



SCQF Level 3 – Practice Chanter

Workbook

Syllabus

Level 3 Certificate Piping (Practice Chanter)

Can be taken by the average beginner within a year to 18 months of starting to learn.

1. Maintenance

Candidates must demonstrate an understanding of the following:

- a. Dismantling the practice chanter
- b. Cleaning and drying the practice chanter
- c. Correct Hempting of the practice chanter
- d. Weakening and strengthening a practice chanter reed
- e. Sharpen and flatten the practice chanter pitch

2. Practical

On the practice chanter, candidates must demonstrate competence in the following:

a. Exercises

1. All doublings (Low G to High A), from any note of the scale
2. Throw on D from each note of the scale
3. Grips (including grips with a B Gracenote)
4. Birl and birl with a G Gracenote from each note of the scale
5. Tarluaths to Low A from each note of the scale (including tarluaths from D with a B Gracenote)
6. Tachums
7. Basic monotone exercises in Simple and Compound Time

b. Tunes

On the practice chanter, five tunes to be played from memory. At least one tune should be in Compound Time. The music is to be presented to the examiner and played in accordance with the written score. The music does not have to be written out by the candidate.

The tunes submitted must incorporate some of the embellishments from the exercises listed in section a.

3. Theory

Candidates must be able to:

- a. Understand simple time rhythms
- b. Explain what a time signature is
- c. Place bar lines according to a time signature
- d. Explain what a treble clef is
- e. Identify the time signature from a piece of music presented by the Examiner
- f. Write out all doublings and embellishments in section 2. a.
- g. Write out 8 bars of a Simple Time tune from memory. The tune is to be selected from those submitted by the candidate for the practical section
- h. Be able to draw a note value table and understand relative note durations

Maintenance

Dismantling the Practice Chanter

- Grip chanter at the bowl and at the ferrule end of the top section
- Turn and lift top section straight off bottom section
- Do not grip chanter at the bottom/ sole of the chanter as some chanters (especially wooden ones) can split if the joint is too tight. If gripped and twisted from the sole stress can cause the bottom section to twist and split.
- Take care not to damage the reed when removing top section.

Cleaning and drying the practice chanter

- Periodically the chanter and reed should be cleaned with a mild disinfectant, wooden chanters should not be immersed in water.
- Shake off or dry off any excess moisture from chanter and reed.
- Allow to dry.
- Brush out mouthpiece.

Correct Hemping

- Use waxed hemp to create an airtight and waterproof seal.
- Wind hemp evenly and straight to produce an even joint that doesn't 'rock' when the top is fitted.
- Test and rehem as necessary periodically.

Weakening and Strengthening practice chanter reed

Weakening

- Close blades of reed with carefully applying either a band or bridle.

Strengthening

- Open blades of reed by applying pressure of sides of reed or with carefully removing band or bridle.

Sharpening and Flattening the reed

Sharpening

- Sink reed into the reed seat.
- Apply a band or bridle.

Flattening

- Raise reed into the reed seat.
- Remove band or bridle.

What 2 Tunes are you going to play?

Piece 1

Piece 2

Piece 3

Piece 4

Piece 5 (Compound Time)

Practical Exercises

The image displays a page of musical notation titled "Practical Exercises". It consists of 14 staves of music, all written in treble clef. The first 13 staves feature rhythmic exercises primarily using eighth and sixteenth notes. The first seven staves show a sequence of eighth notes, while the remaining six staves show a sequence of sixteenth notes. The 14th staff at the bottom of the page shows a different rhythmic pattern, consisting of four groups of a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note, all in a descending sequence.

Level 3 Monotones



The Bagpipe Scale

The Scale



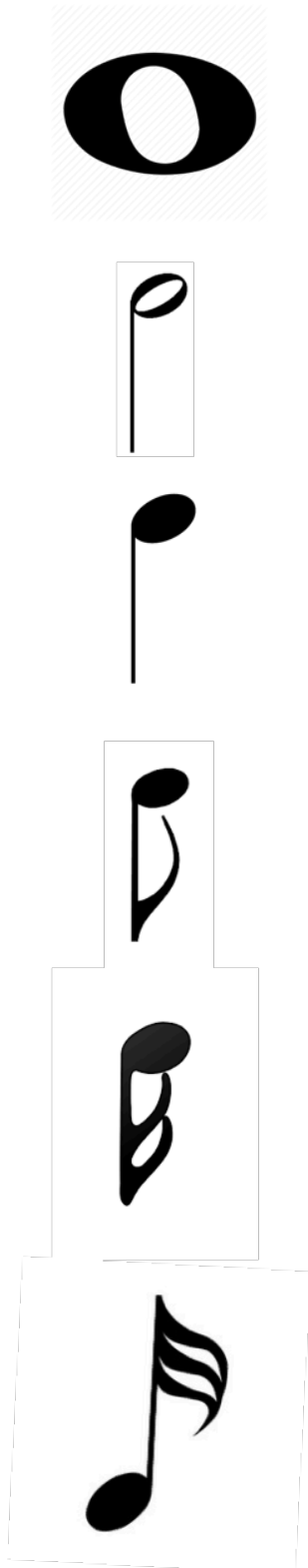
Notes on the Lines



Notes in the Spaces



Note Values



<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Value</u>
Semi Breve	Whole Note 1	4 Beats
Minum	Half Note $1/2$	2 Beats
Crotchet	Quarter Note $1/4$	1 Beat
Quaver	Eighth Note $1/8$	$1/2$ of a Beat
Semi Quaver	Sixteenth Note $1/16$	$1/4$ of a Beat
Demi Semi Quaver	Thirty Second Note $1/32$	$1/8$ of a Beat

Relative Note Value Table

Semibreve or Whole Note



Minim or 1/2 Note



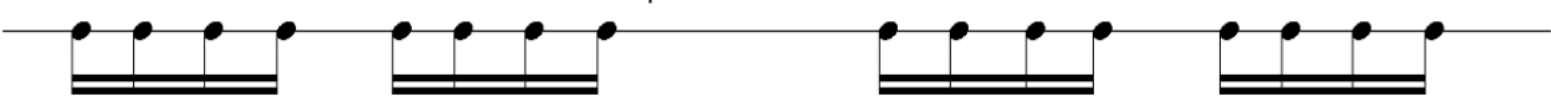
Crotchet or 1/4 Note



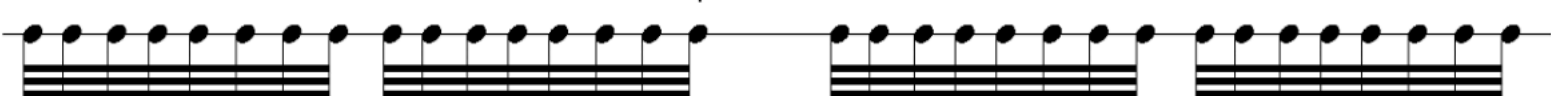
Quaver or 1/8 Note



Semiquaver or 1/16 Note



Demisemiquaver or 1/32 Note

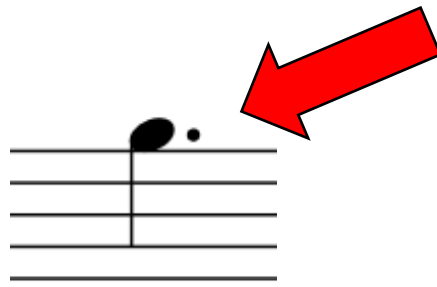


Rest

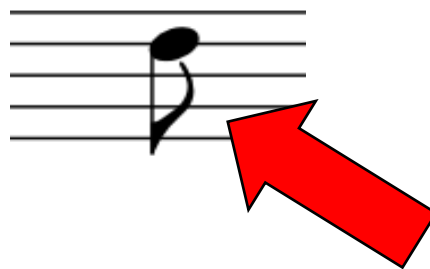
Relative Note Value Rest Table

The image displays six musical staves, each with a treble clef, illustrating the relative values of notes and rests. The notes and rests are positioned on the same line (the second line from the bottom) of each staff. The first staff shows a whole note followed by a whole rest. The second staff shows a half note followed by a half rest. The third staff shows a quarter note followed by a quarter rest. The fourth staff shows an eighth note followed by an eighth rest. The fifth staff shows a sixteenth note followed by a sixteenth rest. The sixth staff shows a thirty-second note followed by a thirty-second rest.

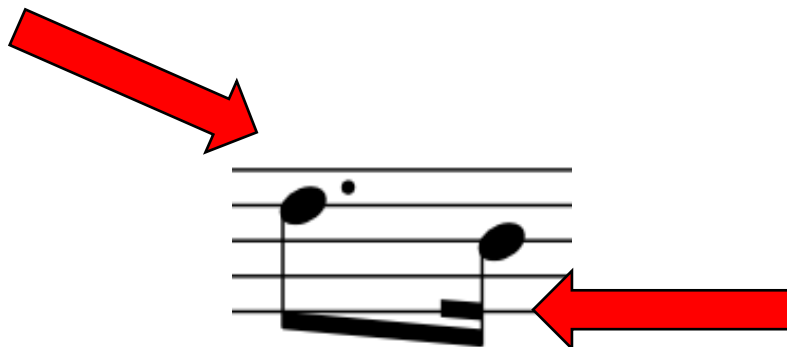
Dot and Cut Notes



A Dot INCREASES a note by half of its original value.



A Cut or Tail DECREASES a note by half of its original value.

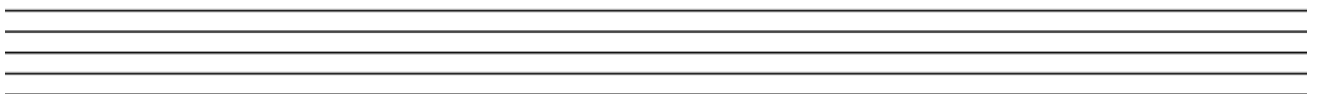


Treble Clef

- A Clef indicates which the pitch of the written notes.
- A **Treble Clef** indicates that the pitch of the notes are above Middle C.
- It is also known as the “G” Clef as it sits/ starts on the “G” line of the stave and looks like a stylized letter G.

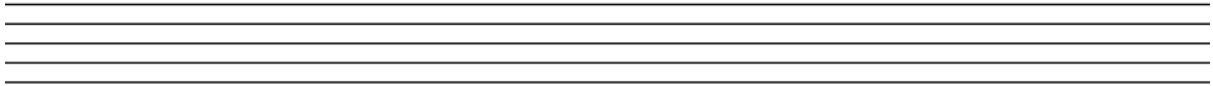


Practice writing some below:

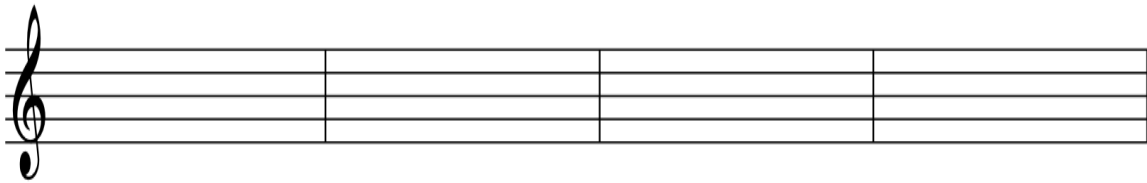


Staves and Bar Lines

A **Staff** is made up with 5 horizontal lines, equally spaced apart.



The **Staff** is then split up into 4 equal parts, called bars. A Treble clef is also added at the start.



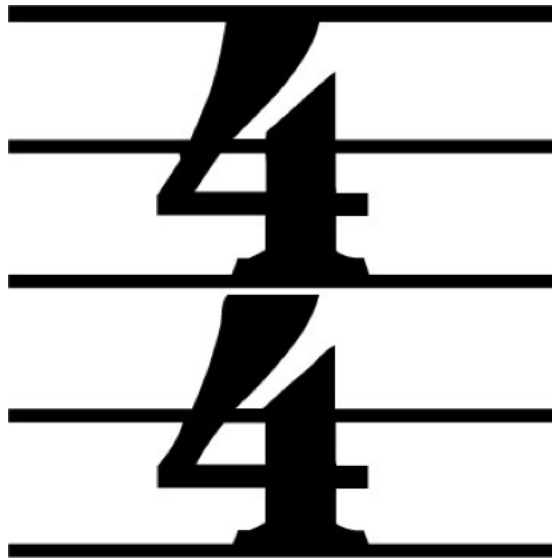
The bar lines separate the notes of the piece.



How these notes are separated is dependent on the time signature, which is explained next.

Time Signatures

Top Number = The number of beats or beat notes per bar.



Bottom Number = The relation of the beat note to the semi-breve.

Simple Time Signatures

Type Of Beat	Duple Time	Triple Time	Quadruple Time
Crotchet Beat	$\frac{2}{4}$ ♪ ♪	$\frac{3}{4}$ ♪ ♪ ♪	$\frac{4}{4}$ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

4 4 Piece



- 4 Beats in the bar.
- Each bar adds up to 4 Crotchets.

Compound Time Signatures

Type Of Beat	Duple Time	Triple Time	Quadruple Time
Dotted Crotchet Beat	$\frac{6}{8}$ 	$\frac{9}{8}$ 	$\frac{12}{8}$ 

If the **BOTTOM NUMBER** is **GREATER** than 4 in a Time Signature, **DIVIDE** the **TOP NUMBER** by 3 to work out how many beats are in the bar.

6 8 Piece



- 2 beats in the bar.
- Each beat is worth 1 Dotted Crotchet
- Each bar adds up to 2 Dotted Crotchets.

9 8 Piece



- 3 beats in the bar.
- Each beat is worth 1 Dotted Crotchet
- Each bar adds up to 3 Dotted Crotchets.

Repetition Signs

This sign is made up with a thick line, followed by a thin line and two double dots at the start of a piece (after the Time Signature) and the opposite way about at the end.



This sign indicates that you should repeat the music from the previous double dots.

Writing Doublings & Embellishments

Practice writing out movements from Exercise Page



The page contains ten sets of blank musical staves, each consisting of five horizontal lines. These staves are arranged vertically down the page, providing space for students to practice writing musical notation, specifically focusing on doublings and embellishments as indicated by the title.

Writing Music from Memory

Step 1 – Writing in the Starting Notation

- Treble Clef
- Time Signature
- 4 Bar lines, equally spaced
- Introduction Bar (Anacrusis)
- Tune type and name.

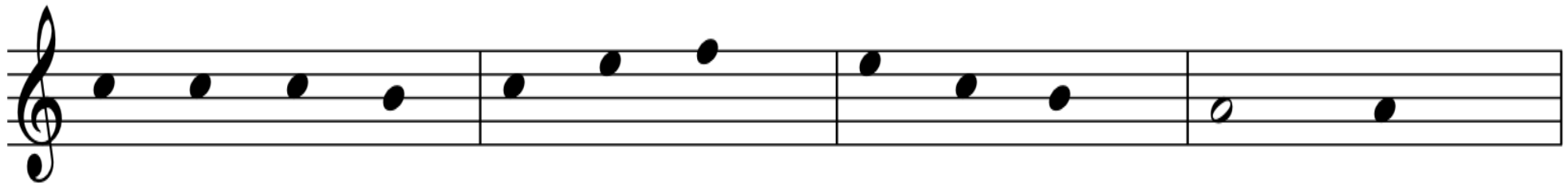
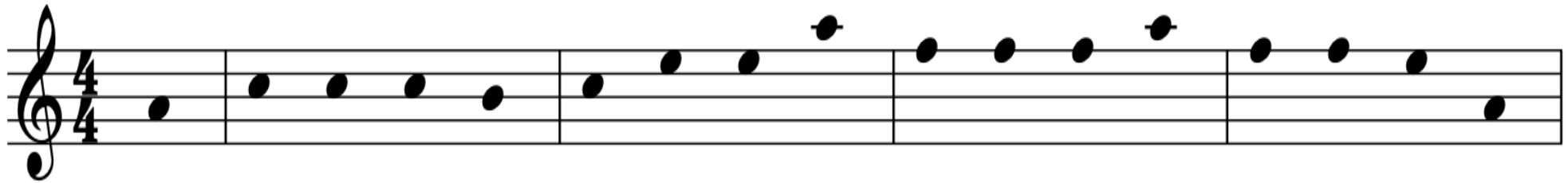
The image shows two musical staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It is divided into four equal bars. The word "March" is written above the first bar, and "The Rowan Tree" is written above the second bar. Arrows point from the text to the corresponding parts of the notation: one arrow points to the treble clef, one to the 4/4 time signature, one to the word "March", one to the word "The Rowan Tree", and one to the second bar. The bottom staff is also a treble clef and is divided into four equal bars, but it is empty.

Step 2 – Writing in the Beat Notes

- Work out which note lands on the beats of the piece.
- Only add these notes in for this stage, no others.

The Rowan Tree

March

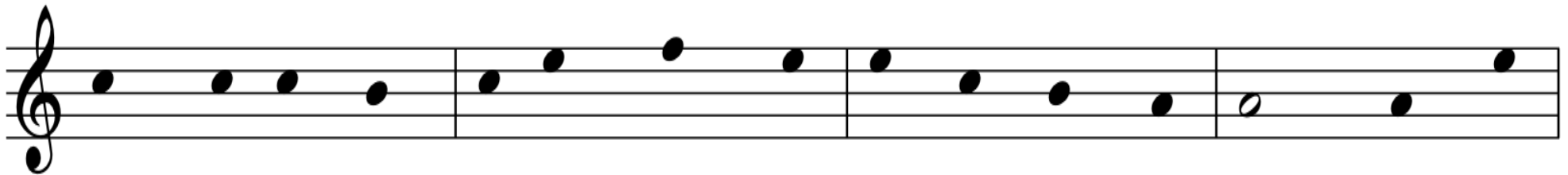
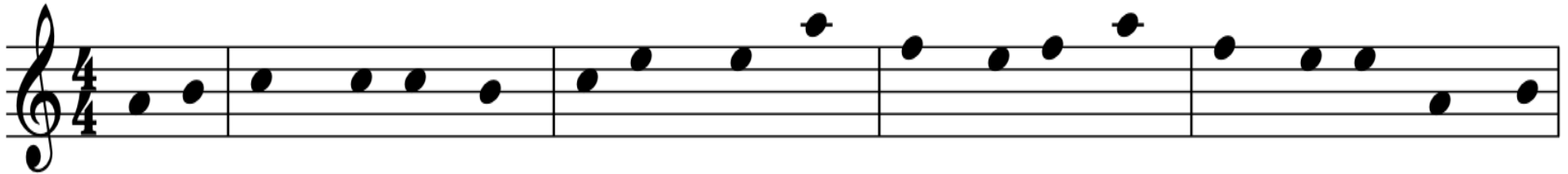


Step 3 – Writing in the Linking Notes

- Now add in the other notes after the beat notes.
- Make sure to have all notes of the piece added in this step.

The Rowan Tree

March



Step 4 – Writing in the Note Values

- Now that the notes are in you need to add in the value of each of the notes.
- Adding in dots and cuts.
- Playing the tune in your head/ on your pencil helps.
- Remember to tap your foot as well.

March

The Rowan Tree



Step 5 – Writing in the Gracenote’s and Movements.

- Now look through the piece and add in the Gracenote’s and embellishments.
- Make sure to take your time and don’t miss any out.
- Make sure to have the grace notes on the correct lines or spaces.


March **The Rowan Tree**

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "The Rowan Tree" in the form of a "March". The score is written on two staves of music, both using a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The music consists of a sequence of notes, including quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes, with various rests. Grace notes, which are small notes without stems, are placed above the main notes on the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values and rests. The overall style is that of a simple, rhythmic march.

Step 6 – DOUBLE CHECK YOUR MUSIC

- This section is where you get most of your marks
- Make sure to double check, especially if you have time at the end.
- Play through the piece in your head when reading through it.

March **The Rowan Tree**



The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "The Rowan Tree" in the form of a "March". The score is written on two staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The music consists of a series of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The second staff continues the melody with similar rhythmic structures. The overall style is that of a simple, rhythmic march.

PRACTICE PRACTICE PRACTICE

The page contains ten sets of blank musical staves, arranged vertically. Each set consists of five horizontal lines, providing a template for musical notation practice.



Notes

Notes