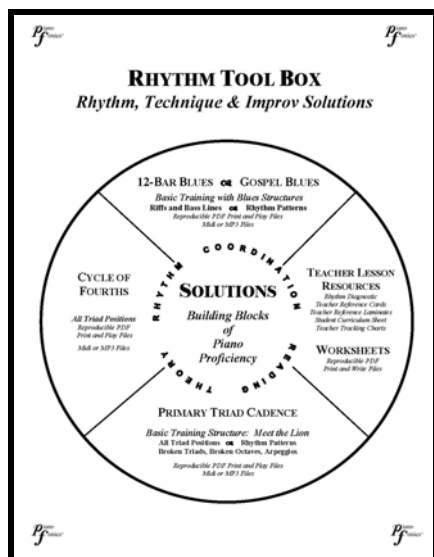


# RHYTHM TOOL BOX

## Rhythm, Technique & Improv Solutions

### CONTENTS\*



- One reproducible PDF file with five sets (122 pages) of Basic Training Structures, Pattern Extensions and Worksheets
  - Primer Orientation Rhythm Drills*
  - 12-Bar Blues Basic Training + Riffs and Bass Lines Pattern Extensions*
  - Gospel Blues Basic Training + Pattern Extensions with rhythm and coordination*
  - Primary Triad Cadence: The Student and The Cadence 'Meet the Lion' Cycle of Fourths*
- 24 Teacher Reference Drill Cards
- Rhythm Diagnostic and Training Tool Card
- 6 Teacher Reference Laminates
- Teacher Preview Thumbnails of the reproducible student PDF files
- Student Curriculum Sheet and Teacher Tracking Charts
- Insertable Plastic 8-tab dividers for organization of materials in a 3-ring binder (binder not included)

\*Please note that **PentaScale Solutions** is printed to order with your studio name included on each page.  
(Please contact us if you have questions. This product cannot be returned.)

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Enlist your students in Basic Training with the 12-Bar Blues. Experience rhythm in real time *before* reading rhythm on the page! Motivate your students with the Gospel Blues and the sound of the Amen cadence. Work magic with the Primary Triad Cadence when “The Student and The Cadence ‘Meet the Lion’”. The **Rhythm Tool Box** contains reproducible supplemental resources to bridge the gap between traditional technique and functional skill...materials for structured ‘improvisation’. Transform the triad... with inversions, arpeggios, broken octaves, and cadences.... into functional fun! Midi file or mp3 background accompaniments provide essential ‘sound’ for this technical and rhythmic transformation. The **Student Rhythm Diagnostic** also serves as a Training Tool. The “*I’ve heard that before*” sound of the 12-Blues loop is the ideal medium for students of all ages and levels to ‘experience’ rhythm, to ‘play before reading’ while also learning functional piano skills as basic as white key identification or as complex as pattern development and chord function. Flexibility and versatility are built-in components of a ‘tool box’ format. Reproducible privileges with a *Print and Play* design provide ‘tailor-made’ teaching opportunities for the student who cannot feel a rhythmic pulse as well the student whose entire body moves with the beat! The teacher can recoup the cost of the initial investment of the tool box by charging a nominal fee to each student. A win-win \$\$\$ situation for both student and teacher!

The **Rhythm Tool Box** merges the experience of rhythm with traditional technique. There are *Teacher Preview Thumbnails* of the five sets of reproducible student PDF files. Three **Basic Training Structures**...the 12-Bar Blues, the Gospel Blues and the Primary Triad Cadence ..... help bridge the gap between reading and playing. Once students pass Basic Training, they progress into **Pattern Extensions** with melodic and rhythmic development.... and freedom. When The Student and The Cadence “Meet the Lion” (as in The Lion Sleeps Tonight), the *primary triad cadence* enters a new dimension. Both the Big and Little TetraChord Lion learn to syncopate, rotate, arpeggiate and do broken octaves in all three positions. The Amen root position cadence of the Gospel Blues advances to inversions; inversions move into the Gospel Combo Cadence moving through all positions of the tonic and subdominant Amen sound within the blues structure. Pattern extensions of the 12-Bar Blues promote melodic and rhythmic development for the natural player as well as the natural reader: 1) for the student hesitant to ‘create’, there are four bass lines and riffs in four levels to read; these patterns are inserted into the 12-Bar Blues structure, forcing the reader to listen and play rather than read and play; and, 2) for the student who is always wanting to change what’s in the music, these ‘written’ patterns are simply ideas from which to deviate and create. The door to the world of improvisation begins to open not only for the ear player but also the reader. The theoretical Circle of Fifths transforms into a functional Cycle of Fourths when chord drills and rhythm patterns (comps) are played with the midi/mp3 files included in the **Rhythm Tool Box**.

Teachers may choose how to use their PDF files: 1) Print all files as an 8 x 11½ reference copy to reproduce. It is recommended to file these reference copies in sheet protectors in the appropriate section of the Rhythm Tool Box; or, 2) Select individual units from your computer to *Print and Play* as student need arises. A 3-ring Tool Box binder is recommended for each student to keep the Rhythm and Technique units in one place. The six *Teacher Reference Laminates* are designed for frequent use in the lesson.

A reproducible **Student Curriculum Sheet** is included in the **Rhythm Tool Box**. This sheet, listing each element contained in a given unit, is for students to keep in their 3-ring Tool Box binder. The teacher checks which elements are to be included in their individualized rhythm and technique program and dates them when completed. The double-sided reproducible **Teacher Tracking Chart** has room to list 30 students per side. This user-friendly chart not only gives the teacher a ready reference of the tool box content but also monitors student progress in the process of rhythm and technical skill development with the **Rhythm Tool Box**.