

EVER-DESCENDING SCALES - LA RIVIERE PATTERN

y This looks like a one handed bell scale, but there are a couple of differences. The scale starts at the top, and when the thumb replaces for the next full scale, it replaces a note lower than the original. In this way, we descend through the whole scale. Notice the replacing. It comes prior to the next note.

The first exercise consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains ten notes with fingerings: 1, 2, 3 x 1, 4 * 234, 1, 2, 3 * 1, 4 * 234, 1, 2. The second staff, marked with a double bar line and '11', contains ten notes with fingerings: 3 x 1, 4 * 234, 1, 2, 3 * 1, 4 * 234, 1, 2, 3 x 1, 4 * 234. The notes are half notes, and the replacing actions (x) occur before the next note.

Continue in the same way until you reach the bottom F. You will have done 8 descending

q Practicing rhythmic replacing is a good way to improve your accuracy. In any given passage, there is a perfect time to replace, and that varies, from many notes before, to exactly as you play the next note. Learning that control is sometimes tricky, but we can begin with landing precisely on the half beat. This makes learning the complicated versions of these scales quite easy!

The second exercise is a single staff of music with ten notes. Fingerings are: 1, 2, 3, x1, 4, *234, 1, 2, 3, *1, 4, *234, 1, 2, 3, x1, 4, *234. The notes are quarter notes, and the replacing actions (x) occur on the half beat.

In the sea star level, we placed before we played, but the actually timing of the landing was up to the player. This time you'll see an eight note with a X notehead that shows you exactly when to place. Do this throughout the scales, right to the F, first with hands separately and then together.

Notice that it's a little easier to play hands together, because the note you return to is easier

The next challenge is to play them in a staggered fashion, with the left hand starting two notes behind the right. If you are careful with the replacing on the half beat, you see that there is a second, replacing movement in each beat. The right has two replacing actions while the left is simple, and then the left has two while the right is simple.

The third exercise is a two-staff piece of music. The right hand (treble clef) has ten notes with fingerings: 1, 2, 3, x1, 4, *234, 1, 2, 3, *1, 4, *234, 1, 2, 3, x1, 4, *234. The left hand (bass clef) has ten notes with fingerings: 1, 2, 3, x1, 4, *234, 1, 2, 3, *1, 4, *234, 1, 2, 3, x1, 4, *234. The notes are quarter notes, and the replacing actions (x) occur on the half beat.