

Three-octave scales, Carl Flesch fingering

Flesch's approach features overall uniformity of fingerings, non-specific to key. There are essentially only three sets of fingerings for major scales and three for minor: the open string, the first-finger beginning, and the second-finger

beginning. The added notes in grey borrow from the Galamian system; with these, the scale becomes 48 notes, and can be played using a constant bow speed, one bow per two metronome clicks, with 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, & 24 notes per bow.

G major:	0 2 1 0 1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	4-4 3 2 1-4 3 2 1 0	3 2 1 0	3 2 1 0 2 1	3 2 1 0 2 1
g minor: (melodic)	0 2 1 0 1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	4-4 3 2-3 2 1-3 2 1	4 3 2 1 0	3 2 1 0	3 2 1 0 2 1
A^b major: (see A major)	1 3 2 1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2-1 2 3	4-4 3 2 1-3 2 1-2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1 3 2
g[#] minor: (see g minor)	1 3 2 1 2-2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	4-4 3 2-3 2 1-3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2-2 1 3 2
A major:	1 3 2 1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2-1 2 3	4-4 3 2 1-3 2 1-2 1 0	3 2 1 0	3 2 1 0	3 2 1 3 2
a minor:	1 3 2 1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2-1 2 3	4 3 2-3 2 1-4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1 3 2
B^b-G^b maj:[†]	2 4 3 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2-1 2 3	4-4 3 2 1-3 2 1-3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 4 3
b^b-f[#] min:	2 4 3 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2 3 4	1 2-1 2-1 2 3	4-4 3 2-3 2 1-3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 1	4 3 2 4 3

[†]In the key of B^b, open strings should be used for A and D on the descent.

GENERALIZATIONS:

- All scales start on G string
- All shifts occur on A & E strings
- All scales use fourth finger on ascent and open strings, where possible, on the descent.
 - Upward shifts are **always** by thirds, using 2-1 shifts.
 - Downward shifts are **always** on half-step intervals.
- The g[#] minor scale, with the 2-2 shift on the G string, is the sole exception to the above four rules.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of beginning all scales on the G string?
- If uniformity is the goal, why not simply use the first-finger beginning for everything except G scales?
 - Why use the “modified g minor” for g[#] minor? Why not use the a minor fingering?
- Why do some of the flat and sharp keys appear to be inconsistently spelled? For example, why A^b major and g[#] minor? Or G^b major and f[#] minor? (Hint: Look them up in the book)
 - Is there a more efficient way of condensing the same amount of information?