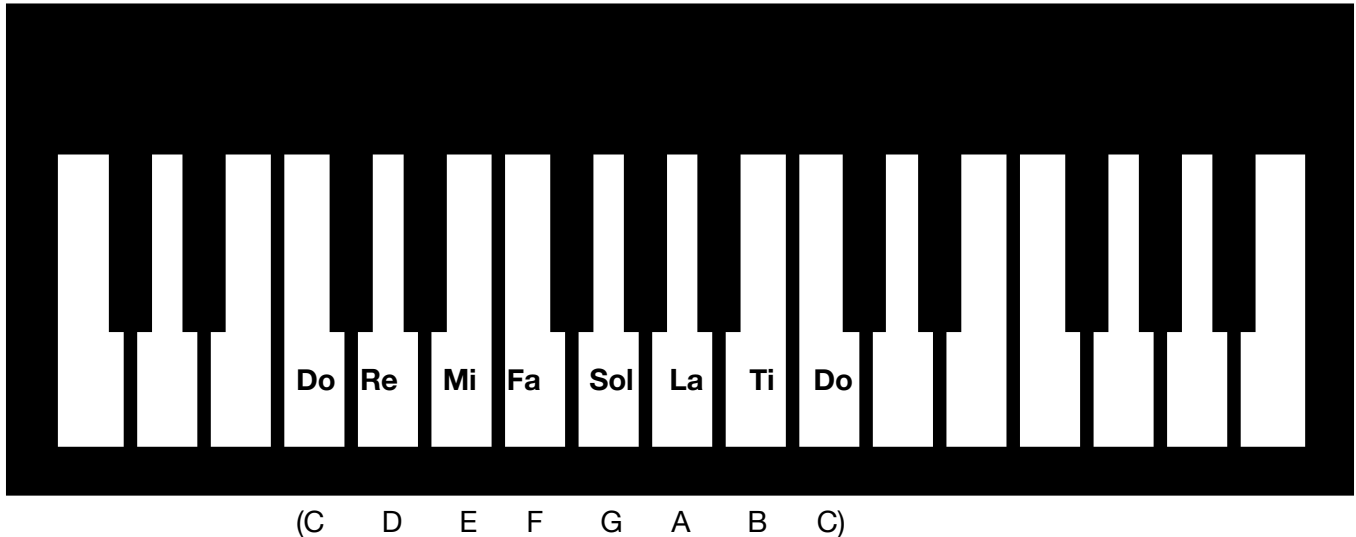


Intro to Solfege

Solfege (pronounced "sole-fedge") is a system of syllables that represent the notes from a musical scale. The purpose of solfege is to help music students learn music more quickly while internalizing the relationships between the pitches of a scale. In other words, singing a melody with solfege helps train your brain and musical ear to better *understand* and *remember* the music.

The classic example of introduction to solfege is the Rogers and Hammerstein song "Do-Re-Mi" from the musical *The Sound of Music*. It's the one that begins, "Do, a deer, a female deer...". [You can listen to it here.](#)

As the song says, "the first three notes just happen to be Do, Re, Mi". Let's see what that looks like on a piano keyboard. If we call C-natural "Do", then here's the whole C major scale (all the white keys from C to C) as solfege:



Note: The reason "sol" ends with an L is because it's spelled like a word in French. It's pronounced like "so".

You don't need a piano at home to practice solfege. If you have internet access, you can use online virtual pianos like [this one](#) or [this one](#). You can also download piano apps for smartphones or tablets. You might even have a program already on your computer with a virtual piano built into it, like Garageband for example. Finally, there are always plenty of cheap electronic keyboards to be found at thrift stores!

Name _____

Solfege Puzzles

Once you've sung along a few times with Rogers and Hammerstein's "Do-Re-Mi" and done a little exploring and practicing solfege on your own with a keyboard, give these puzzles a try. See if you can figure out the popular tune that each bit of solfege represents. You may use a piano or keyboard to help you out!

Note: these will all be only the first part of a familiar melody, not the entire song.

1.

Mi Re Do | Mi Re Do | Sol Fa-Fa Mi | Sol Fa-Fa Mi

Song: _____

2.

Mi Re Do Re Mi Mi Mi | Re Re Re | Mi Sol Sol

Song: _____

3.

Do Do Do Re Mi | Mi Re Mi Fa Sol

Song: _____

4.

Do Do Sol Sol La La Sol | Fa Fa Mi Mi Re Re Do

Song: _____