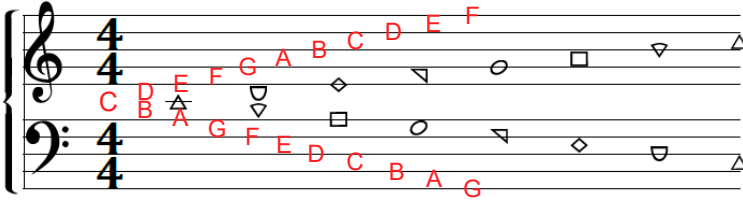
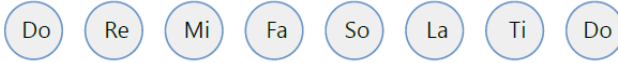


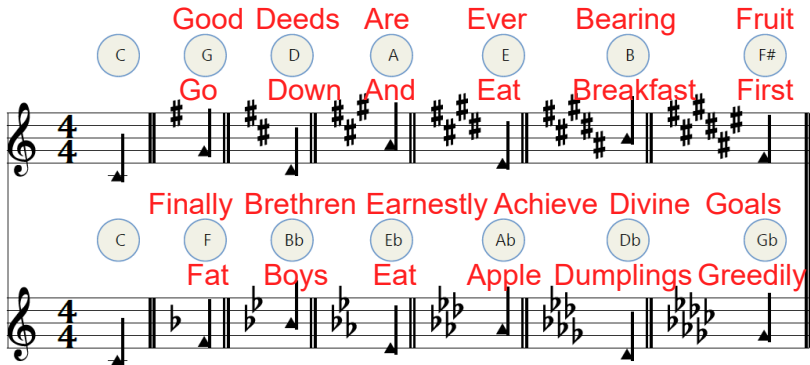
Song Leading Instruction Sheet

Rudiments of music training on both notes & timing are needed prior to this sheet.

Step #1: Learn the letter names for the lines & spaces. Letter names never move, but DO does move. Phrases such as "FACE"(spaces) & Every Good Boy Does Fine"(Lines) can work, however, using Middle "C" and the alphabet from A-G is best. From Middle "C" up to the next "C" is the pitch pipe range.

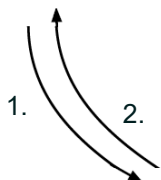


Step #2: Identify the Key Signature. Memorize the order for both the flats and the sharps. Notice that you can reverse the order of the sharps(GDAEBF), to get the order for the flats(FBEADG). Notice how DO moves, however DO always starts on the line or space of the name of the key signature. Notice that Key of "C" is the standard staff with no sharps & flats on any line, however, there is a half step between mi/fa (E/F) and ti/do (B/C), while there is a whole step between all other notes. The reason for the multiple sharps/flats as a key signature, is that as we move DO around, several lines will always need sharps or flats to resolve the whole steps between all notes besides the two half steps between mi/fa & ti/do.



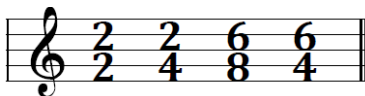
Step #3: Hum DO & the Starting Note. Using the diagrams above, notice that DO moves around. Start by blowing the Key Signature name on the pitch pipe as that will be DO. Hum, matching the pitch pipe, and then going to the starting note. If you memorize the seven shape notes above, it will help you quickly identify the starting note. For round notes, you will need to first identify the Key Signature, then find the line or space that DO is on. From there, you should be able to identify the starting note by observing the interval. For example, the song "Amazing Grace" is written in Key of "A \flat ", so DO is in space "A". From there, you can say, DO, TI, LA, SO, to see that the song starts on SO.

Step #4: Decide which of the three beat patterns to use for leading. All time signatures can fit into one of the three. The first of every measure gets a “down” beat, while the hand moves “up” for the last beat of each measure. Think of each barline as a fence to jump over with your hand. A breath beat is recommended at the start of each verse. To accomplish this, begin moving your hand with the stroke prior to the starting beat, and breath along with your group on the beat prior to the start of the song.

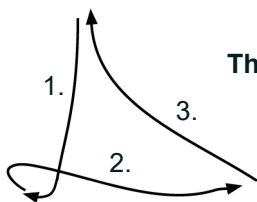


Two beat patterns

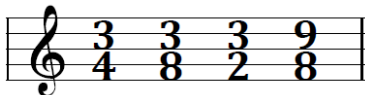
Note that the two beat pattern may be used for four beat patterns when singing faster.



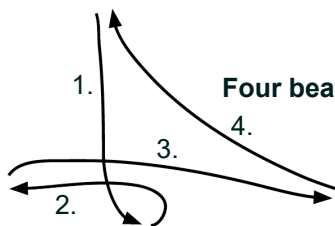
Use bounce & rebound in your pattern. Your hand speed should increase toward the end of each stroke, similar to a bouncing ball.



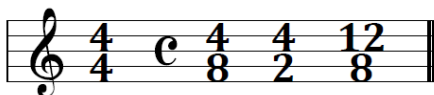
Three beat patterns



A wrist click(Ictus) near the end of each stroke helps to show exactly where the beat is. The first beat after each barline, should be given a stronger wrist click(accent).



Four beat patterns



Use confidence in your voice to announce the song number twice, read the song title, blow the pitch, hum the first note, and start the song. The speed(tempo) needs to be set at the beginning of each verse.

Practicing the song prior to leading it can help you identify problem areas such as notes or timing. Be careful to be clear with your voice on dotted notes.

Be smooth & flowing with your hand directing patterns, and not choppy. Be clear with your leading on closings, formatas, and A-mens. Feel free to mention any notations prior to singing the song. Hold your songbook and conduct at chest level. When standing for a song, your directing should be higher than normal, closer to head level.

Facial expression should lead the congregation in worship. Look at the congregation at least once or twice per stanza, and especially on the beginning of each verse of the song.

Options for variety in singing: Ladies can sing a verse. No Bass on a verse. Tenors take the lead, and Sopranos sing high tenor. Sopranos sing the words with other parts oo-ing for a verse. Men's verse only if your congregation does well with men's music.