

Sample Learning Plan #1: Key Signatures

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What You'll need: Quizlet (free platform for drilling on [Quizlet.com](https://quizlet.com) or through Quizlet App.)

Practices Per Week: 3-7

How Long On Each Step: One week

Time Per Practice: 5-15 minutes

Time To Completing Goal: 14 weeks (3-4 months)

Step 1:

- Introduce [Circle of 5ths](#)
- Introduce keys of C, G, D, and A. Quizlet [Key Signature Major 1 \(C, G, D, A\)](#)
- Quizlet [How The Circle of 5ths Works](#) for general questions about circle of fifths
- Quizlet [Name the Sharps 1](#) (Name the sharps in key in correct order)
- Draw the key signature on the staff, putting the sharps on the correct lines and spaces and in the correct order ([staff paper](#))

Step 2:

- Introduce relative minor for keys of C, G, D, and A. Quizlet [What is the Relative Minor 1?](#)
- Add Quizlet [How Many Sharps 1?](#)
- Continue Quizlet [How The Circle of 5ths Works](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Signature Major 1 \(C, G, D, A\)](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Name the Sharps 1](#) (Name the sharps in a key in the correct order)

Step 3:

- Introduce keys of E, B, F#, and C#. Quizlet [Key Signature Major 2](#)
- Add Quizlet [How Many Sharps 2?](#)
- Add Quizlet [Name The Sharps 2](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Signature Major 1](#) (C, G, D, A)
- Continue Quizlet [What is the Relative Minor 1?](#)
- Draw the key signature on the staff putting the sharps on the correct lines and space and in the correct order (staff paper)

Step 4:

- Combine all sharp keys major. Quizlet [Key Signature Major 3](#)
- Combine sharps Quizlet [How Many Sharps 3?](#)
- Add Quizlet [What is the Relative Minor 2?](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Name The Sharps 2](#)

Step 5:

- Combine relative minors for all sharp keys. Quizlet [What is The Relative Minor 3?](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Signature Major 3](#)
- Continue Quizlet [How Many Sharps 3?](#)

Step 6:

- Introduce keys F, Bb, Eb, and Ab. Quizlet [Key Sig Major 4](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Signature Major 3](#)
- Add Quizlet [Name the Flats 1](#)
- Add Quizlet [How Many Flats 1?](#)

Step 7:

- Continue Quizlet [Key Sig Major 4](#) (F, Bb, Eb, and Ab)
- Add Relative Minors for F, Bb, Eb, and Ab. Quizlet [What is Relative Minor 4?](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Signature Major 3](#)
- Continue [Name the Flats 1](#)
- Continue Quizlet [How Many Flats 1?](#)

Step 8:

- Introduce keys of Db Gb & Cb. Quizlet [Key Sig Major 5](#)
- Add Quizlet [Name the Flats 2](#)
- Add Quizlet [How Many Flats 2?](#)
- Continue Quizlet [What is Relative Minor 4?](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Sig Major 4](#) (F, Bb, Eb, and Ab)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Signature Major 3](#) (all sharp keys)

Step 9:

- Introduce relative minors for keys of Db, Gb, and C. Quizlet [What is the Relative Minor 5?](#)
- Combine knowing number of flats for all flat keys. Quizlet [How Many Flats 3?](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Name the Flats 2](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Sig Major 4](#)
- Continue Quizlet [Key Sig Major 5](#)

Step 10:

- Combine all flat keys [Key Sig Major 6](#)
- Combine all flat relative minors. Quizlet [What is the Relative Minor 6?](#)
- Continue [Key Signature Major 3](#) (all sharps)
- Continue Quizlet [How Many Flats 3?](#)

Step 11:

- Combine all keys. Quizlet [Key Sig Major 7](#)
- Combine all relative minors. Quizlet [What is the Relative Minor 6?](#)

Step 12:

- Continue Quizlet [Key Sig Major 7](#)
- Continue Quizlet [What is the Relative Minor 6?](#)

Step 13:

- Test on how well you know the complete set of information. Quizlet [Key Signature Final Test](#). Return to [Key Sig Major 7](#) and [What is the Relative Minor 6](#) every so often to stay sharp.

If you're using the information regularly in music, you probably will mainly need a brush up on less commonly used keys.

By [Suzan Stroud](#), songwriter/composer and teacher in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Suzan is a multi instrumentalist on Voice, Piano, Guitar, Bass and Drums and has a degree in songwriting from Berklee College of Music. She founded Treblemakers Music School (now [Park Slope Music School](#)) in 2009 and is the author of [Treblemakers Piano Method](#). Suzan combines 30 years of teaching piano full time with her hobby of reading about the brain to create music and curriculum designed to engage interest and maximize learning. She writes about music education in her blog "Suzan's Cents" which can be found on [suzanstroud.com](#). Her original album "Reveal The Tapestry" can be found on [iTunes](#) and [Spotify](#).