

# Learning Pathway: Beginner

## Overview

To play the harp well, it is very important to build strong foundations. In this pathway you will learn theory, technique and repertoire from the foundation up. Before you begin this series you should already know how to tune your harp, sit at your harp and basic playing technique, or have completed the Starter Pathway.

## 1. Placing

BEGINNER Session 1:

- THEORY: The Grand Staff
- TECHNIQUE: 2 Finger Placing
- REPERTOIRE: Dawn (Lesson 1)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: Dynamics on Individual Fingers

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: 2 Finger Placing

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WORKSHOP: Wendy Stewart: In the Snow Where the Deers Are - 'melody' part

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## 2. Triads

BEGINNER Session 2:

- THEORY: Triads
- TECHNIQUE: Triads Up And Over
- REPERTOIRE: Dusk (Lesson 1)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: Triads

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TUNE BANK: Learn these tunes featuring triads:

- Falling Slowly (Beginner Arrangement)
- Baloo Baleerie (Beginner Arrangement)

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## 3. Triads and Inversions

BEGINNER Session 3:

- THEORY: Triads and Inversions
- TECHNIQUE: Triads and Inversions
- REPERTOIRE: Dusk (Lesson 2): Play all of Dusk Hands Together

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TASK: Review the RH of Dawn (see Beginner Session 1) as we will begin working on hands together in session 4

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: Triads and Inversions

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TUNE BANK: Learn this tune featuring triads and inversions

- The Skye Boat Song (Beginner Arrangement)

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## 4. Intervals

BEGINNER Session 4:

- THEORY: Pitch
- TECHNIQUE: Interval Warm Up
- REPERTOIRE: Dawn (Lesson 2)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: 5ths Exercise 1

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TIP: Try to keep Dawn and Dusk in your practice schedule so you don't lose this repertoire

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TUNE BANK: Learn this tune featuring 5ths

- Auld Lang Syne (Beginner Arrangement)

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## 5. Major Scale

BEGINNER Session 5

- THEORY: Major Scales
- TECHNIQUE: Major Scales
- REPERTOIRE: Grove (Lesson 1)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: 1 Octave Scale

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TASK: Know how to get your harp into G Major and WHY we need the F# to be in this key

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Try to keep Dawn and Dusk in your practice schedule so you don't lose this repertoire

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TUNE BANK: Review these 2 tunes in G Major:

- The Skye Boat Song
- Auld Lang Syne

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## 6. Key Signatures And Changing Fingers

BEGINNER Session 6:

- THEORY: Exploring Key Signature
- TECHNIQUE: Changing Fingers
- REPERTOIRE: Grove (Lesson 2)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: Changing Fingers

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TUNE BANK: Learn this tune that uses Changing Fingers

- Oran Do Mhac Leoid Dhun Bheagan (Beginner Arrangement)

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## 7. 1-5-8 (root - fifth -root) Chords

BEGINNER Session 7:

- THEORY: 1-5-8 (Root -Fifth - Root Chords)
- TECHNIQUE: 1-5-8 (Root -Fifth - Root Chords)
- REPERTOIRE: Seice Ruairidh (Lesson 1)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: 3 Finger placing

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TASK: Play through the fingering options discussed in Beginner Session 7 and choose the best fingering for you for Seice Ruairidh.

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TUNE BANK: Learn this tune featuring 1-5-8 chords

- Amazing Grace (Beginner Arrangement)

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## 8. Tucking

BEGINNER Session 8:

- THEORY: Note Names and Values
- TECHNIQUE: Tucking
- REPERTOIRE: Seice Ruairidh (Lesson 2)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Short Course: Harp Made Easy

- Review Foundations 1-4 (from starter pathway)
- Complete Foundation 5 - Tucking
- Complete Bringing It All Together

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Short Course: Mastering Tucking

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TASK: Finish Seice Ruairidh - we will start session 9 by playing through this before starting to work on our new piece.

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TASK: Understand the note names and values - this is important for our next bit of theory work.

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TUNE BANK: Learn this tune that uses tucking

- Oogwey Ascends (Beginner Arrangement)

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## 9. Scales in 10ths

BEGINNER Session 9:

- THEORY: Time Signature
- TECHNIQUE: Scales in 10ths
- REPERTOIRE: Leanabh an Aigh (Lesson 1)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: 2 Octave Scale

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TASK: Make sure you are clear on the basics of time signatures, understanding what the top and bottom number of time signatures actually means.

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TASK: Leanabh an Aigh. Make sure you feel confident about the full melody for the next session ready for us to put the harmony in.

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## 10. Alternating Hand Scales

BEGINNER Session 10:

- THEORY: Time Signatures 2
- TECHNIQUE: Alternating Hand Scales
- REPERTOIRE: Leanabh an Aigh (Lesson 2)

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TECHNIQUE BANK: Individual Exercise: Alternating Hand Scales

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TUNE BANK: Learn this tune that is perfect for practicing this skill

- A Thousand Years (Beginner Arrangement)

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## 11. Review

BEGINNER Session 11:

- THEORY: Time Signatures 3
- TECHNIQUE: Review
- REPERTOIRE: Review all beginner tunes

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## Additional Learning

Record any additional learning tasks, activities, questions or thoughts here:

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