

# The Keyboardists' Role

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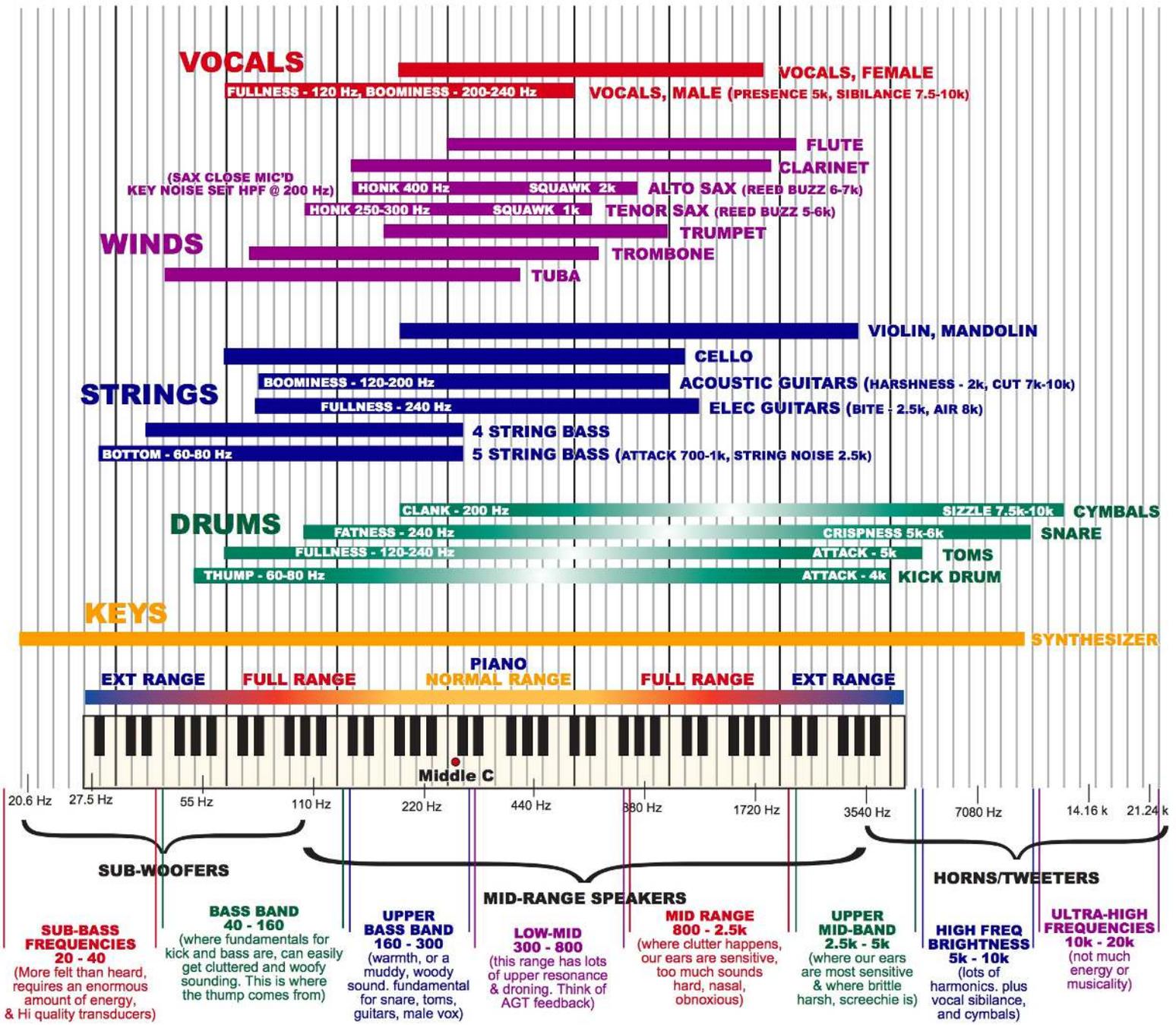
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# THE KEYBOARDIST'S ROLE

## INSTRUMENT RANGES AND ROLES



GUITAR RANGES

VIOLIN RANGES FOR STRINGS LINES

SUB-BASS FREQUENCIES

VOCAL RANGES

SAX RANGES





# THE KEYBOARDIST'S ROLE

## SYNTH PADS, STRINGS, ORGAN AND CONTEXTUAL COMPING

### LAYERING

- \*Start by finding: piano, e piano, pad, strings
- \*Check decay/sustain
- \*Voice volume control
- \*Layer piano when responsible for any rhythm
- \*Find reset

### PADS: Mellow, background

- \*Safe for layering
- \*Enter before band fades
- \*Watch out for over-sustaining (decay)
- \*Stay off bass when playing with bass player
- \*Keep off piercing high notes

### STRINGS: Mimic orchestra

- \*Less clustered voicings
- \*Octaves
- \*Sustain 1 or 5
- \*Counter melodies
- \*Volume control

### ORGAN: Expressive pad

- \*Play pad voicings
- \*Foot off sustain pedal
- \*Muddy below F3
- \*Left hand on volume control





# THE KEYBOARDIST'S ROLE

## TONALITIES, KEYS, AND SCALES

**C major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the C major scale. The white keys C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and C are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**D<sup>b</sup> major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the D-flat major scale. The white keys D<sup>b</sup>, E<sup>b</sup>, F, G<sup>b</sup>, A<sup>b</sup>, B<sup>b</sup>, and C are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**D major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the D major scale. The white keys D, E, F<sup>#</sup>, G, A, B, and D are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**E<sup>b</sup> major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the E-flat major scale. The white keys E<sup>b</sup>, F, G, A<sup>b</sup>, B<sup>b</sup>, and C are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**E major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the E major scale. The white keys E, F<sup>#</sup>, G<sup>#</sup>, A, B, C<sup>#</sup>, and D<sup>#</sup> are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**F major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the F major scale. The white keys F, G, A, B<sup>b</sup>, C, D, E, and F are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**G<sup>b</sup> major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the G-flat major scale. The white keys G<sup>b</sup>, A<sup>b</sup>, B<sup>b</sup>, D<sup>b</sup>, E<sup>b</sup>, and G<sup>b</sup> are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**G major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the G major scale. The white keys G, A, B, C, D, E, and F<sup>#</sup> are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

\*This "B" is technically a "C flat"

**A<sup>b</sup> major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the A-flat major scale. The white keys A<sup>b</sup>, B<sup>b</sup>, D<sup>b</sup>, E<sup>b</sup>, and A<sup>b</sup> are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**B<sup>b</sup> major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the B-flat major scale. The white keys B<sup>b</sup>, E<sup>b</sup>, and B<sup>b</sup> are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**A major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the A major scale. The white keys A, B, C<sup>#</sup>, D, E, F<sup>#</sup>, G<sup>#</sup>, and A are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.

**B major**

A piano keyboard diagram showing the B major scale. The white keys B, C<sup>#</sup>, D<sup>#</sup>, E, F<sup>#</sup>, G<sup>#</sup>, A<sup>#</sup>, and B are highlighted in light blue. The other keys are black.





# THE KEYBOARDIST'S ROLE

## FLEXIBILITY AND TRANSITIONS

A “turn-around” is what you play at the end of the song to indicate to the audience that you’re going to play it again. Often a turn-around is used just before repeating the last line of a song. The 4 most common turn-arounds are listed below. (The “m” stands for “minor”)

	1—4—5			1—2—5			1—6—2—5				1—6—4—5			
	Turn-Around			Turn-Around			Turn-Around				Turn-Around			
	1	4	5	1	2	5	1	6	2	5	1	6	4	5
In the key of C	C	F	G	C	Dm	G	C	Am	Dm	G	C	Am	F	G
In the key of D <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup> m	A <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup> m	E <sup>b</sup> m	A <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup> m	G <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>
In the key of D	D	G	A	D	Em	A	D	Bm	Em	A	D	Bm	G	A
In the key of E <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>	Fm	B <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>	Cm	Fm	B <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>	Cm	A <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup>
In the key of E	E	A	B	E	F#m	B	E	C#m	F#m	B	E	C#m	A	B
In the key of F	F	B <sup>b</sup>	C	F	Gm	C	F	Dm	Gm	C	F	Dm	B <sup>b</sup>	C
In the key of G <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup> m	D <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup> m	A <sup>b</sup> m	D <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup> m	C <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>
In the key of G	G	C	D	G	Am	D	G	Em	Am	D	G	Em	C	D
In the key of A <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup> m	E <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	Fm	B <sup>b</sup> m	E <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	Fm	D <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>
In the key of A	A	D	E	A	Bm	E	A	F#m	Bm	E	A	F#m	D	E
In the key of B <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>	F	B <sup>b</sup>	Cm	F	B <sup>b</sup>	Gm	Cm	F	B <sup>b</sup>	Gm	E <sup>b</sup>	F
In the key of B	B	E	F#	B	C#m	F#	B	G#m	C#m	F#	B	G#m	E	F#





## THE KEYBOARDIST'S ROLE

With a little planning, you can transition smoothly (modulate) from any key to any other key, even when changing songs.

You will need to know:

- 1) The key of the first song (or before the modulation)
- 2) The key of the second song (or after the modulation)
- 3) The chord numbers for each of the keys

Just find out what type of a transition you need by using the numbered chart below. Then try the suggested transitions for that type (see next page) between your two songs, and use your favorite.

		KEY OF 2ND SONG											
		A	Bb	B	C	C#	D	Eb	E	F	F#	G	Ab
KEY OF 1ST SONG	A		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Bb	11		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	B	10	11		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	C	9	10	11		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	C#	8	9	10	11		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	D	7	8	9	10	11		1	2	3	4	5	6
	Eb	6	7	8	9	10	11		1	2	3	4	5
	E	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		1	2	3	4
	F	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		1	2	3
	F#	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		1	2
	G	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		1
	Ab	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	





## THE KEYBOARDIST'S ROLE

<b>#1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the first song a half step higher, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Repeat the last part of the first song a half step higher, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Play the 1 chord with the flat 7 in the bass (or left hand), the 5 chord of the new key, then the 4 chord of the new key (keeping the 5 in the bass/left hand).</li></ul>
<b>#2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the first song a whole step higher, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Play the second song a whole step lower, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Repeat the last part of the first song a whole step higher, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Play the 5 chord of the first key. Keep the 5 chord, and move only the bass (or left hand) up to the 6.</li><li>*Play the minor 2 chord of the first key, then the 1 chord of the new key. Keep the 1 in the bass (left hand) while you play the 4 chord.</li></ul>
<b>#3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*End on the 4 chord of the first key. Make that chord minor, then move to the 5 chord of the new key.</li><li>*End on the 1 chord of the first key. Make that chord minor, then play the 5 chord of the new key with the 7 in the bass (or left hand)</li><li>*Play the 1 chord with the flat 7 in the bass (or left hand), then the 4 chord of the new key, keeping the 5 in the bass/left hand.</li></ul>
<b>#4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*After ending on the 1 of the first key, play the 1 chord of the new key, then the 4 chord, then the 5 chord.</li><li>*After ending on the 1 of the first key, play the suspended 5 chord of the new key, then the regular 5 chord of the new key before moving to the 1 chord.</li><li>*Play the minor 3 chord of the first key, then the 1 chord of the new key. Keep the 1 in the bass (left hand) while you play the 4 chord.</li></ul>
<b>#5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the dominant 1 chord of the first key (add the note a whole step below the root of the chord).</li><li>*Play the 4 chord of the second key, keeping the 5 of the first key in the bass.</li><li>*Play the 5 chord of the first key, but make it minor, then play the dominant 1 chord of the first key (add the note a whole step below the root of the chord).</li></ul>
<b>#6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the first song a 1/2 step lower, then use a #7 transition.</li><li>*Play the first song a 1/2 step higher, then use a #5 transition.</li><li>*Play the 4 chord of the new key with the 5 of the new key in the bass.</li></ul>
<b>#7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the 1 chord of the first key, but put the 2 in the bass.</li><li>*End on the 6 chord of the first key, then play the 5 chord of the new key.</li></ul>
<b>#8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the 1 chord of the first key with the flat 7 in the bass, then the minor 2 chord of the new key, then the 4 chord with the 5 in the bass.</li><li>*Play the first song a half step higher and use a #7 transition</li></ul>
<b>#9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the 4 chord of the first key, then the 5 chord, then the 1 chord of the new key.</li><li>*End on the minor 6 chord of the first key, then play the 1 chord of the new key, followed by the 4 chord with the 5 in the bass (or left hand).</li></ul>
<b>#10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the second song a whole step lower, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Play the first song a whole step higher, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Play the 1 chord of the first key, then make it minor, then the dominant 5 chord of the new song (add the note that is a whole step below the root—also called a “7 chord” as in “G7”).</li></ul>
<b>#11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the second song a half step higher, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Play the first song a half step lower, so they are both in the same key.</li><li>*Play the 4 chord of the new key, then move the bass (or left hand) to the 5.</li></ul>
<b>ALL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Play the 4 chord of the new key with the 5 of the new key in the bass.</li><li>*Use a story or video or other non-musical transition.</li><li>*End the first song with a drum solo, then start in the new key.</li></ul>

