in above articulations. *stacc.* *double tongued?*