

## Writing Melodic Etudes

1. Choose a key
2. Pick 4 chords in that key (see “harmonized scale chart”)
3. Play the scale of that key (see “open position major scales”)
4. write out chord tones of each chord
5. decide one chord tone to land on for the first beat of each chord
6. connect these notes with other notes from the scale

(more advanced steps – choose any one or more of the following)

- use an 8 bar chord progression instead of 4
- use rests
- use common tones from chord to chord whenever possible
- vary steps, skips, and leaps
- use octave displacement
- balance arpeggios (chord tones) with scalar movement
- use chromatic notes
- use delayed resolution (begin on non-chord tone then resolve, ex: 6 to 5 or 4 to 3)
- tie sus4 from a previous chord tone