

Happy Songs for Unhappy Singers

Welcome to the "unhappy singers club." It's no big deal - with some intelligent practicing you will be up to speed in no time. Basically, what you've got to work on is singing very simple patterns in different keys. Eventually you will get more control over your notes, hold onto the key all the way through, and be able to hear yourself much better.

So this is your routine: Sit down with a piano or guitar. Establish a key by playing the I chord, and then start working on these patterns. You can use the instrument to check your pitch on a note-to-note basis, but also practice doing the whole pattern without accompaniment. Once you feel comfortable in one key, repeat the process in a different key. (So, all of these patterns are written in C, but you'll be singing them at many different pitch levels.)

These are the three basic patterns you should work on - they all fill in different parts of the tonic triad.

A. Root to fifth (do to sol)

B. Root to third (do to mi)

C. Root to fifth below (do to sol)

The image shows three musical patterns on a single staff. Pattern A is a sequence of eighth notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Pattern B is a sequence of eighth notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. Pattern C is a triplet of eighth notes: C4, B3, A3, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F4.

Now here are 5 little tunes that you can practice in different keys. For a while, you can even perform these instead of normal homework..

1.

A single staff of music with a treble clef. The melody consists of eighth notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6.

2.

A single staff of music with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6.

3.

A single staff of music with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6.

4.

A single staff of music with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6.

5.

A single staff of music with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6.