

# 29 The Chromatic Scale

To introduce to the chromatic scale, I use the Beginner Fall Warm-up - lines 7 & 8. It can be printed from the show notes for Episode 28.

## Take aways from my 'Love of the Chromatic Scale' story

1. Hearing students individually daily increases the odds that they will practice daily. Change up the routine.
2. Challenges/Extra credits can affect different students in different ways.
3. Try to let every student be first chair (legitimately) - at least for a day.
4. Kids who are in the middle/bottom of the section in beginning band may become some of your best band kids once you inspire them.

## Introducing the chromatic

Make it a big, FUN deal!

Have them write the milestone on their calendars.

The way we reach long term goals in band is one step at a time.

## How to start

It's not what note you start on as much as teaching methodically & slowly

Teach 1 new note (and 1-2 old notes) per day, starting as early as possible

Teach in half notes with half rests in between so you can name / fingering

Take out half rests when they are ready, then speed up later

Teach them to look ahead and get fingers ready early

They must READ every note - no memory in beginning band (yet)

## Fingerings

- C# - only 1 - let pinky

- D# - either banana or bottom sk (I prefer banana for chromatic)

- F# - MUST teach thumb & bottom 2 side keys (DO NOT TEACH TOP)

- Low G# - only 1 - top top right

- Low A# - explain the enharmonics (briefly or in detail)

- Low B - MUST teach thumb 1,2,3,4, banana. (DO NOT TEACH MIDDLE)