



## Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

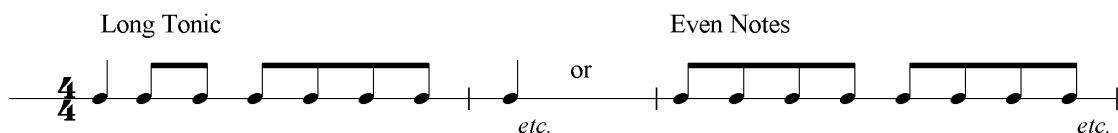
### GRADE 2 FIDDLE – TECHNICAL WORK

The Technical Work section is worth 18 points of the exam overall and candidates will be asked approximately four tests in this section. All tests should be played from memory.

**Bowings** – Scales will require to be played ascending and descending with both separate bows *and* slurs. Arpeggios will require to be played ascending and descending with separate bows only.

**Minor Scales** – Minor scales may be played in the harmonic, melodic or natural form, at **candidate's choice**.

**Rhythm Patterns for scales** – For scales, candidates may choose between two rhythm patterns: long tonic *or* even notes –



**\*Note – All scales are notated in long tonic form.**

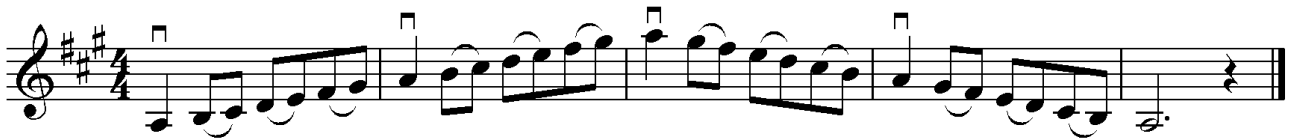
**Fiddle Rhythmic Scales** – Candidates will be required to play a one octave version of a major scale selected by the examiner to a prescribed fiddle related rhythm – see example

## GRADE 2 SCALES:

G major - 2 octaves



A major - 2 octaves



D major - 1 octave



A minor harmonic - 1 octave



A minor melodic - 1 octave



A minor natural - 1 octave



E minor harmonic - 1 octave



E minor melodic - 1 octave



E minor natural - 1 octave



G minor harmonic - 1 octave



G minor melodic - 1 octave



G minor natural - 1 octave



**GRADE 2 ARPEGGIOS:**

G major - 2 octaves



A major - 2 octaves



D major - 1 octave



A minor - 1 octave



E minor - 1 octave



G minor - 1 octave



## **GRADE 2 RHYTHMIC SCALE:**

Candidates will be asked to perform a one octave version of a major scale selected by the examiner to the following rhythm – a crotchet and two quavers on each degree of the scale, as in –

D major - 1 octave rhythmic scale



## QUICK STUDY – FIDDLE

### General Guidelines

The Quick Study section is worth 21 marks in the exam overall. In the quick study, you are expected to play back a short passage of music. This is to test your ability to internalise and reproduce the music on your instrument. You will be given the option to attempt the test either at sight or by ear.

#### *If at sight:*

- The examiner will hand you the music and will give two bars' pulse to indicate the general tempo expected.
- You will then have half a minute in which to look through and, if you wish, try out the piece before assessment.
- The examiner will indicate, after which you should play the piece as written.

#### *If by ear:*

The examiner will perform the opening section of the piece three times and you will be expected to play the excerpt back after each time. You will be assessed on the strongest of your three attempts.

- The examiner will first name the key, sound and name the starting note and play the tonic chord as a broken chord.
- The examiner will then give a two-bar count-in and perform the piece.
- You will then play the piece back.
- The examiner will then give a two-bar count-in and perform the piece for a second time. You will then play the piece back for a second time.
- The examiner will then give a two-bar count-in and perform the piece for a third time. You will then play the piece back for the third and final time.

Remember that the examiner will be looking for fluent and confident delivery, with a clear reference to style and musical character.

## GRADE 2

Perform EITHER at sight or by ear, at your choice, a short passage in air, waltz or march time.

The piece will be in one of the following keys:

A, D, G majors; A, E minors

### Specimens for Grade 2:

**\* Note – The opening up to the comma represents the length of the test if played by ear**

Waltz/Fiddle/G2



March/Fiddle G2



Waltz/Fiddle/G2



March/Fiddle/G2



# PRACTICAL & AURAL MUSICIANSHIP – FIDDLE

## General Guidelines

The Practical & Aural Musicianship (PAM) section is worth 21 points of the exam overall.

Practical and aural musicianship in Scottish tradition often encompasses the ability to learn and manipulate music by ear. The visual communication between master and pupil, or between musicians in a session, is often just as important. The RCS Scottish Traditional Music Graded Exams therefore encourage the candidate to develop aural awareness of rhythm, melodic shape and phrasing, extemporisation and harmonic accompaniment to a variety of tune idioms in a face-to-face situation with the examiner.

In the PAM section, the examiner plays one eight-bar tune chosen from several idioms and conducts a few brief tests designed to assess and encourage your aural understanding of the tune's rhythms, phrasing and melody.

## GRADE 2 PRACTICAL & AURAL MUSICIANSHIP

The examiner plays eight bars of an air, waltz or march.

**The candidate is asked to:**

- A. Clap the pulse of the tune (*see sample pulse marks*) and identify its time signature as either 3/4 or 4/4.
- B. Indicate to the examiner where the first phrase of the tune ends (*see sample phrasing brackets*) by raising a hand or saying 'here' as the examiner plays the tune. The examiner will play the tune twice.
- C. Clap or tap the rhythm of the phrase, as played by the examiner.
- D. Sing, hum, whistle, diddle or play back, as an echo, the melody of the phrase as played by the examiner.

Air / Fiddle / G2

The musical notation shows an 8-bar tune in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first four bars, with a bracket above it indicating the first phrase. The second staff contains the remaining four bars. Below the notes are 'X' marks representing pulse marks. The first staff has pulse marks at the end of each bar: X X X X, X X X X, X X X X, X X X X. The second staff has pulse marks at the end of each bar: X X X X, X X X X, X X X X, X X X.

March / Fiddle / G2

Musical notation for the first staff of the March / Fiddle / G2 piece. It features a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody consists of 14 notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3. There are two slurs: one over the first four notes and another over the last four notes. Below the staff, there are 14 'X' marks corresponding to each note.

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Musical notation for the second staff of the March / Fiddle / G2 piece. It features a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody consists of 14 notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3. There are two slurs: one over the first four notes and another over the last four notes. Below the staff, there are 14 'X' marks corresponding to each note.

Waltz / Fiddle / G2

Musical notation for the Waltz / Fiddle / G2 piece. It features a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of 14 notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3. There are three slurs: one over the first three notes, one over the last three notes, and one over the final two notes. Below the staff, there are 14 'X' marks corresponding to each note.