Eb Version

Beginner & Intermediate Fundamentals for Brass

Long Tones

Long tones should be played smoothly, whilst making the most beautiful sound possible. Play each exercise slowly taking a full, relaxed breath, and project the warm air through the instrument. Having a clear concept of a good sound is key to long tones. These can be slurred as marked or tongued for variation.

C to G (first five notes)

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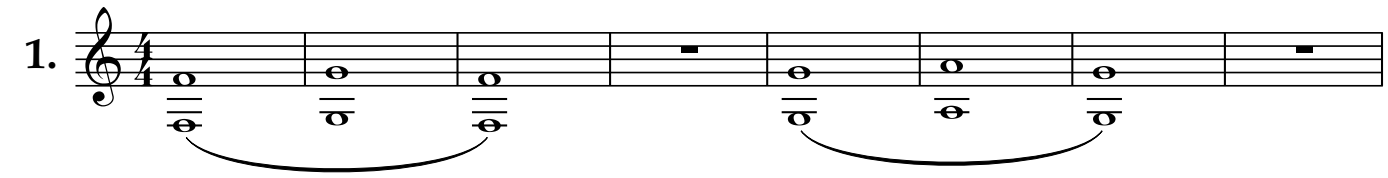

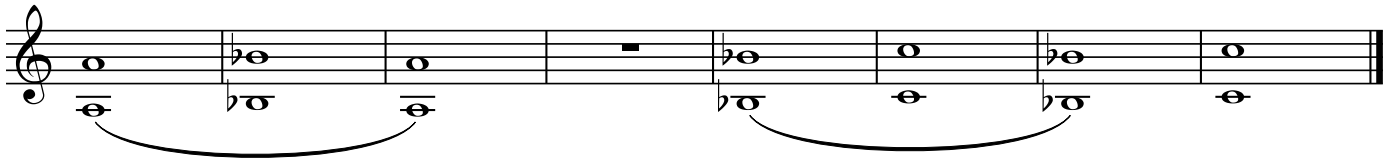

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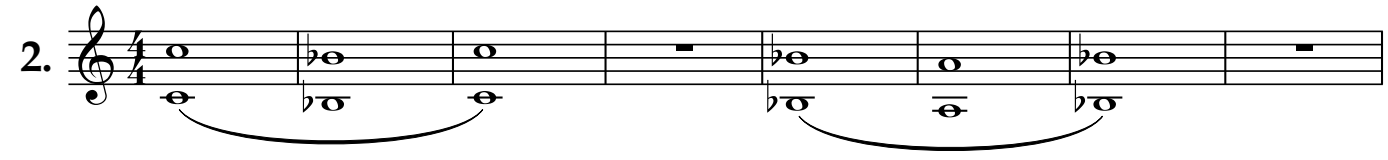

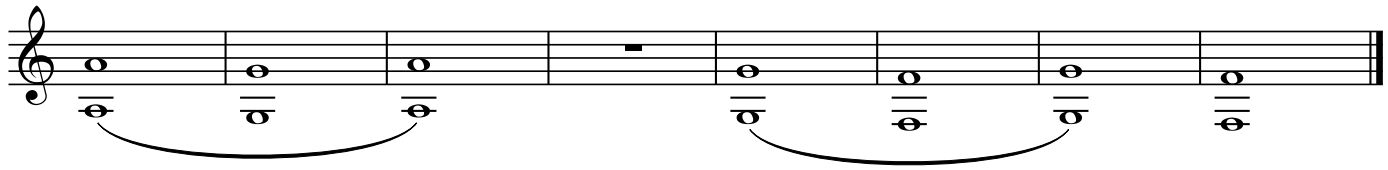

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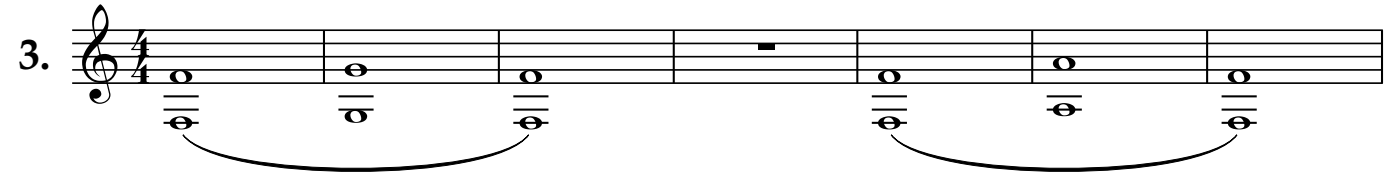

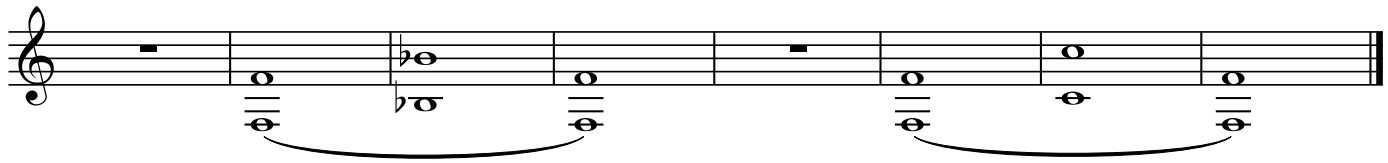

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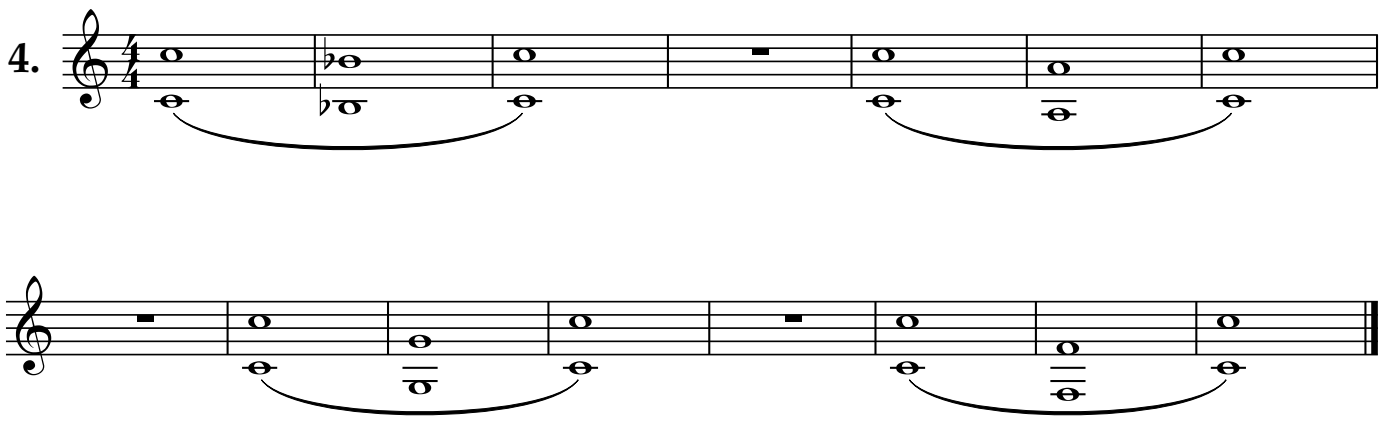

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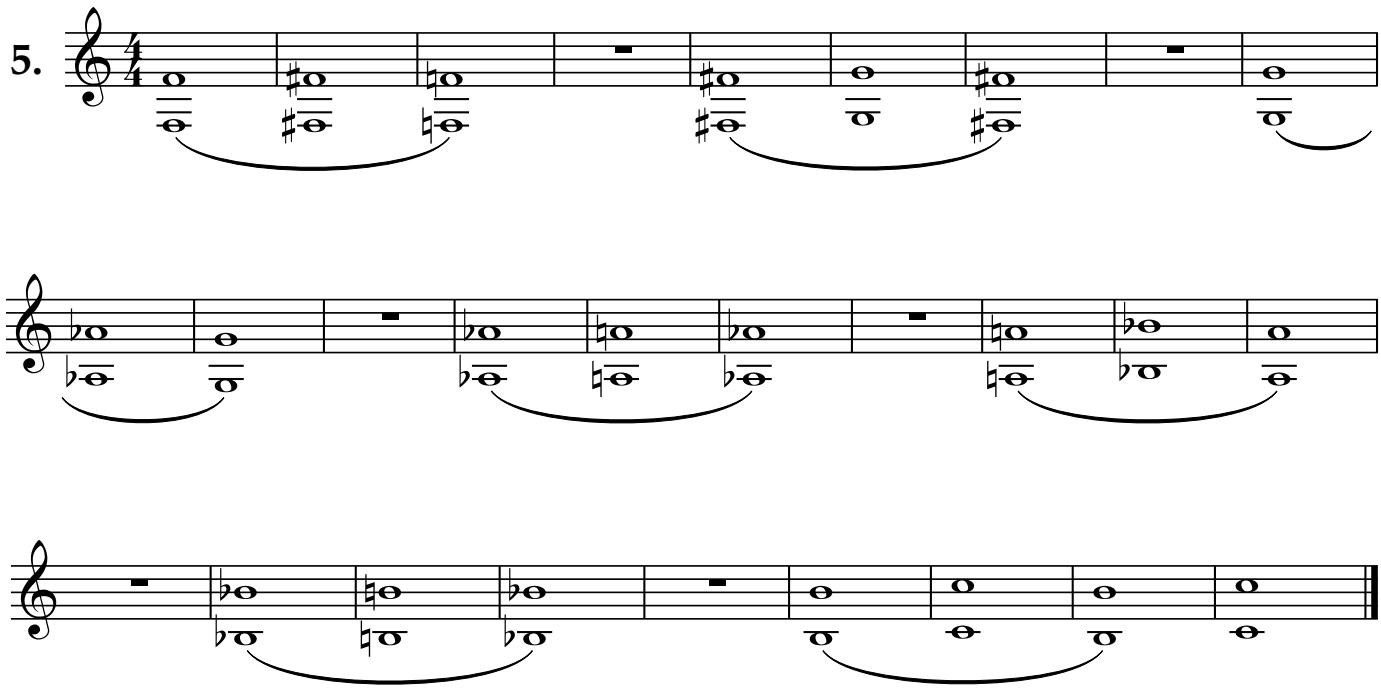

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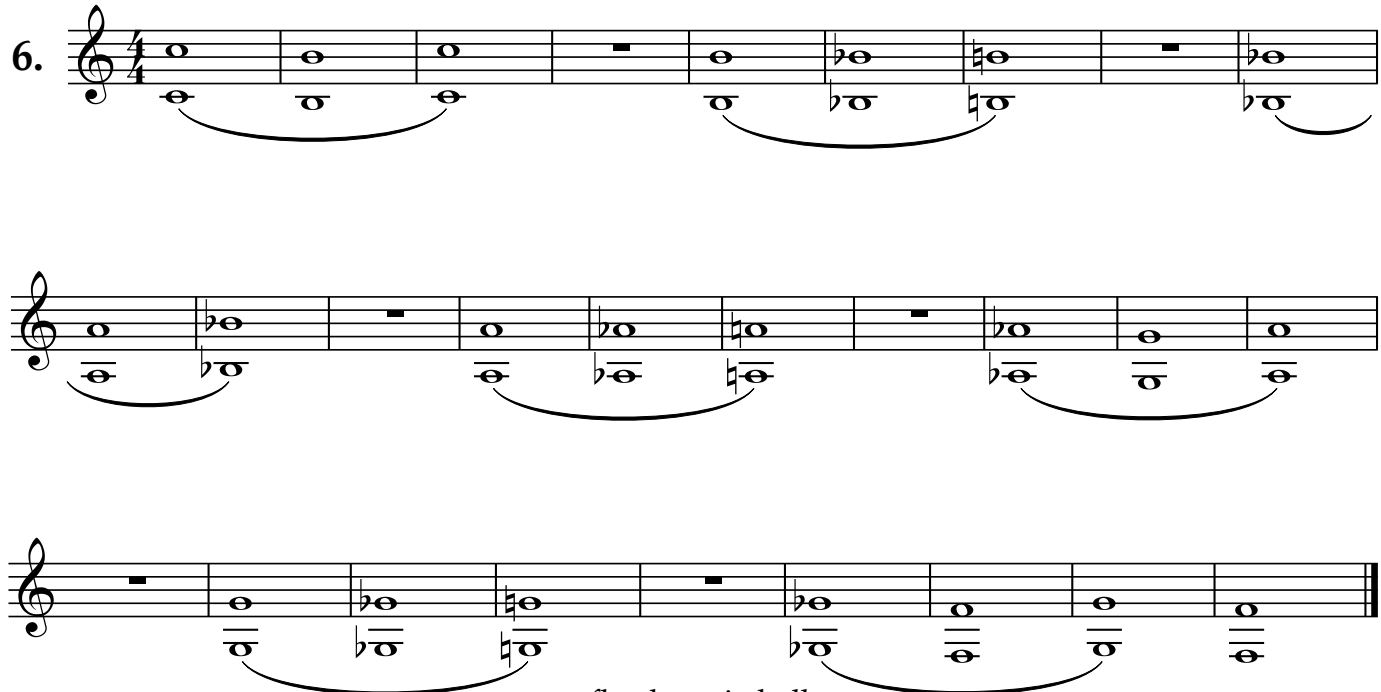

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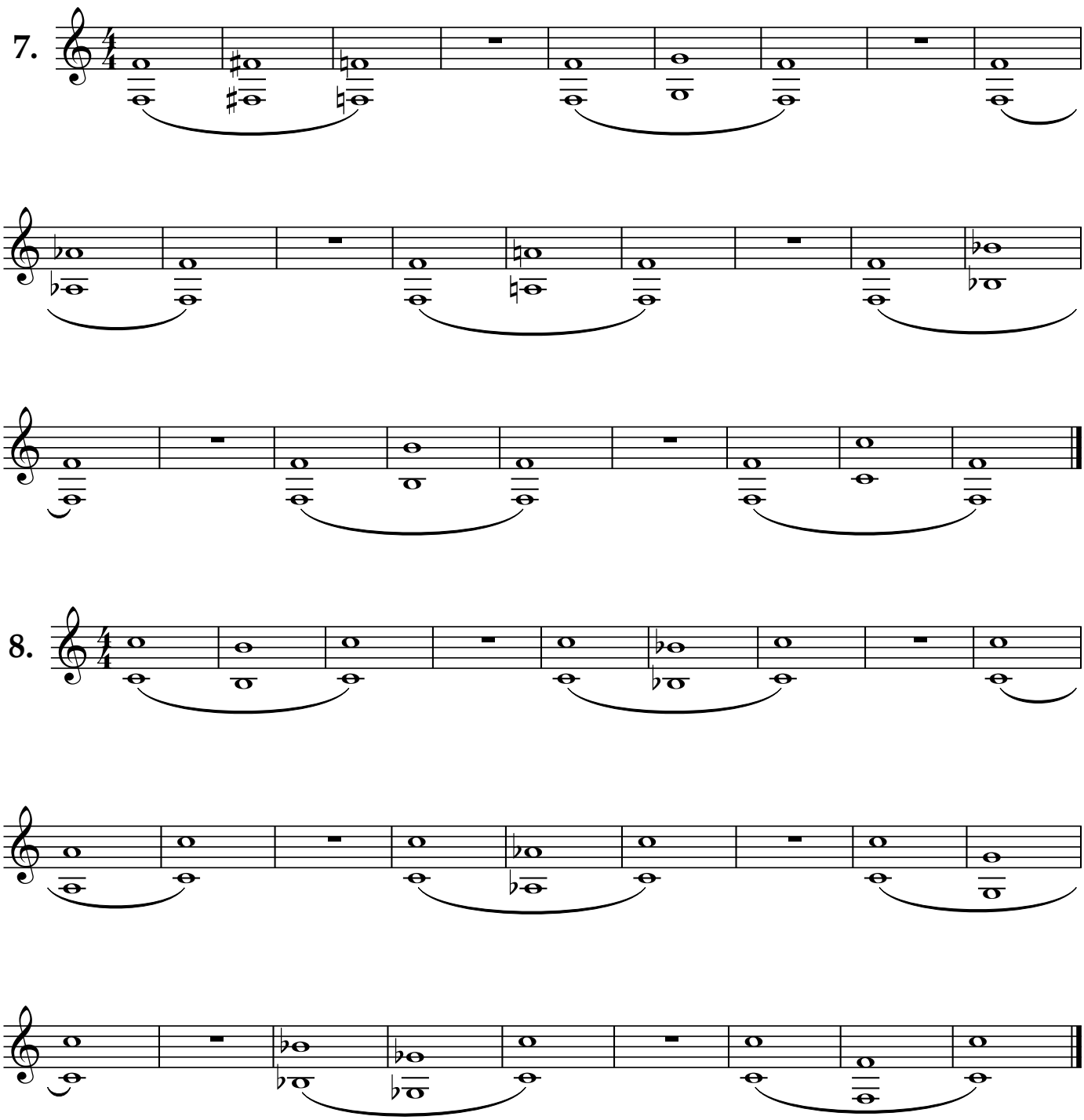

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G to C (completing the octave)

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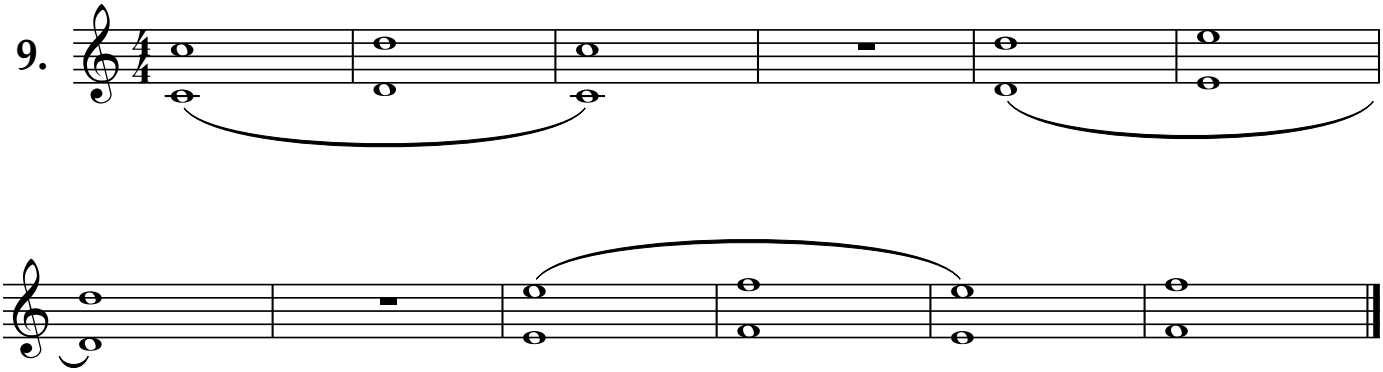

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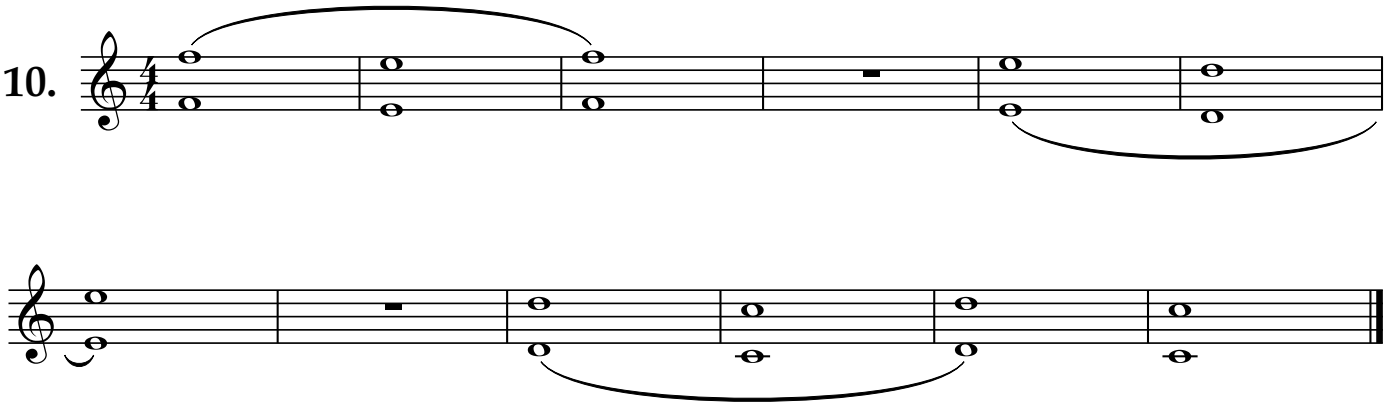

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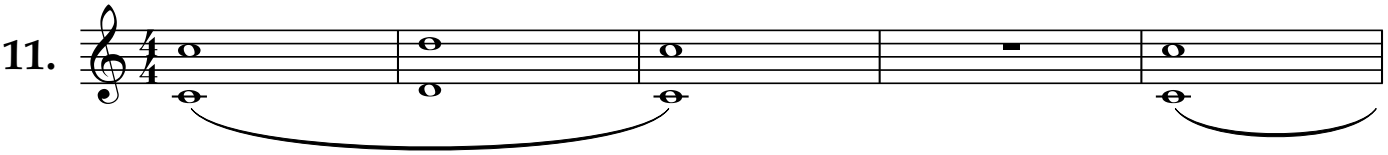

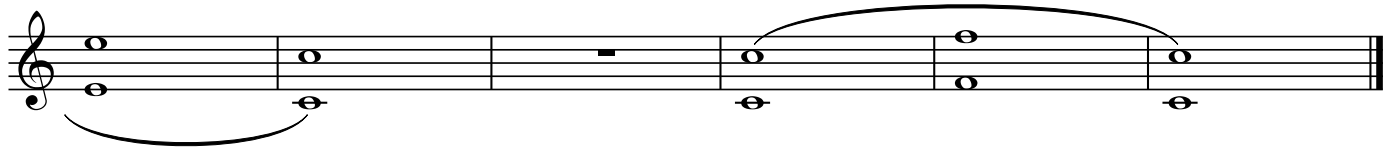

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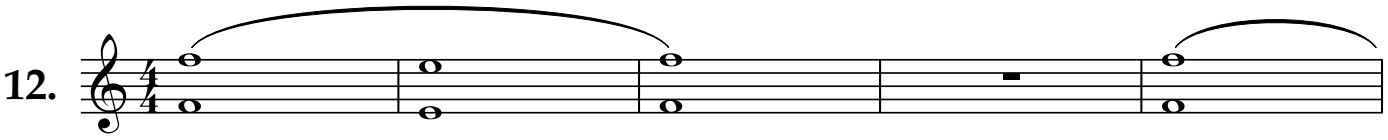

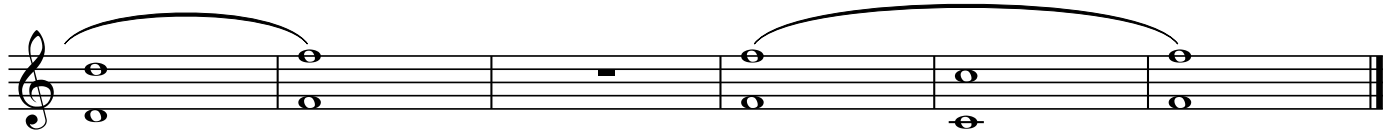

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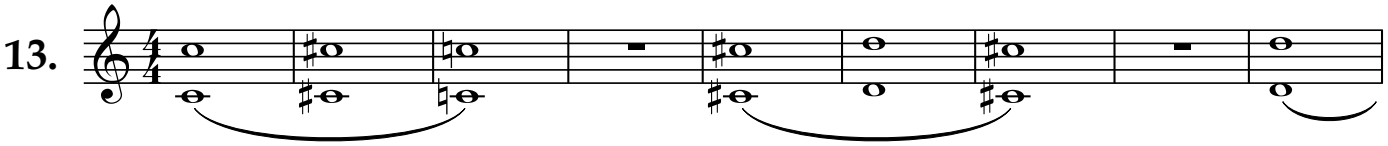

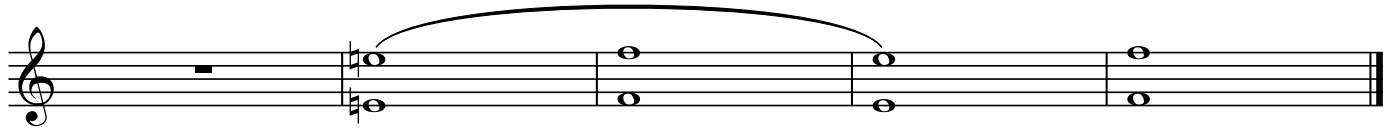

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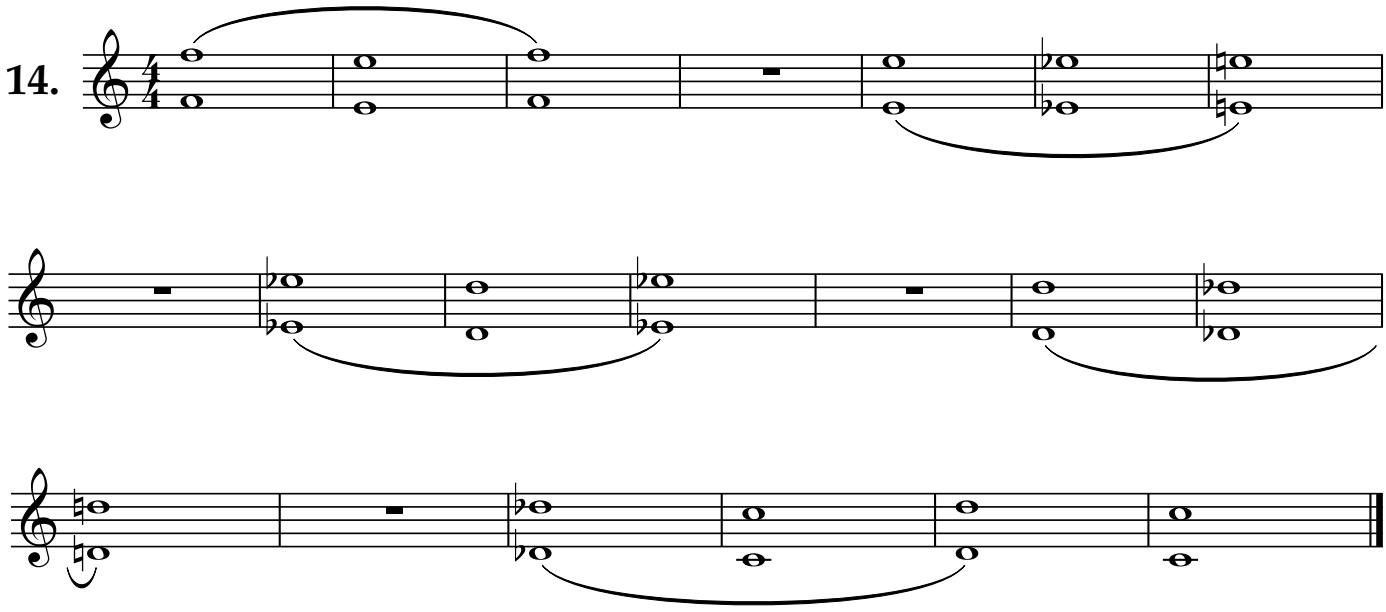

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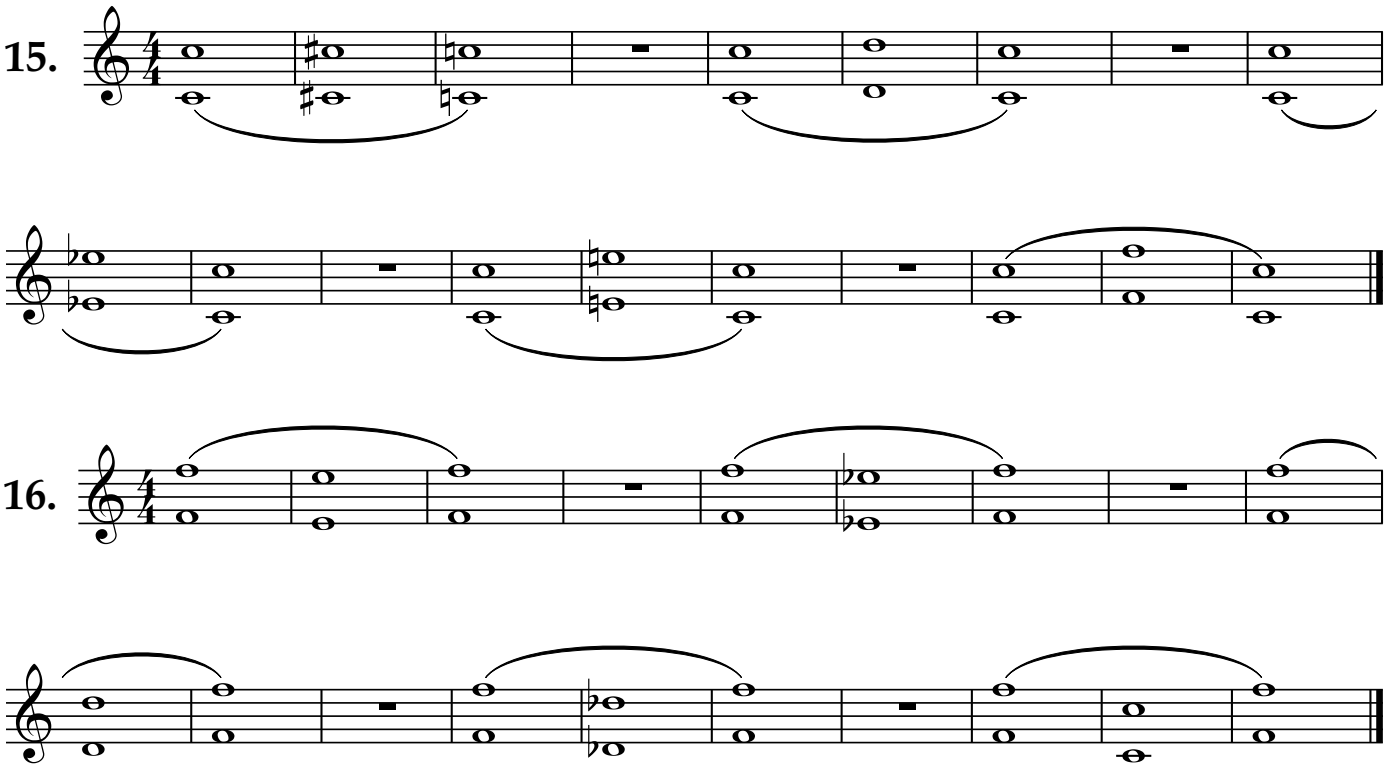

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C to G (lower)

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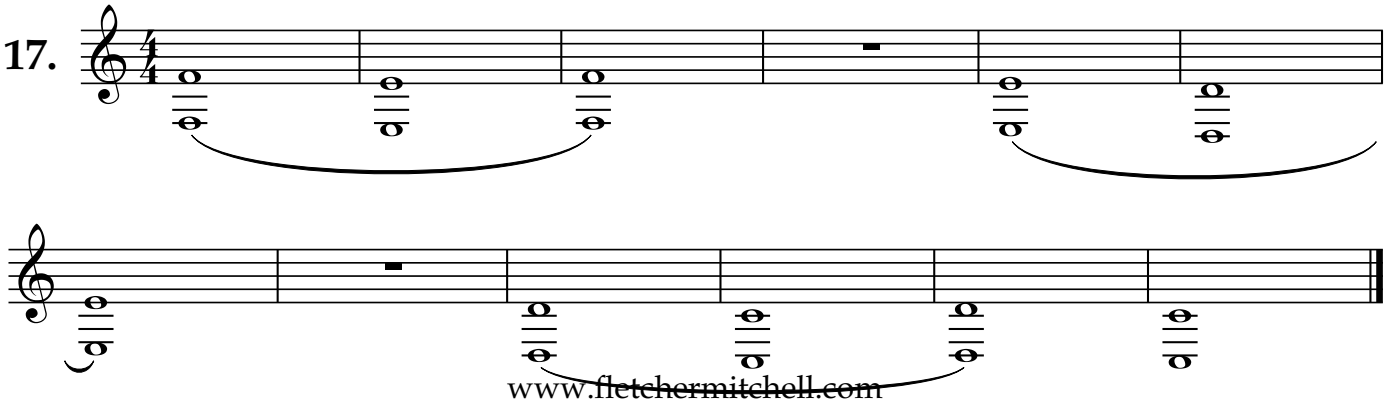

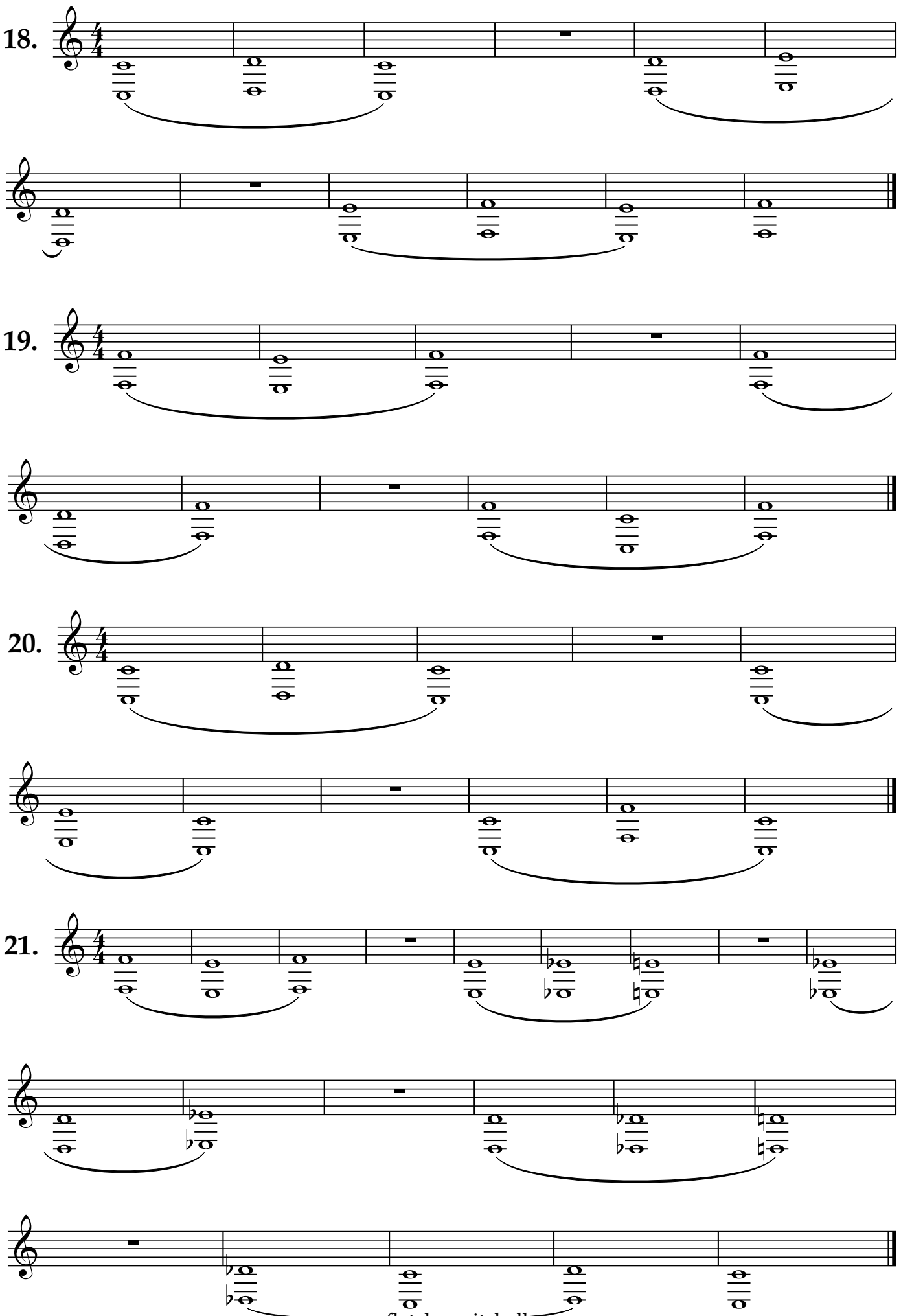
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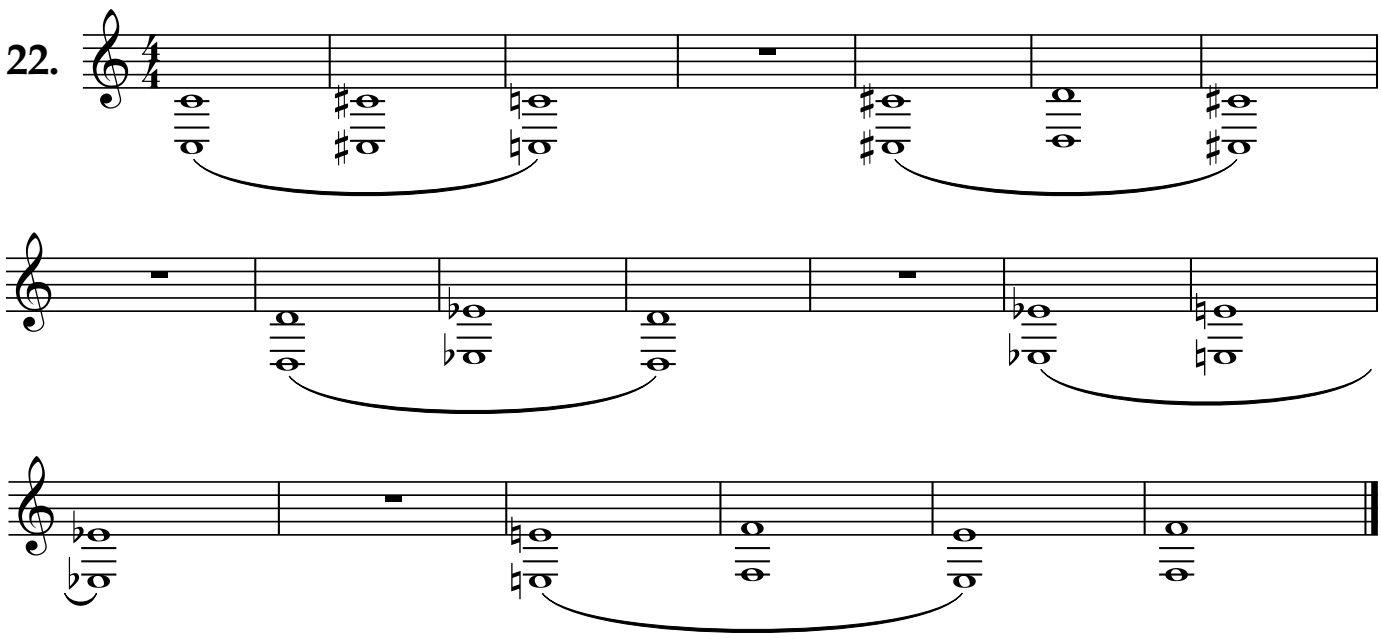

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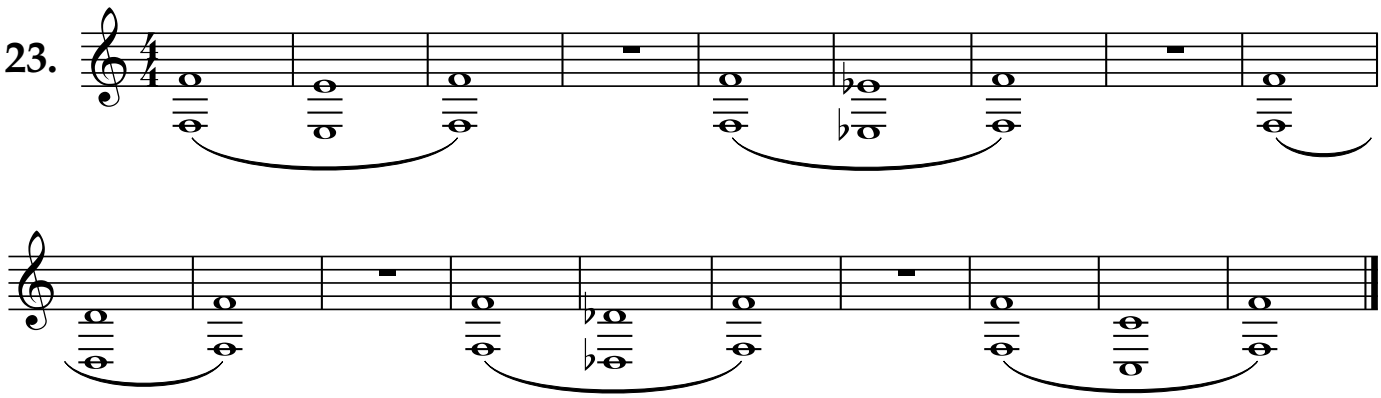

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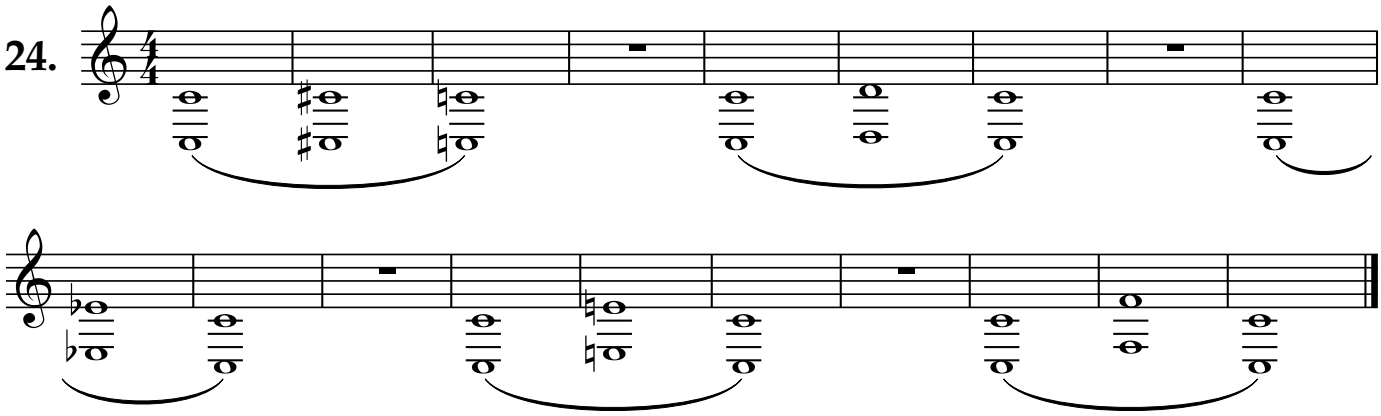

C to G (upper)

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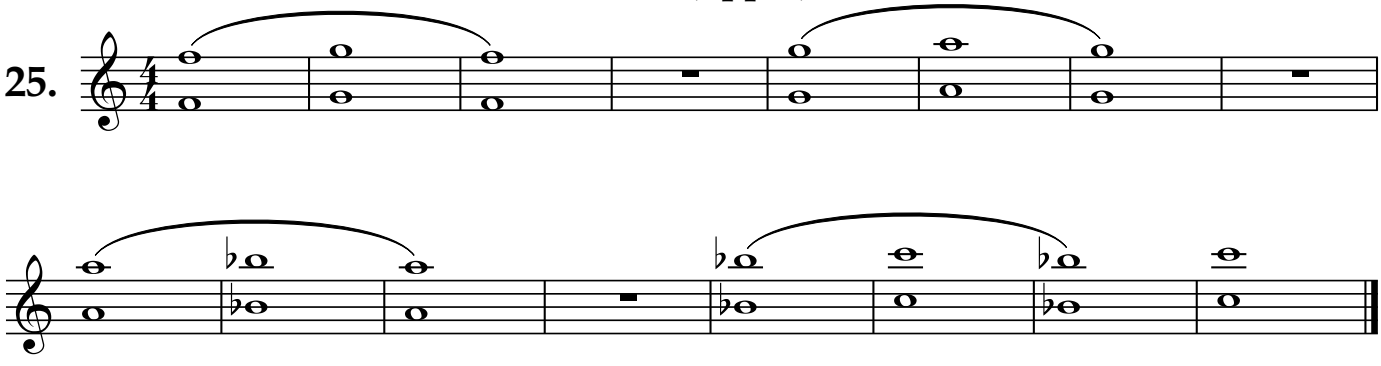

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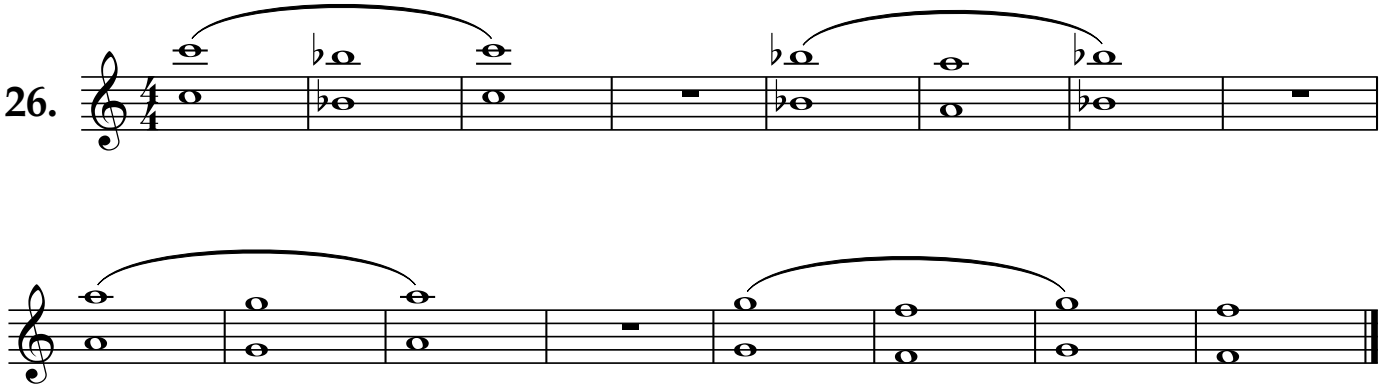

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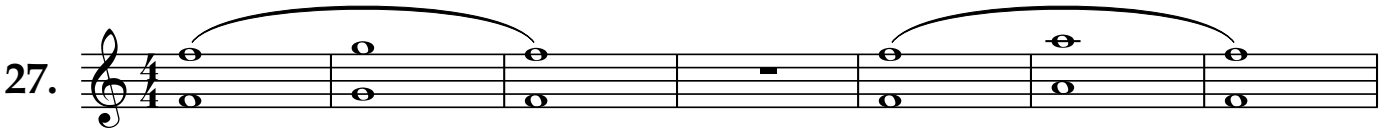

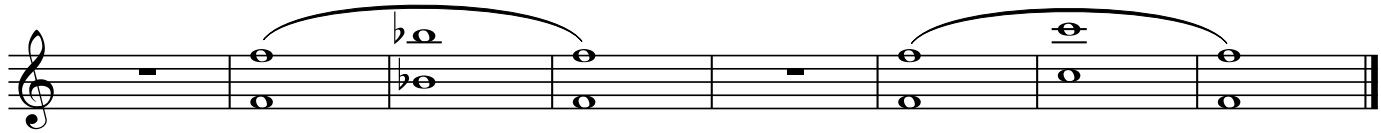

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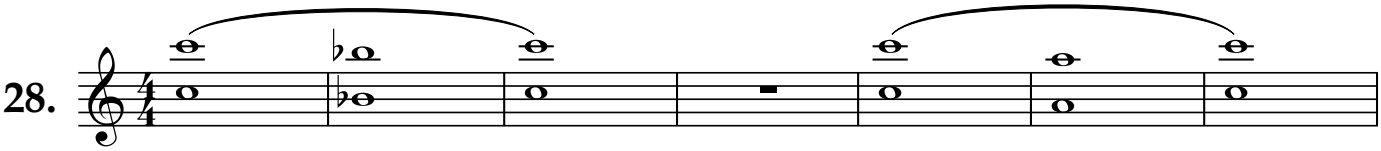

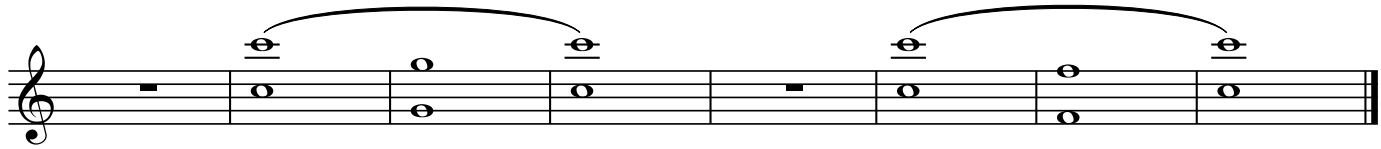

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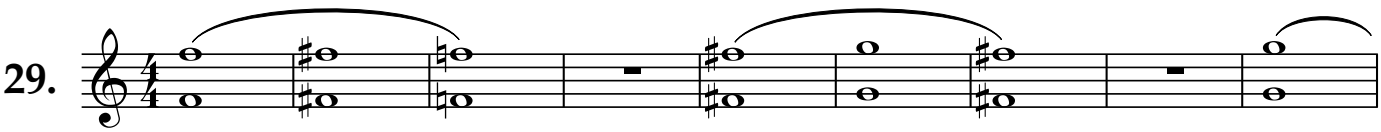

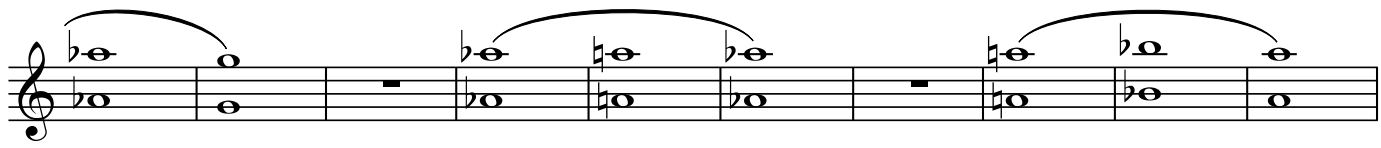

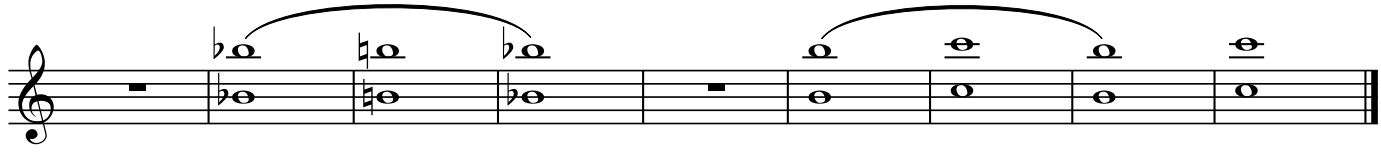

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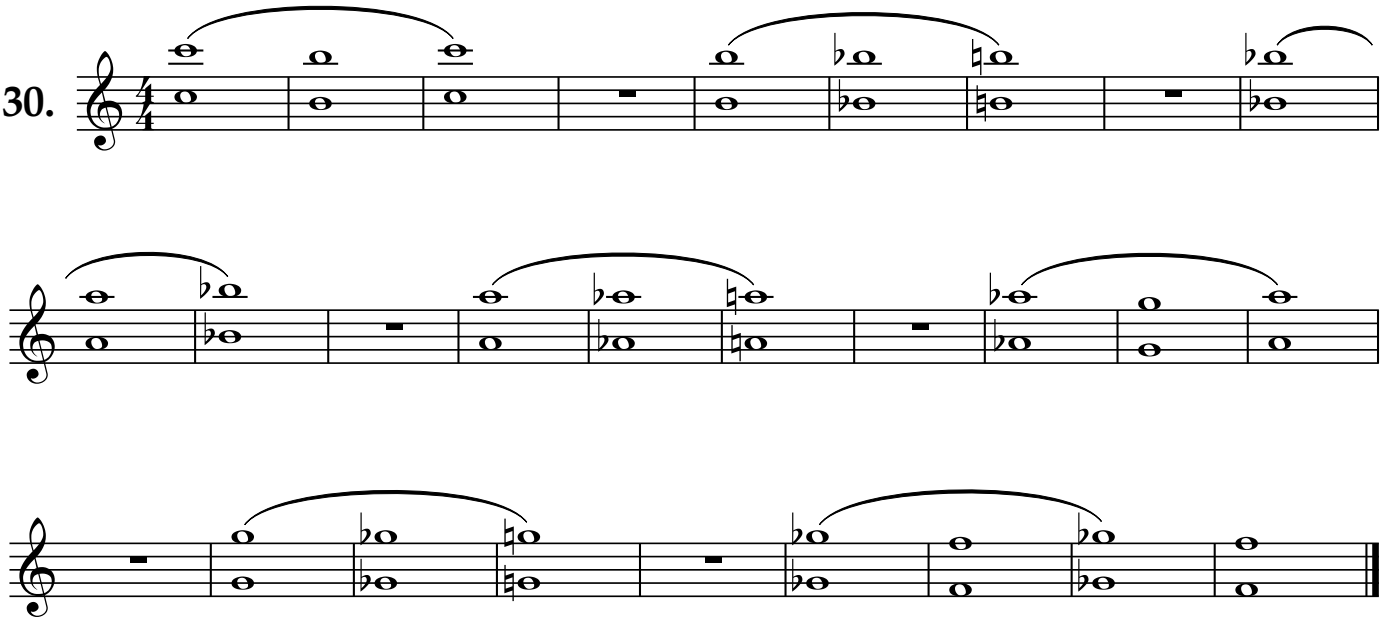

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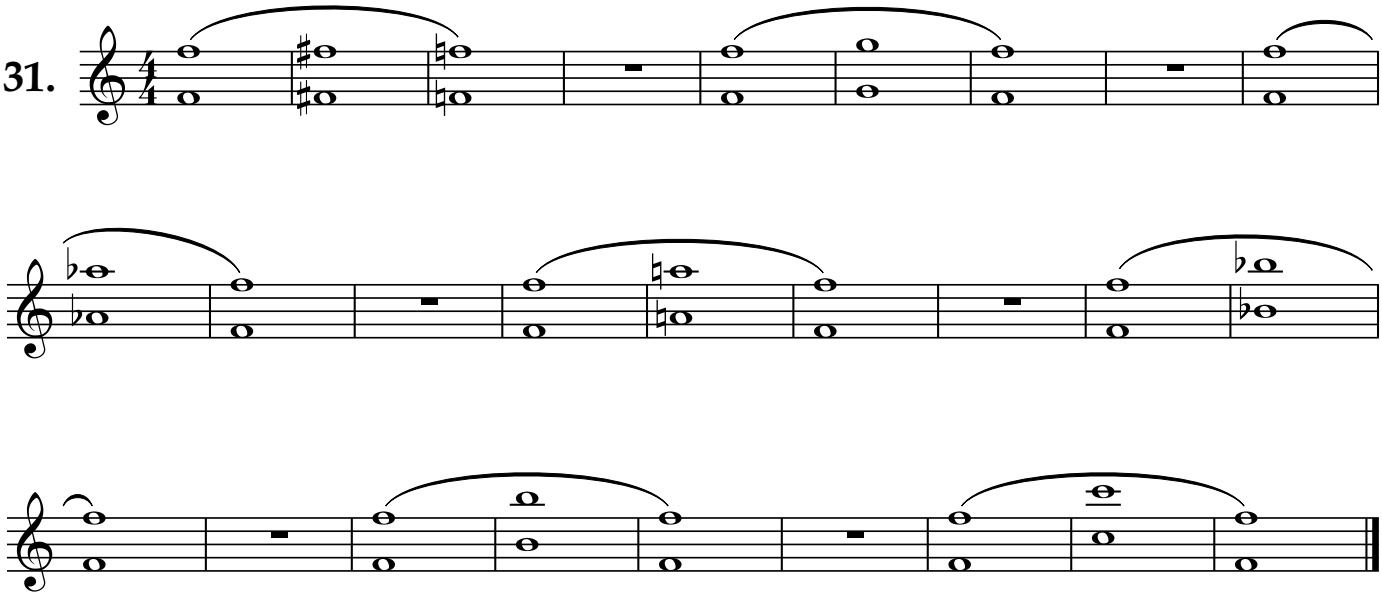

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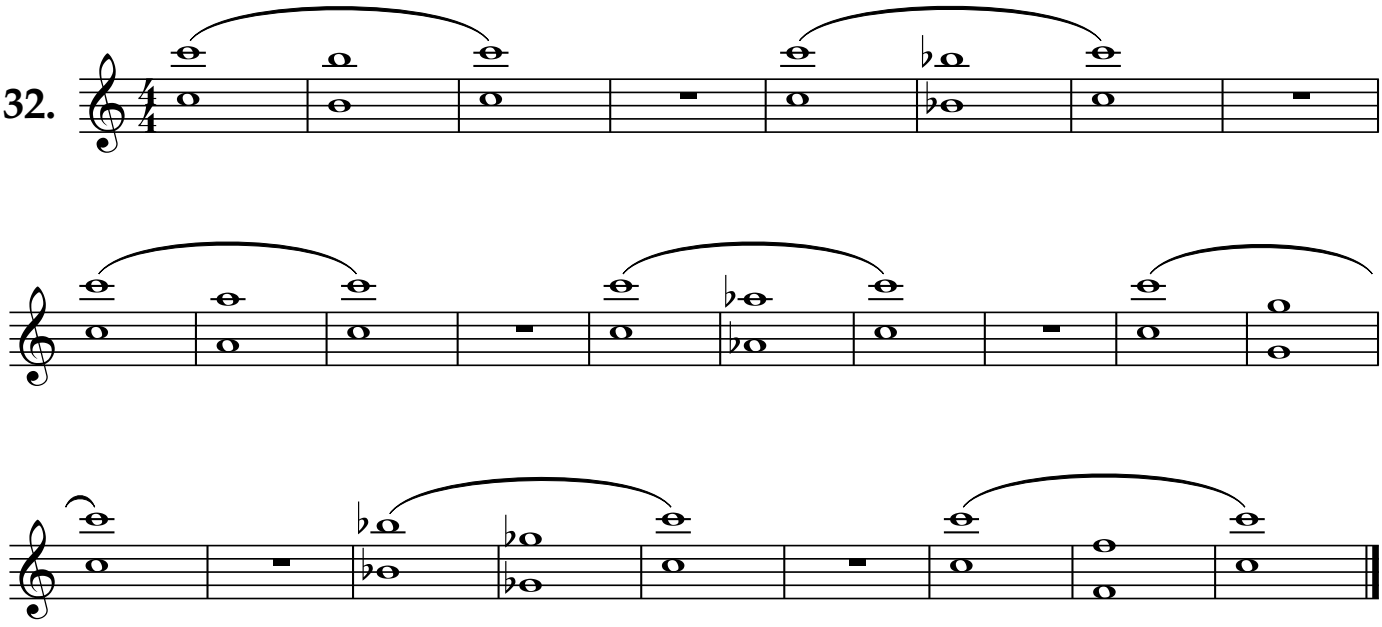

Scale Exercises

Play these exercises slow at first, but increse the tempo to gain the most benefit from them. Playing scales in a variety of keys will help develop finger dexterity, aural development, and confidence with sight reading. Practising with a metronome will also help develop timing and rhythm. Different articulations can also be used to add variety to scale exercises.

C Major (first five notes)

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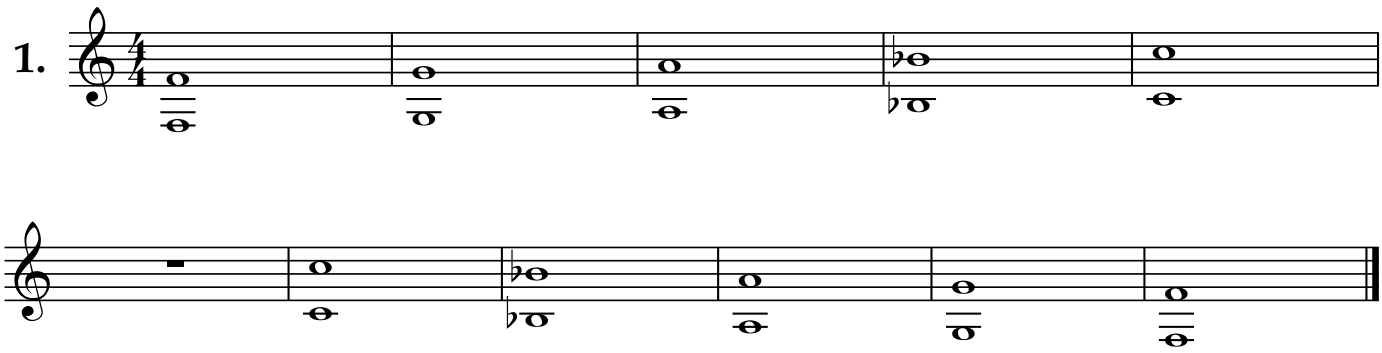

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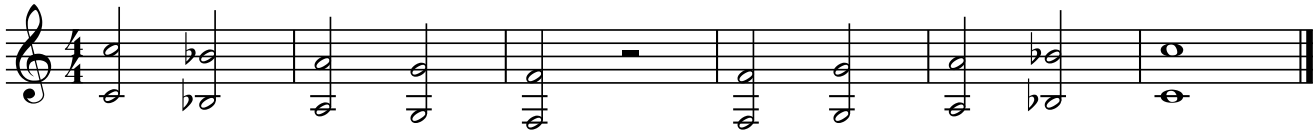

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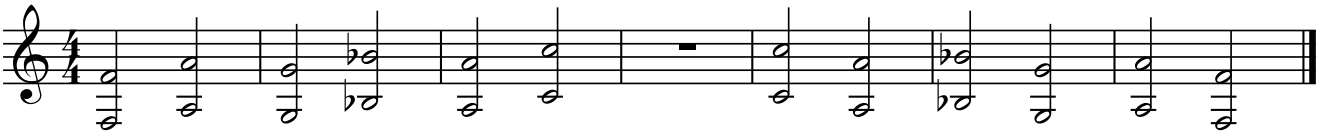

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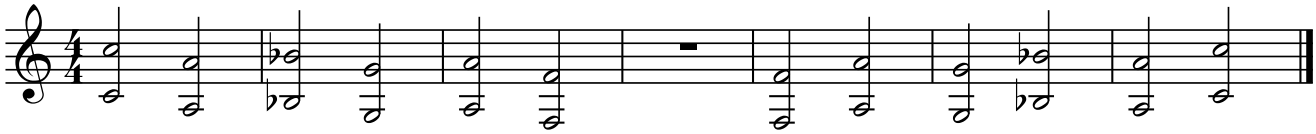

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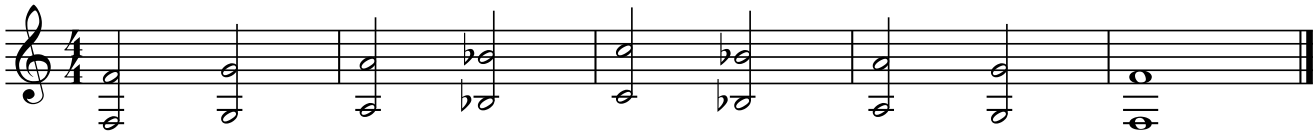

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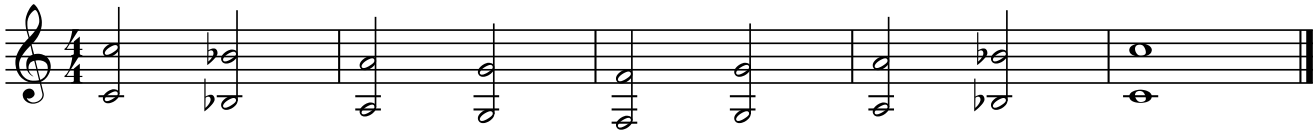

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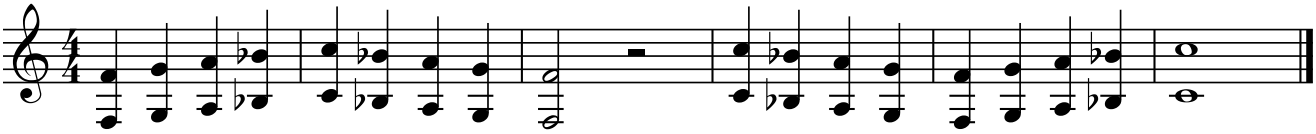

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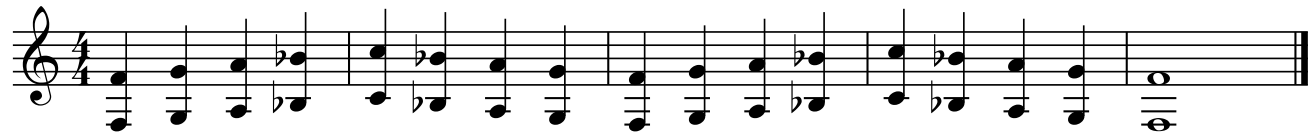

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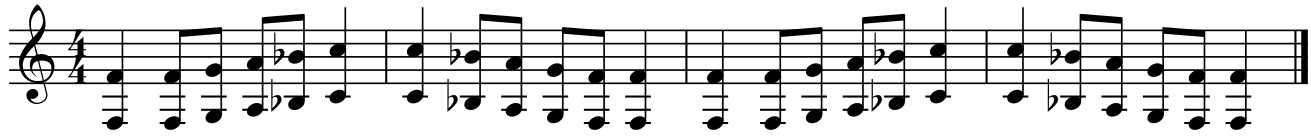

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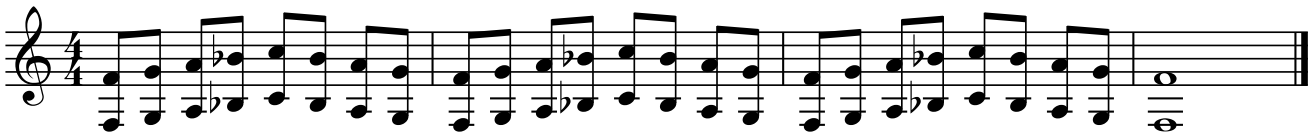

C Major (one octave)

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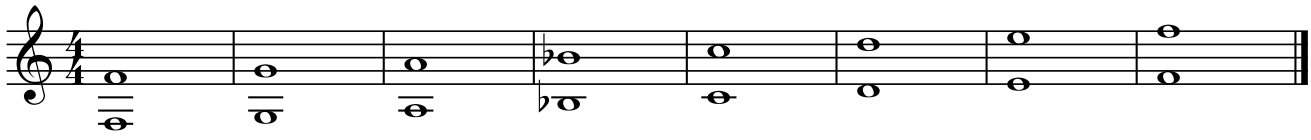

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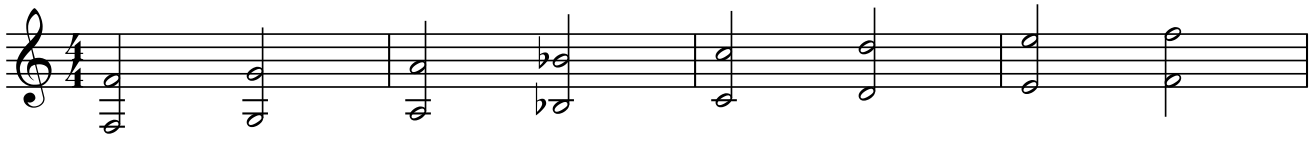

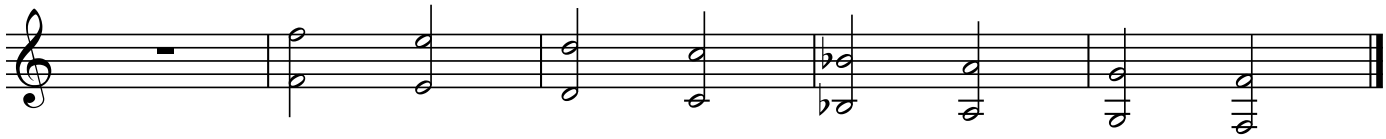

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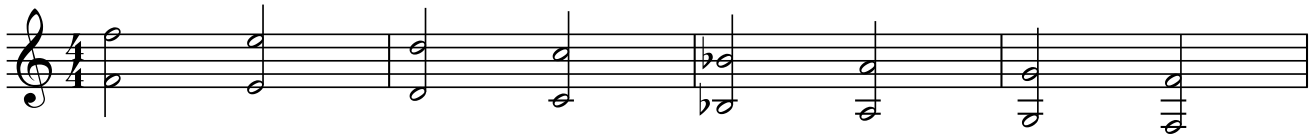

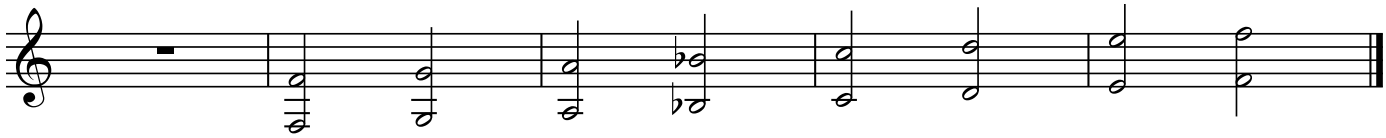

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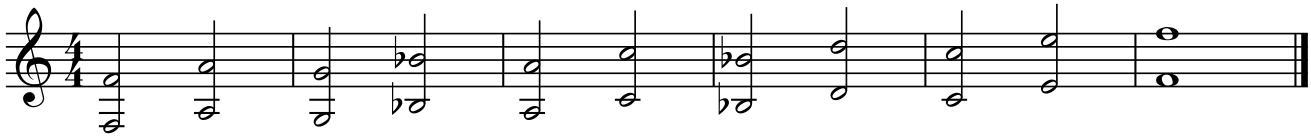

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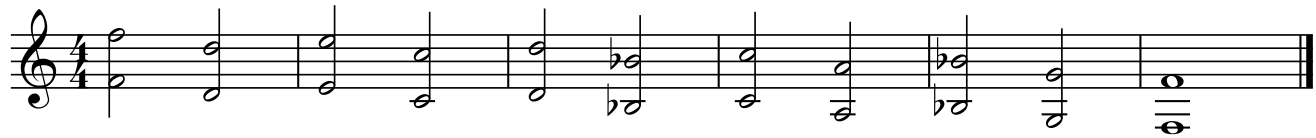

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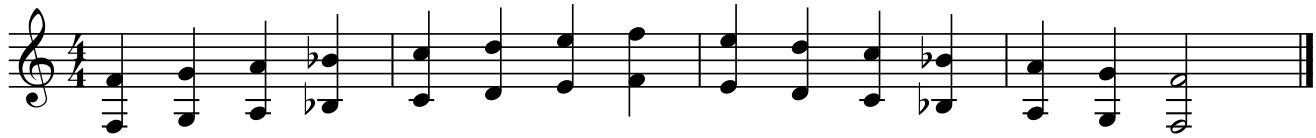

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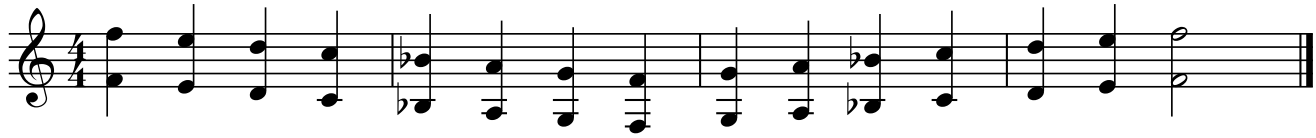

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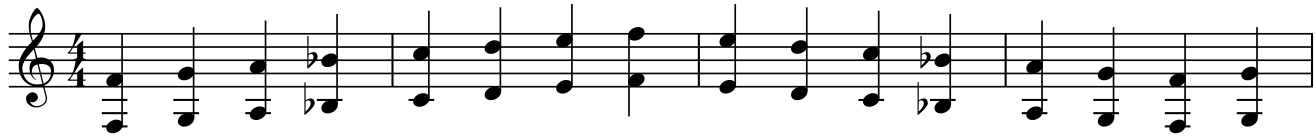

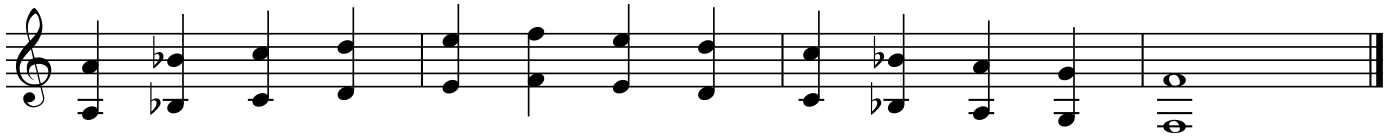

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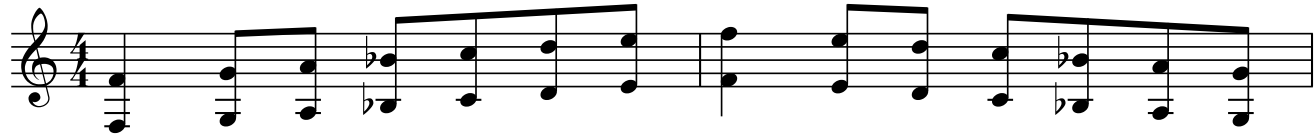

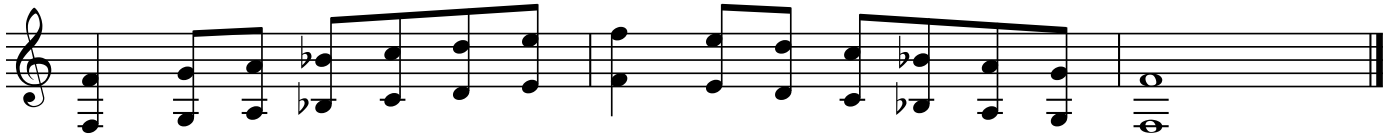

C Major (two octaves)

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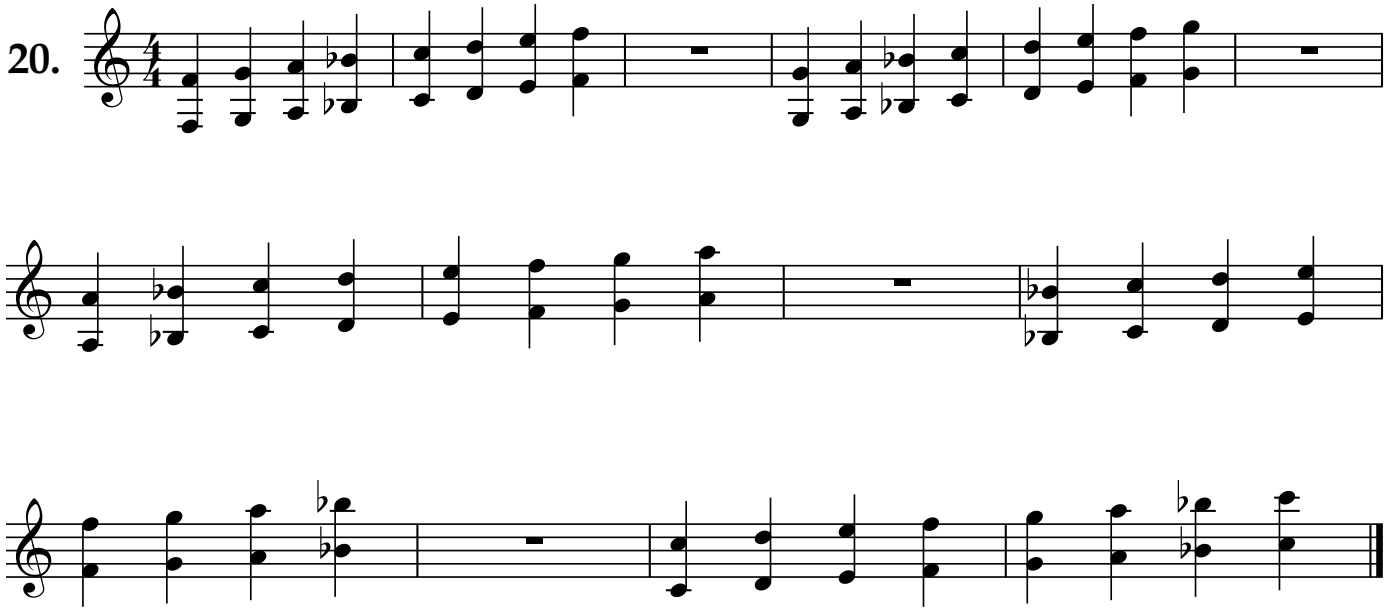

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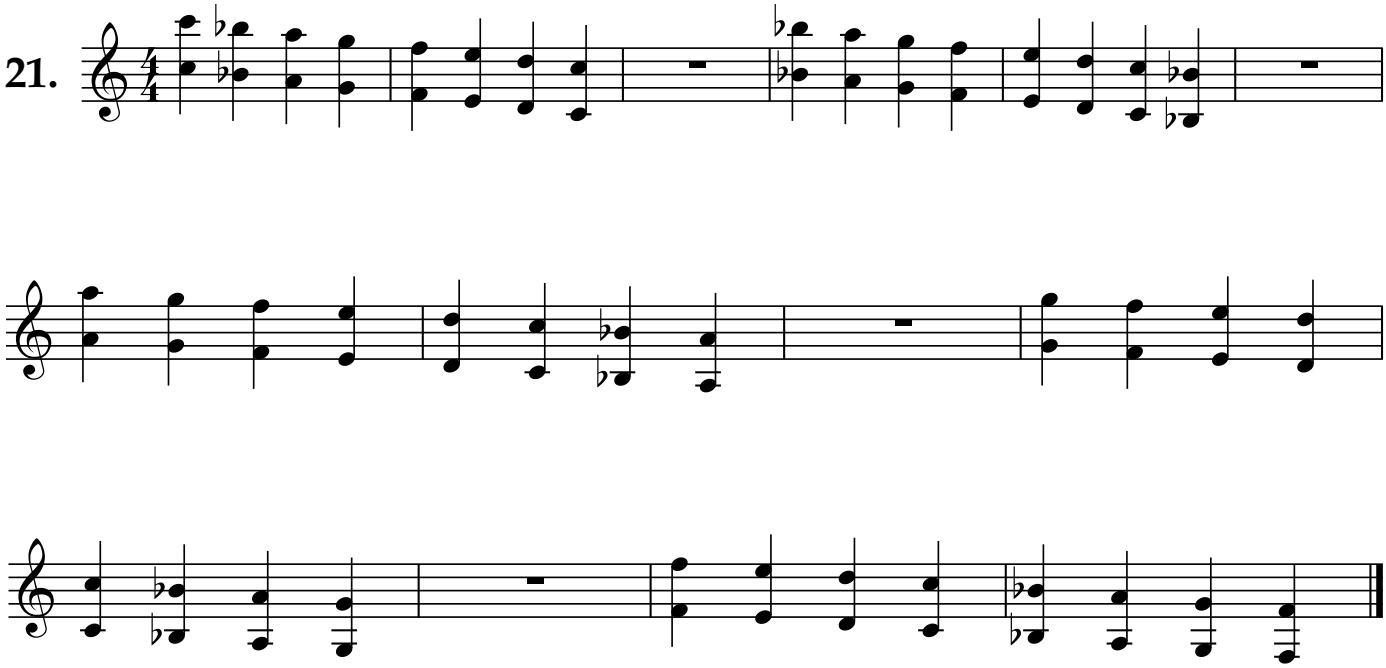

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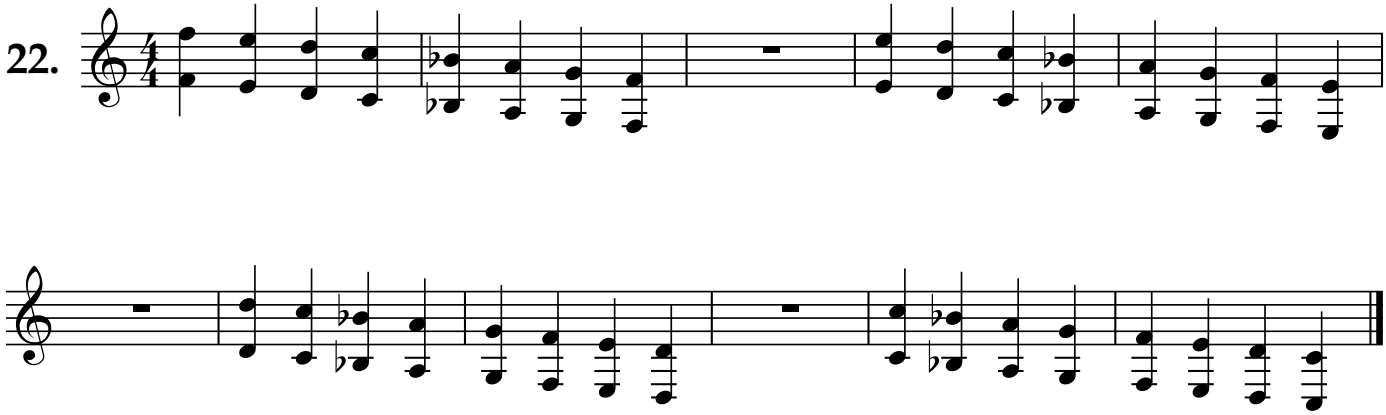

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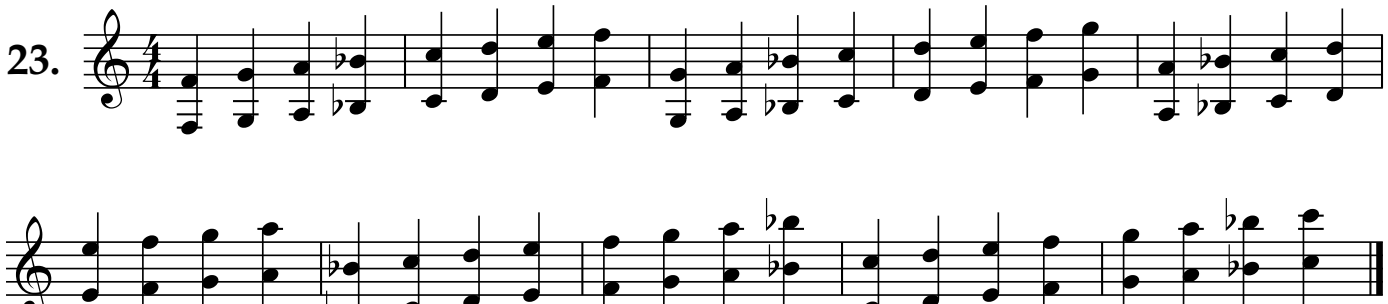

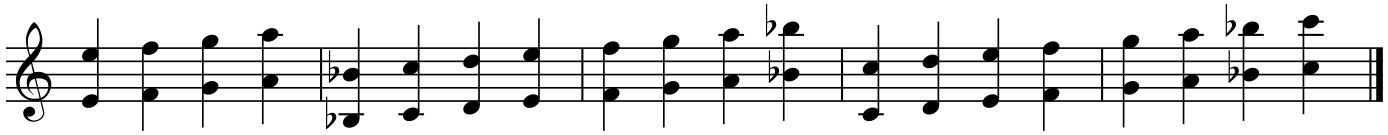

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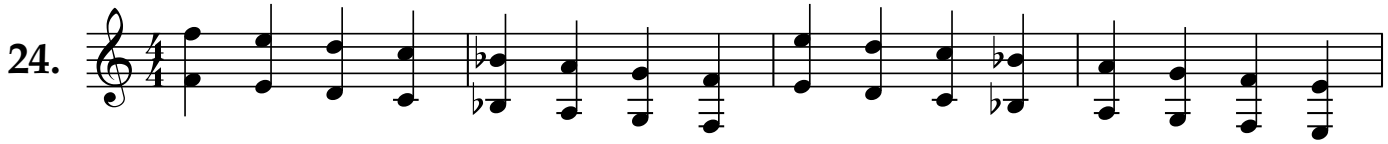

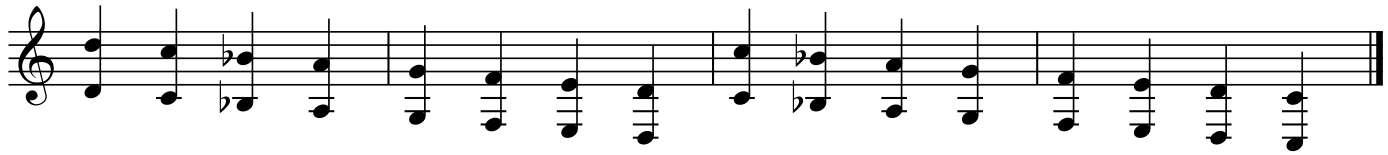

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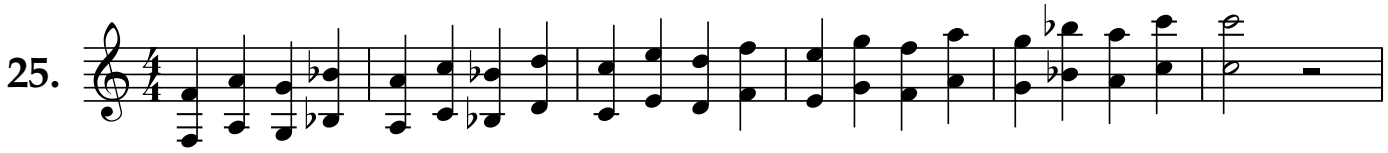

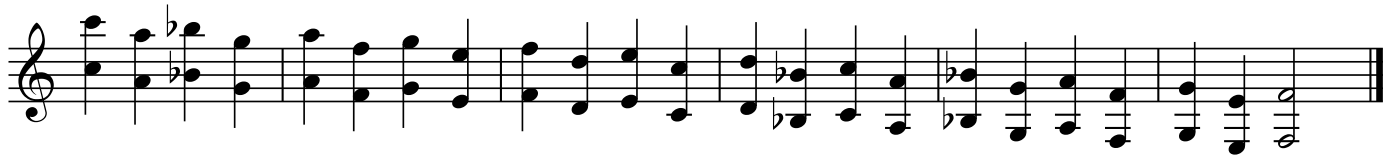

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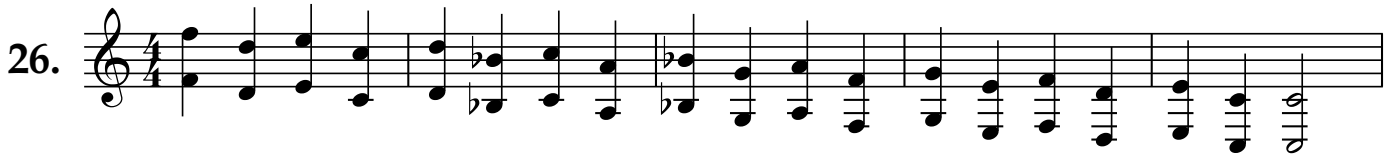

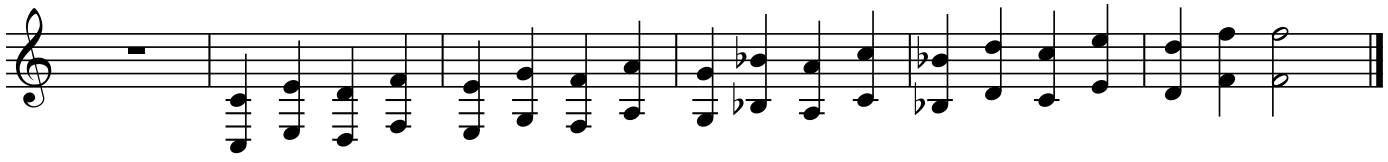

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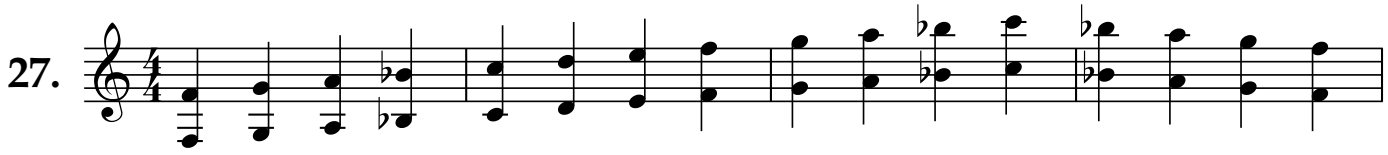

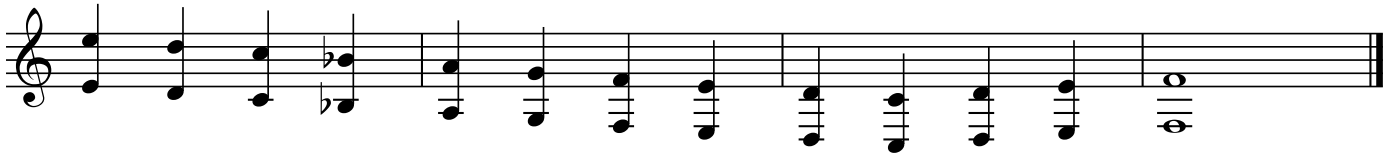

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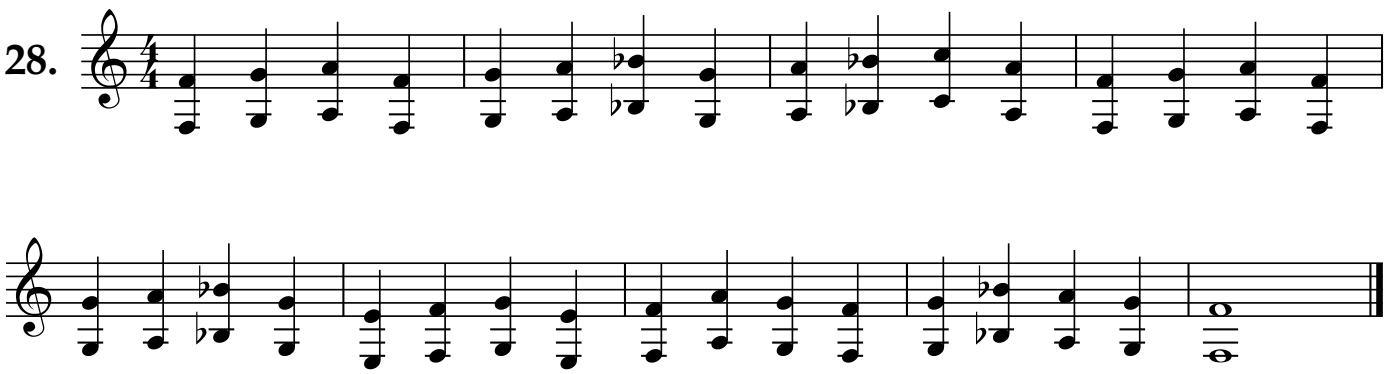

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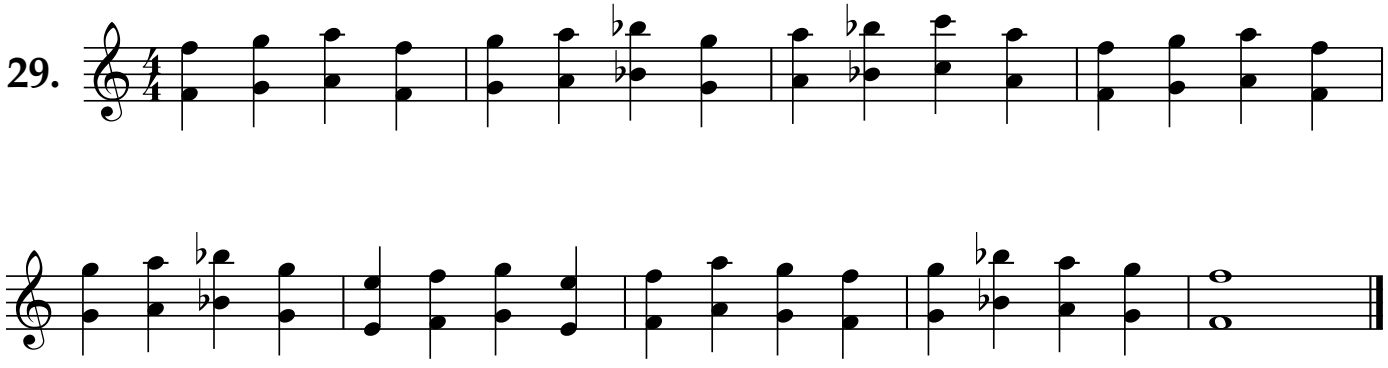

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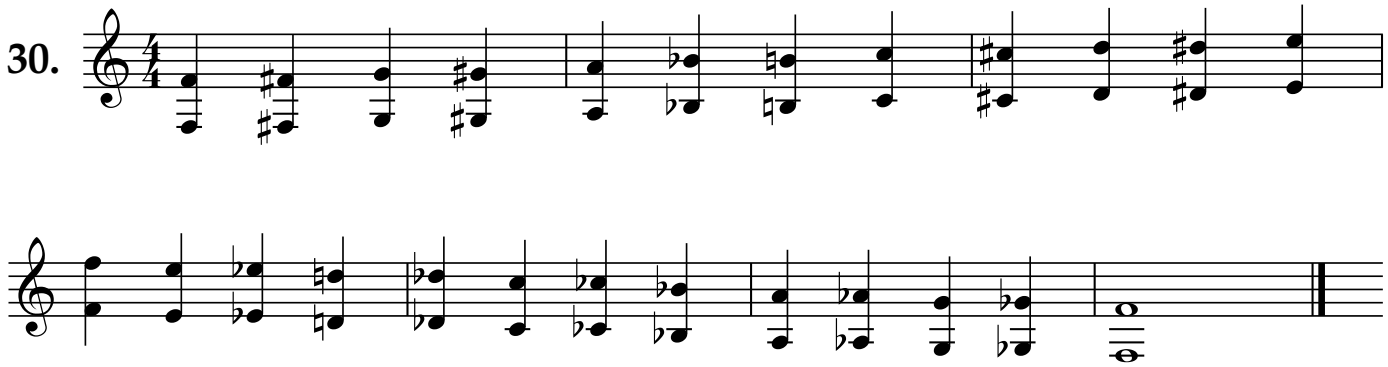

F Major (first five notes)

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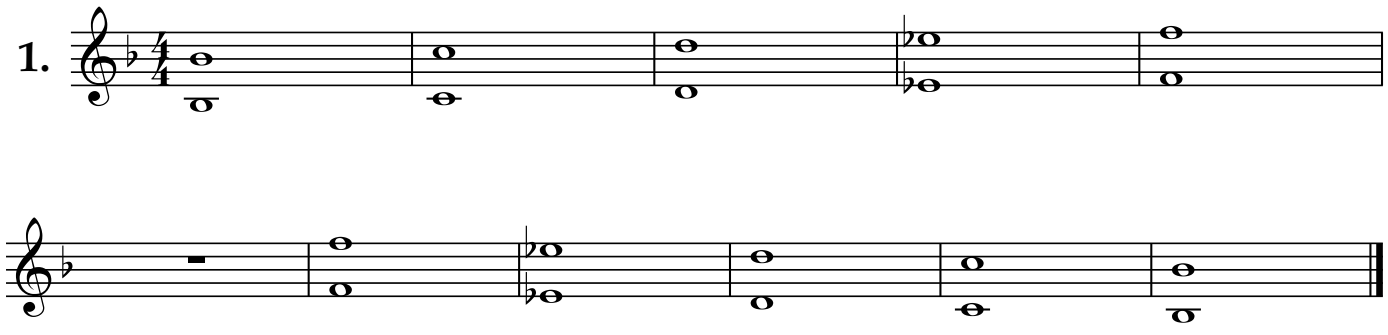

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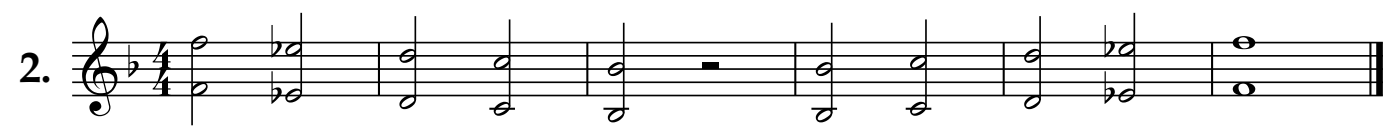

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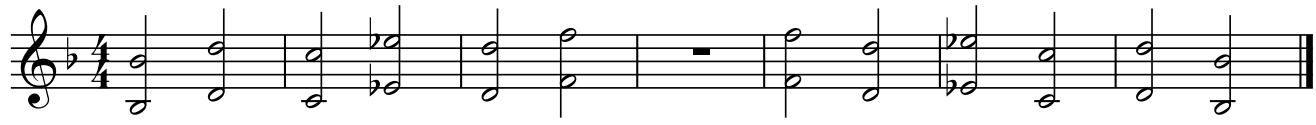

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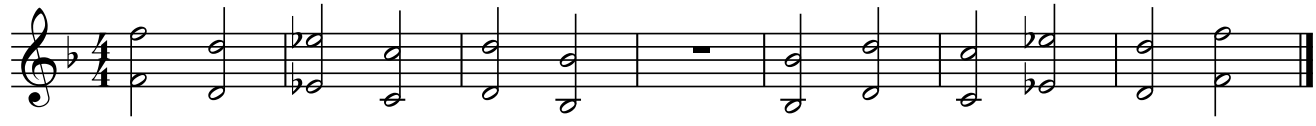

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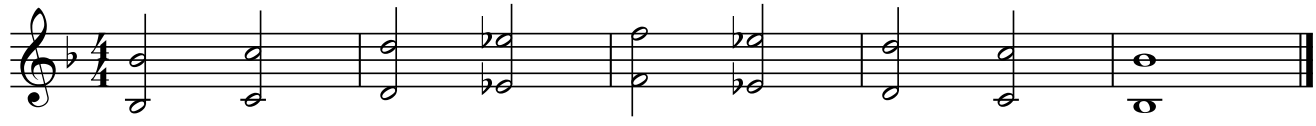

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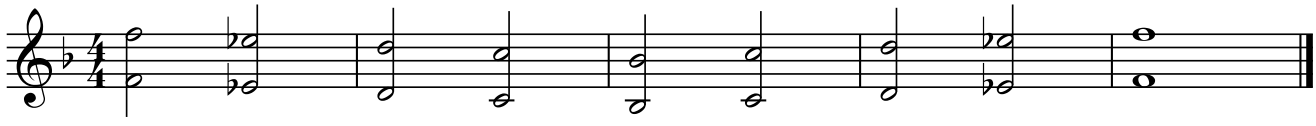

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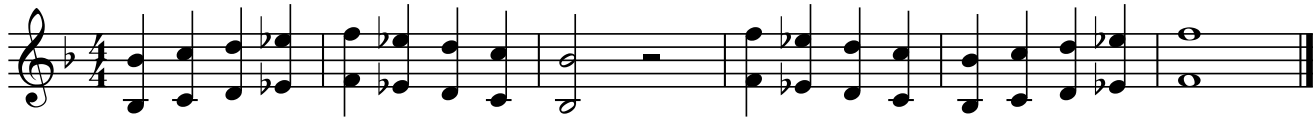

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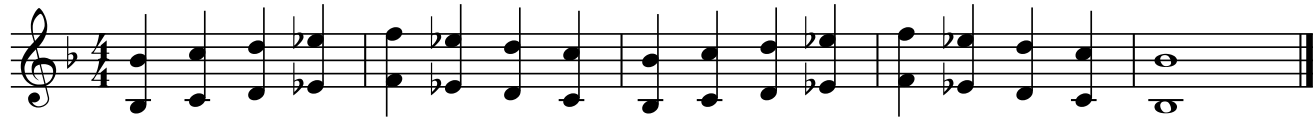

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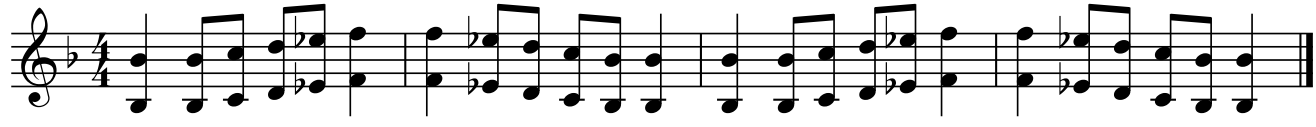

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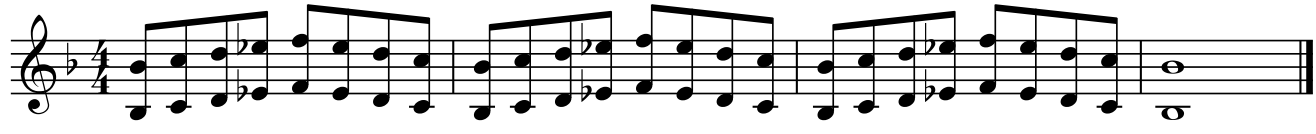

F Major (one octave)

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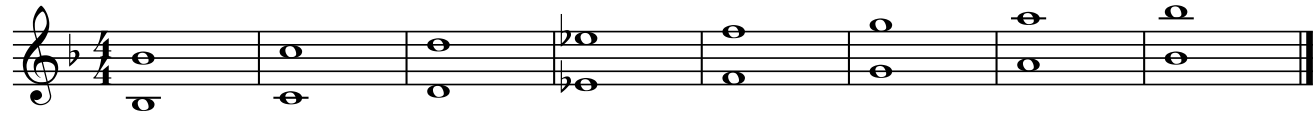

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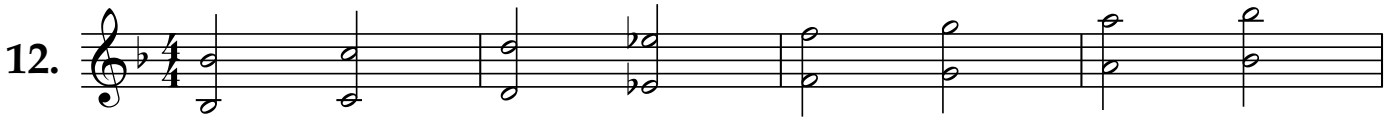

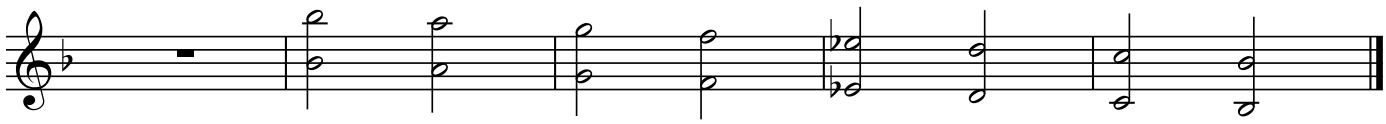

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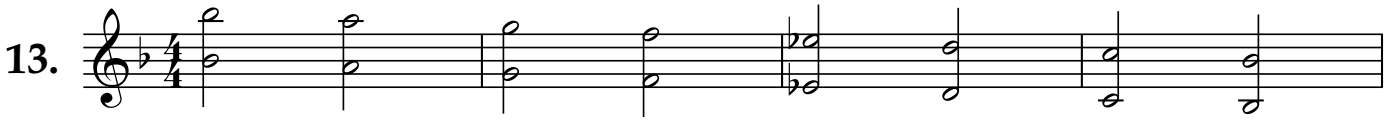

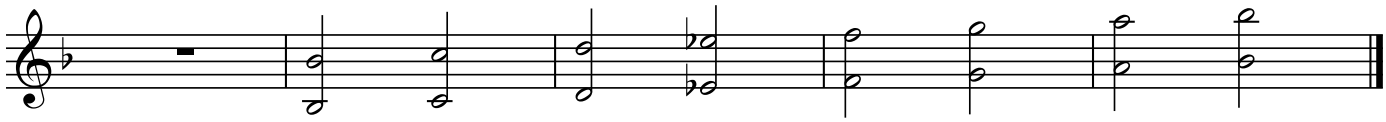

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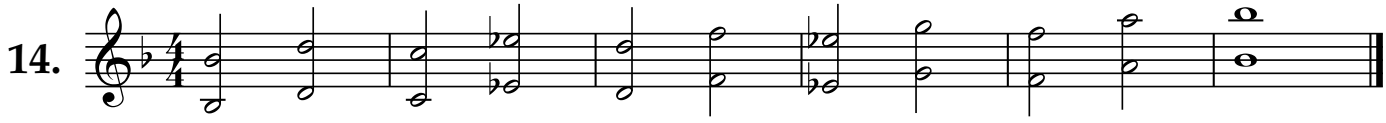

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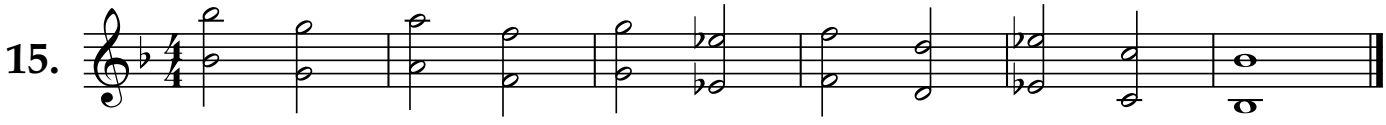

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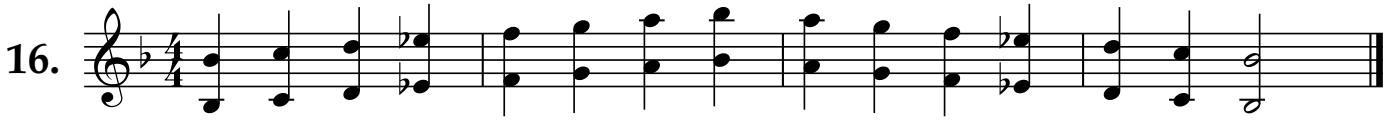

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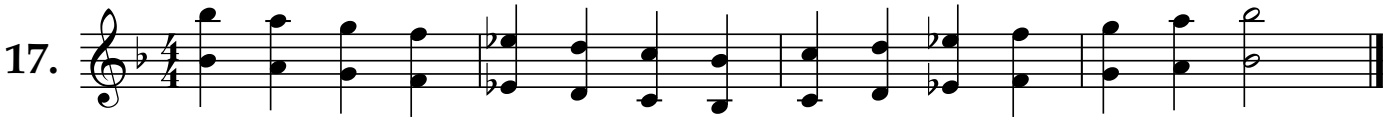

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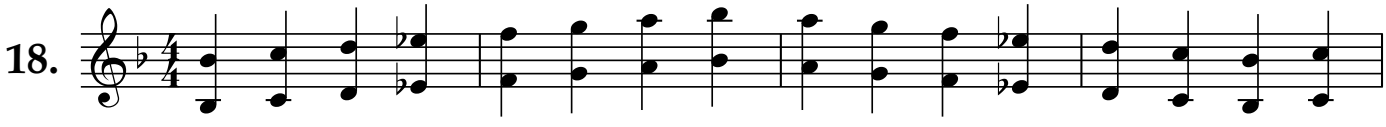

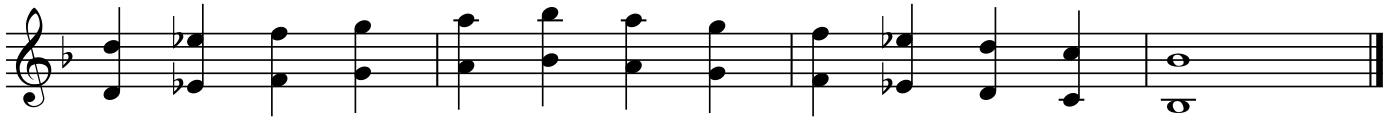

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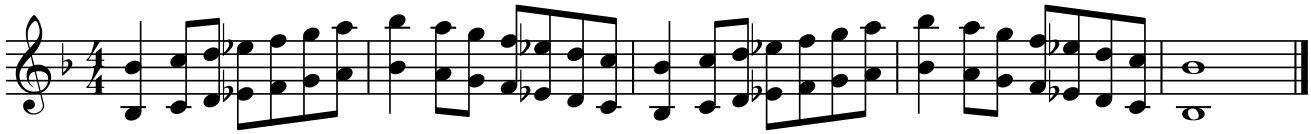

F Major (two octaves)

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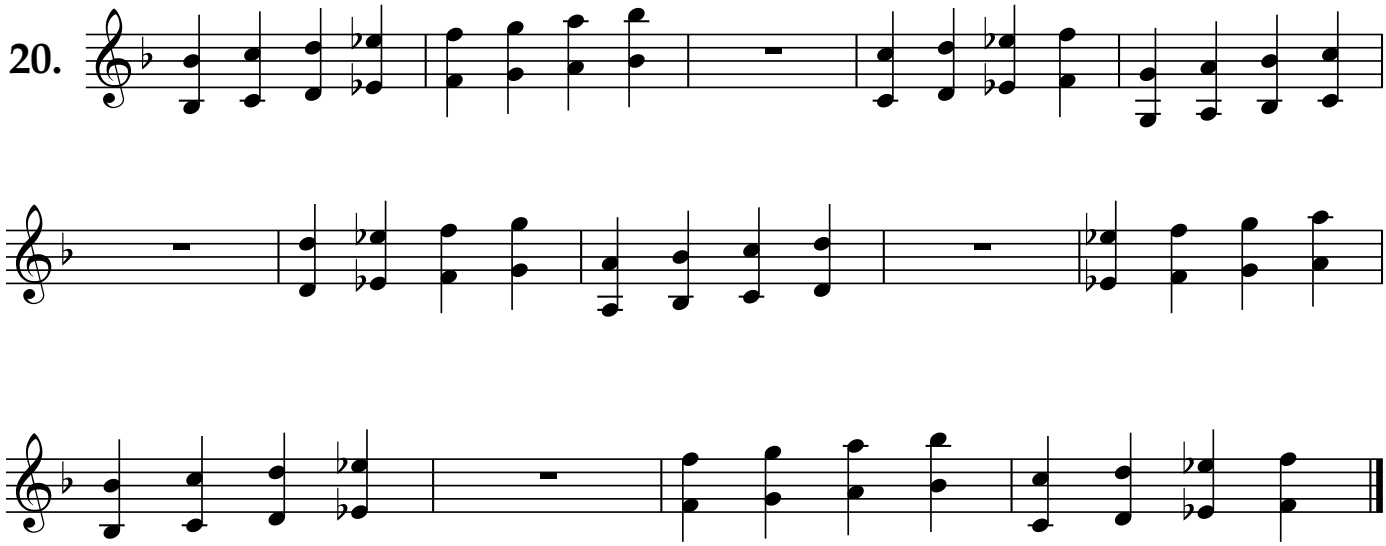

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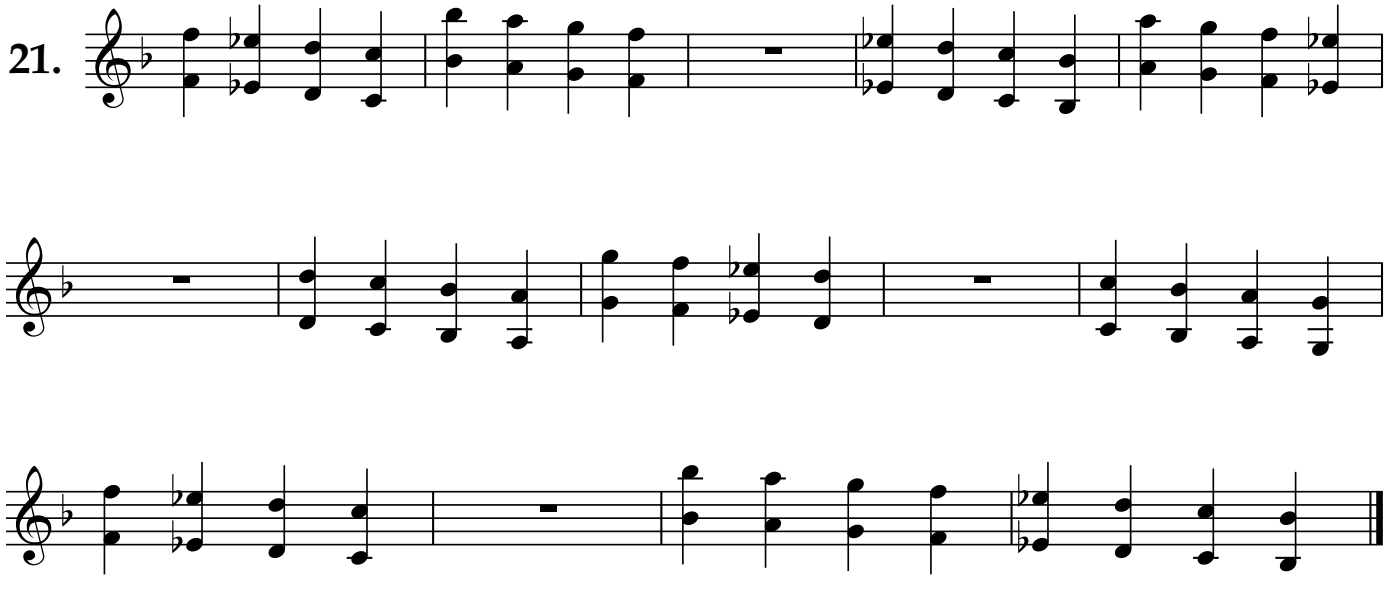

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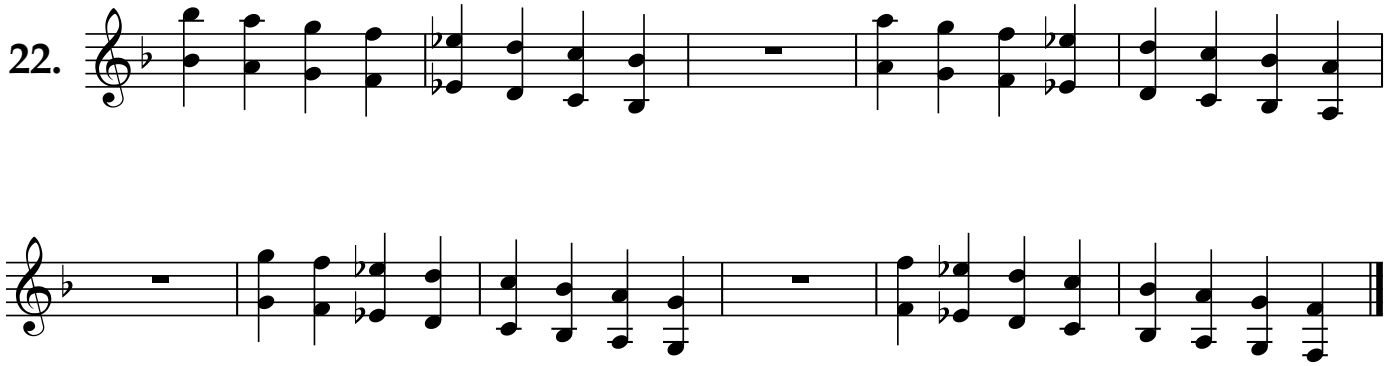

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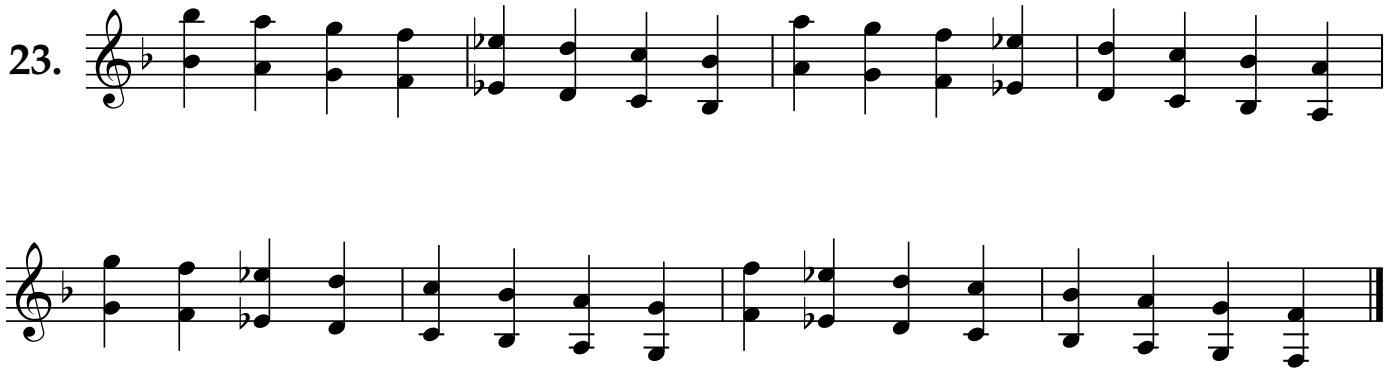

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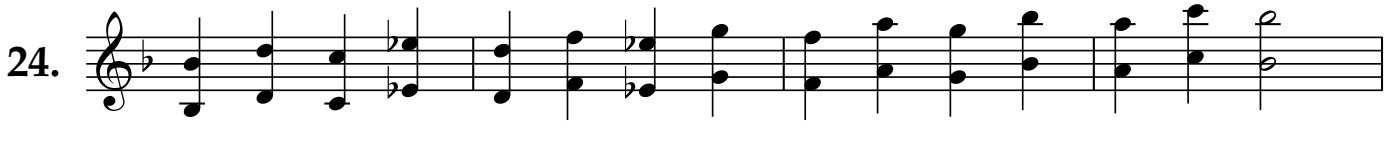

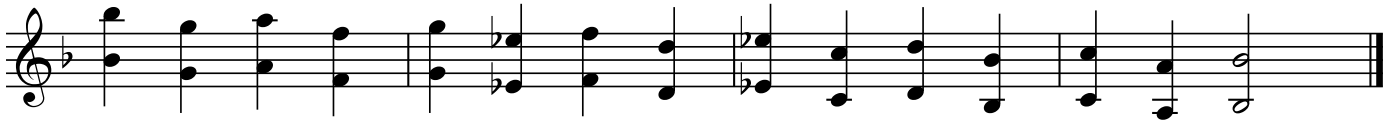

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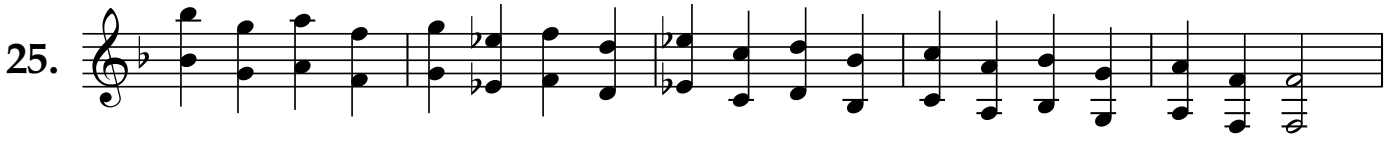

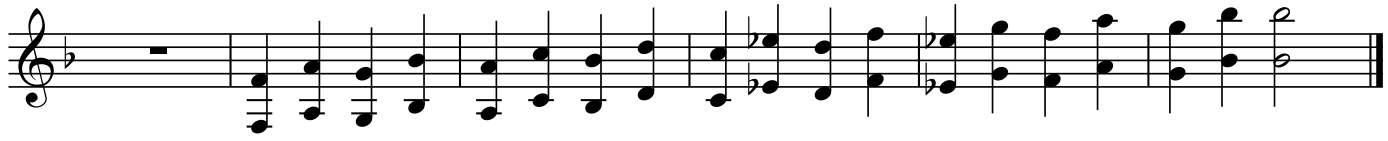

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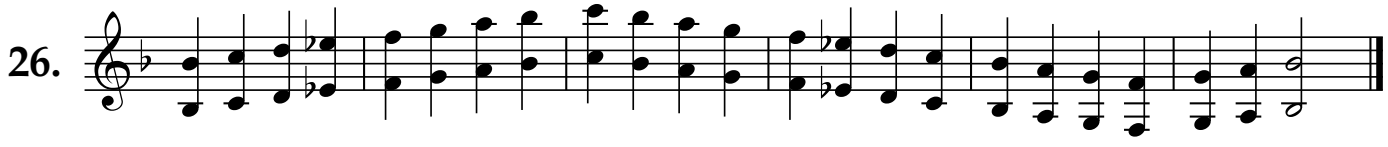

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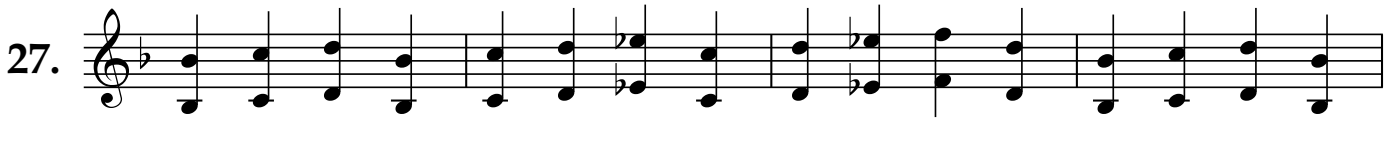

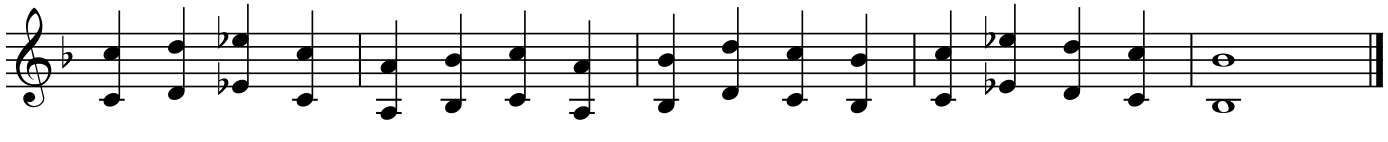

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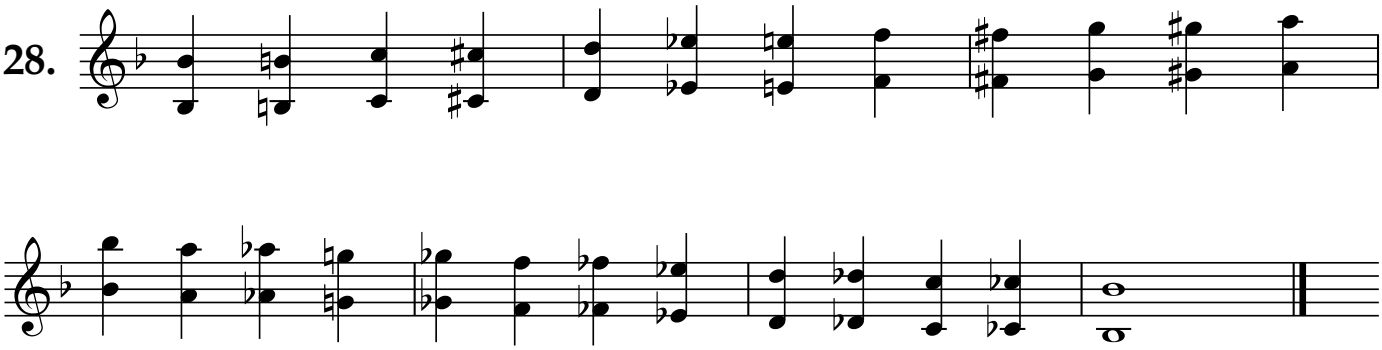

Bb Major (first five notes)

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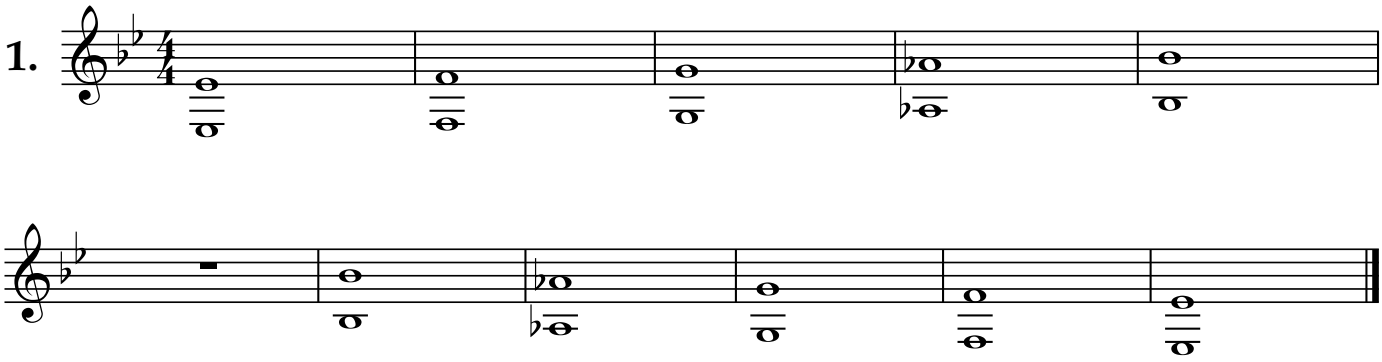

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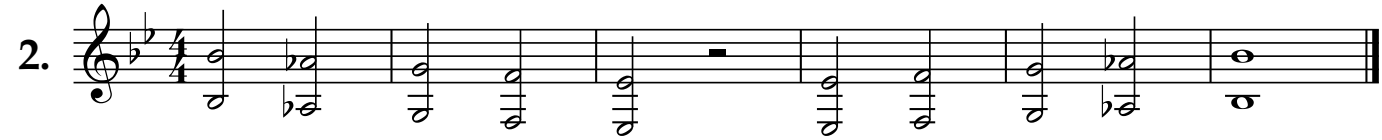

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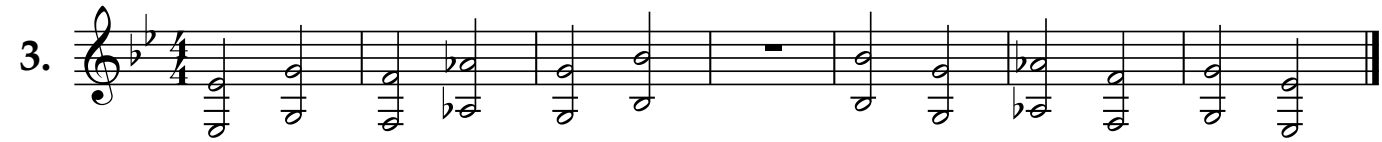

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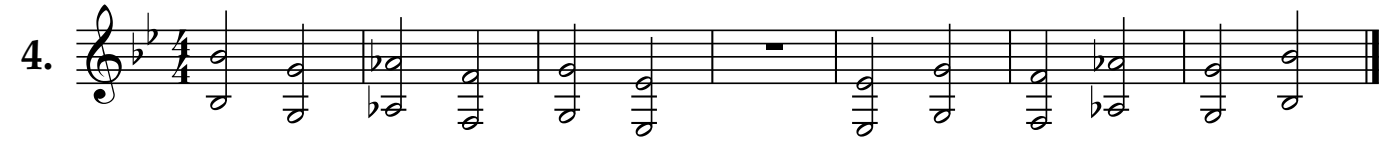

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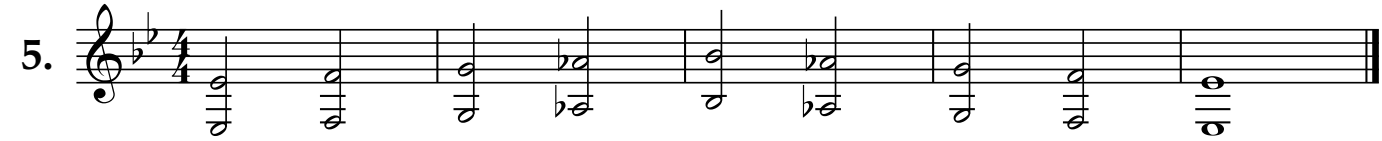

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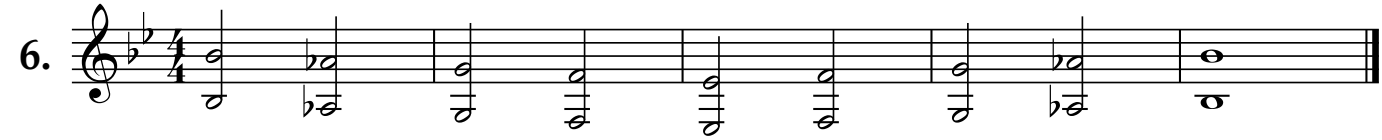

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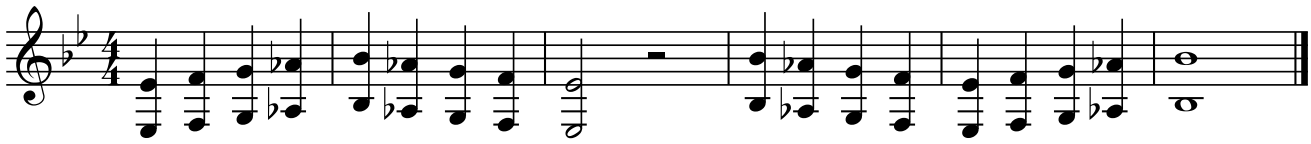

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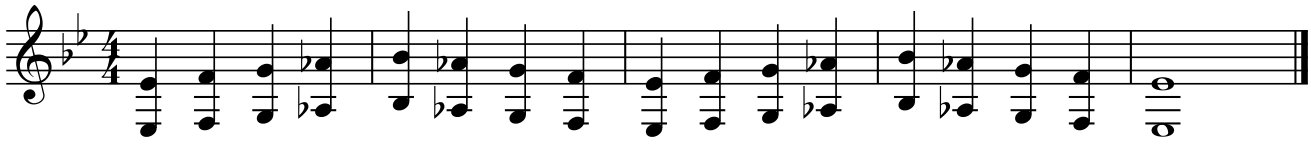

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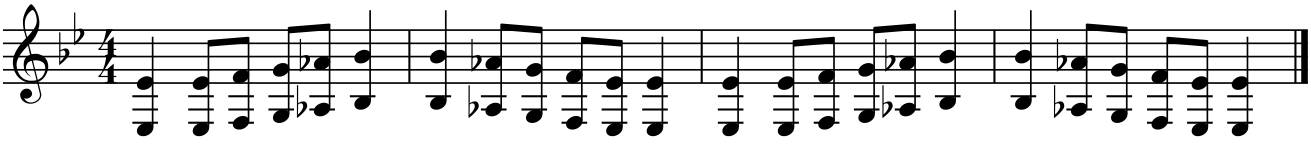

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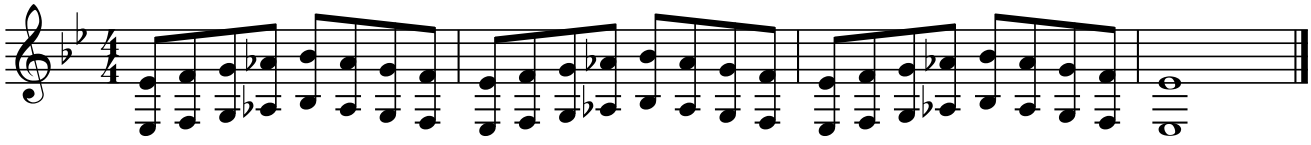

Bb Major (one octave)

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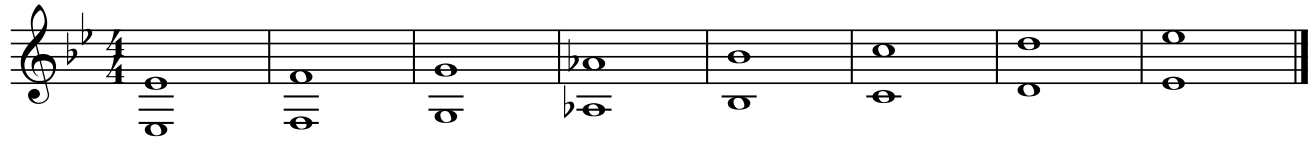

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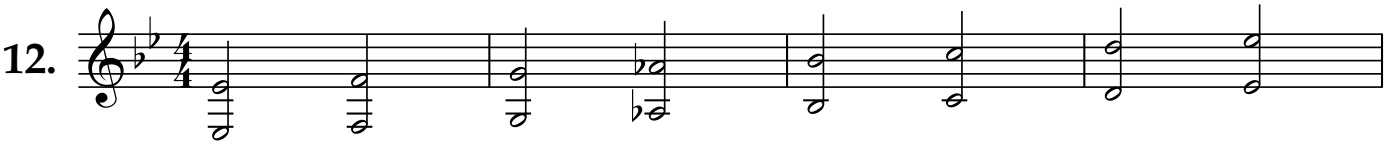

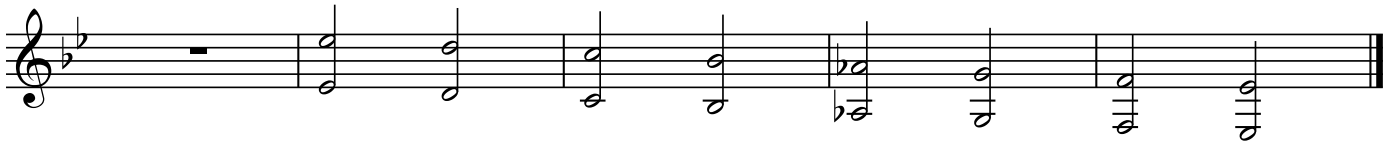

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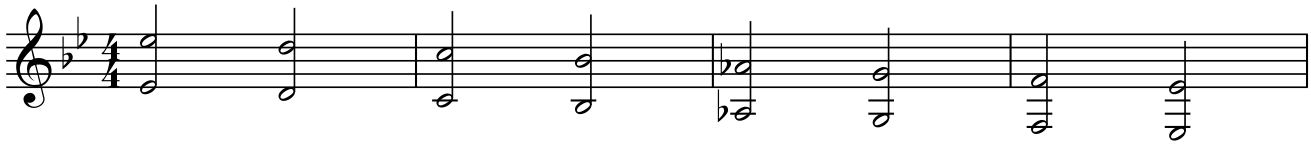

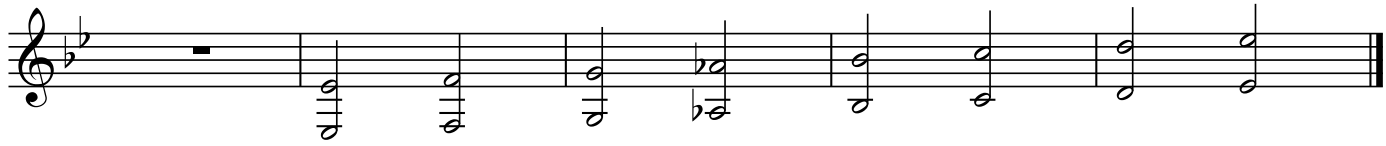

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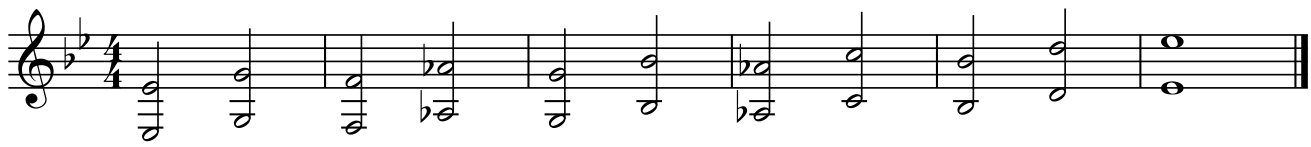

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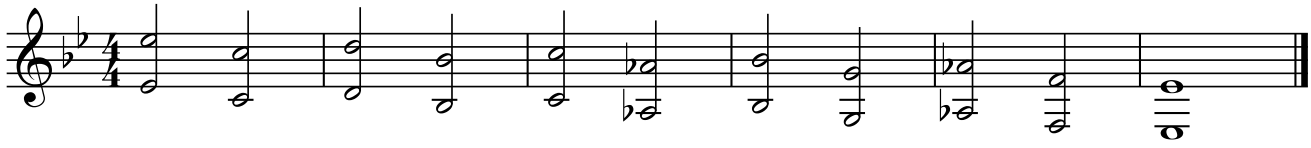

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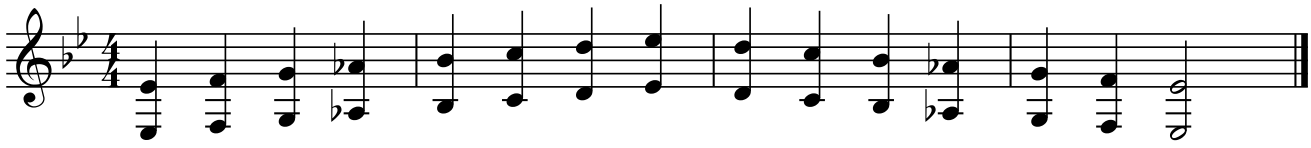

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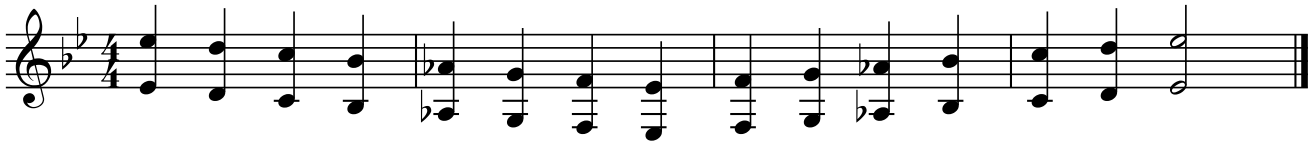

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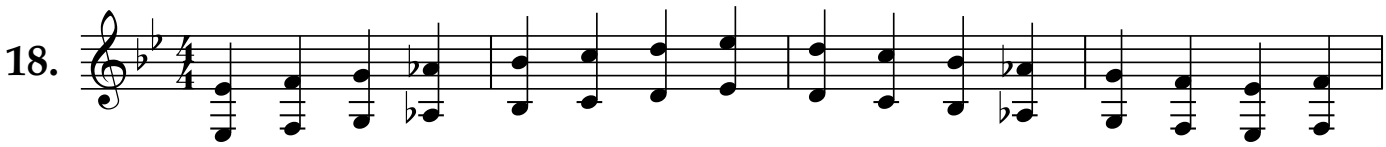

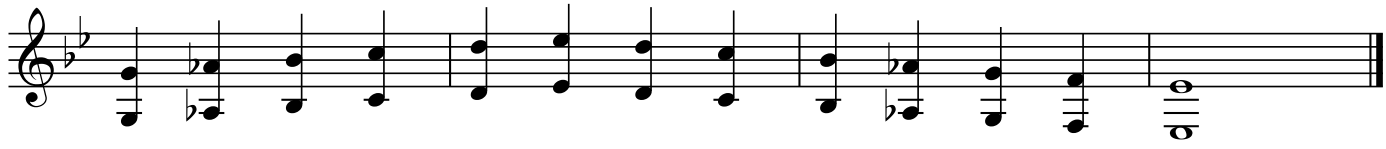

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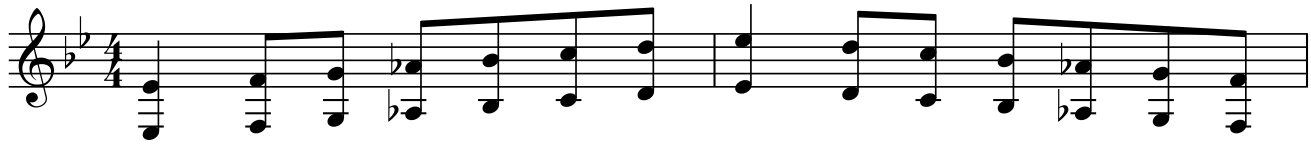

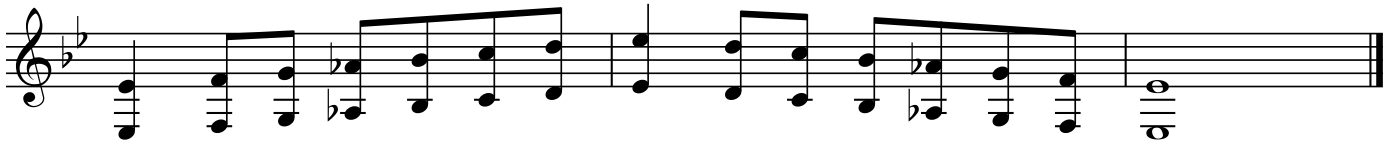

Bb Major (two octaves)

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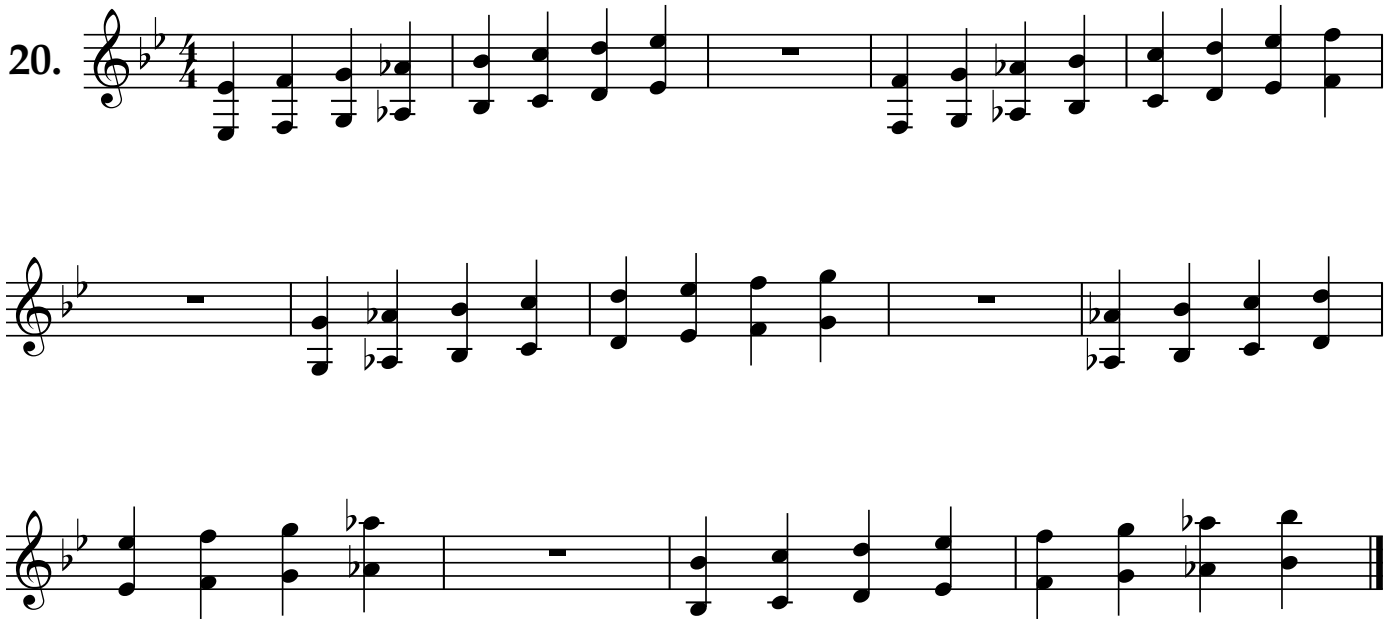

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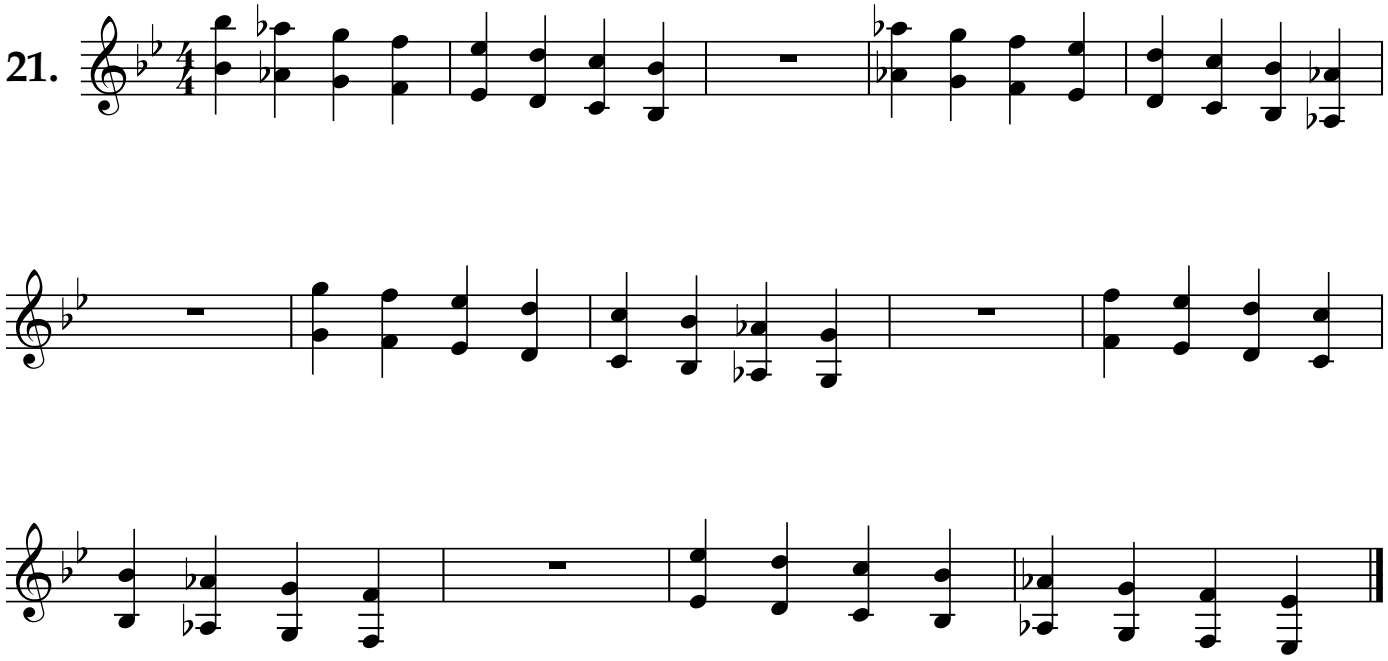

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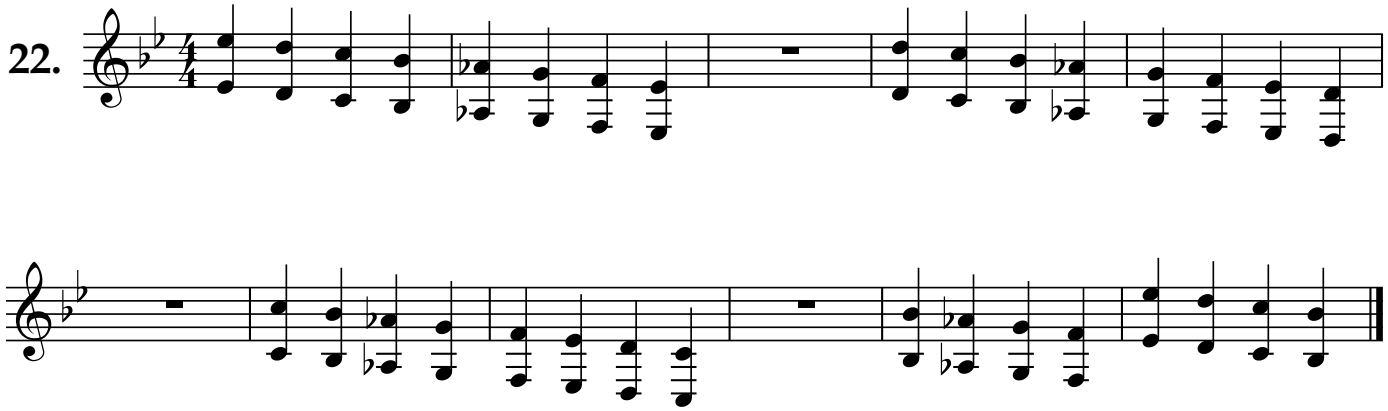

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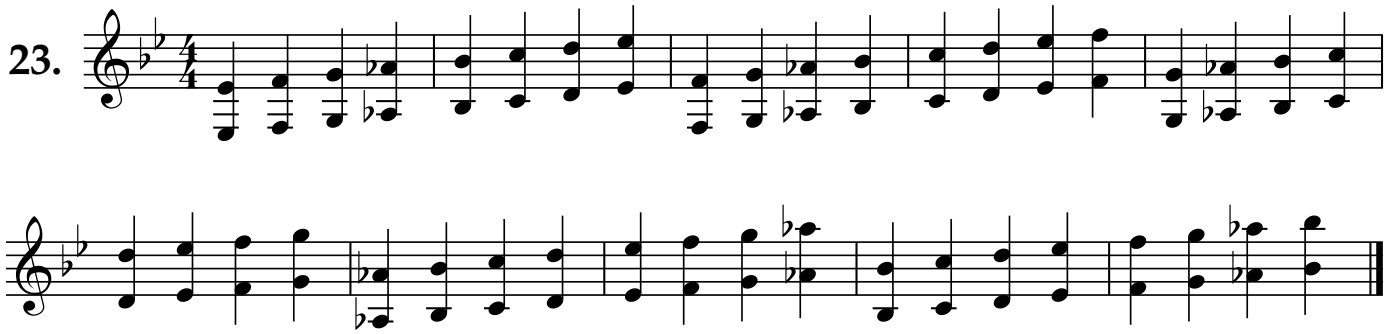

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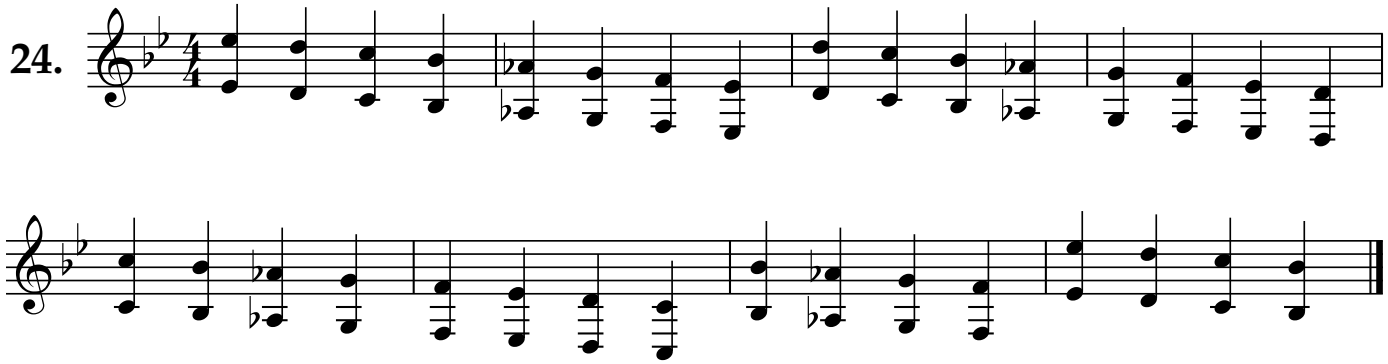

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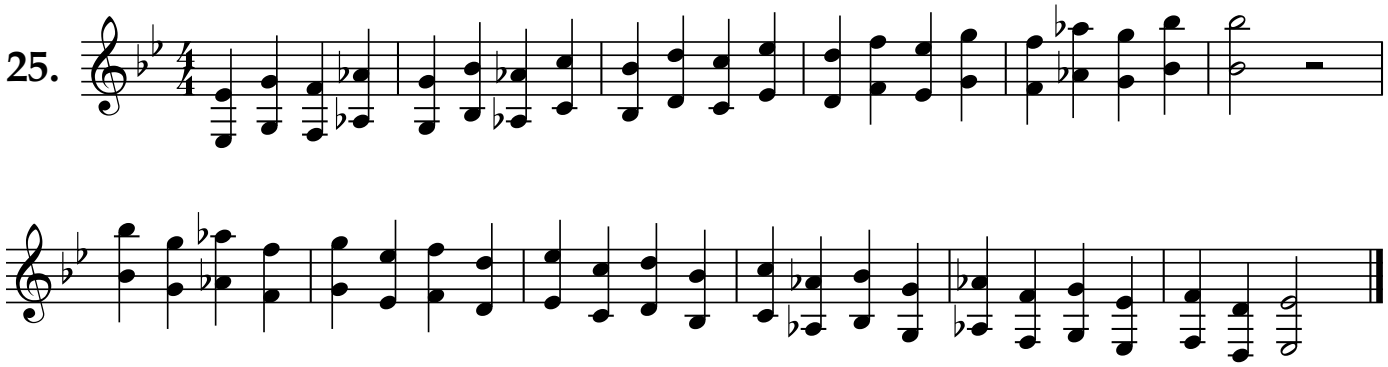

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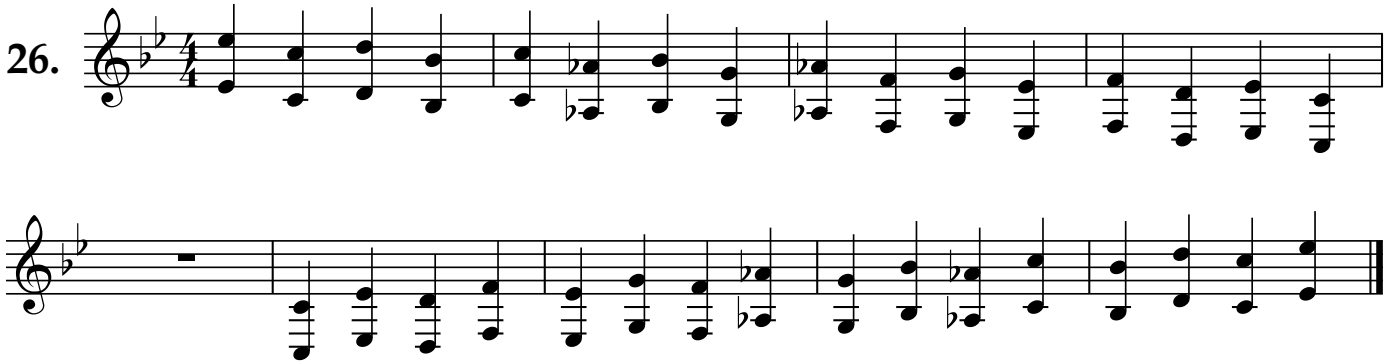

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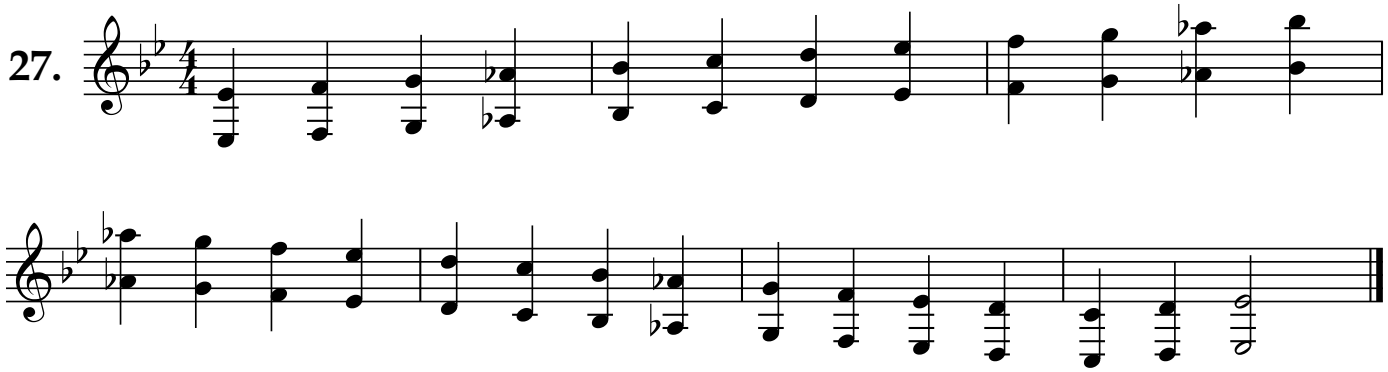

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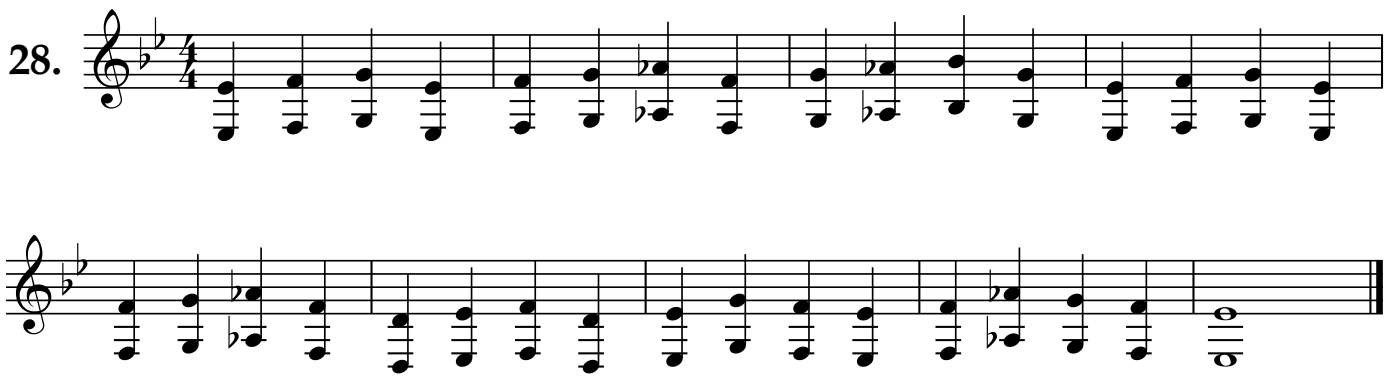

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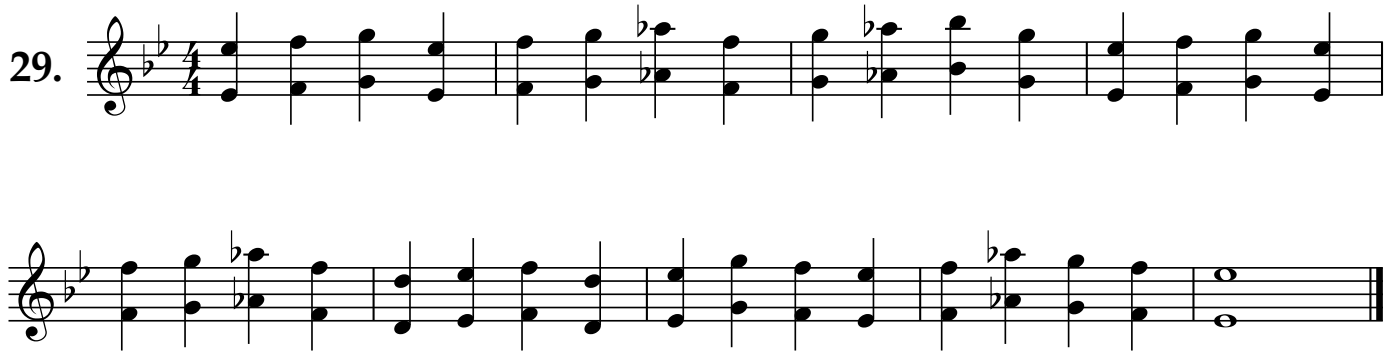

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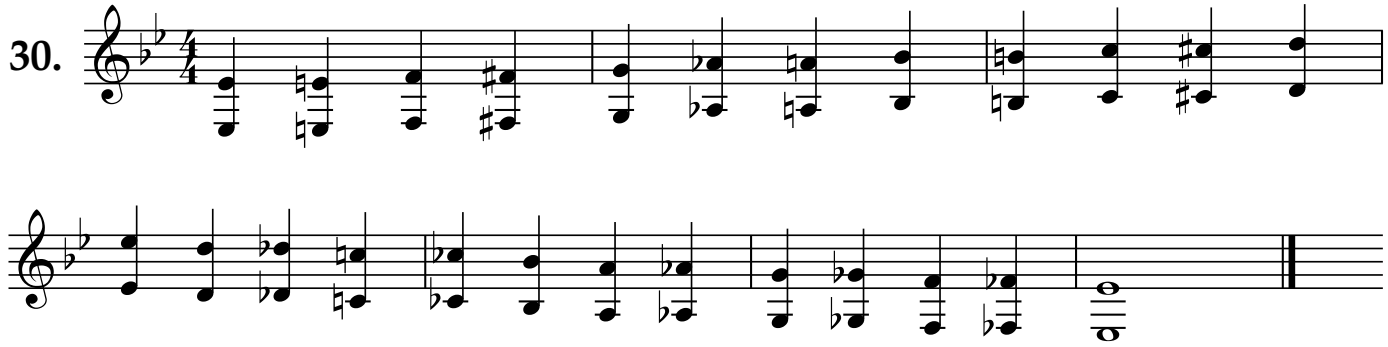

Eb Major (first five notes)

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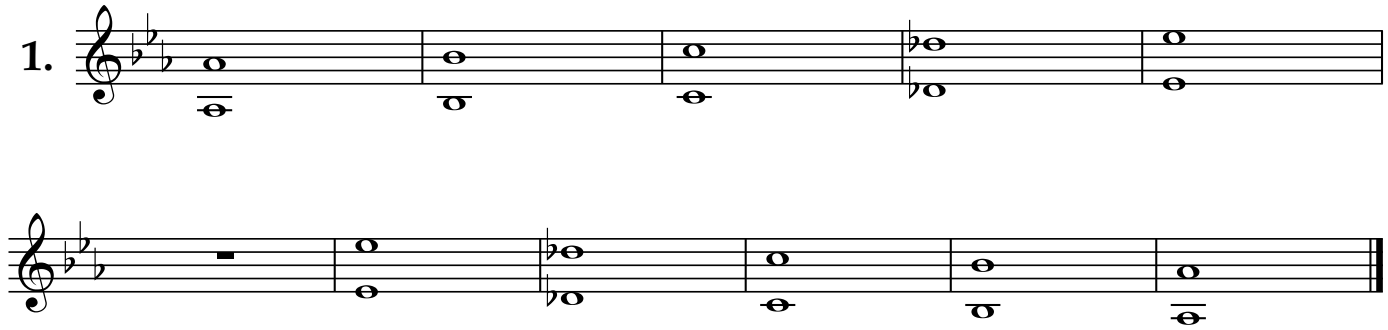

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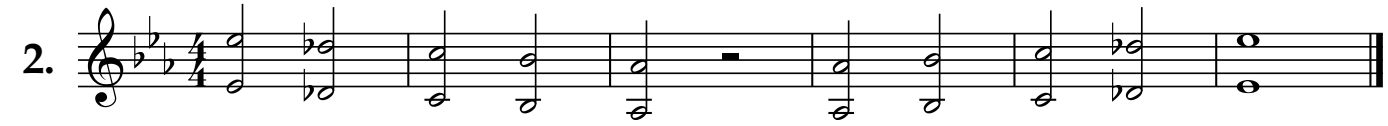

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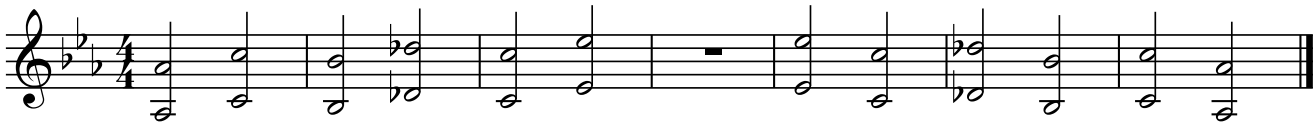

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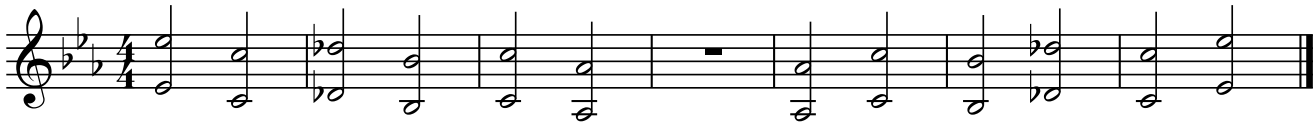

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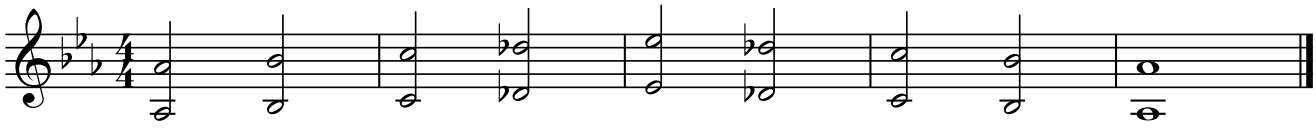

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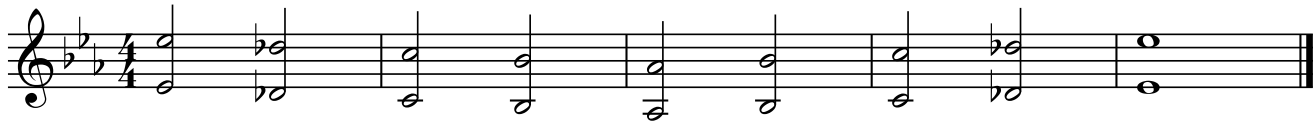

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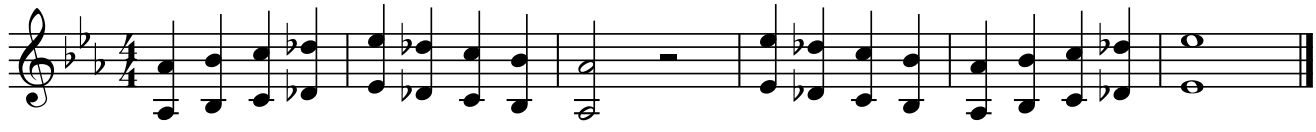

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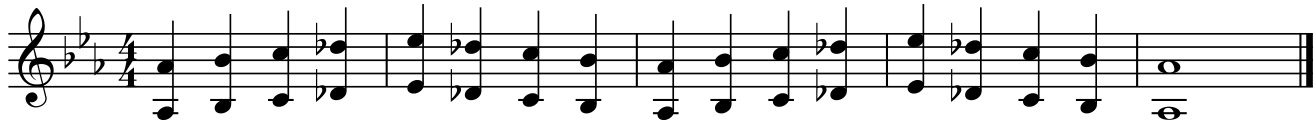

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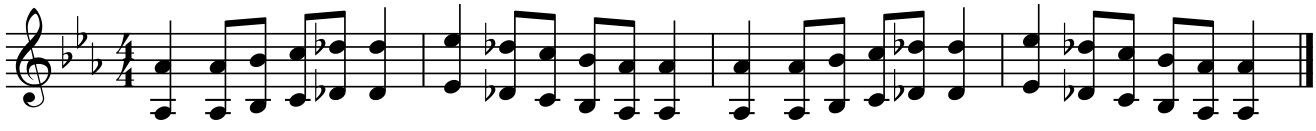

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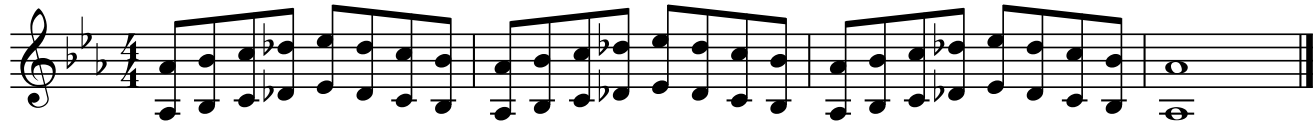

Eb Major (one octave)

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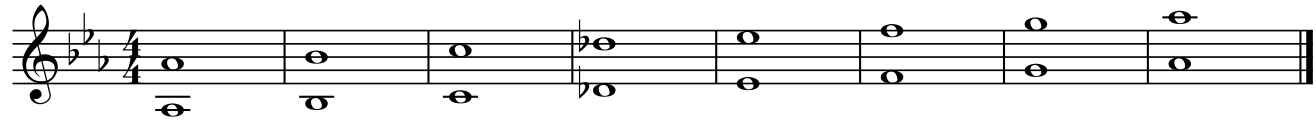

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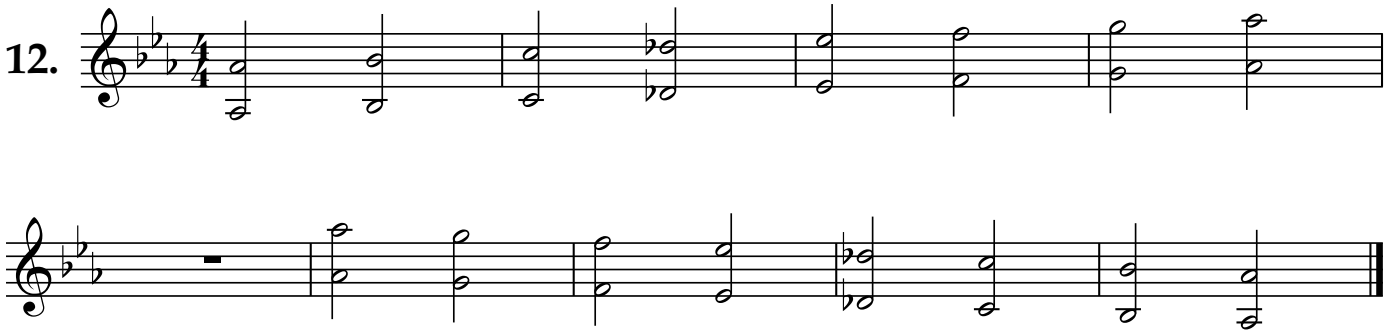

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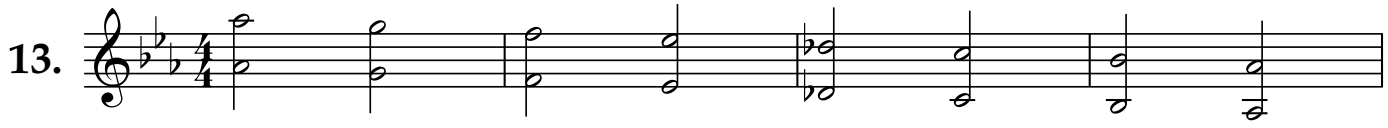

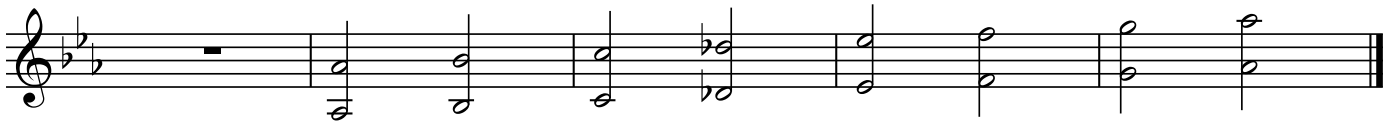

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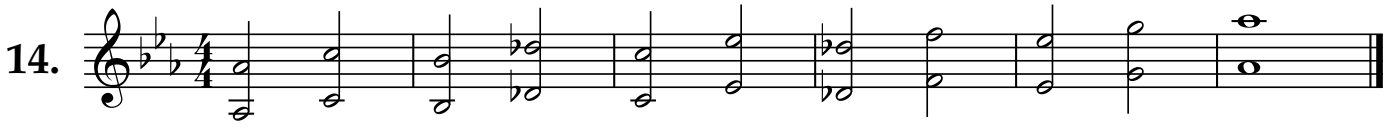

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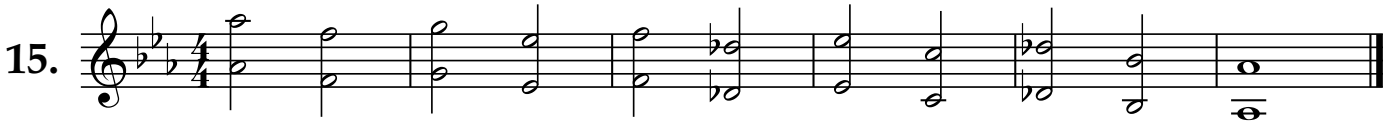

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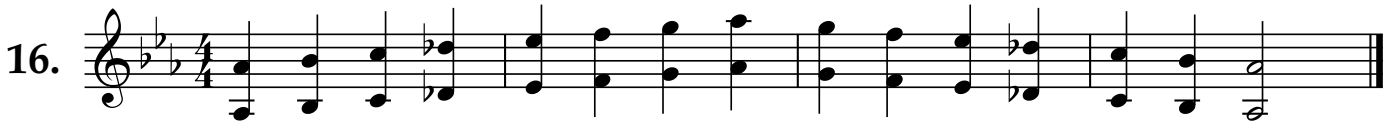

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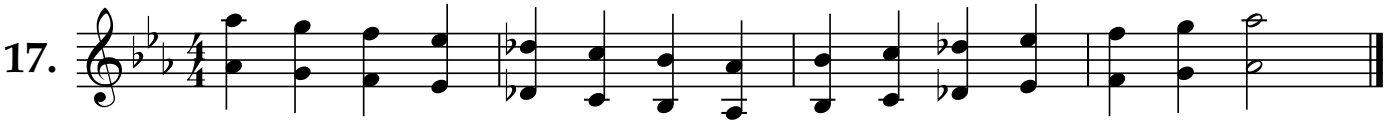

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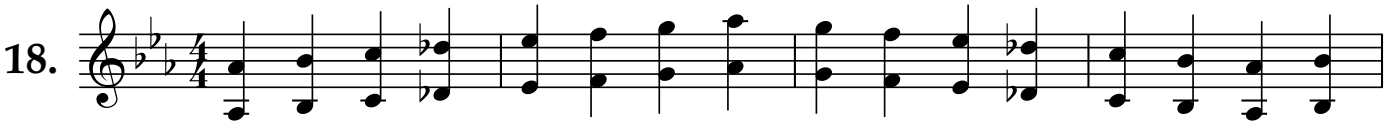

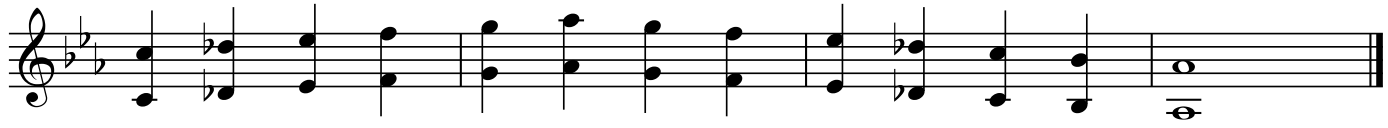

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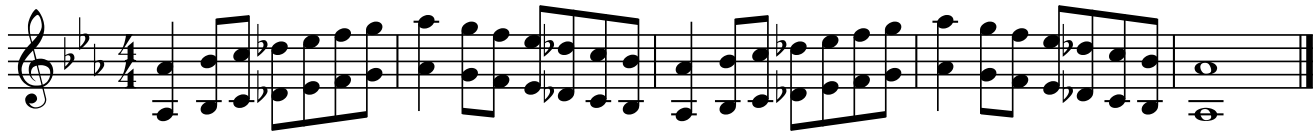

Eb Major (two octaves)

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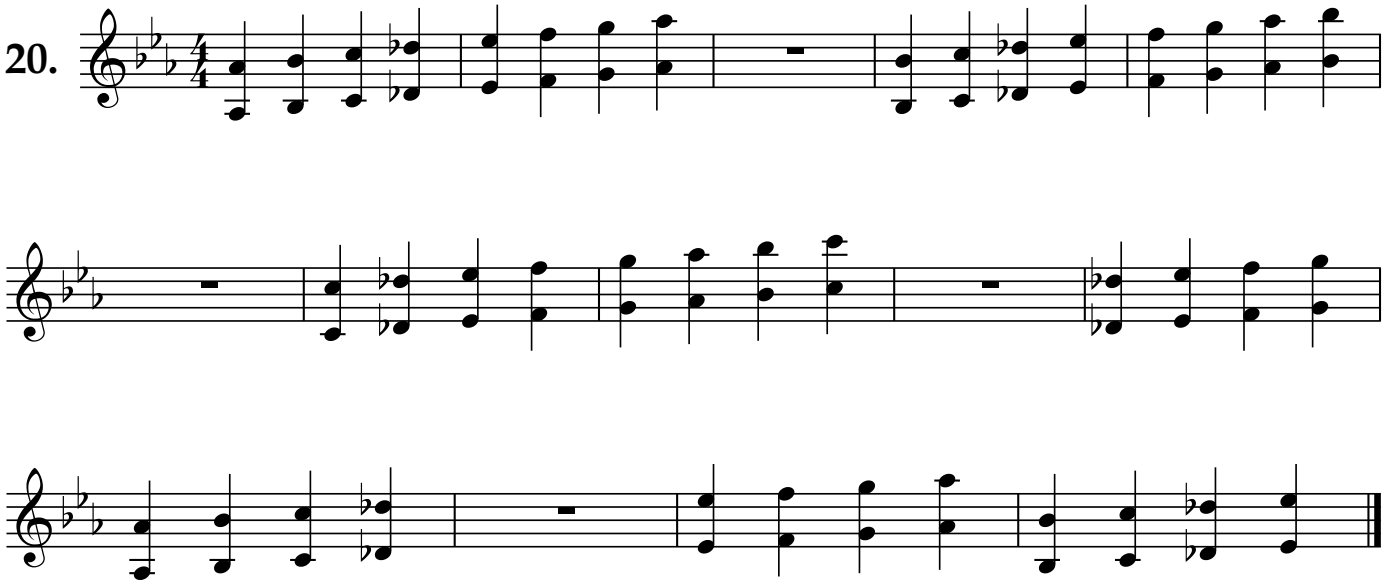

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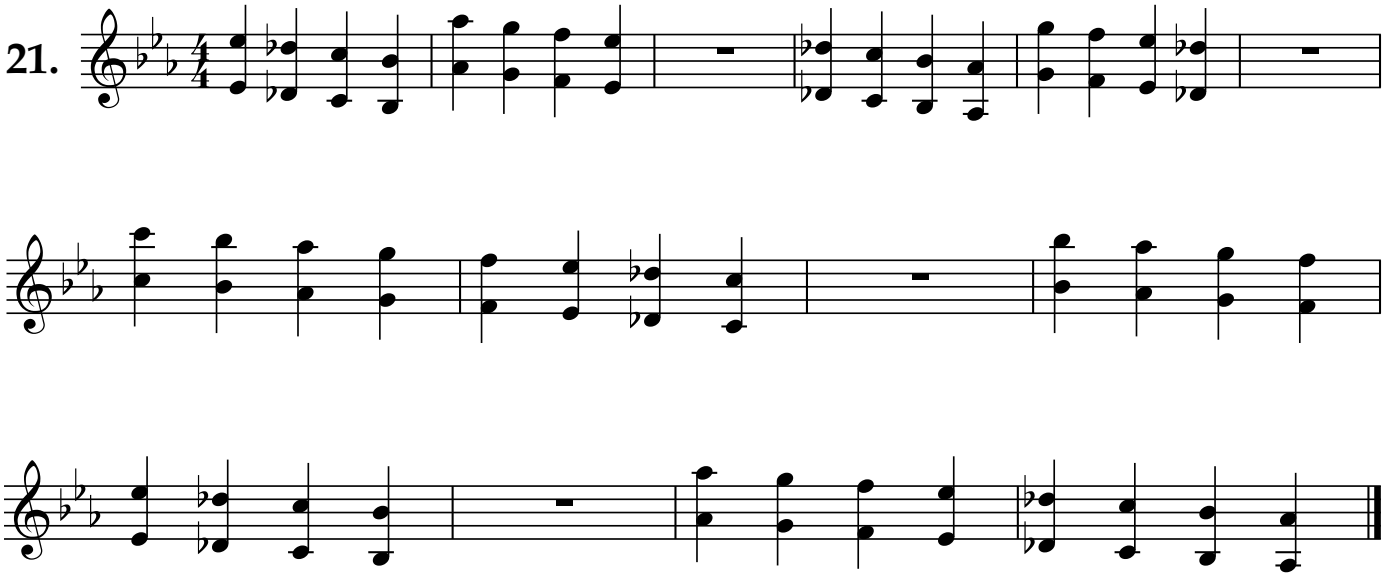

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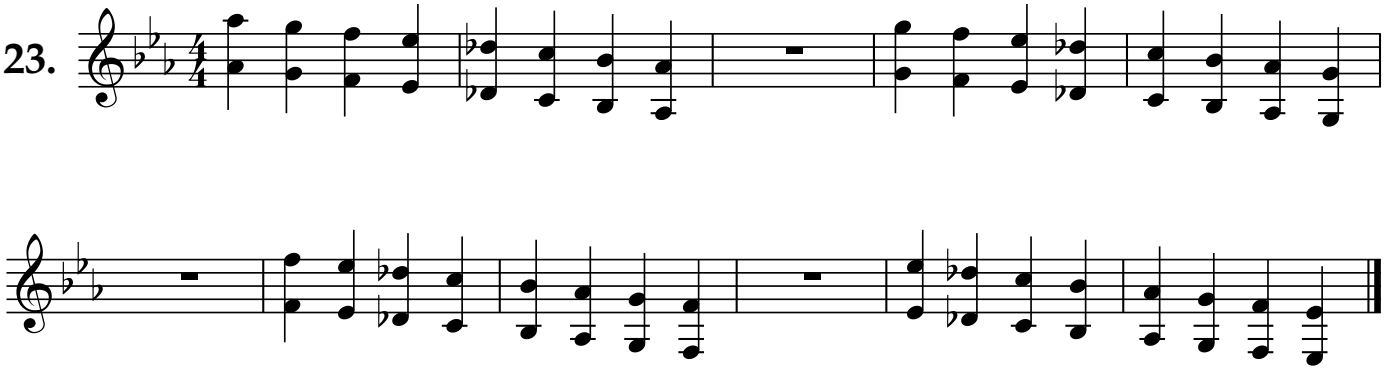

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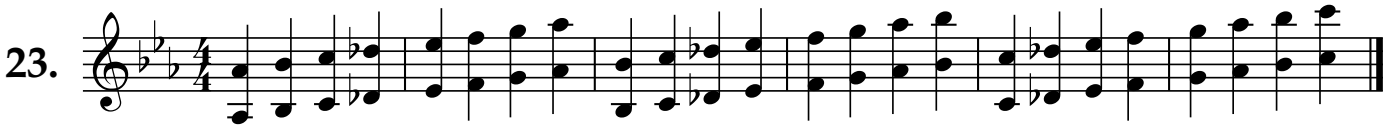

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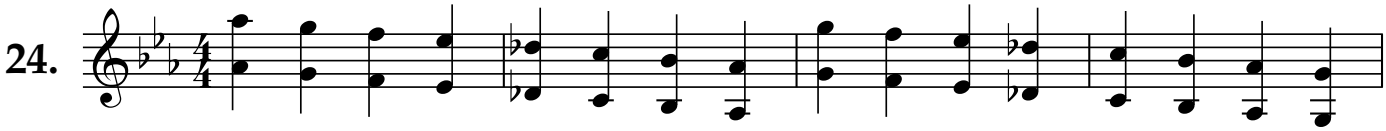

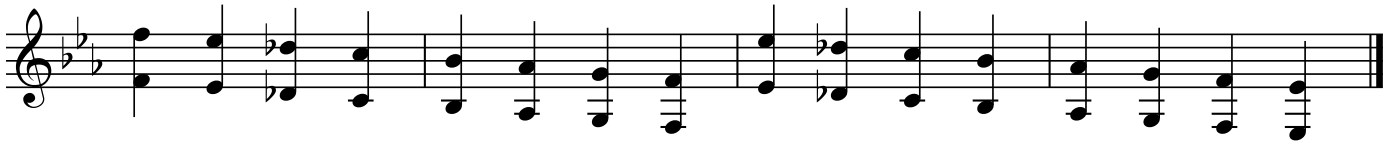

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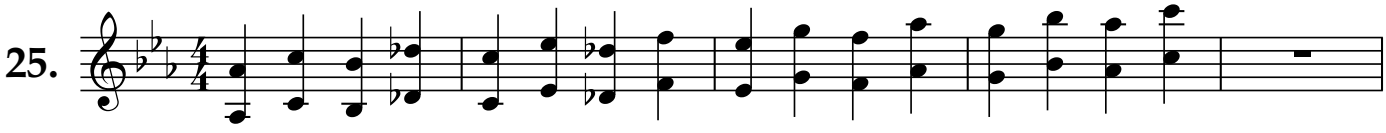

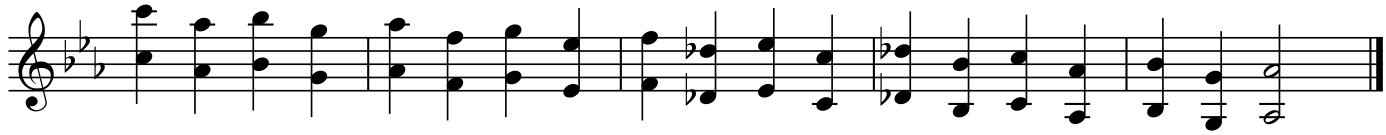

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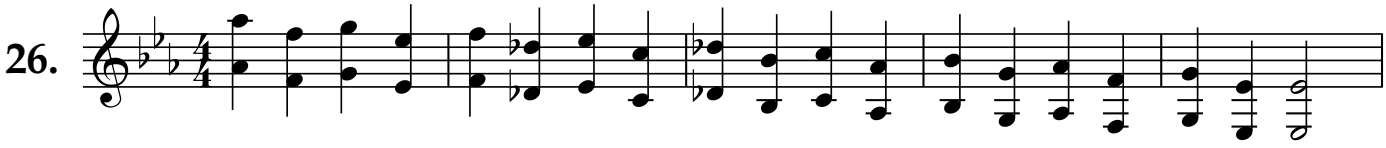

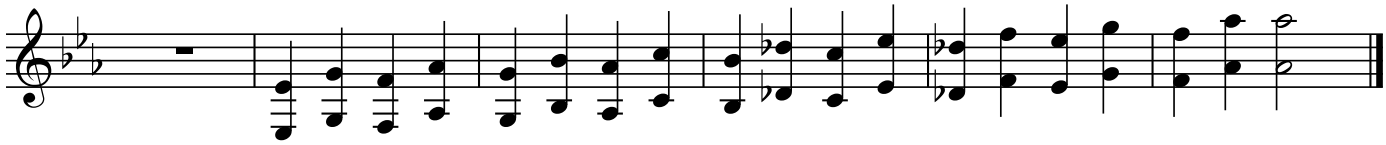

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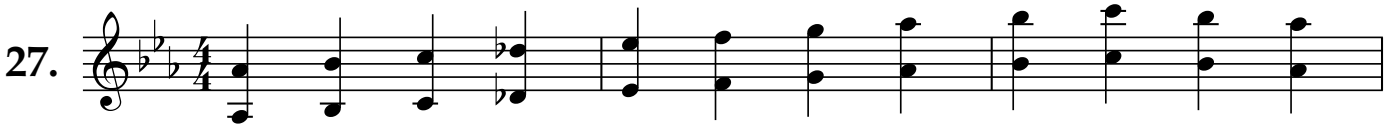

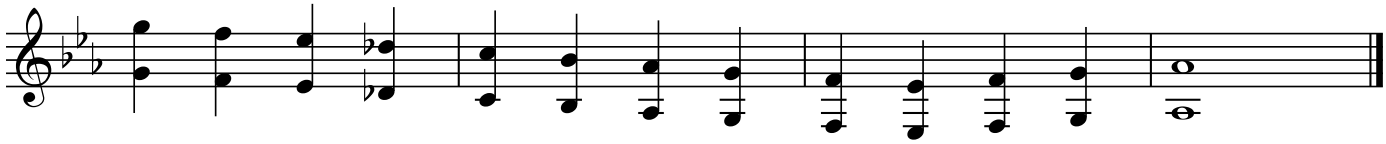

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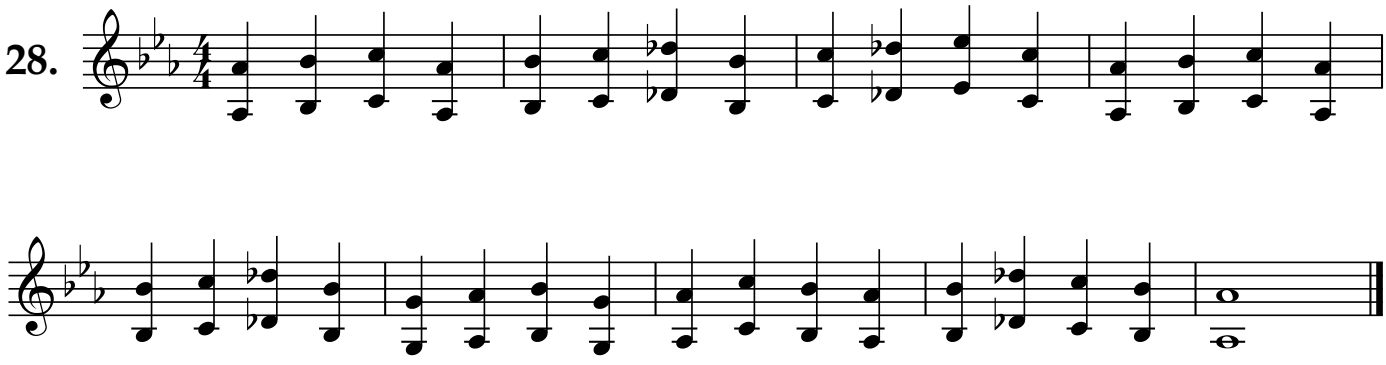

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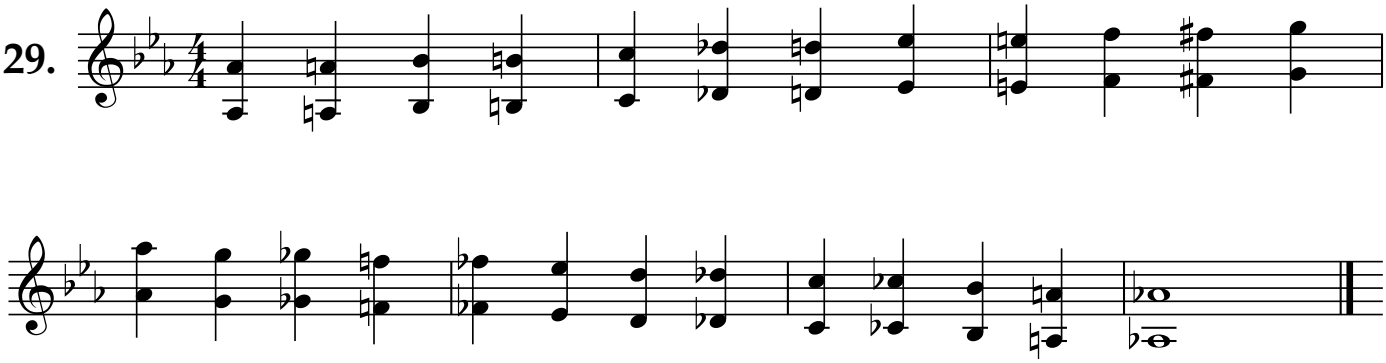

G Major (first five notes)

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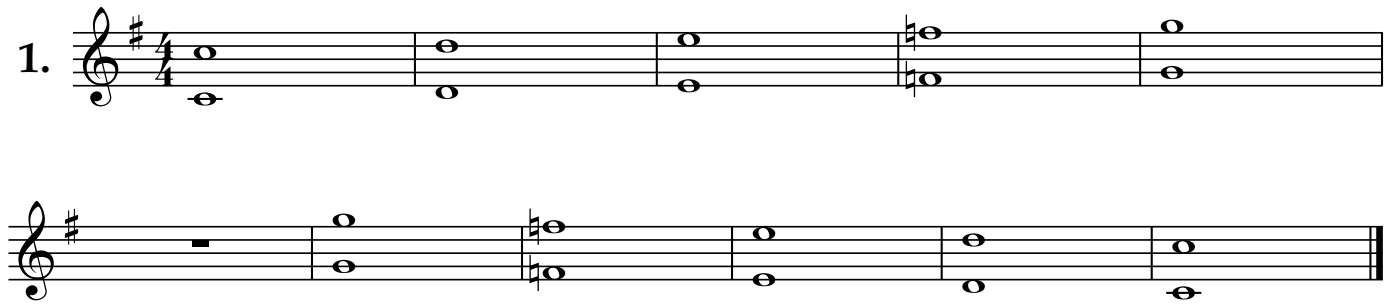

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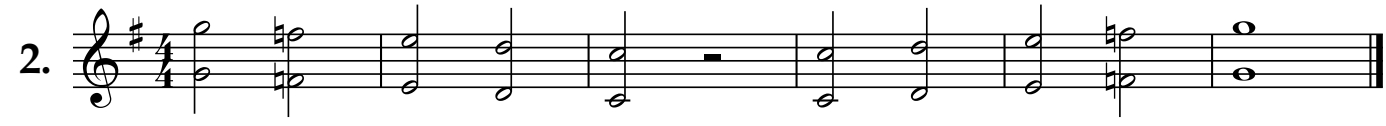

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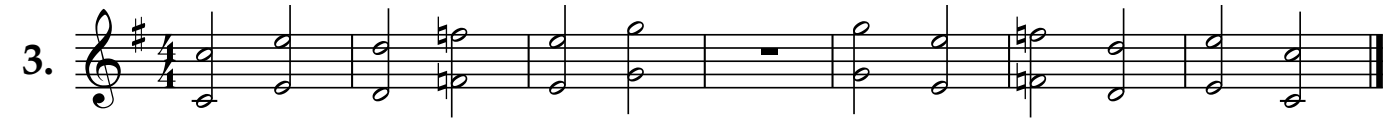

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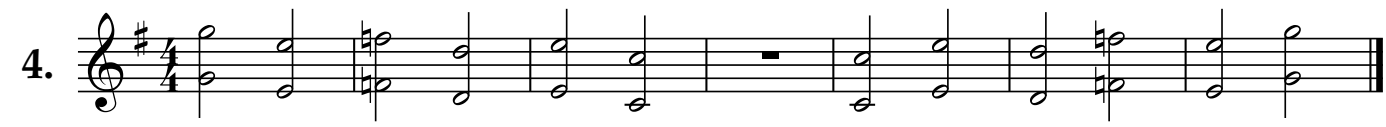

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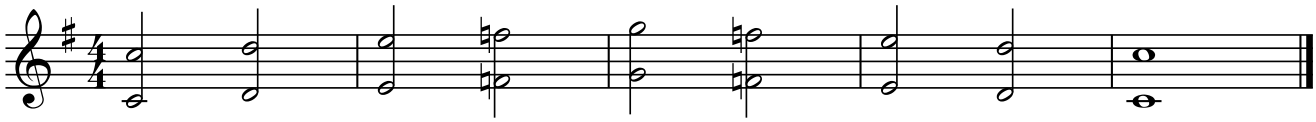

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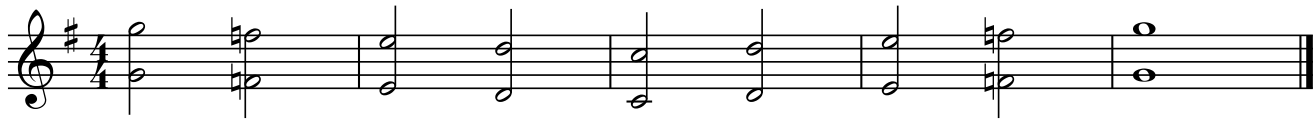

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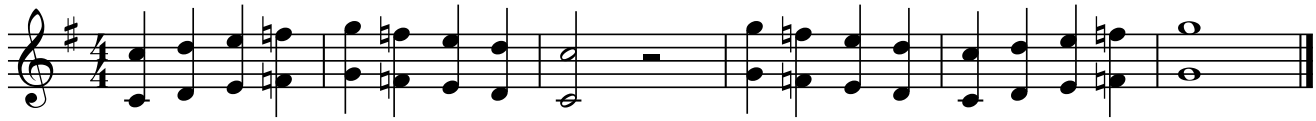

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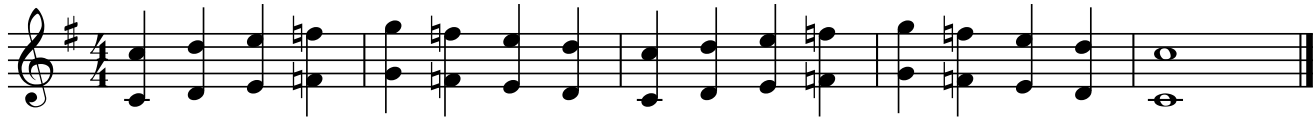

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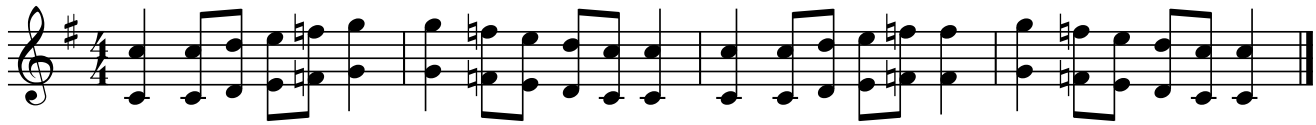

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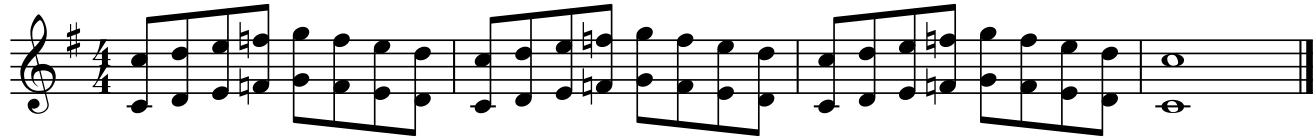

G Major (one octave)

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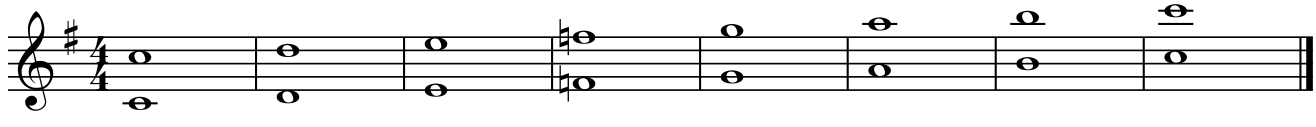

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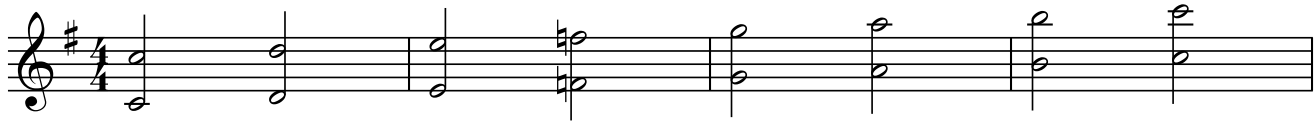

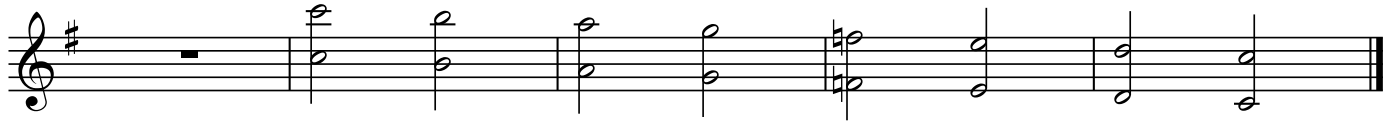

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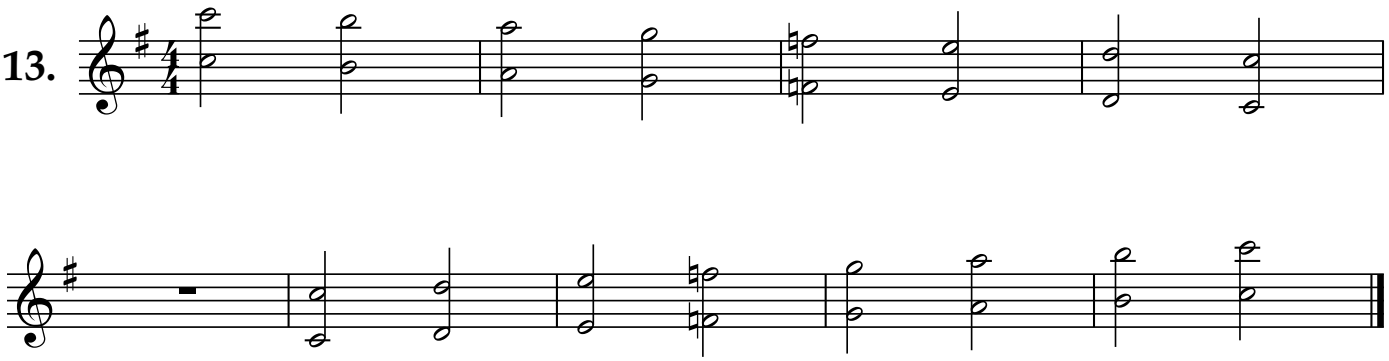

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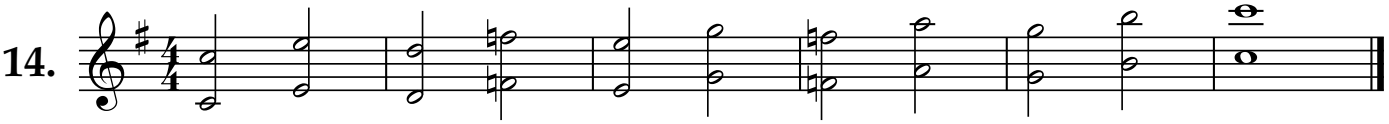

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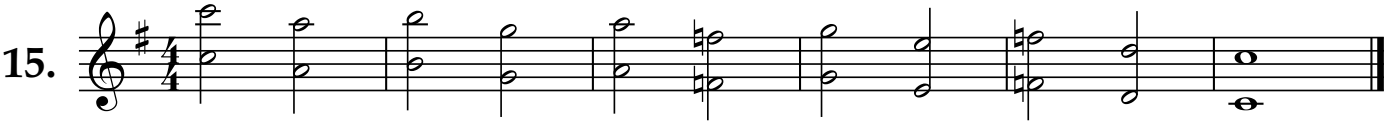

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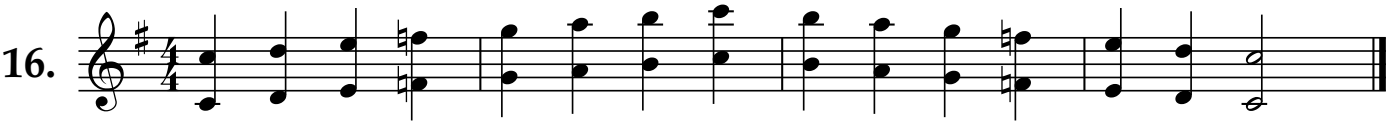

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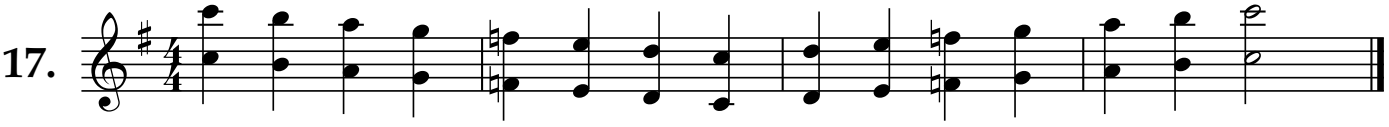

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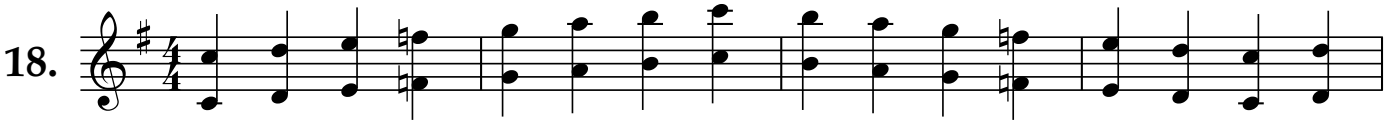

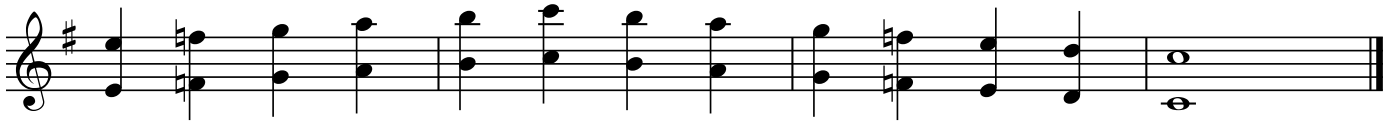

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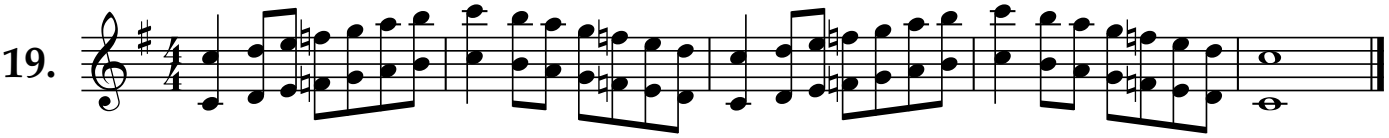

G Major (two octaves)

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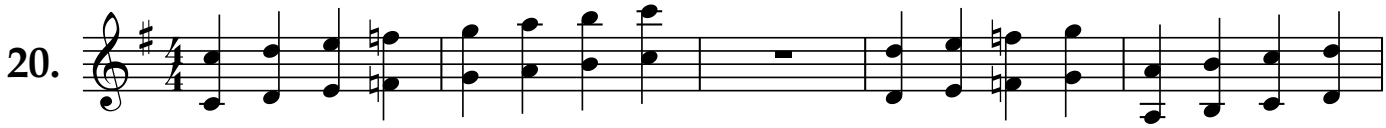

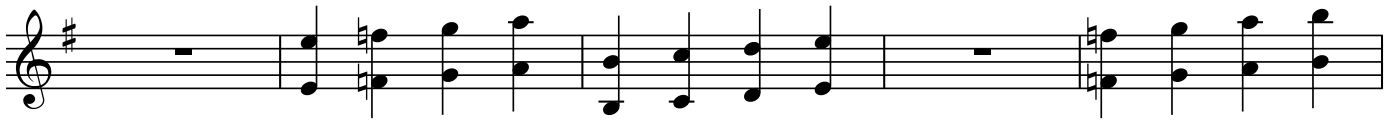

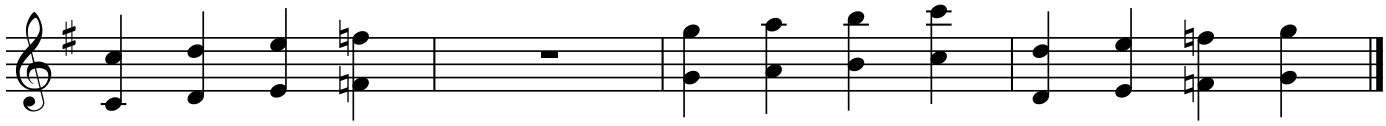

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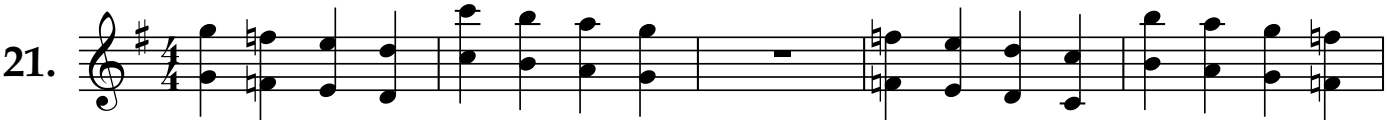

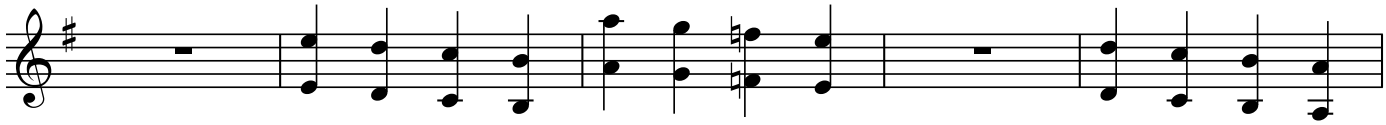

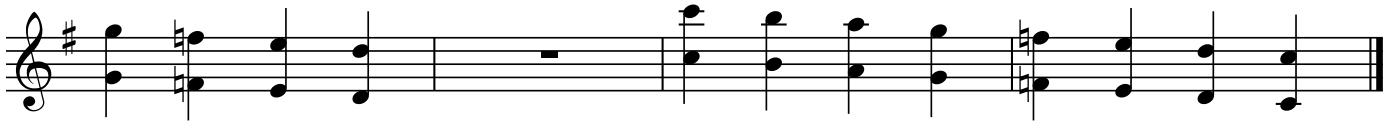

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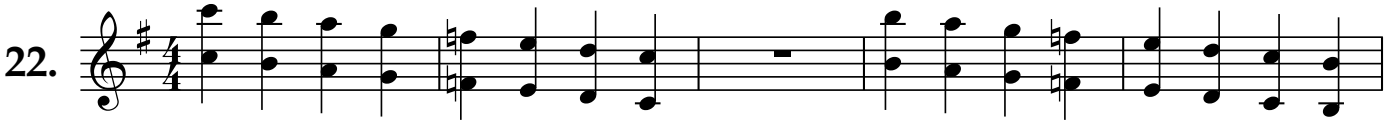

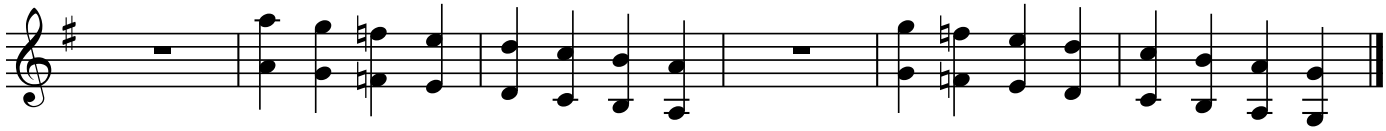

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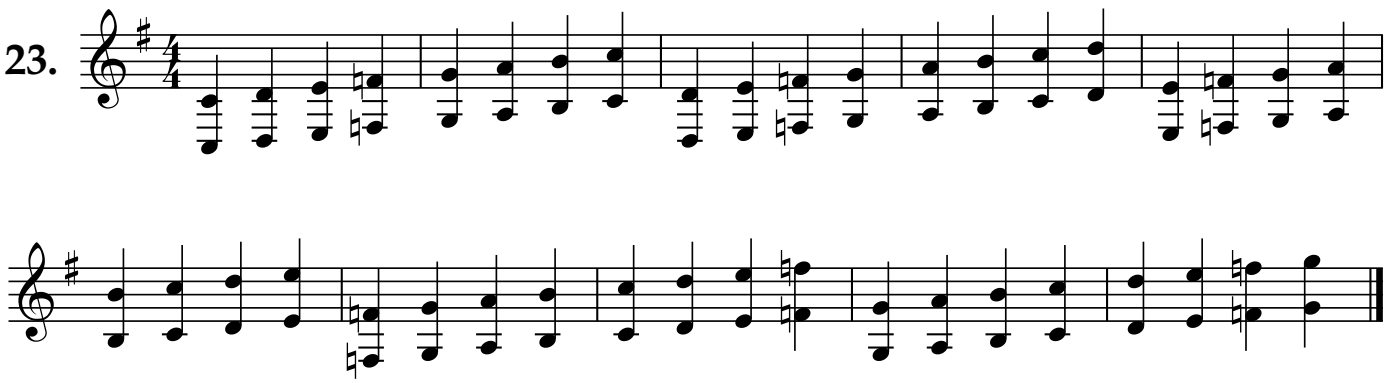

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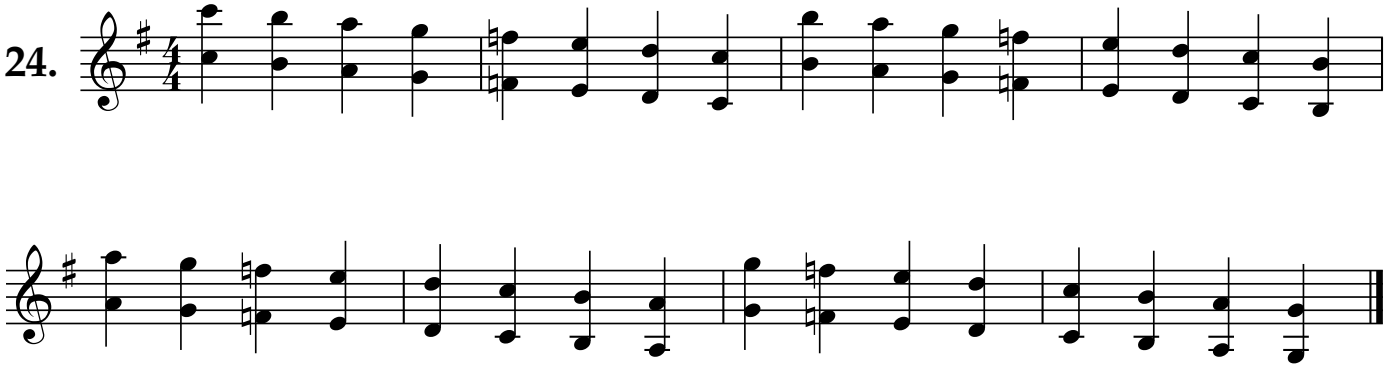

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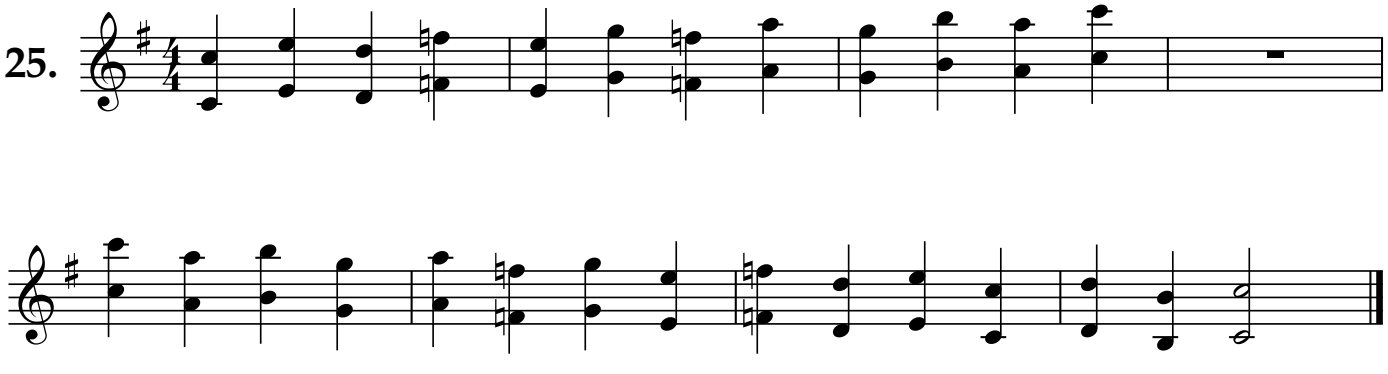

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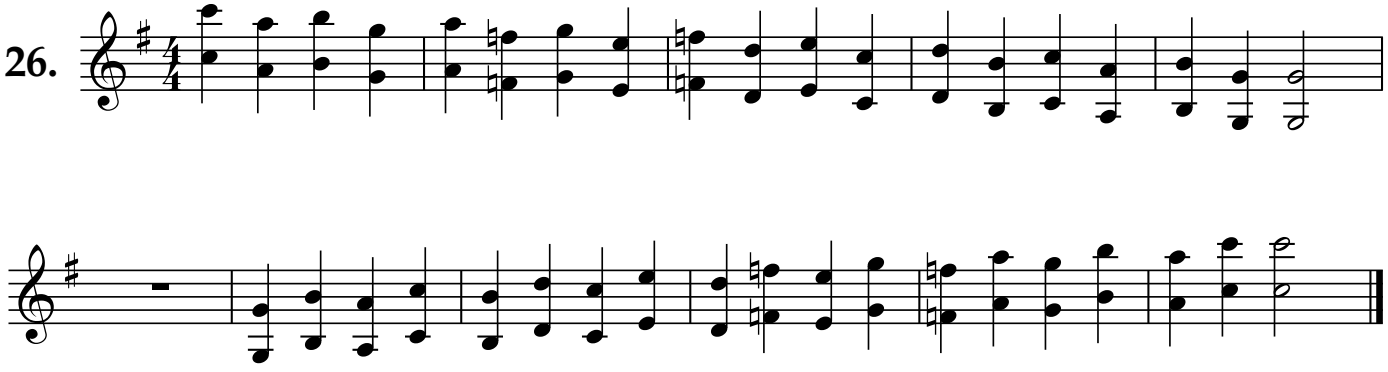

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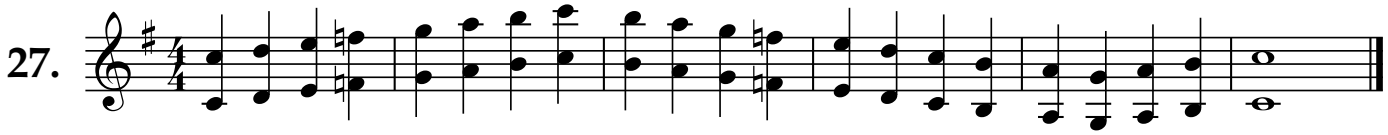

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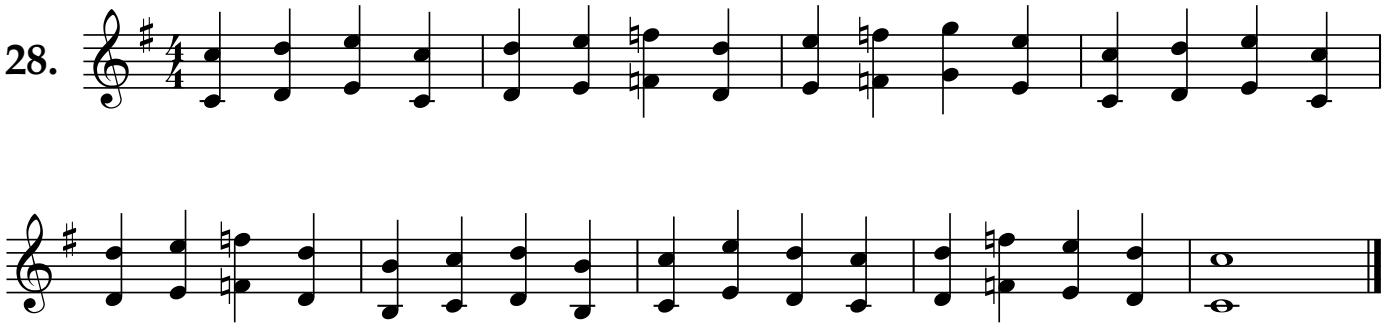

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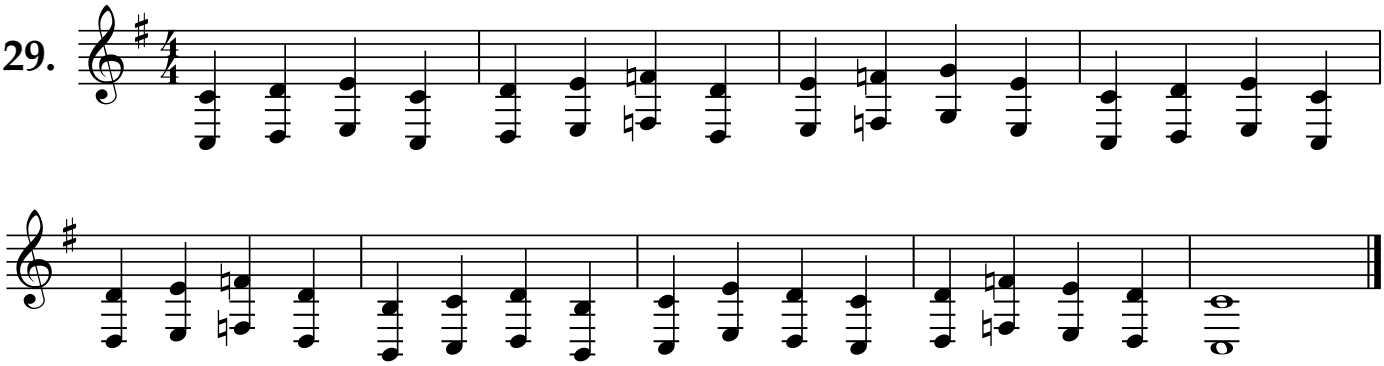

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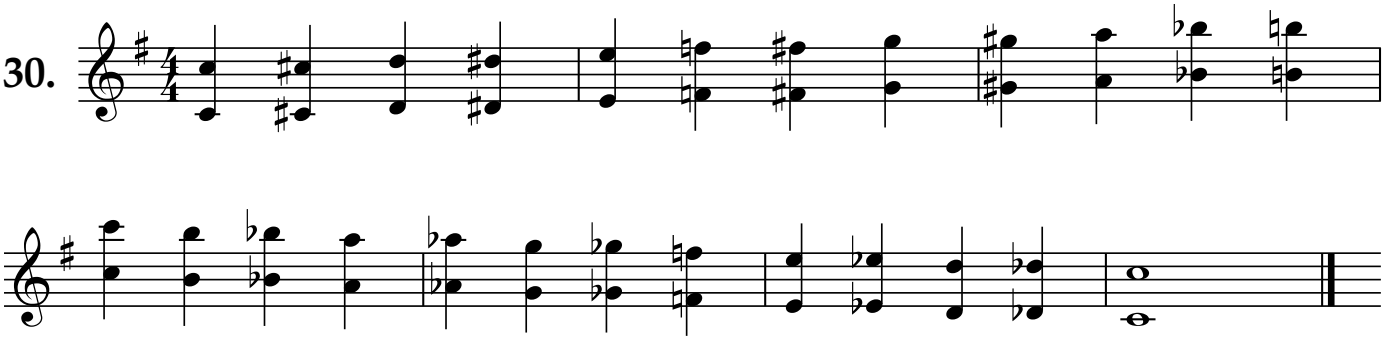

D Major (first five notes)

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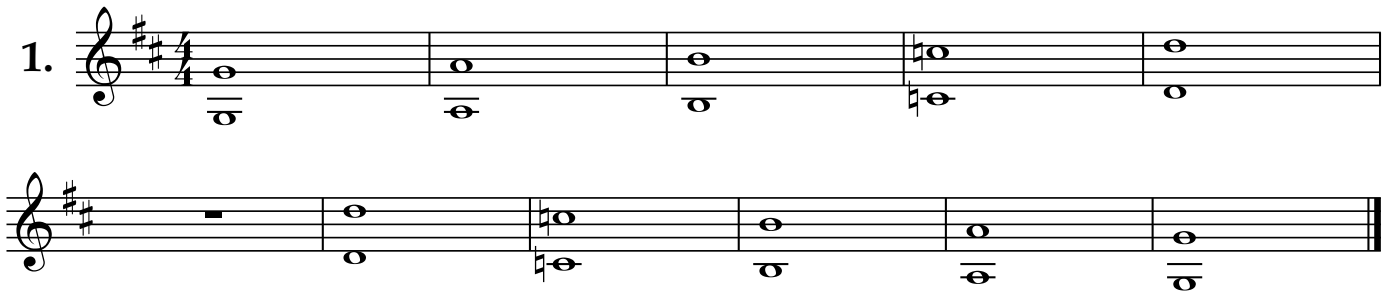

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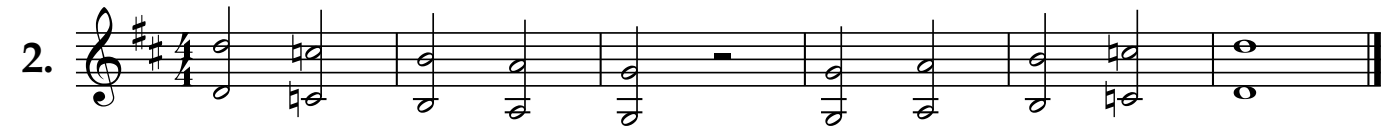

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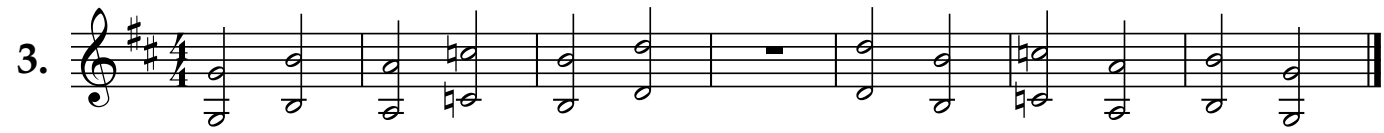

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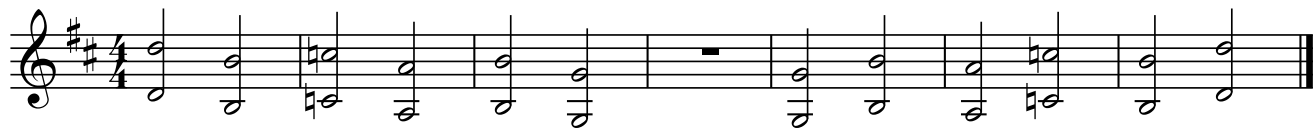

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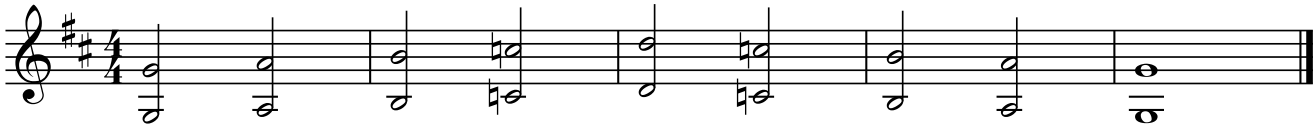

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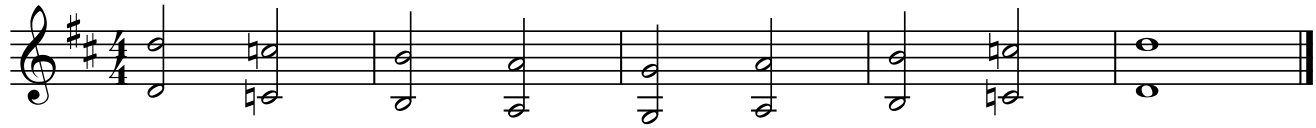

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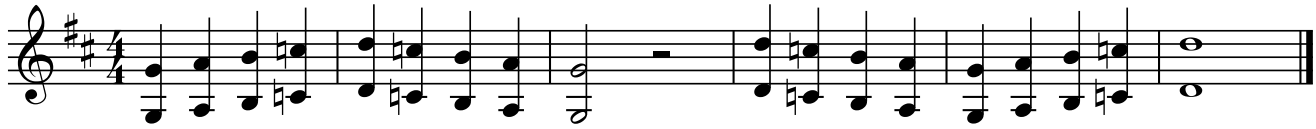

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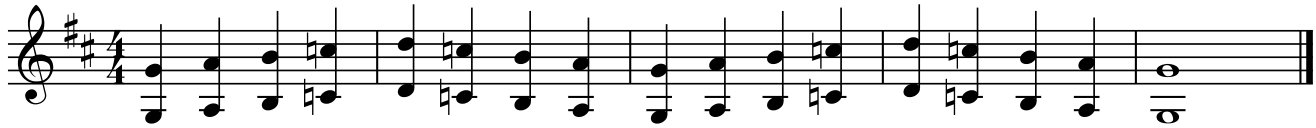

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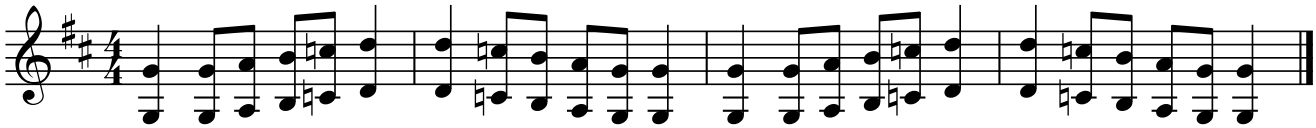

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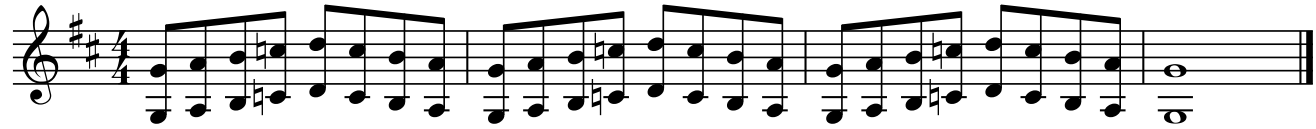

D Major (one octave)

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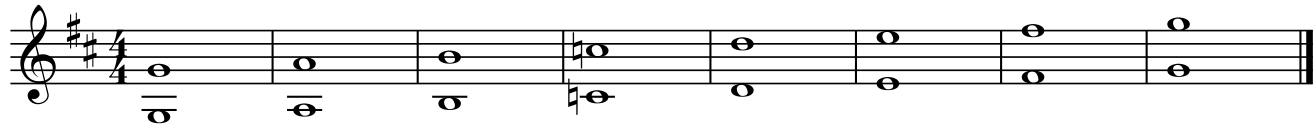

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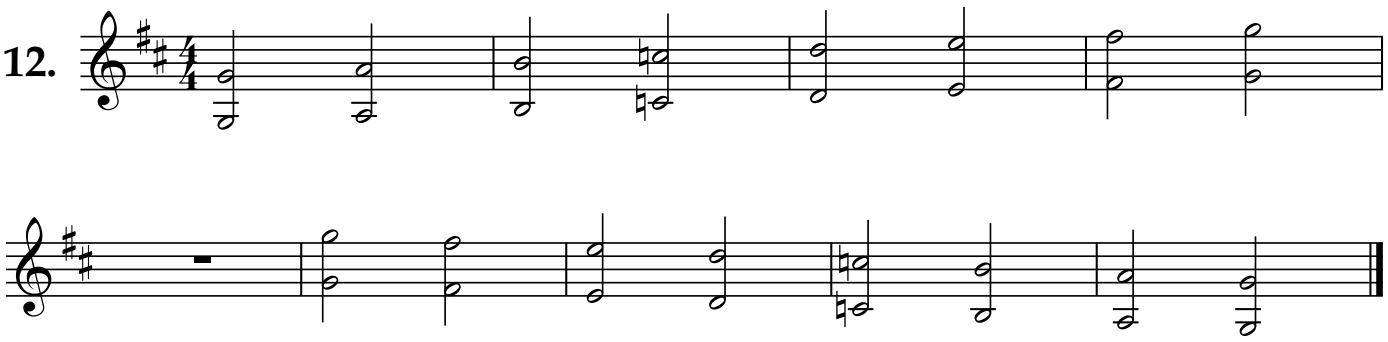

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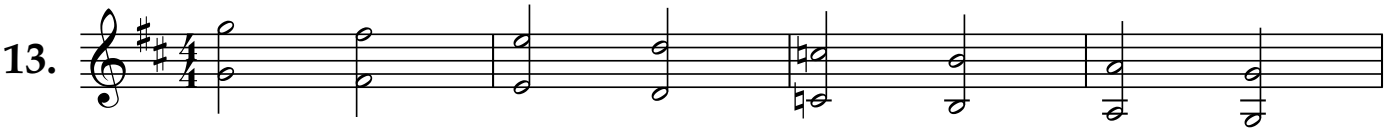

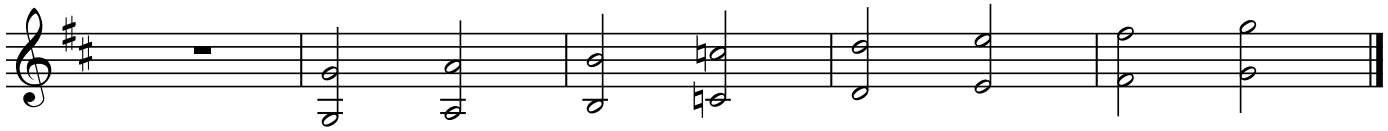

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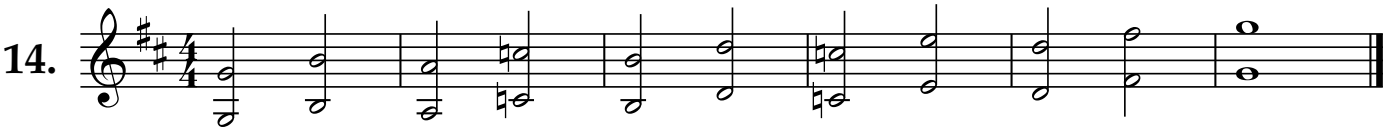

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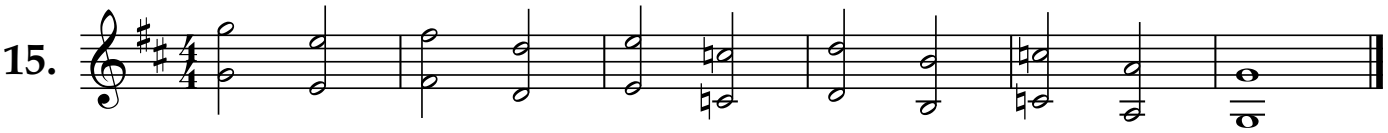

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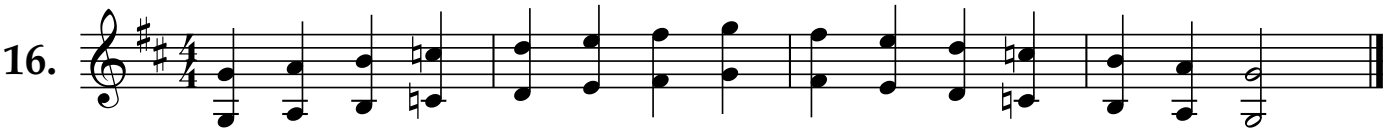

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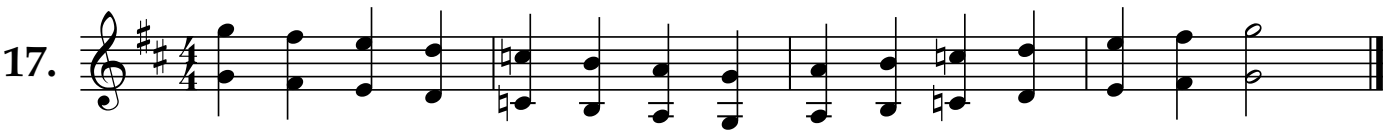

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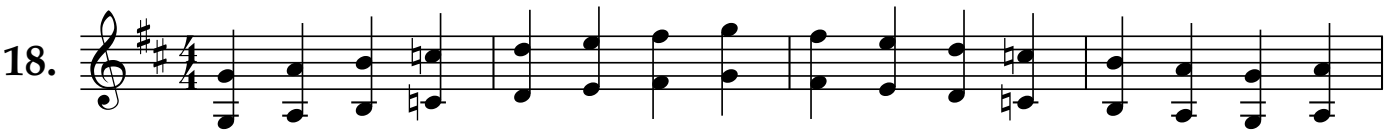

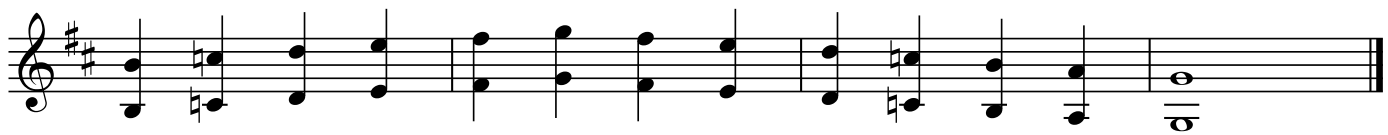

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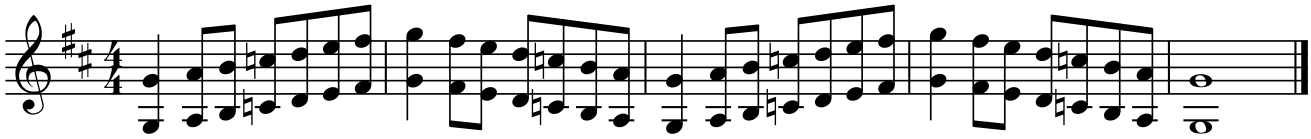

D Major (two octaves)

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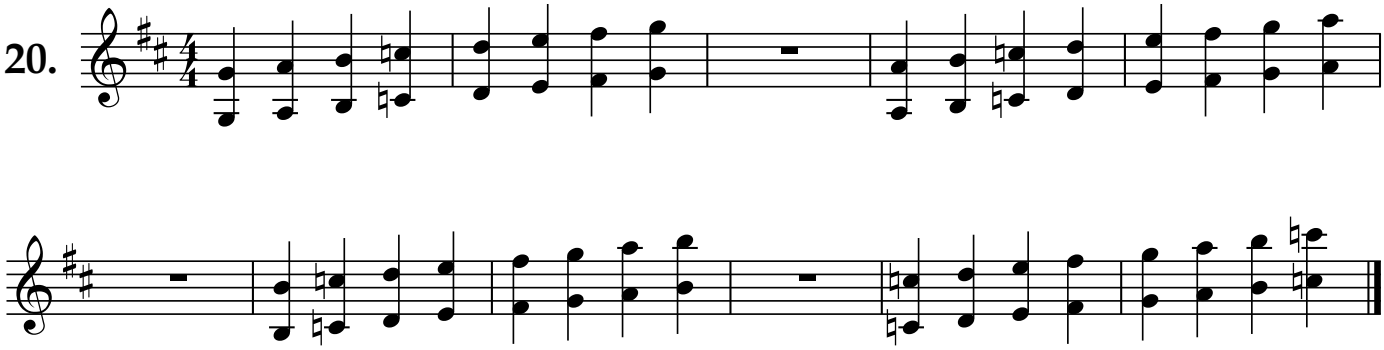

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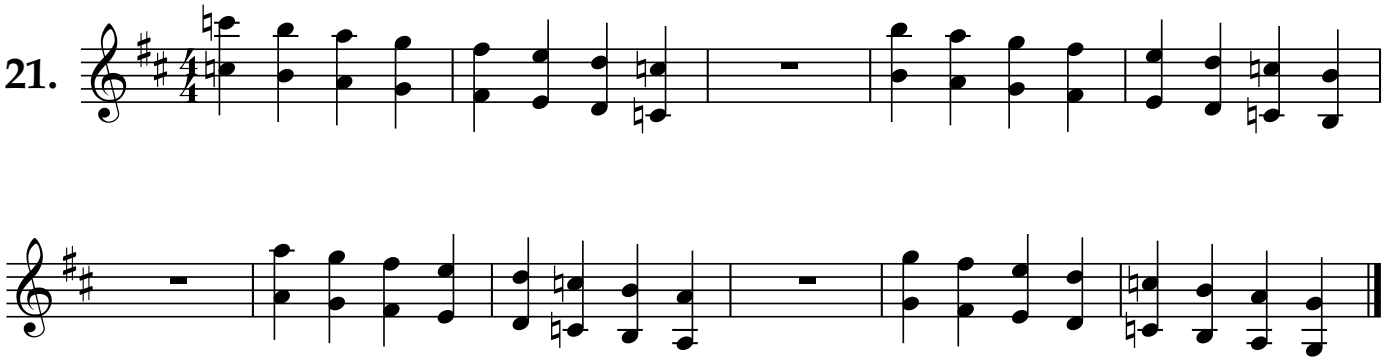

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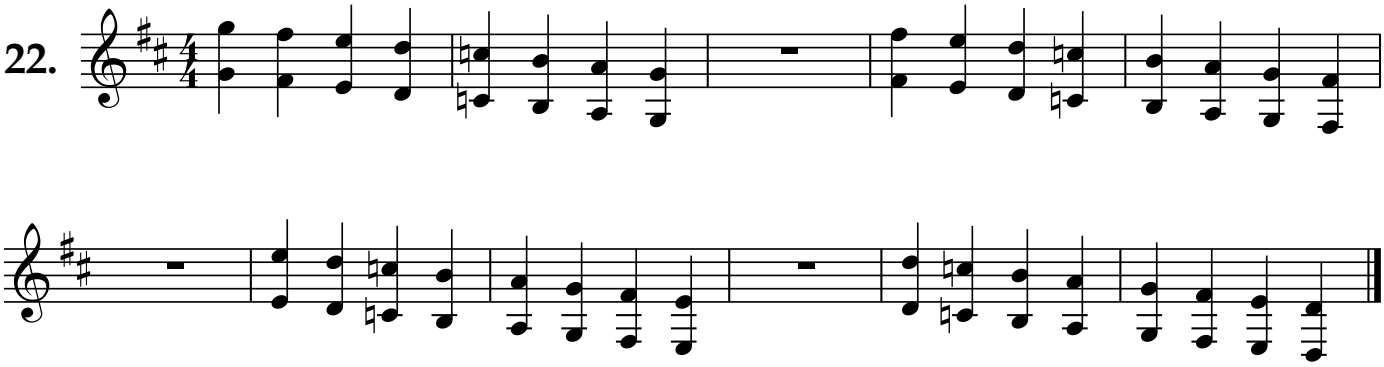

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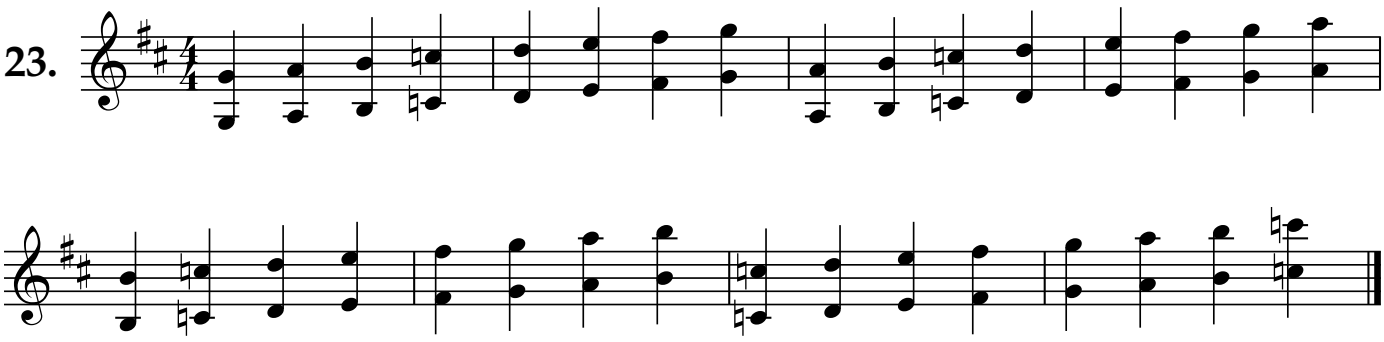

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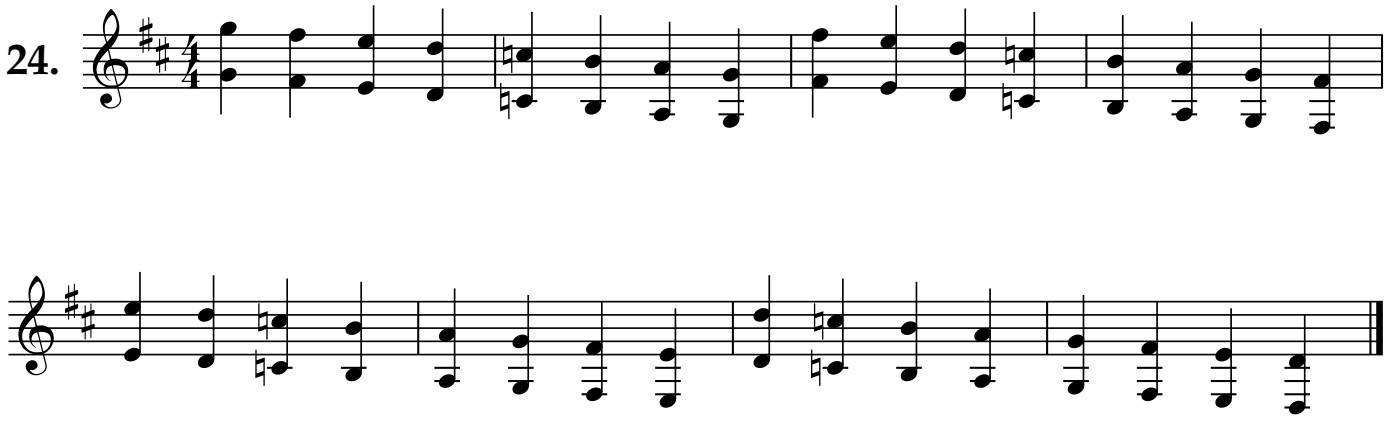

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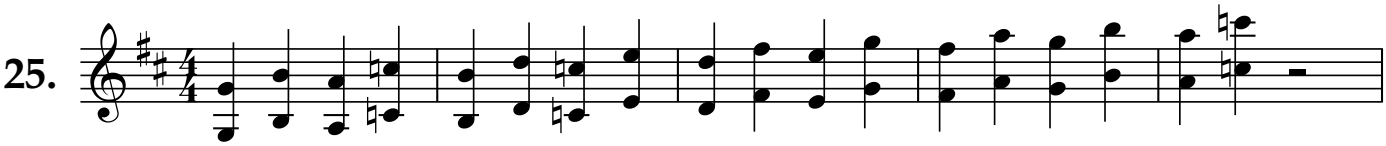

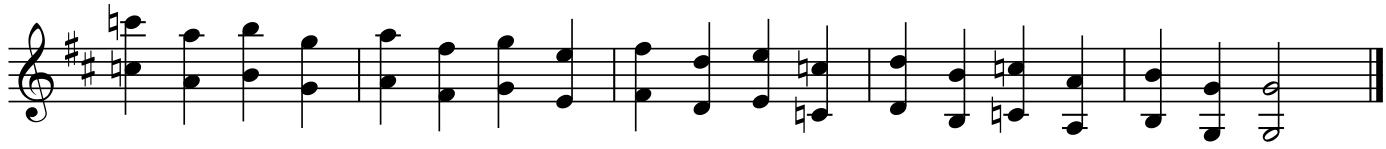

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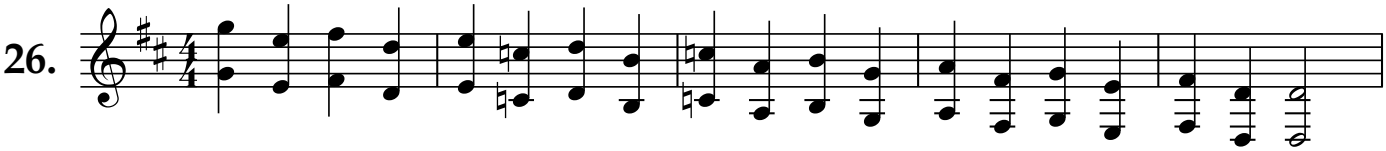

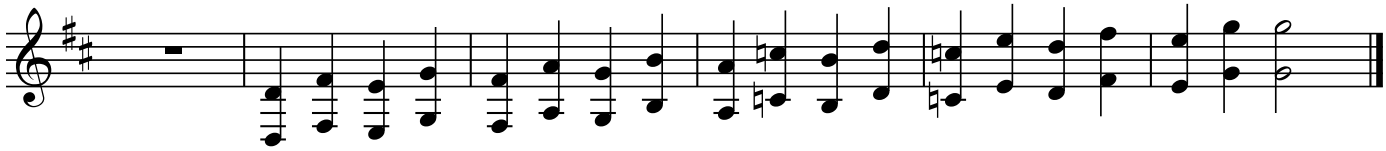

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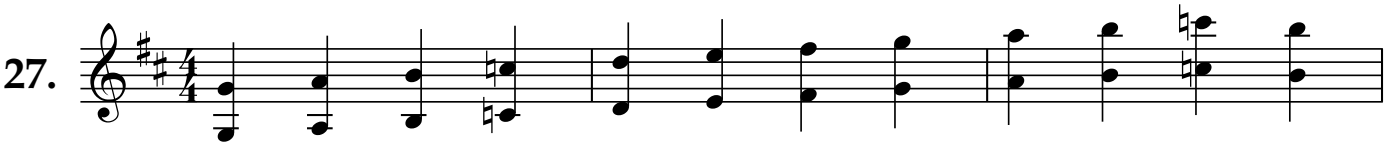

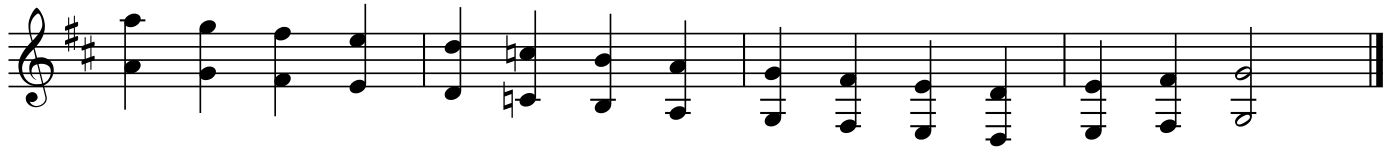

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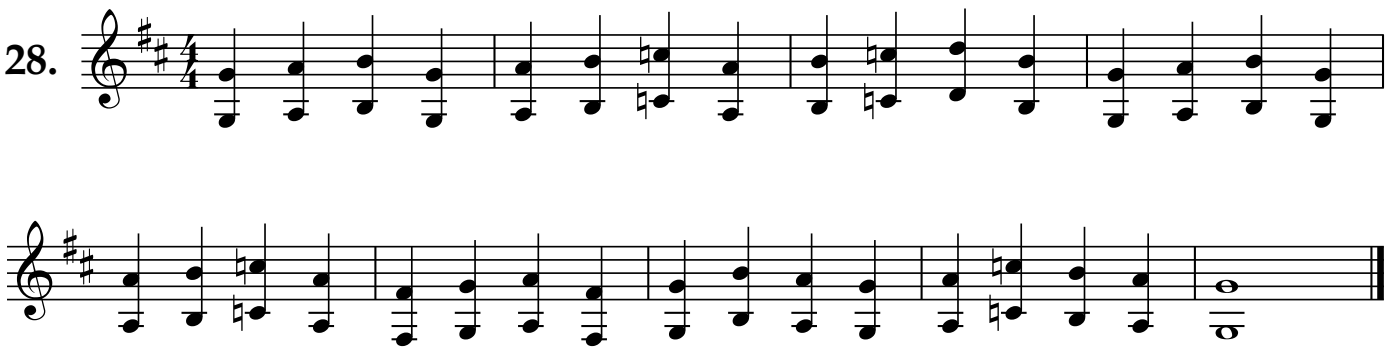

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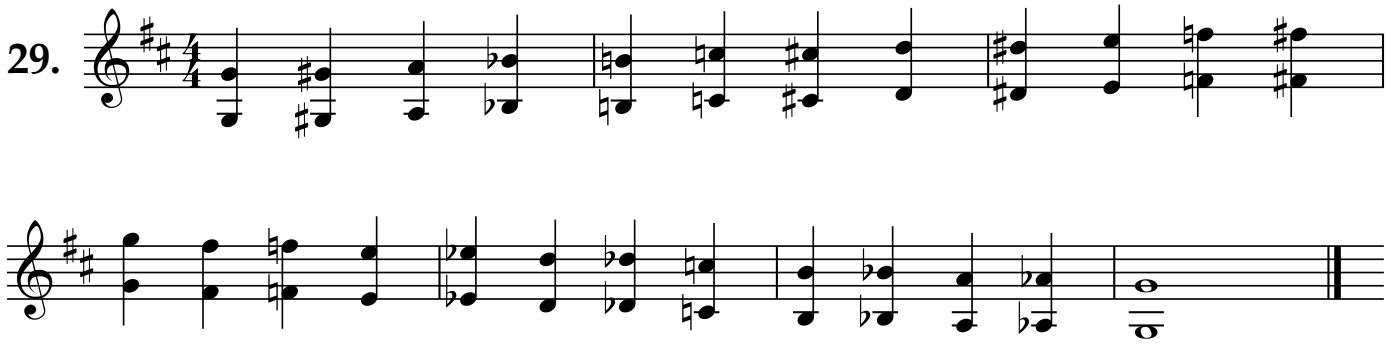
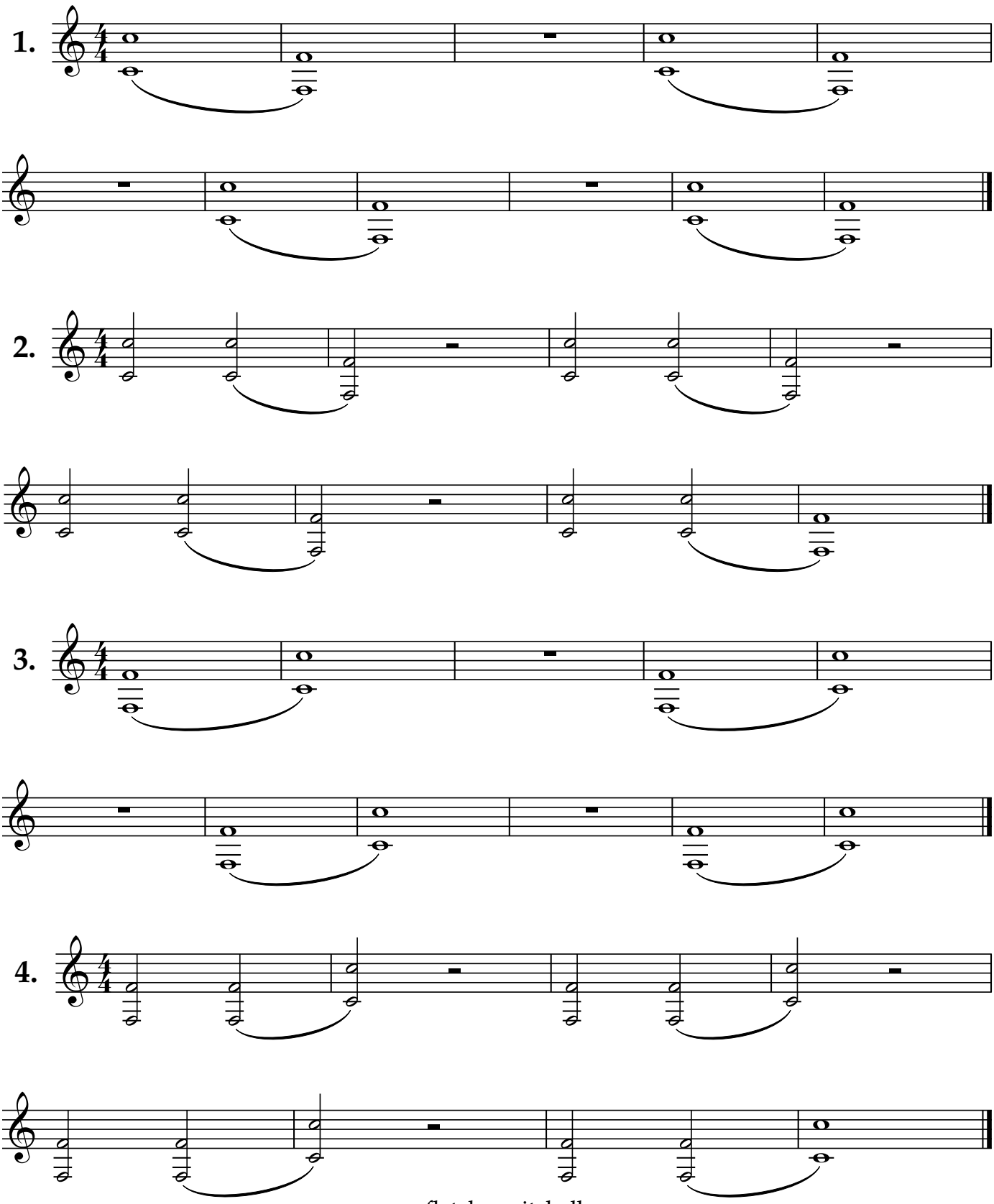
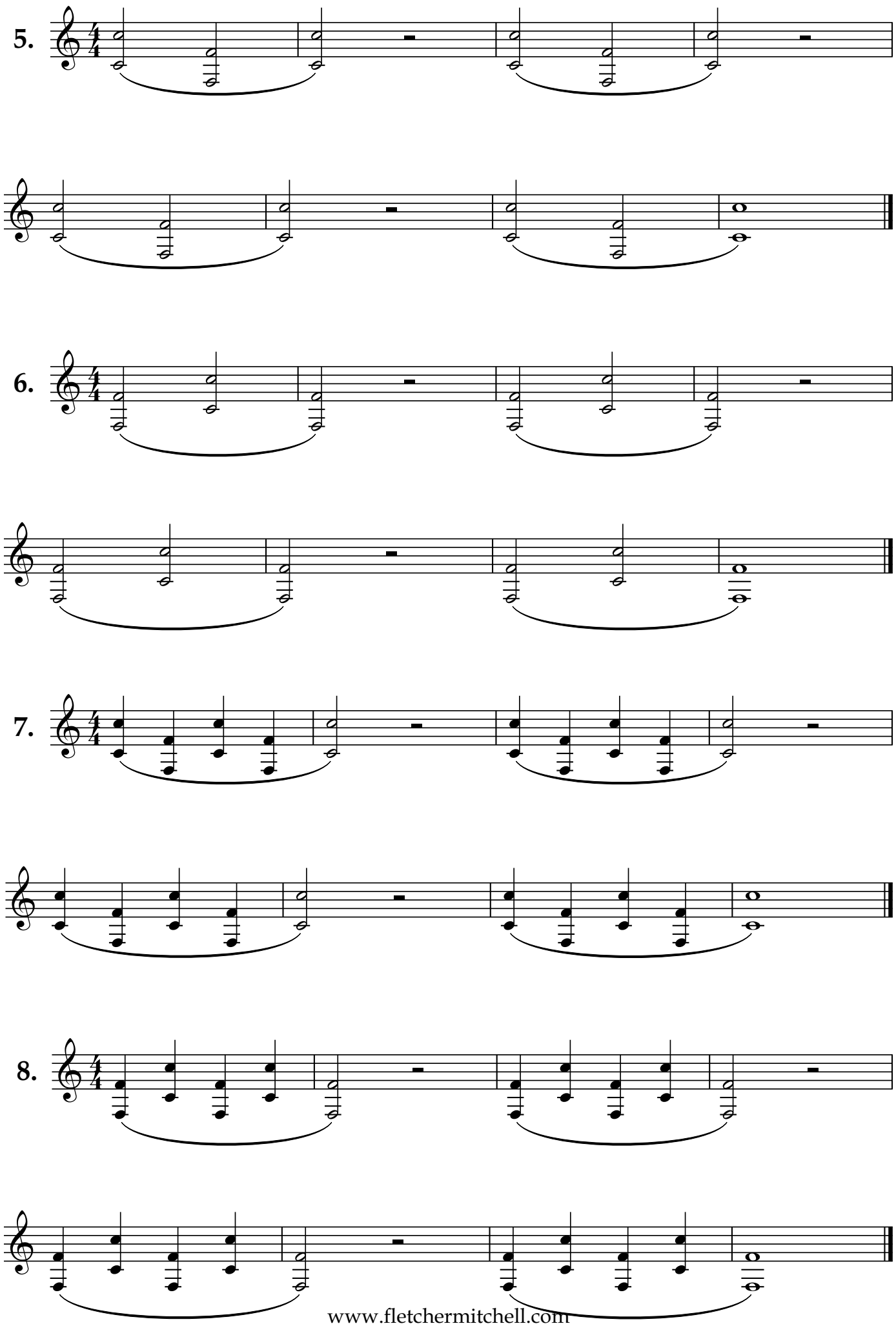


Lip Slurs

Lip slurs are an essential skill for brass players, and one that takes time to develop. Start by playing these exercises slowly with a metronome and increase the tempo when comfortable. Make sure there is no movement in the jaw and play each note with an even volume and full tone. Lip slurs will help increase flexibility, endurance, range, tone, and note accuracy.

C to G (open notes)




5.
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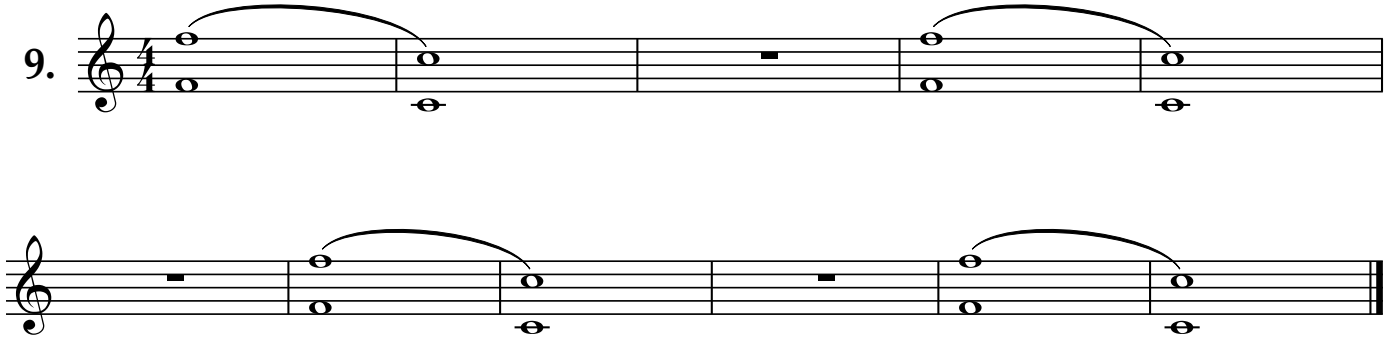
G to C (open notes)

9.



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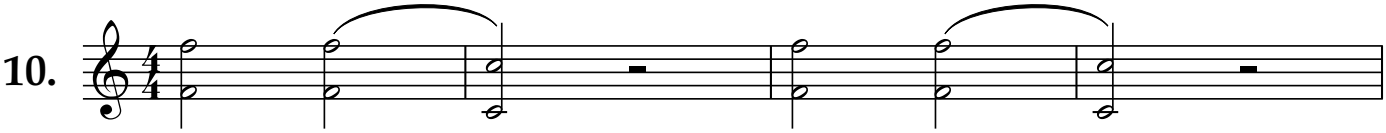

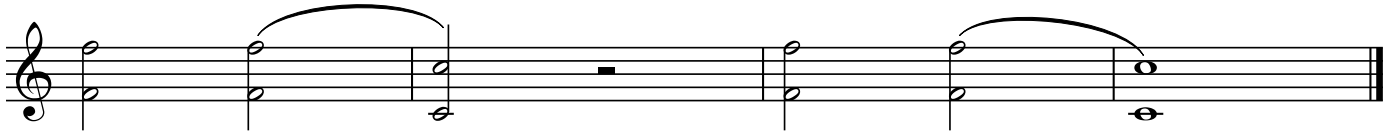

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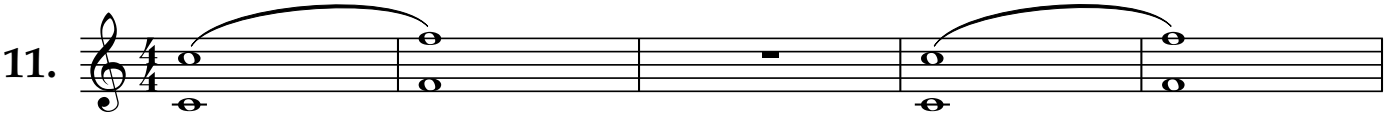

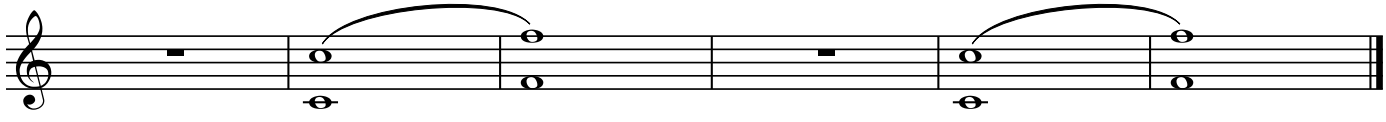

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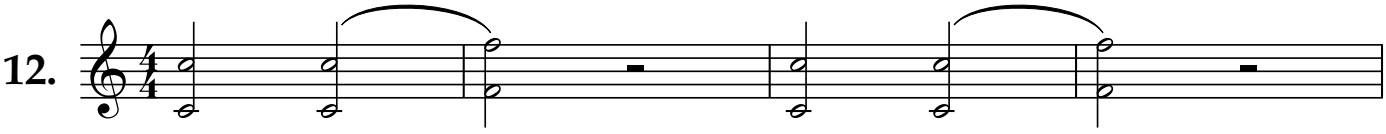

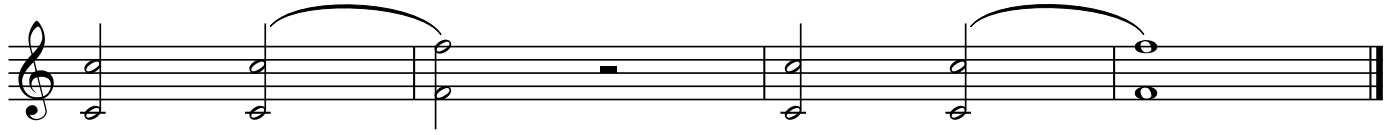

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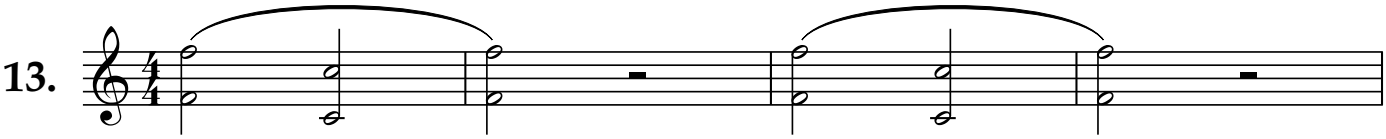

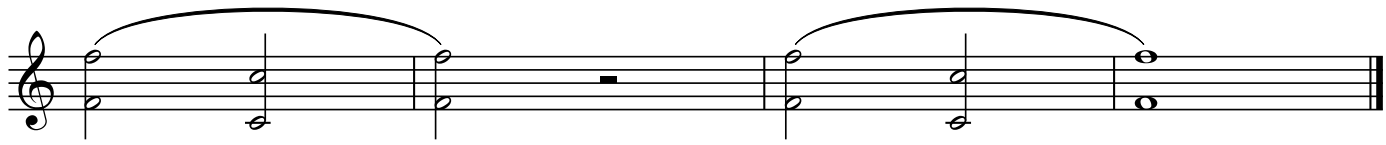

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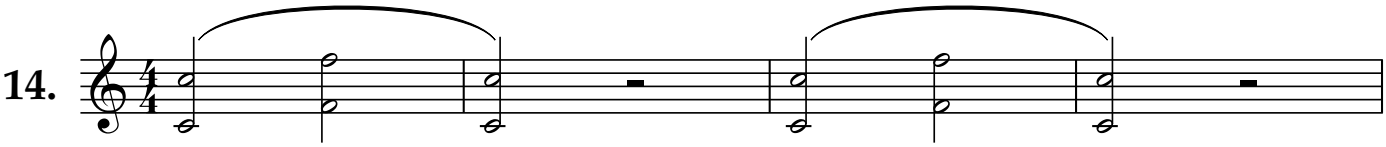

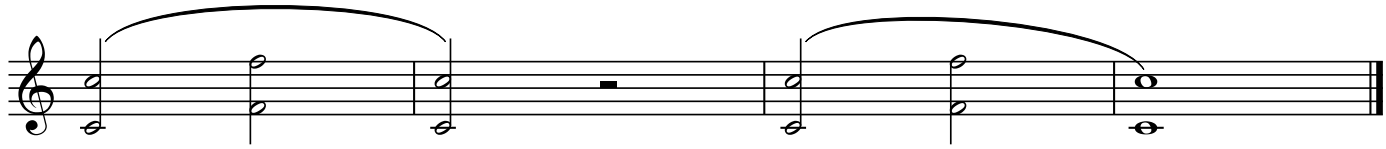

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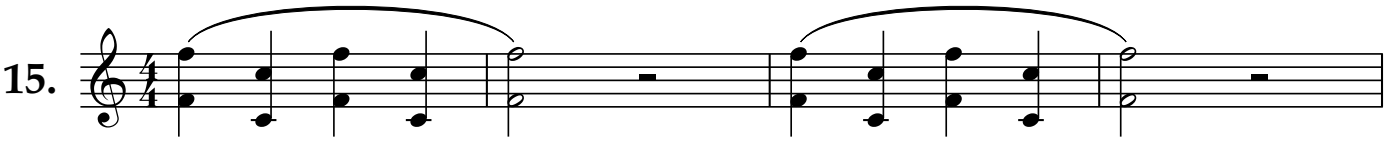

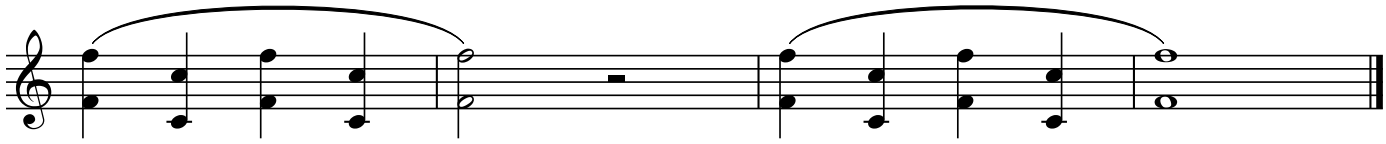

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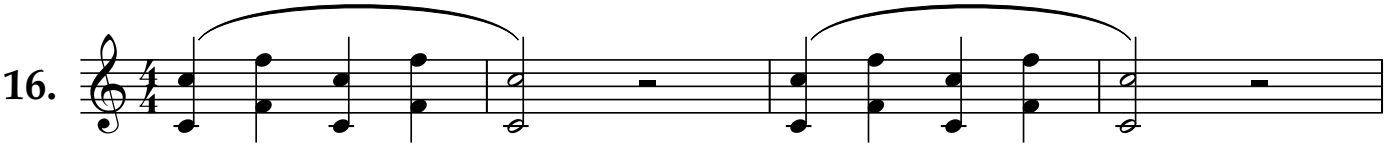

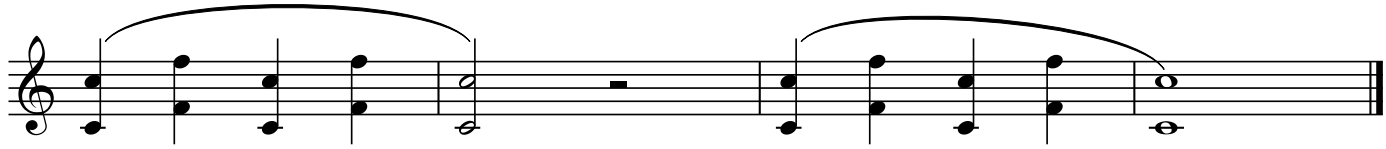

Chromatic Lip Slurs

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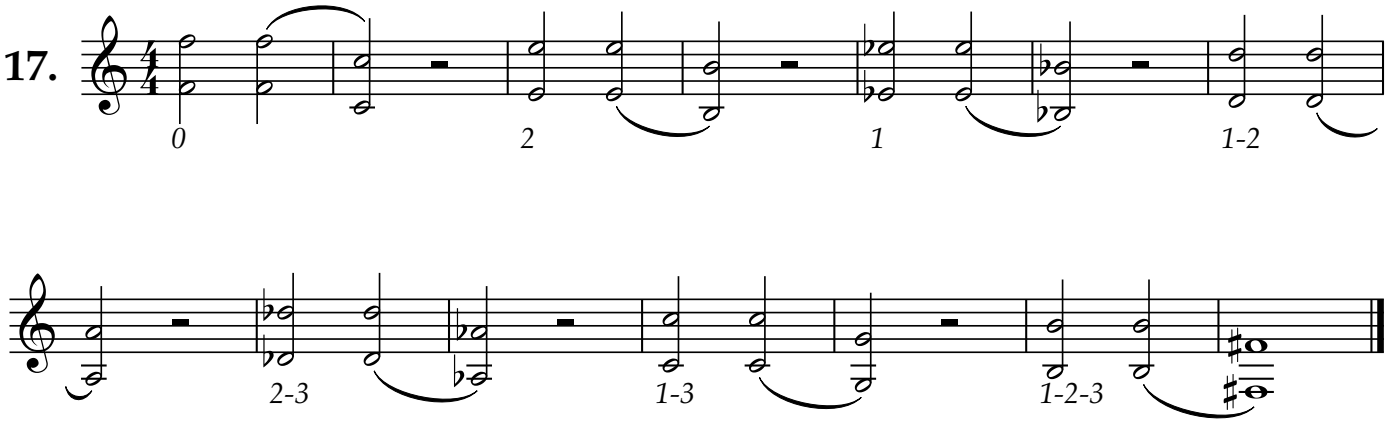

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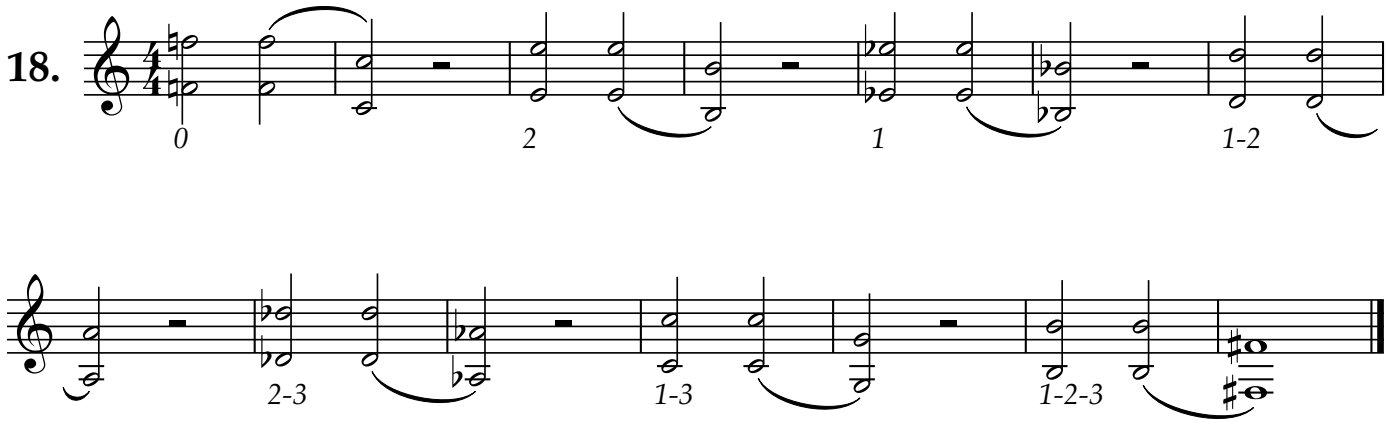

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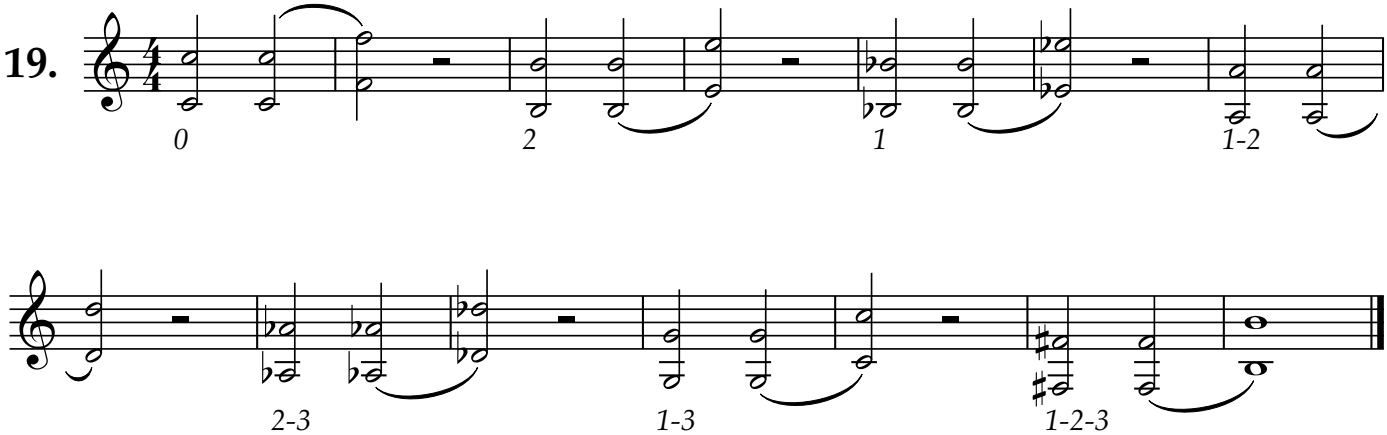

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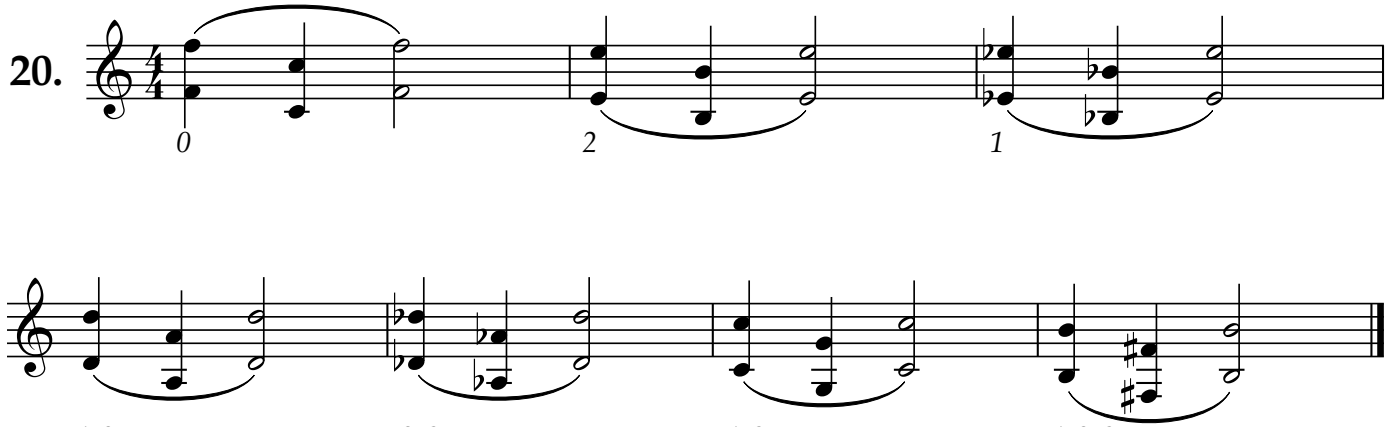

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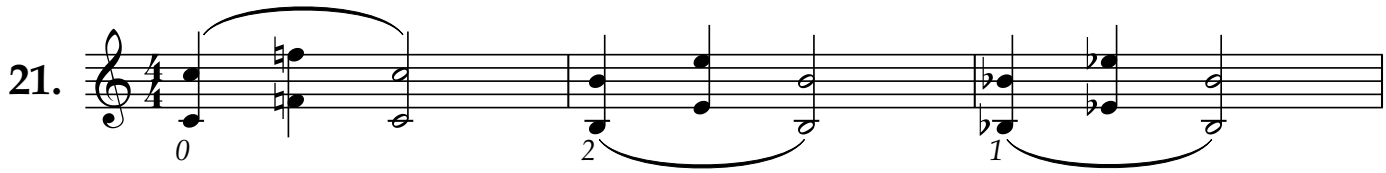

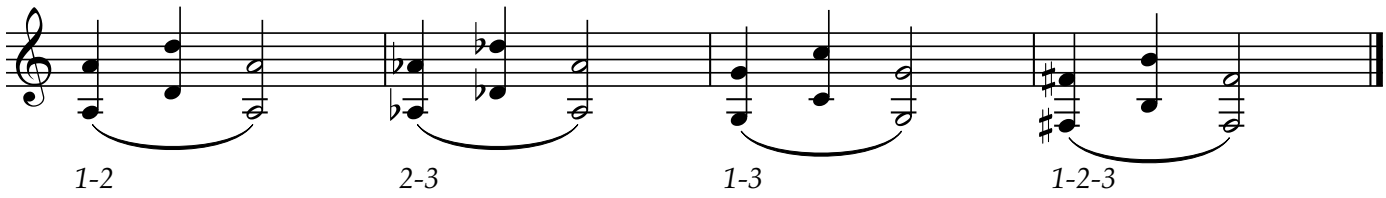

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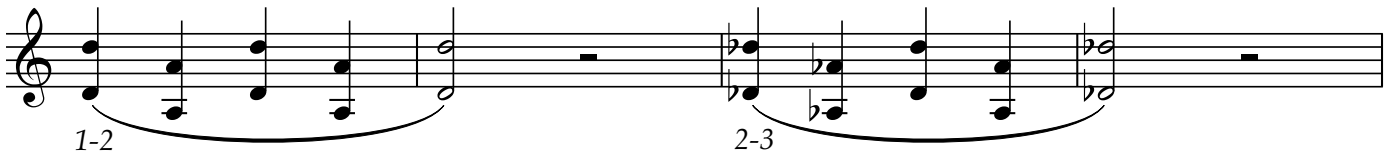

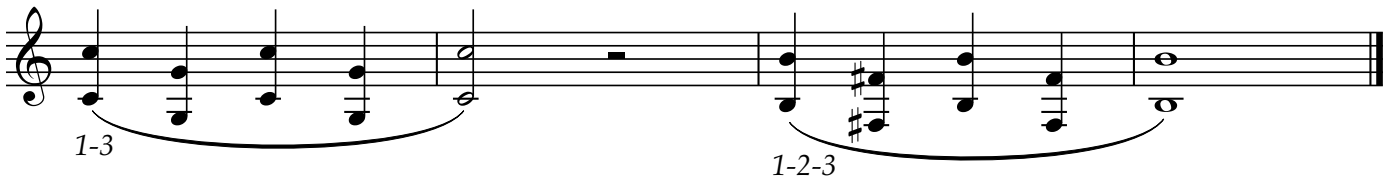

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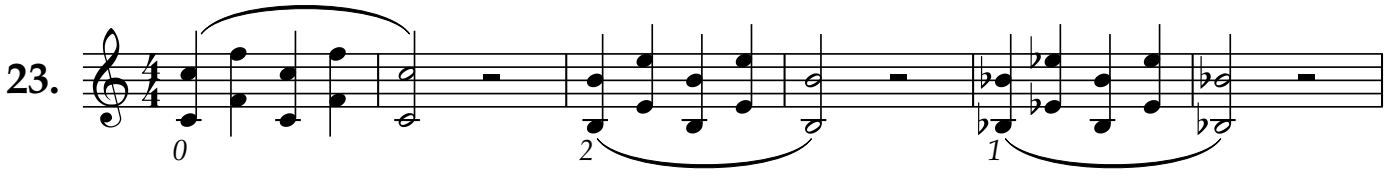
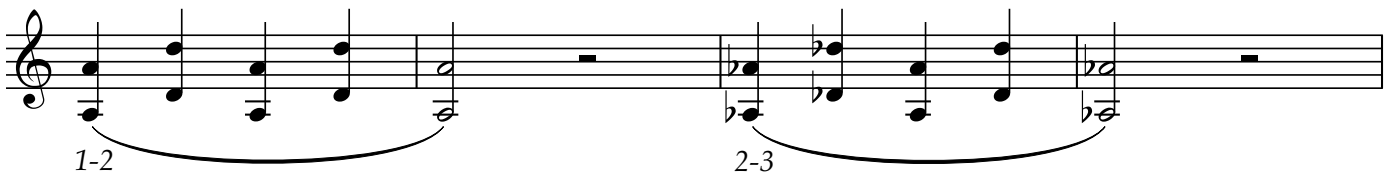
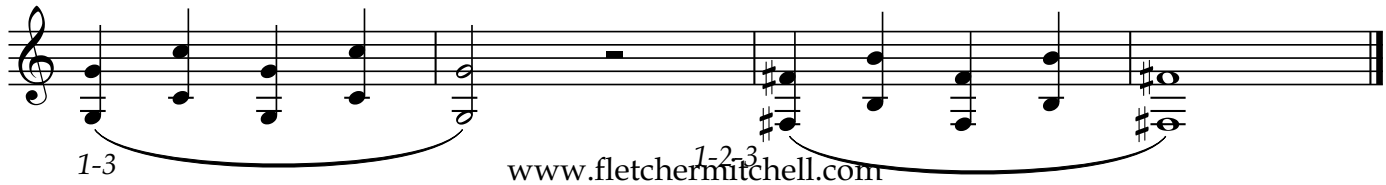
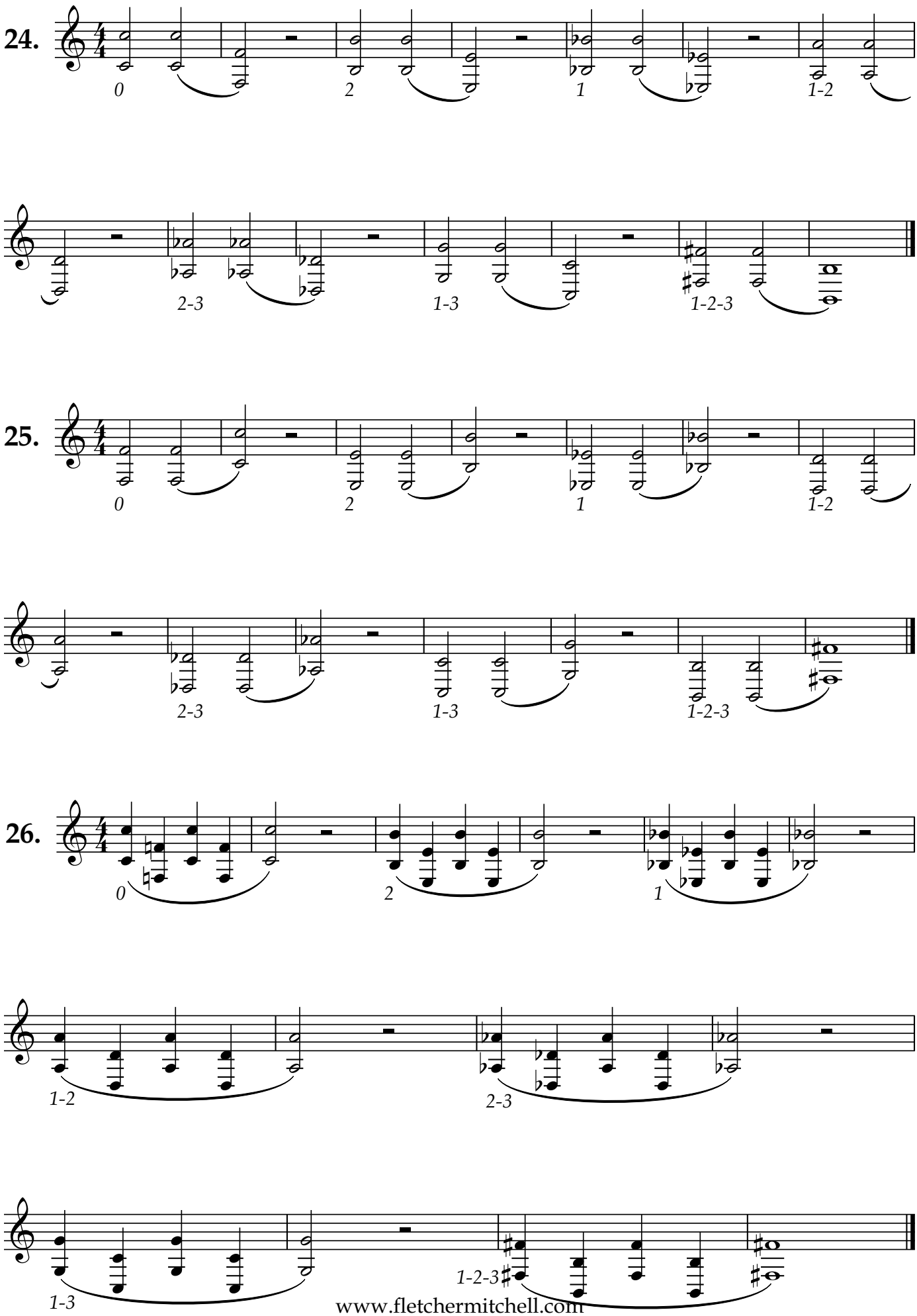






C to low G



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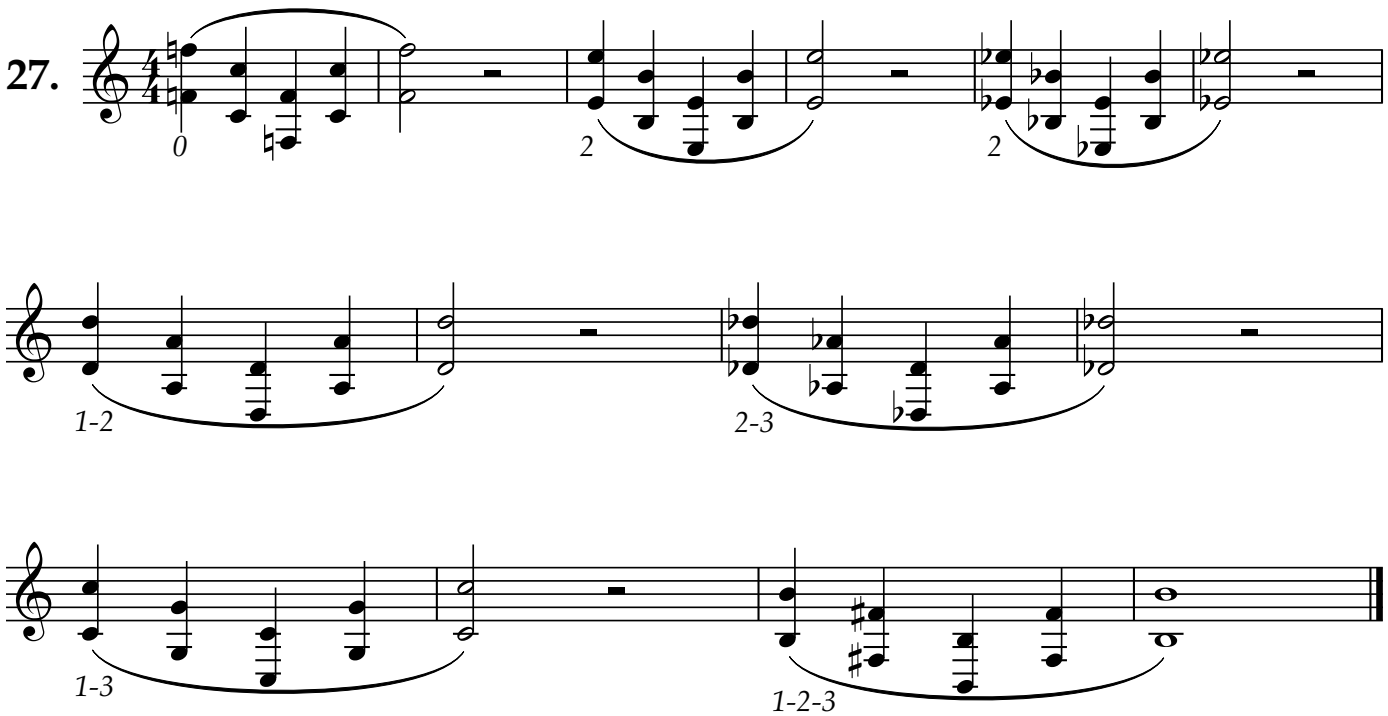

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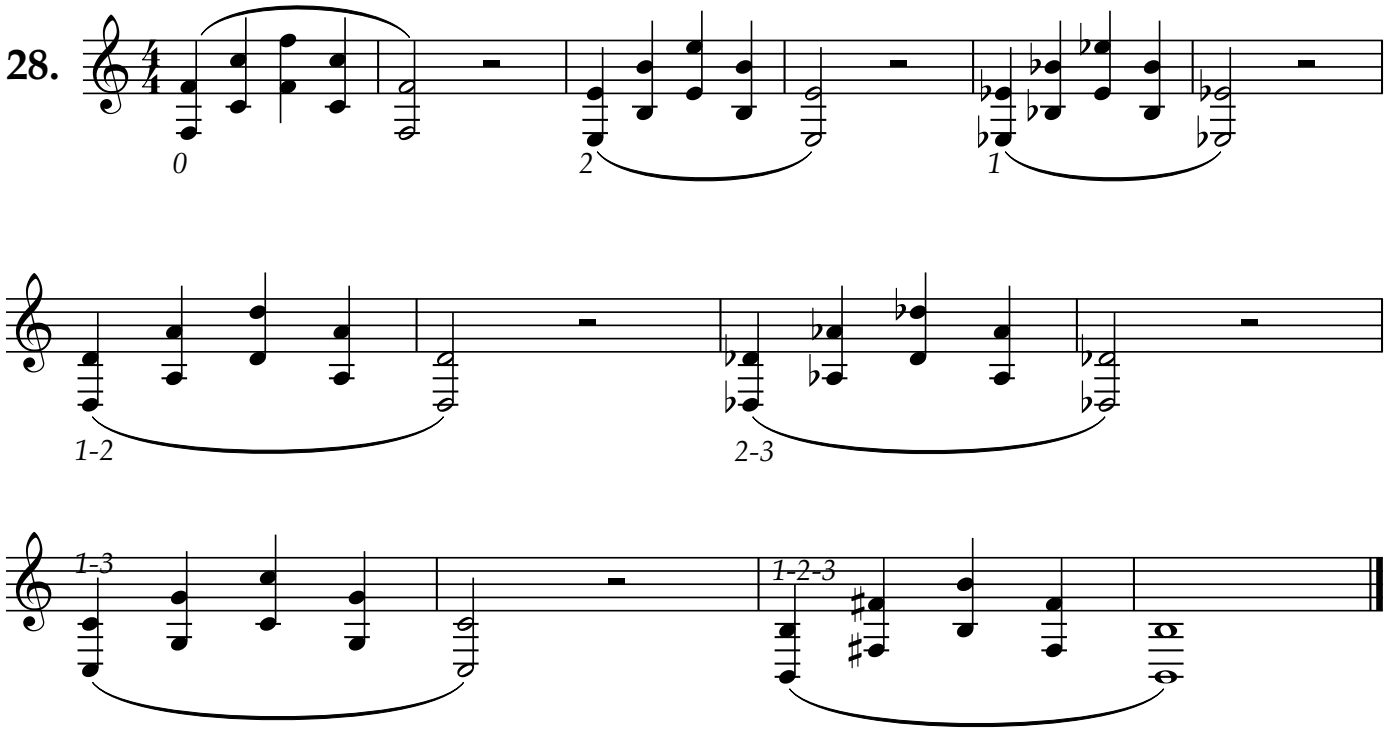

C to upper G

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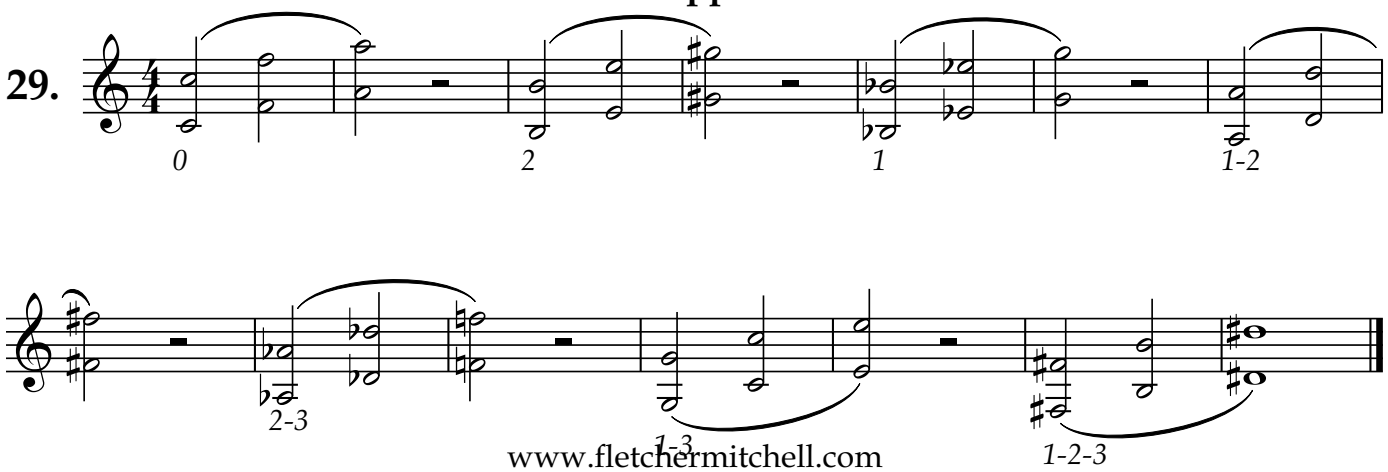

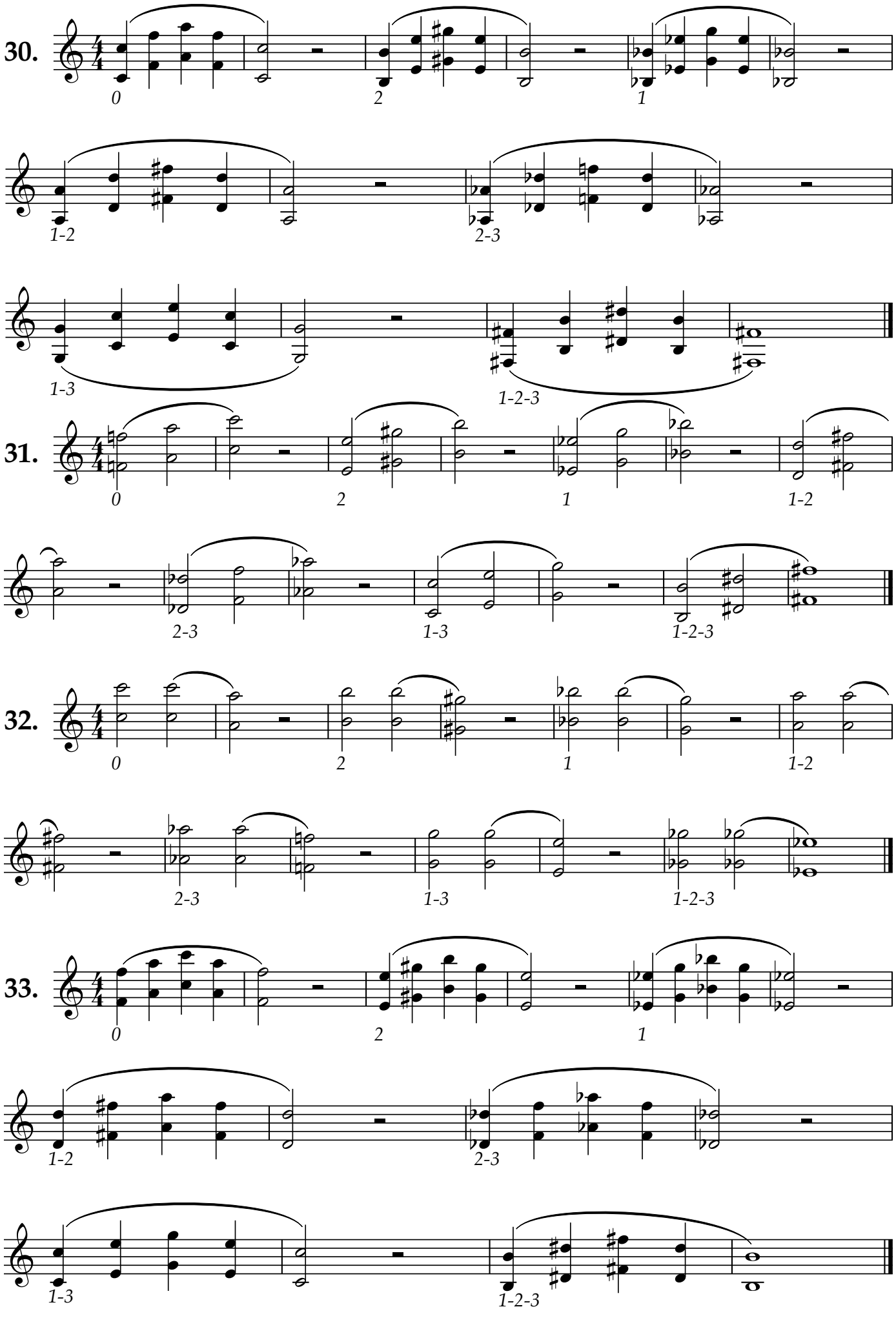
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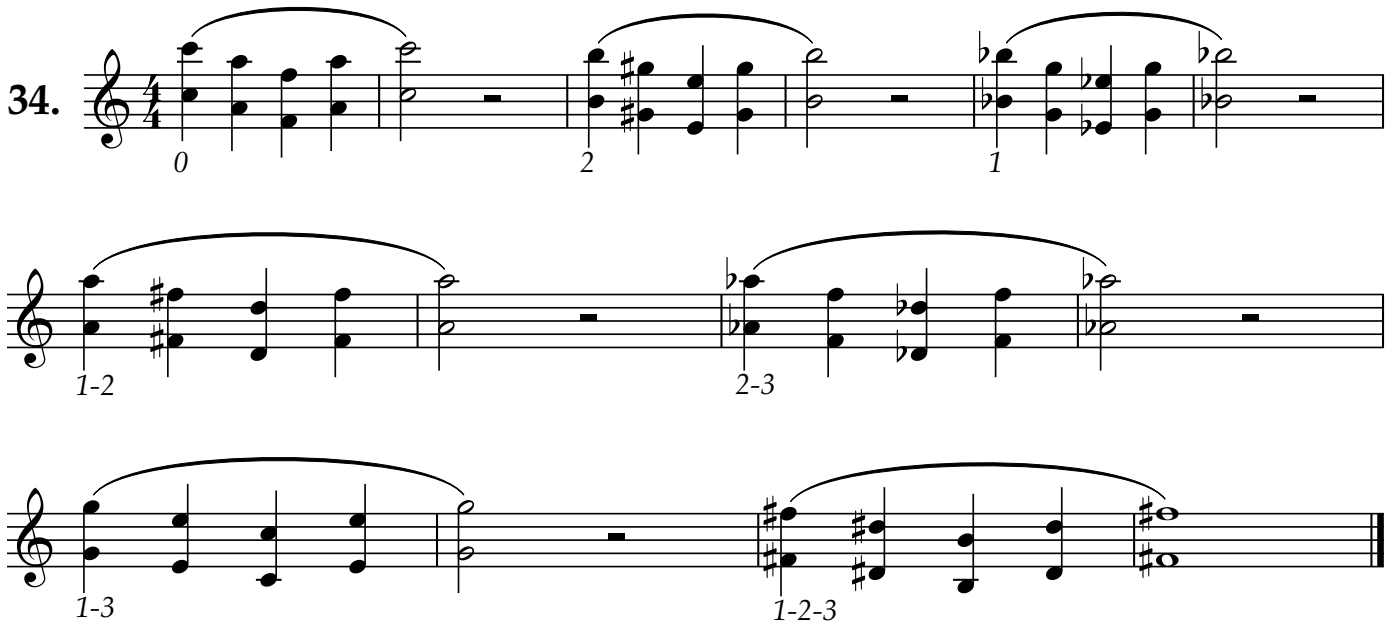
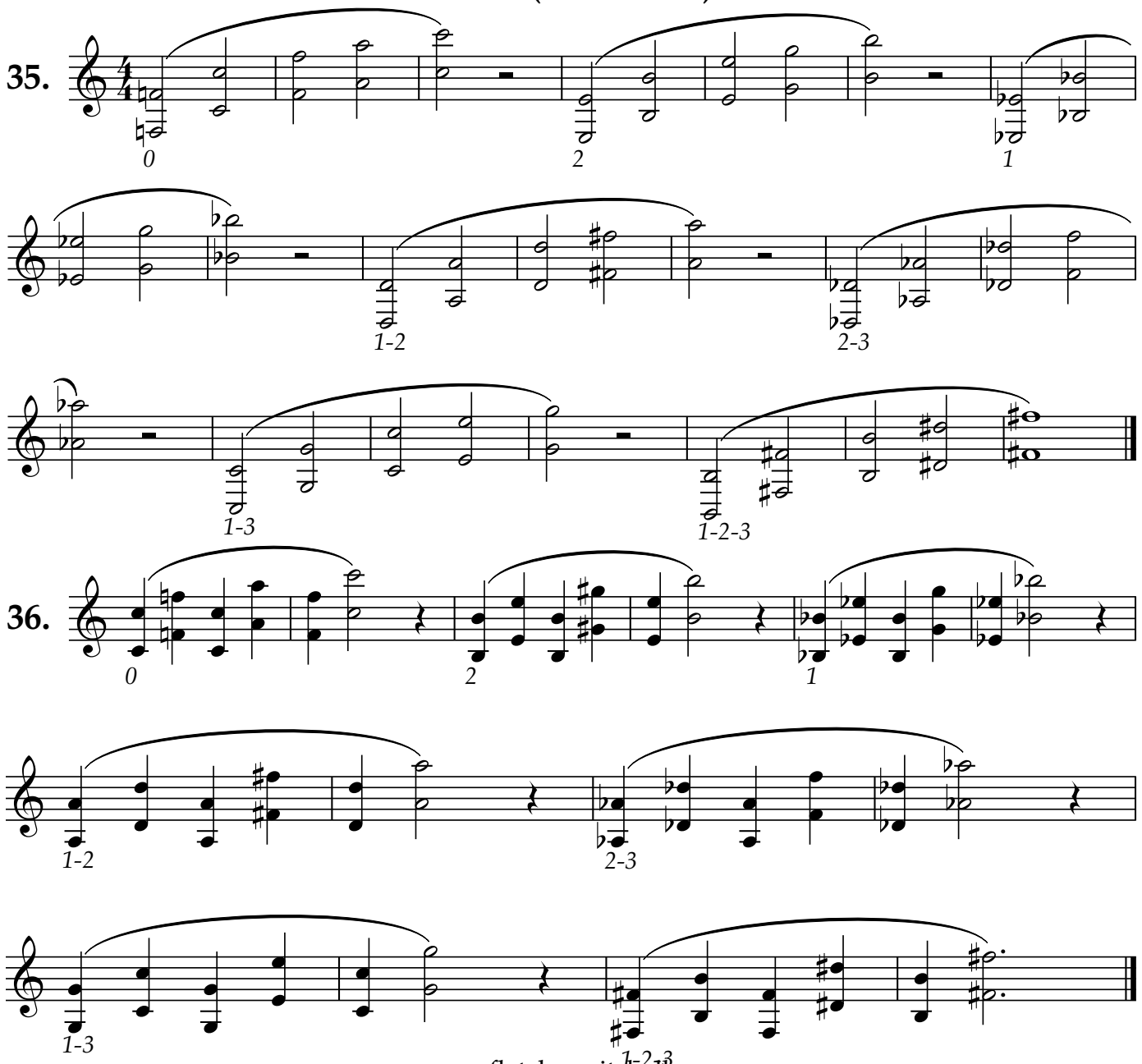


G to G (two octaves)



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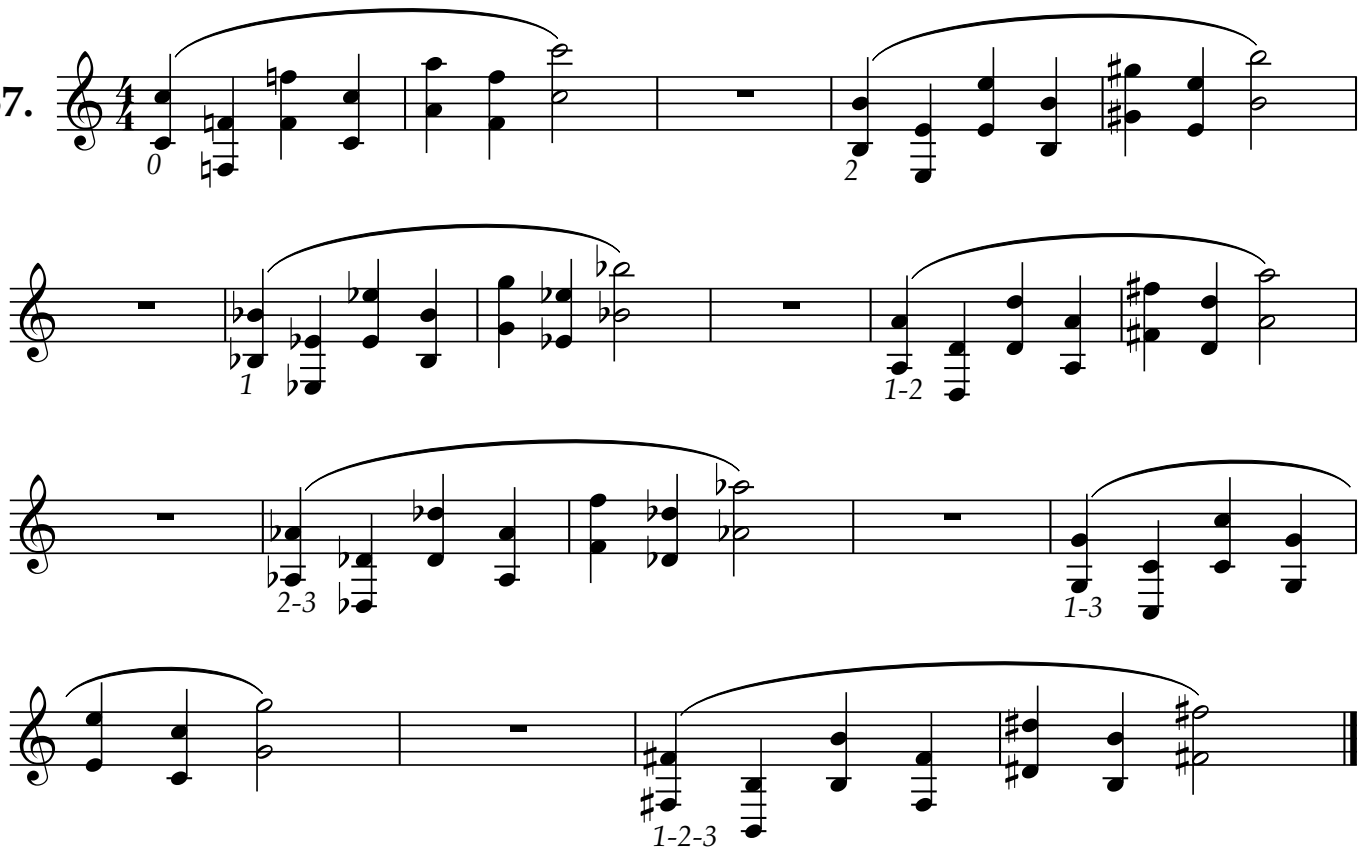

Mixed Intervals

Mixed intervals are used develop accuracy in attack and facility. Care must be taken to not change the position of the mouthpiece when moving from a low to a high note or from a high to a low note.

C Major

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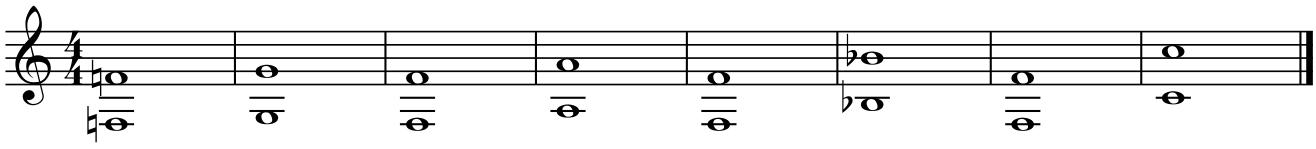

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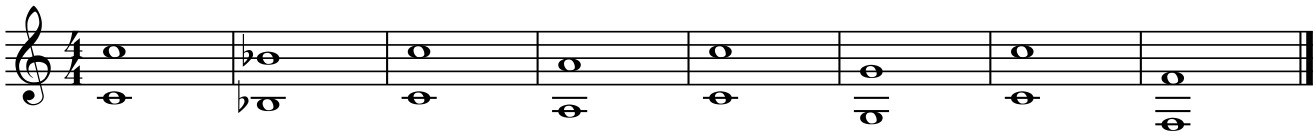

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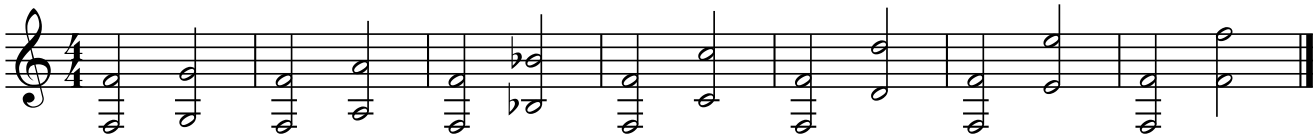

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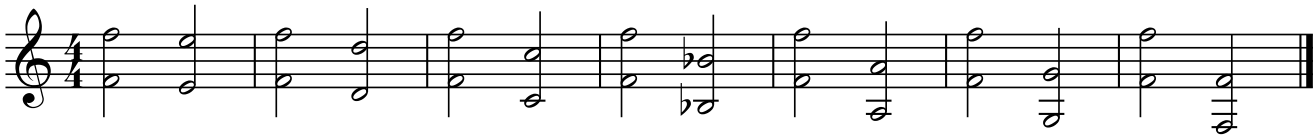

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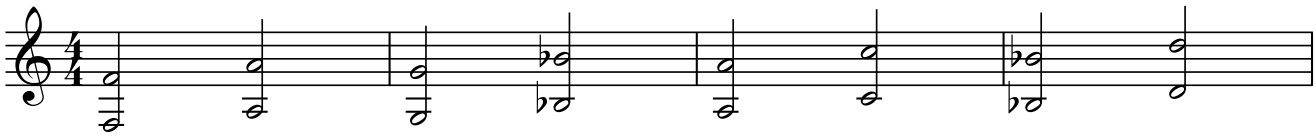

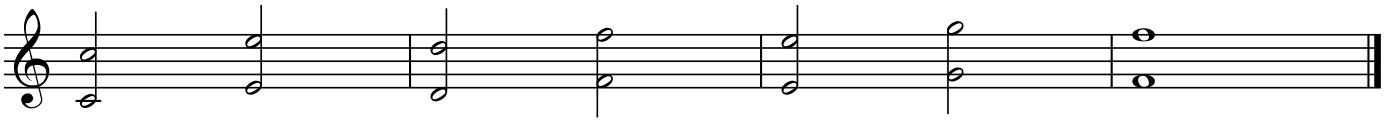

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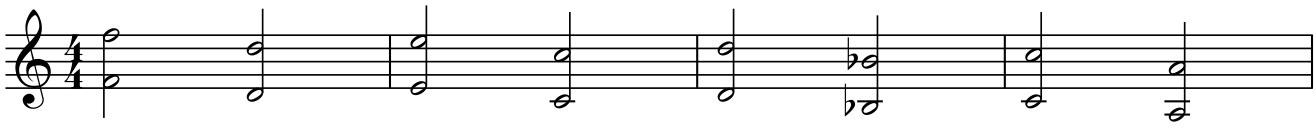

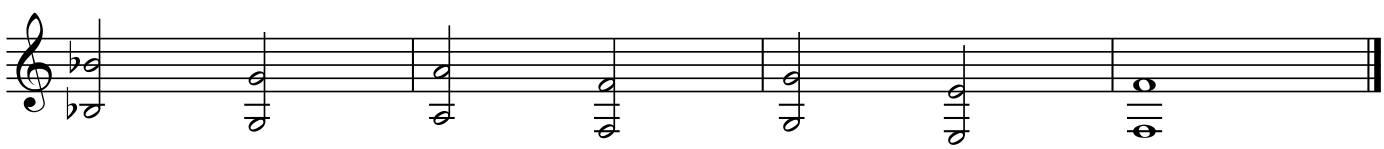

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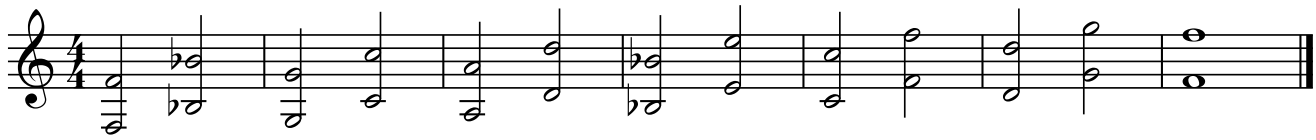

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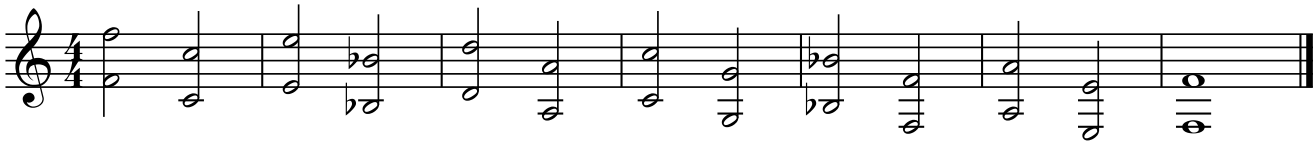

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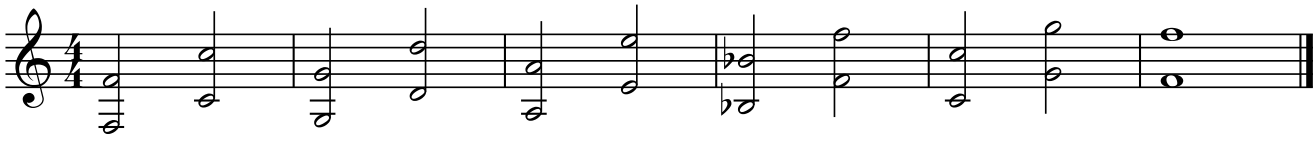

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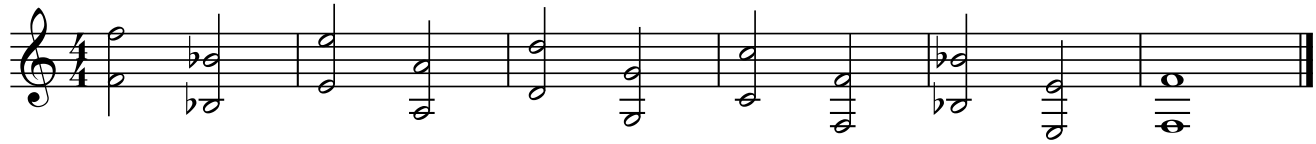

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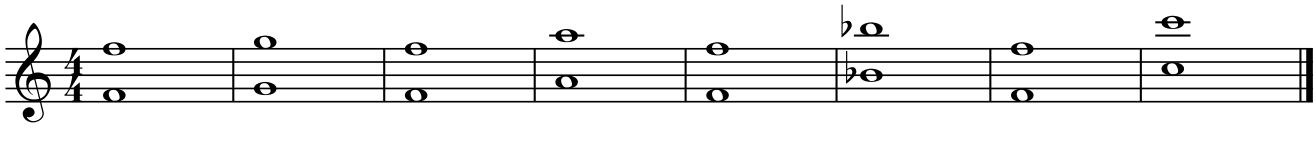

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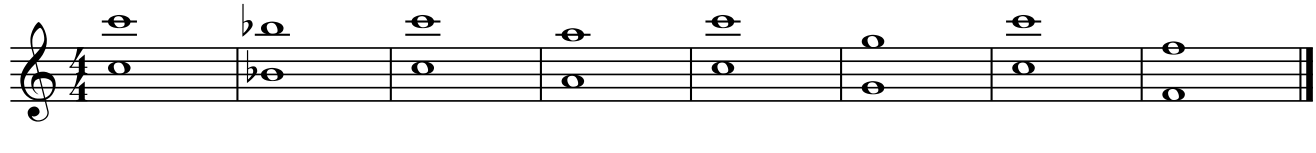

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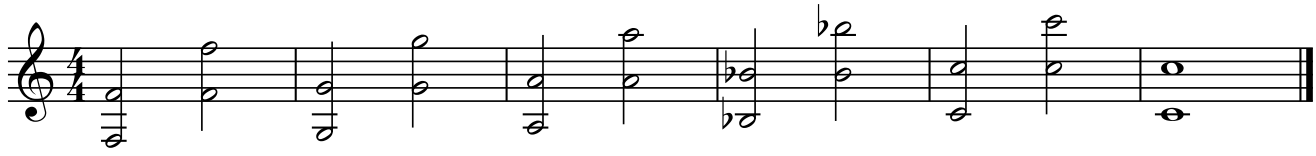

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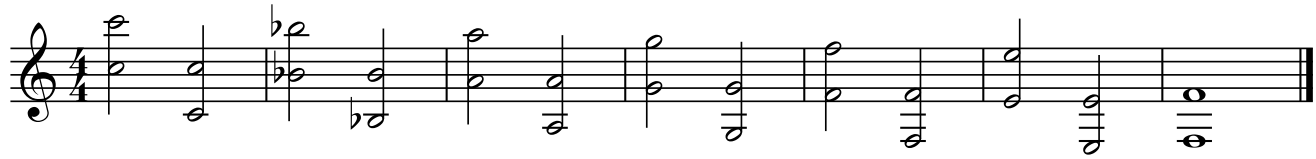

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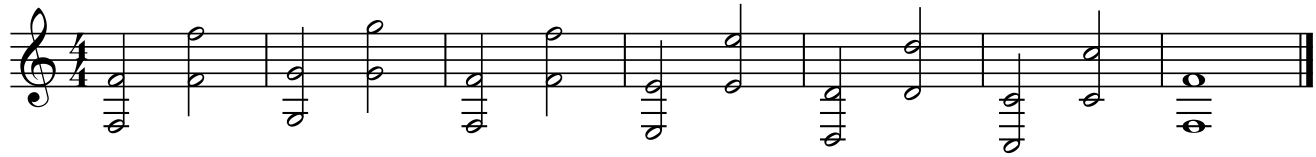

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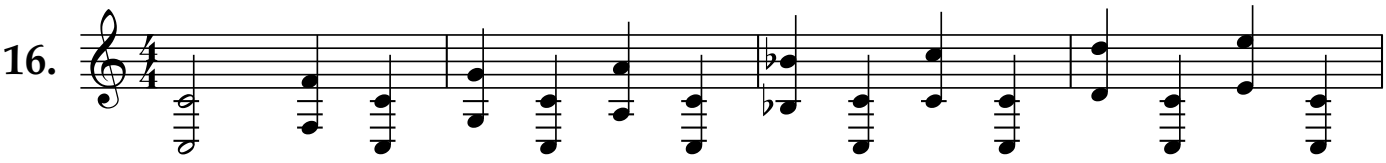

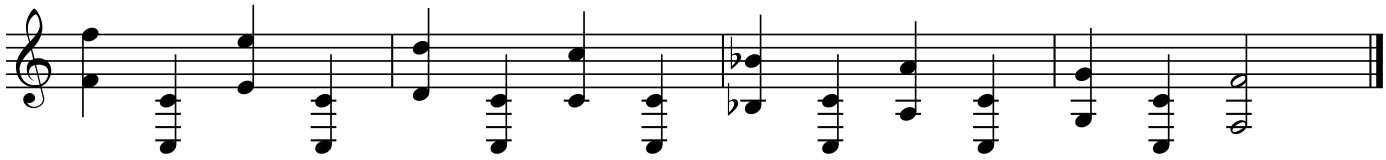

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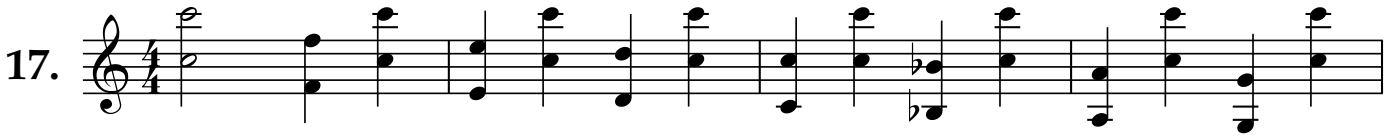

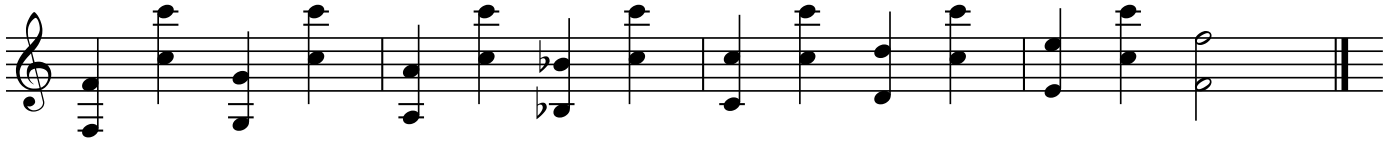

F Major

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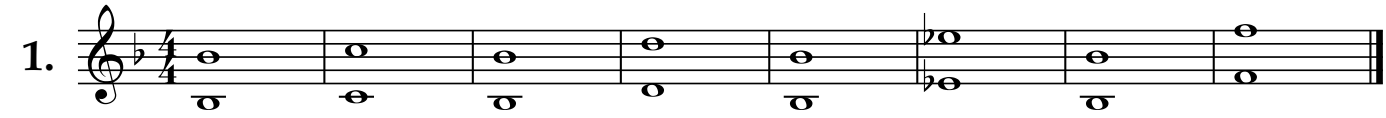

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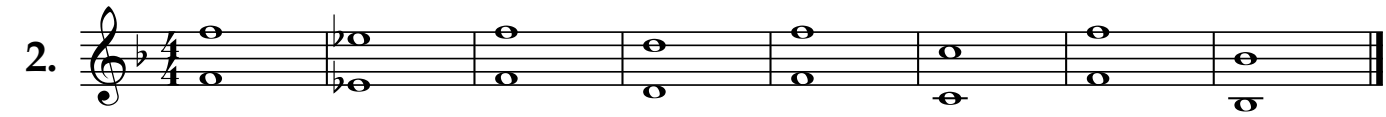

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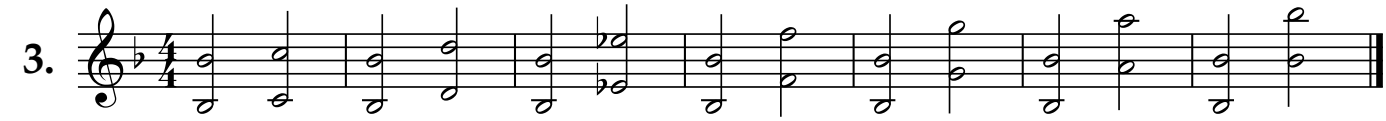

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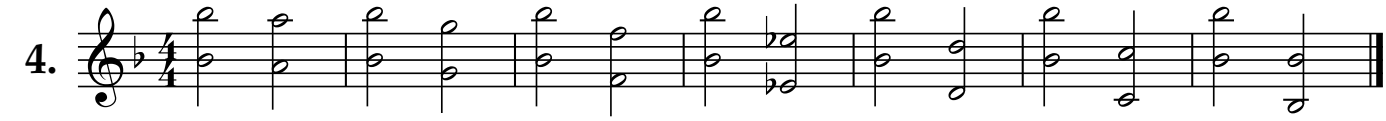

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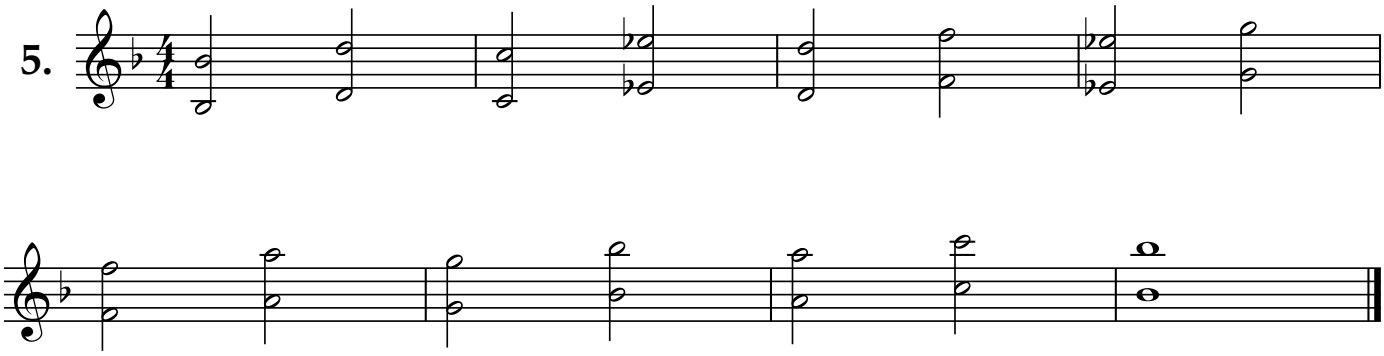

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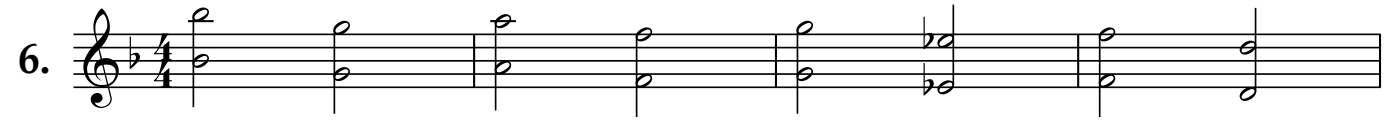

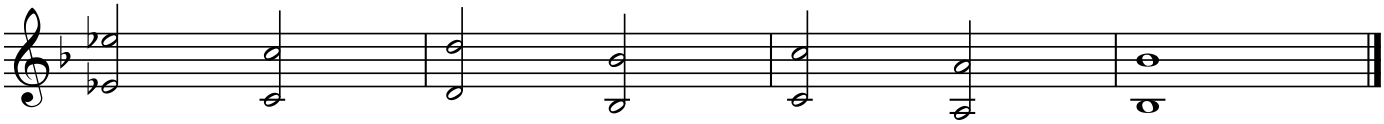

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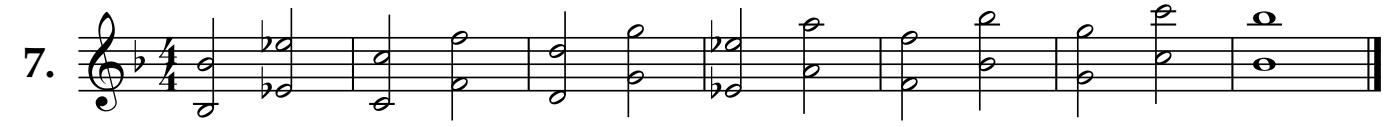

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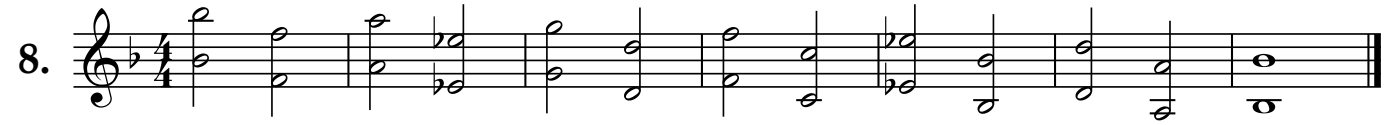

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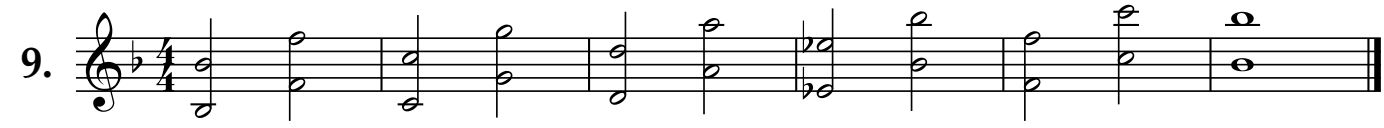

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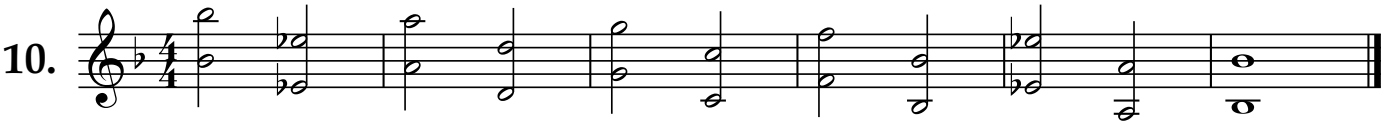

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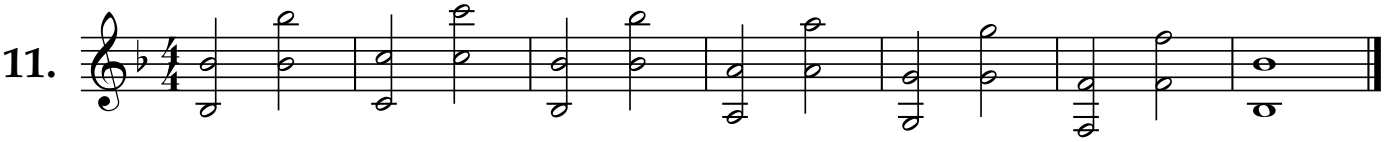

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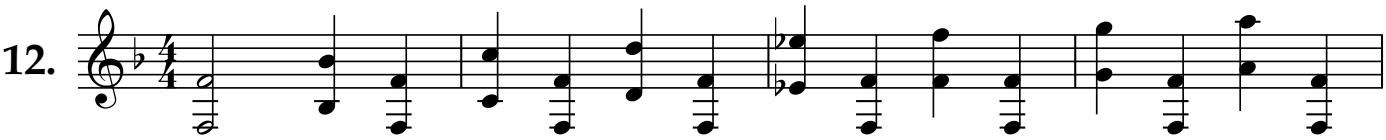

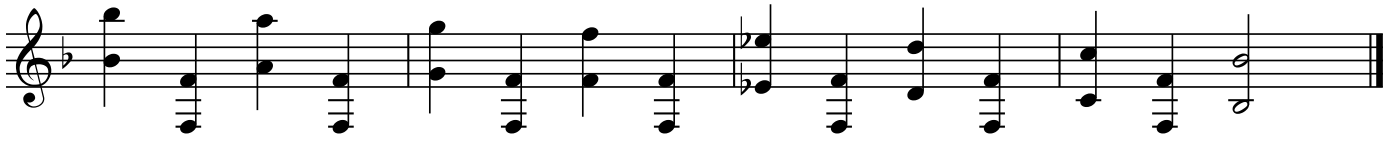

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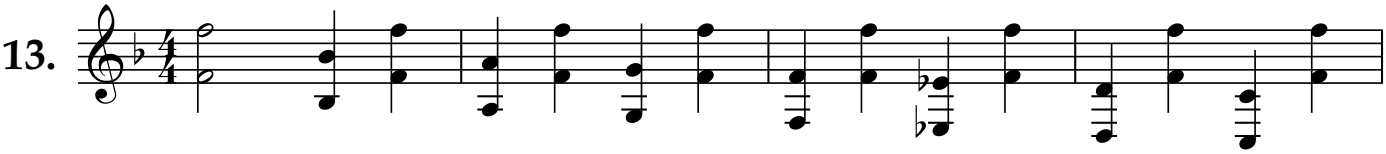

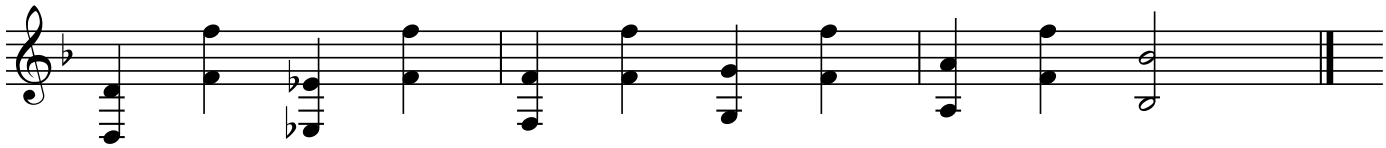

Bb Major

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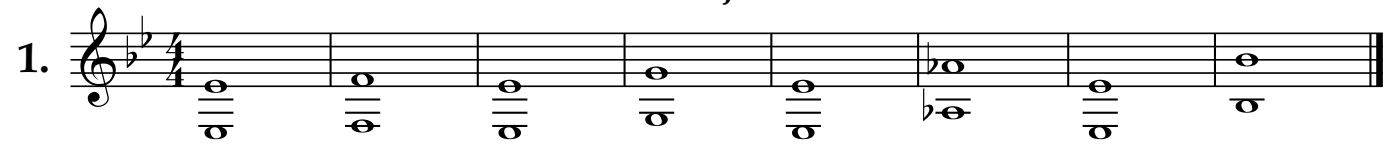

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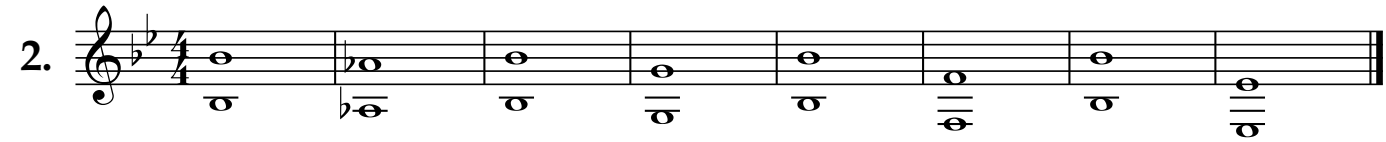

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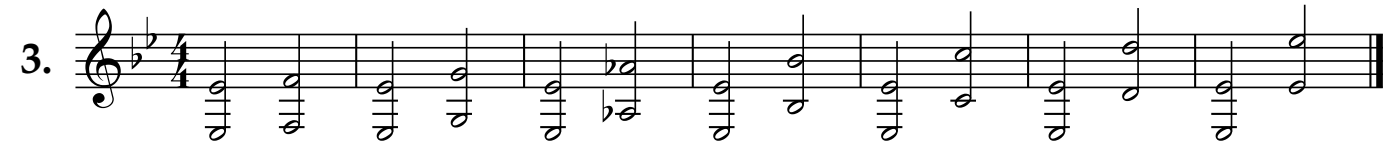

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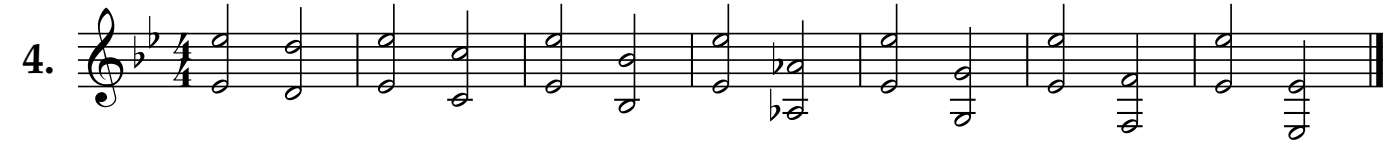

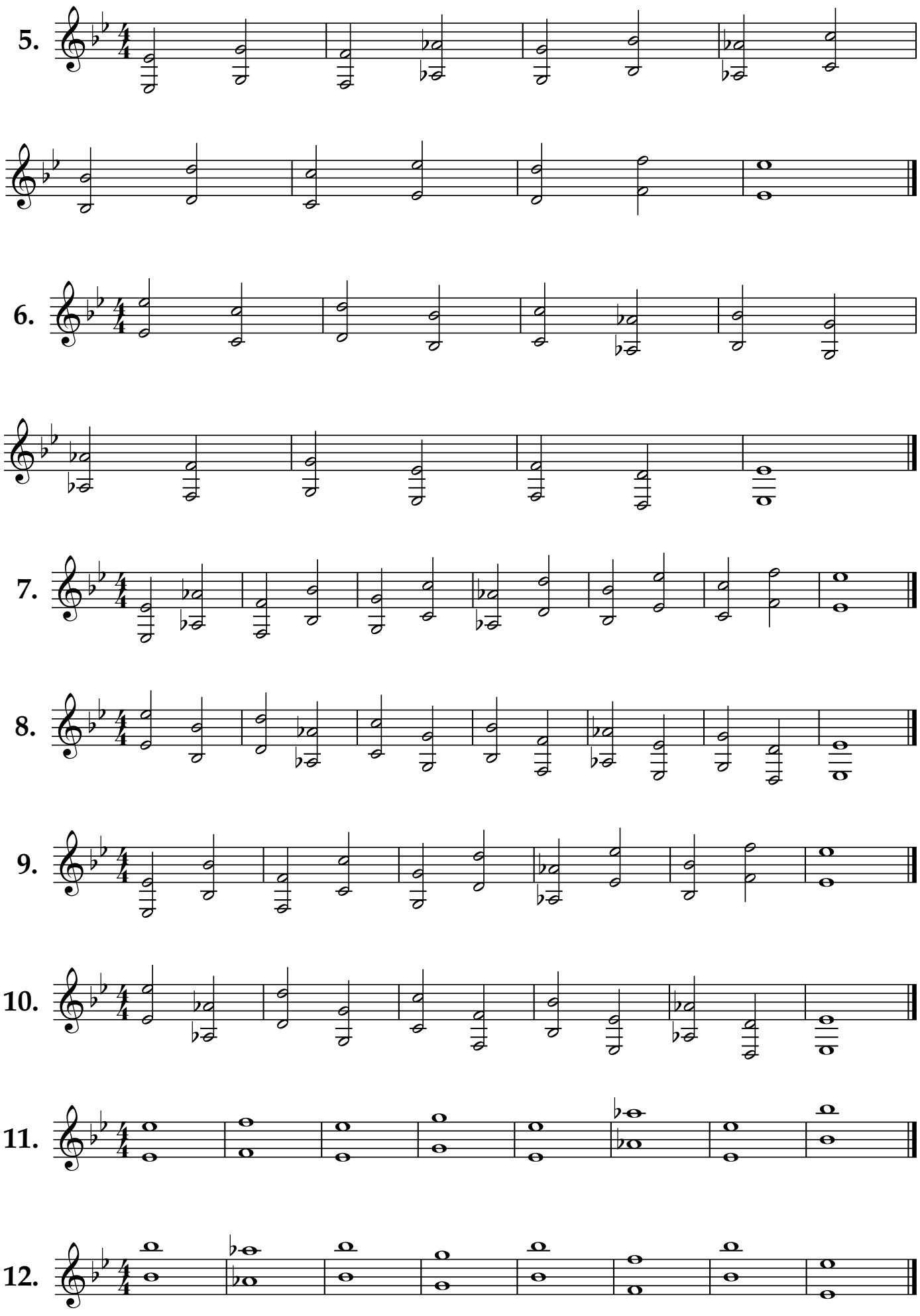
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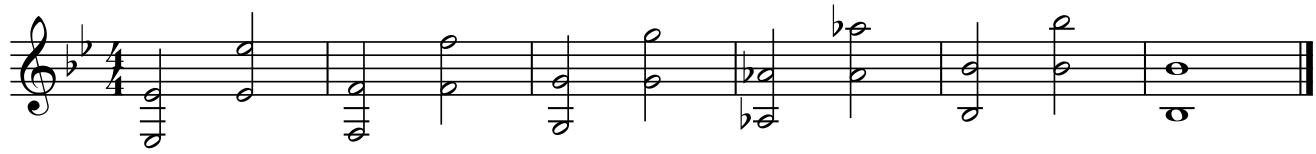

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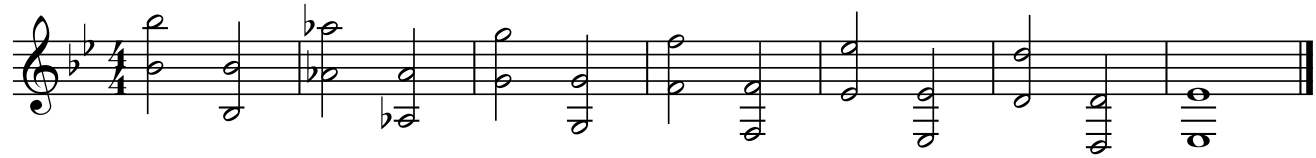

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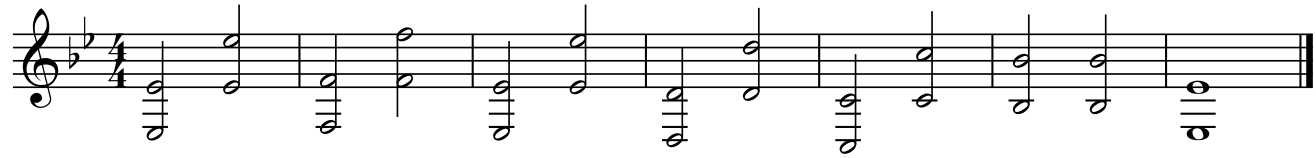

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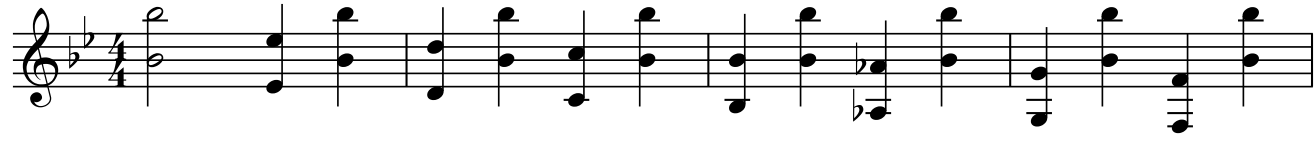

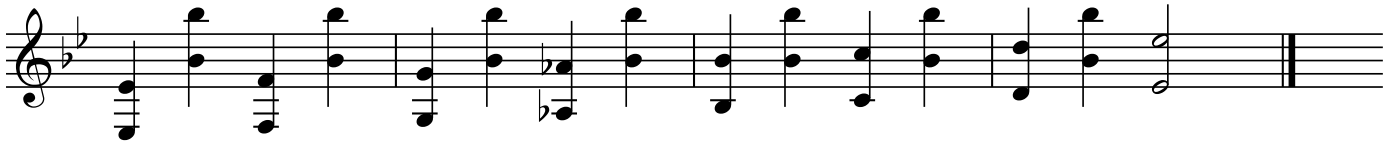

Eb Major

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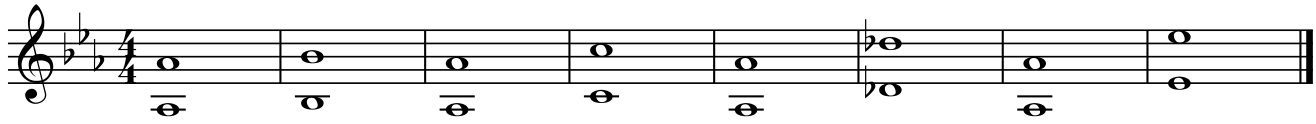

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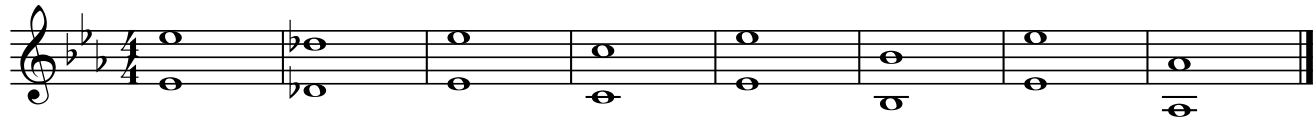

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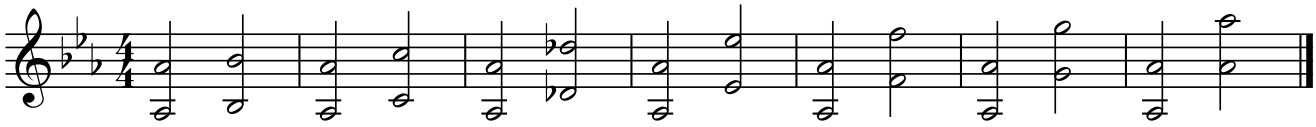

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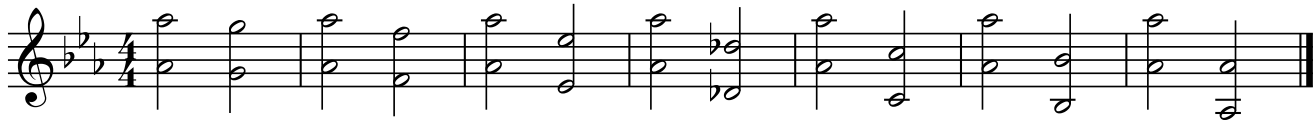

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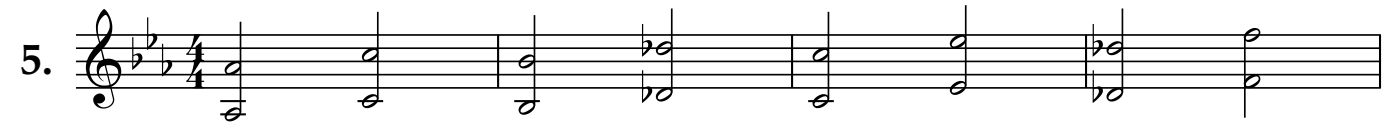

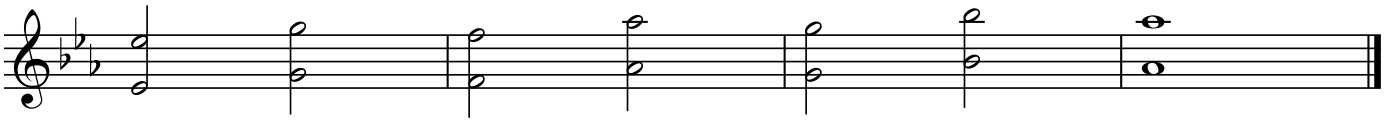

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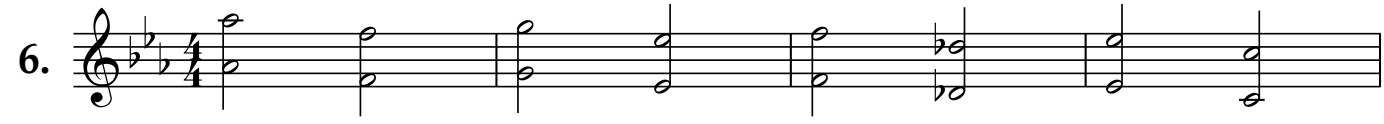

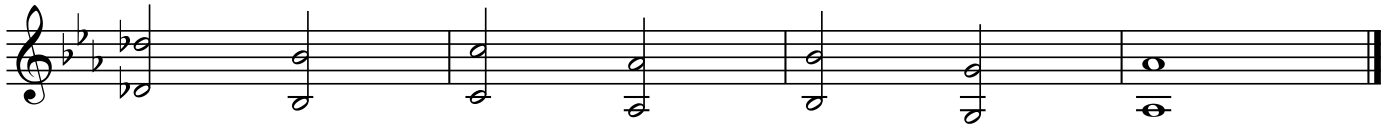

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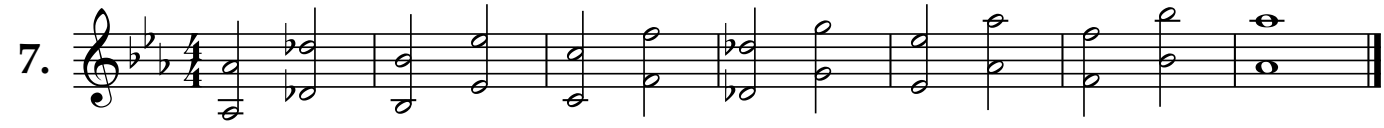

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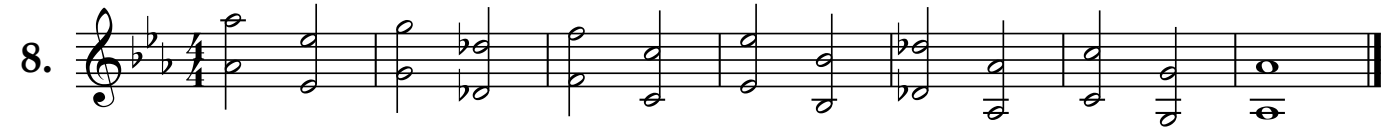

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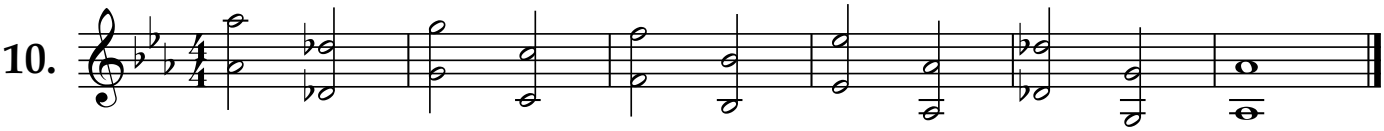

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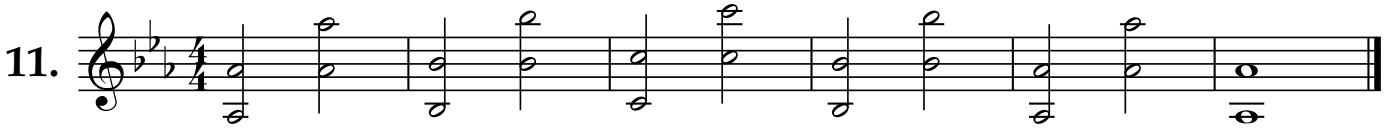

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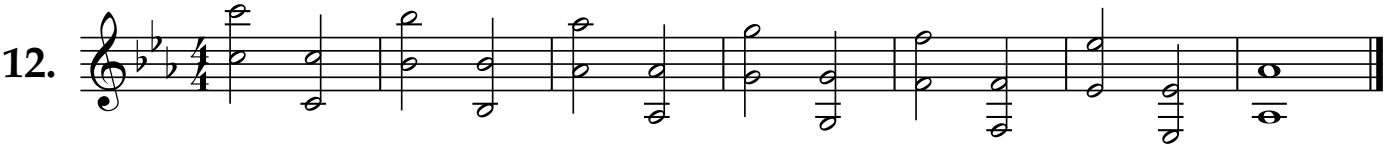

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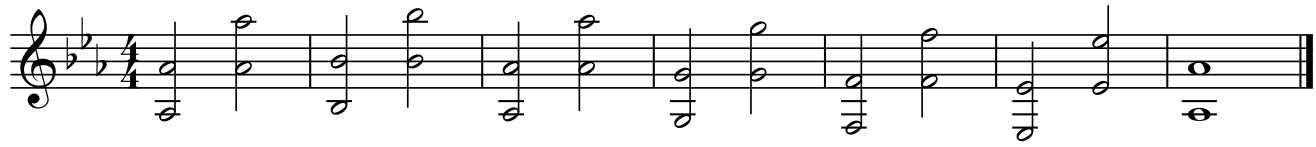

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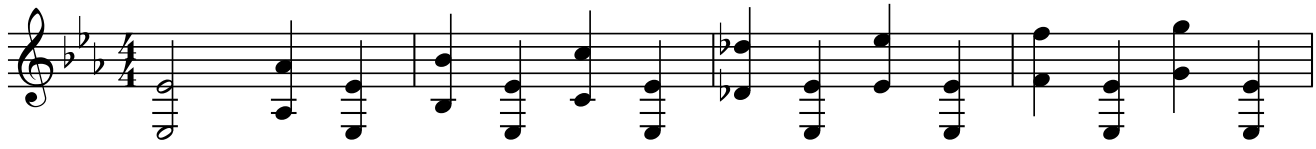

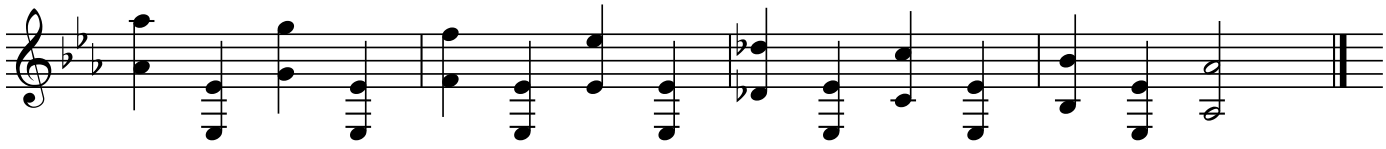

G Major

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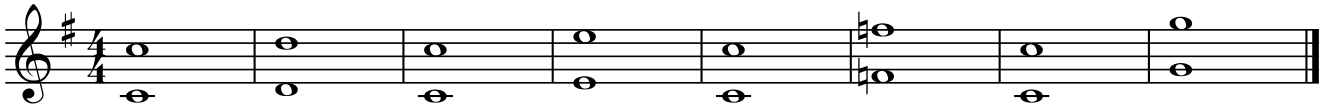

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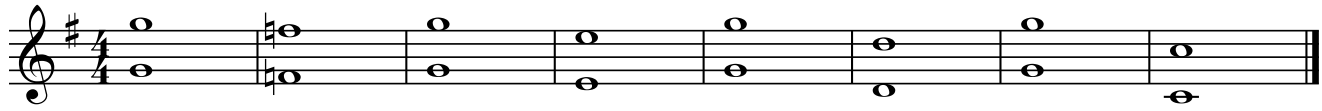

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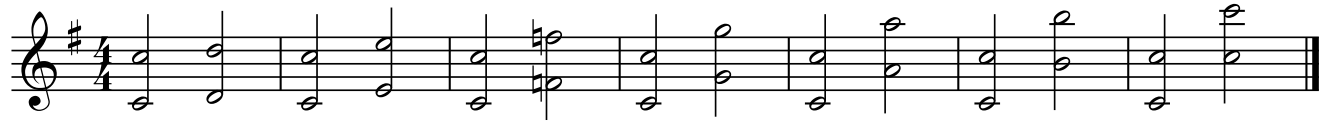

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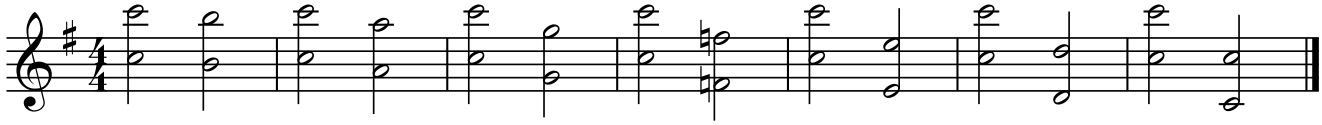

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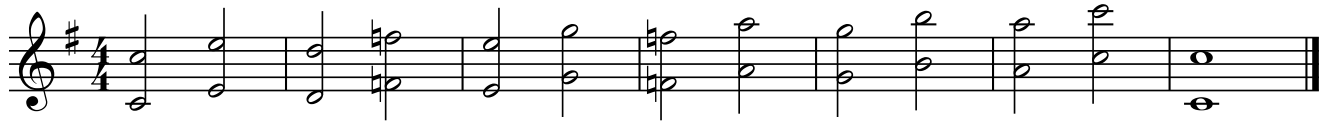

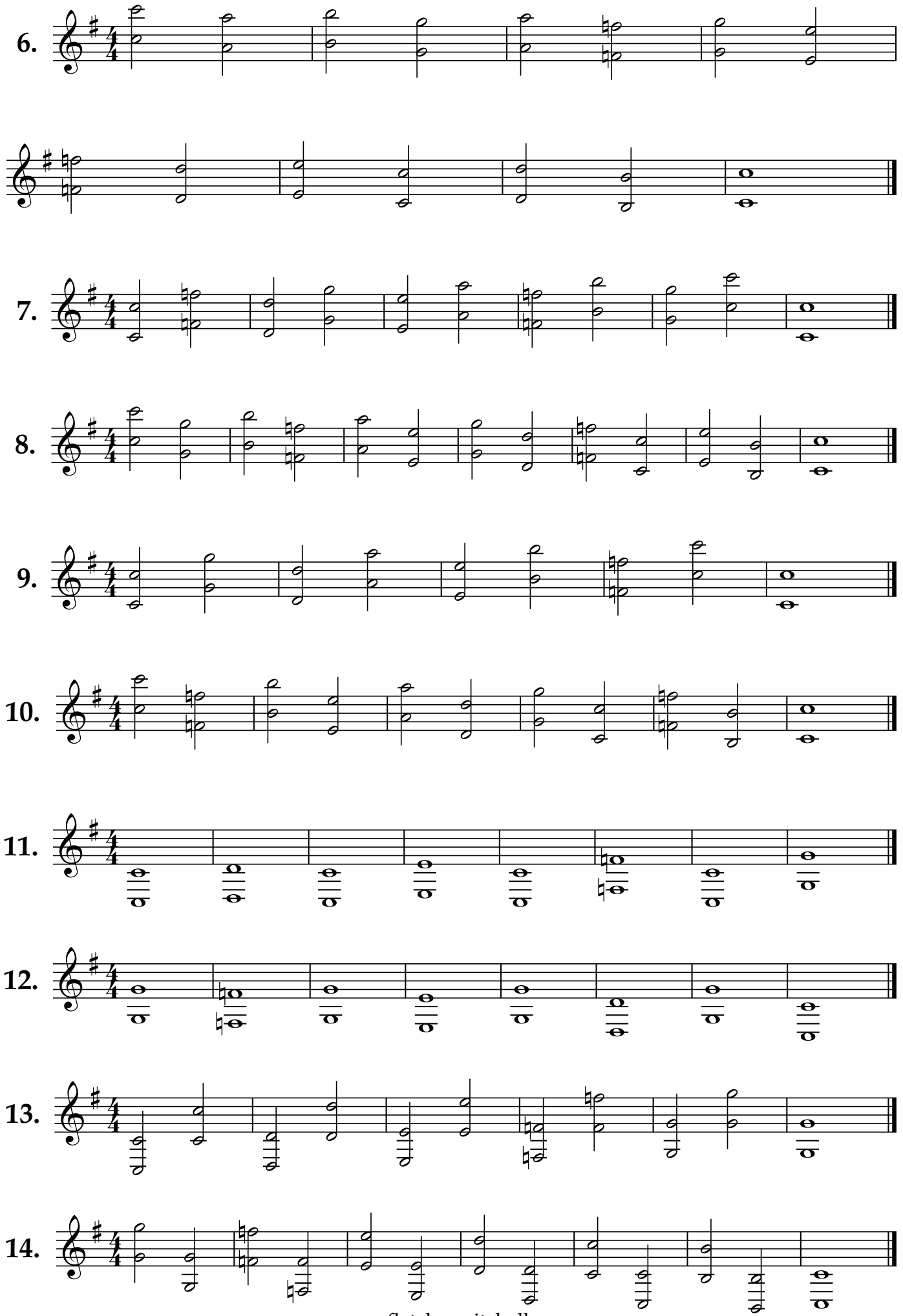
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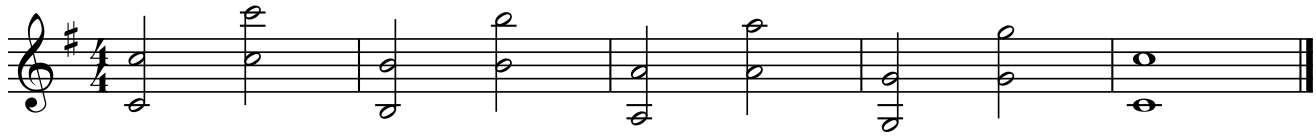

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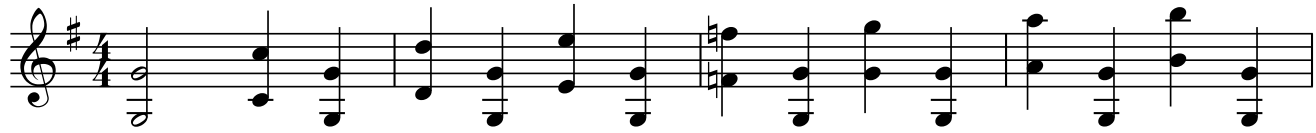

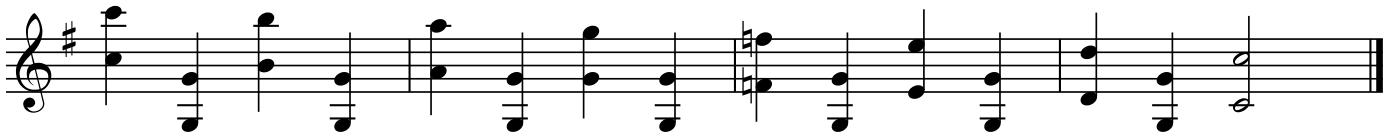

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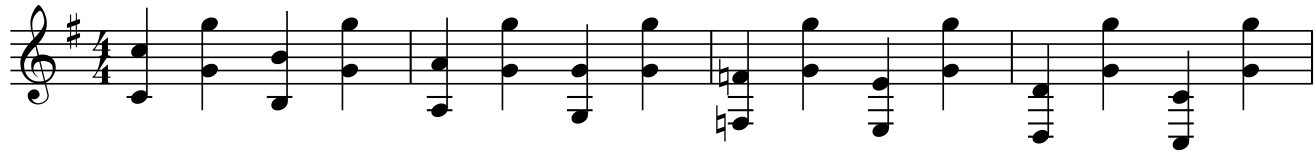

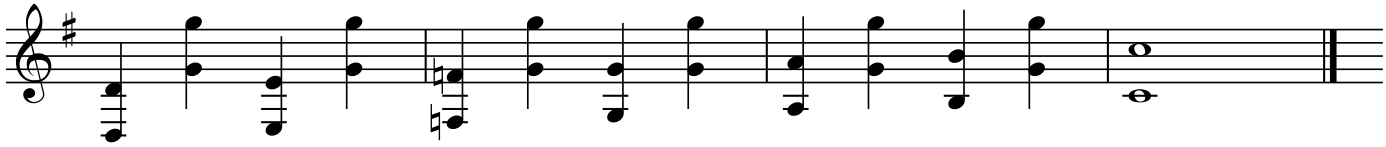

D Major

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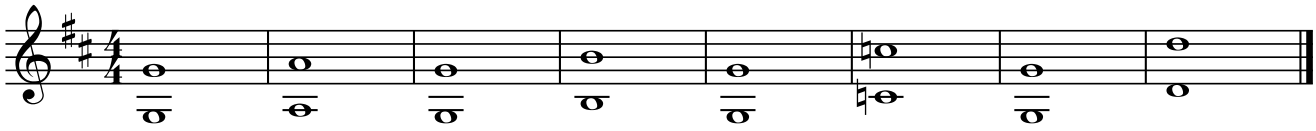

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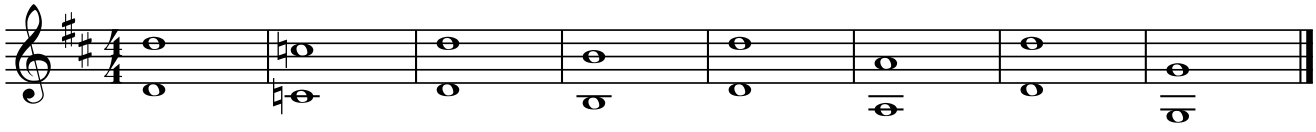

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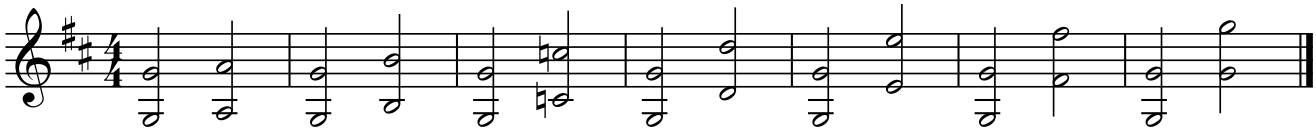

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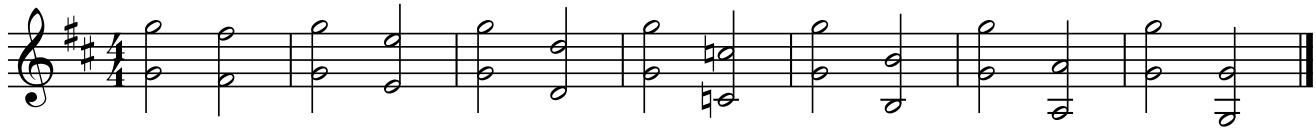

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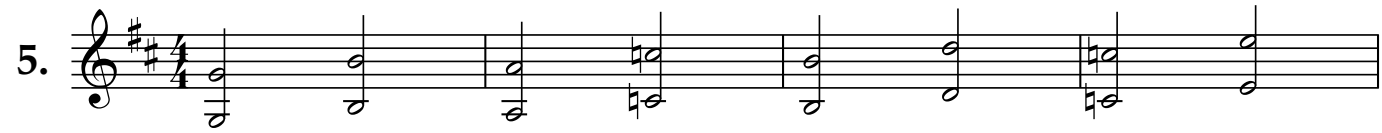

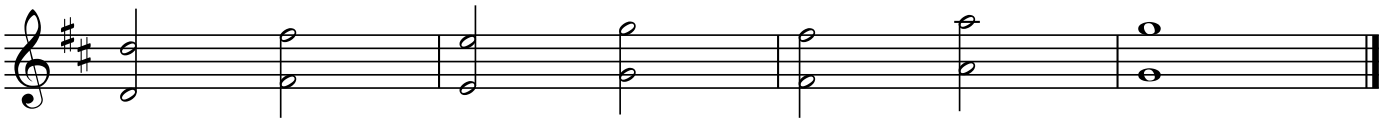

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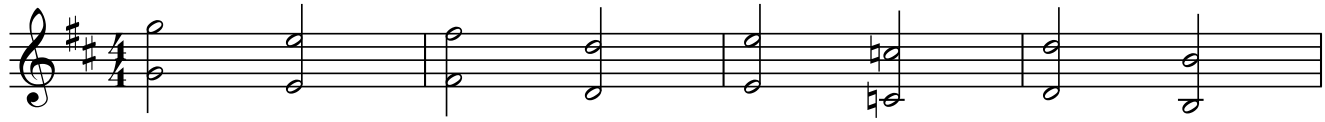

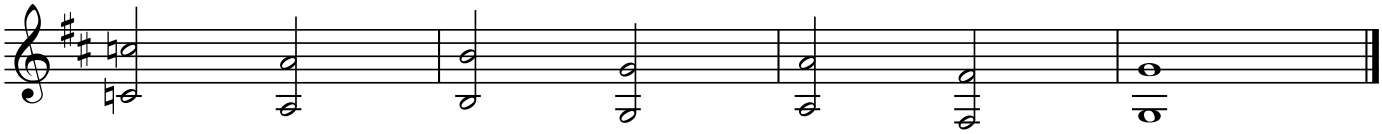

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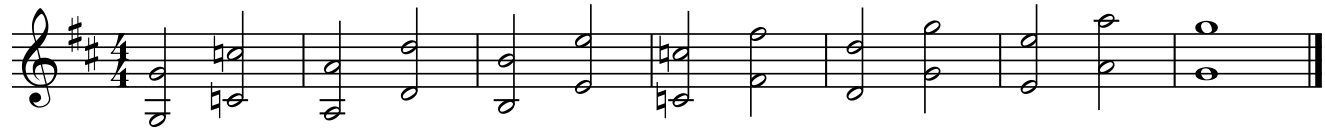

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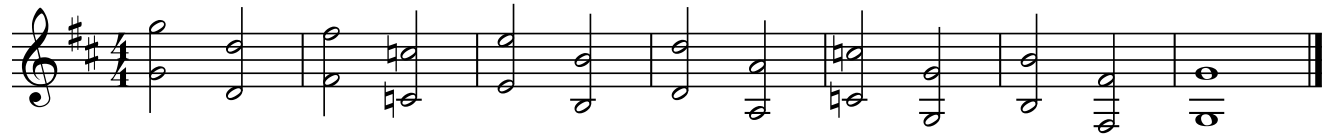

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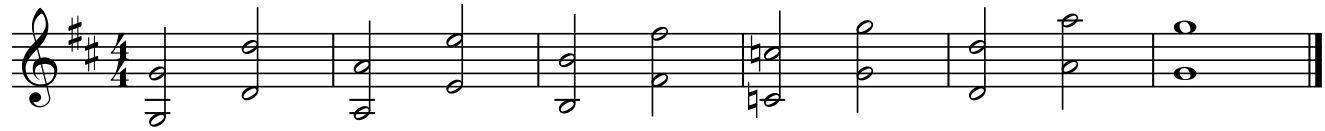

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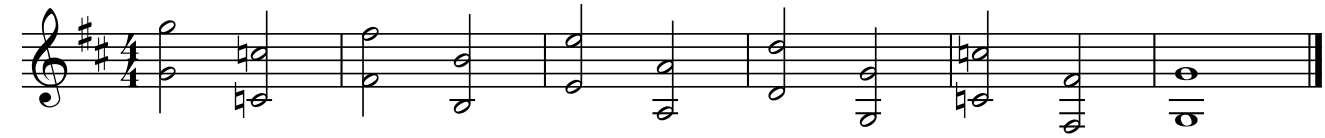

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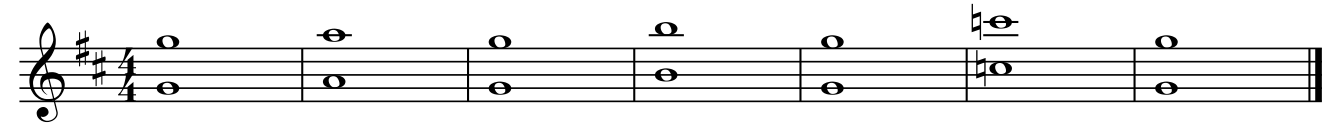

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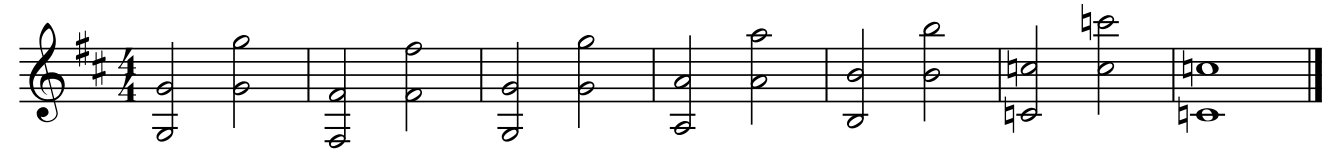

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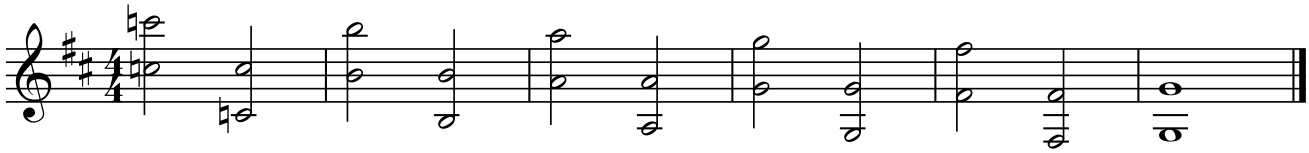

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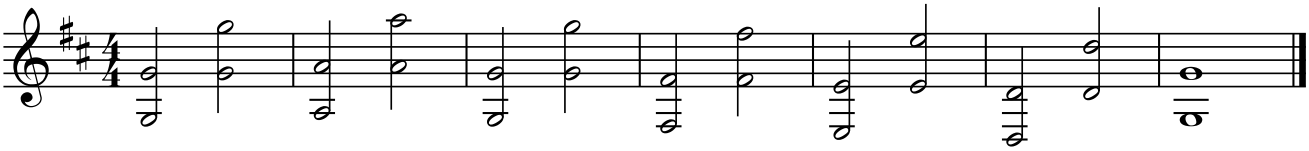

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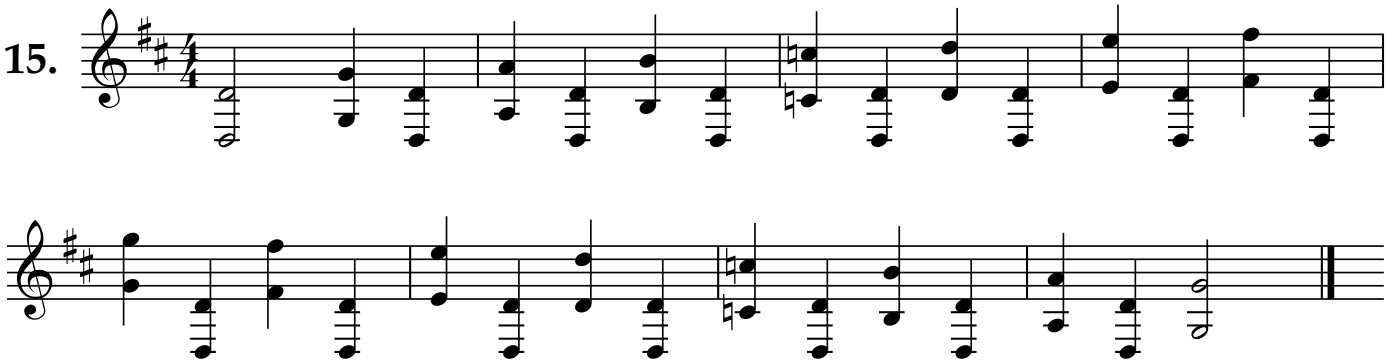
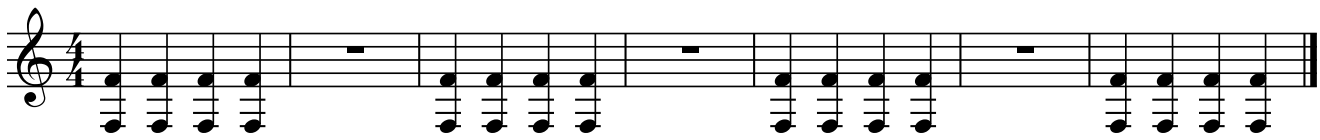


Articulations

Good articulation can really make music come alive. Take care to practice these exercsises acurately. All articulation exercises should be done slowly to begin. The key to good rapid articulation is perfect slow articulation. Any small blemish in slow articulation is magnified when the tempo increases.

1.



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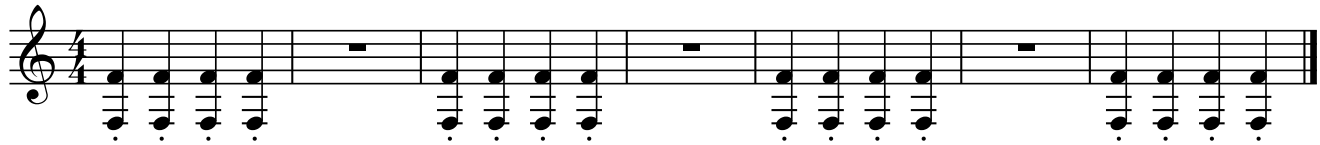

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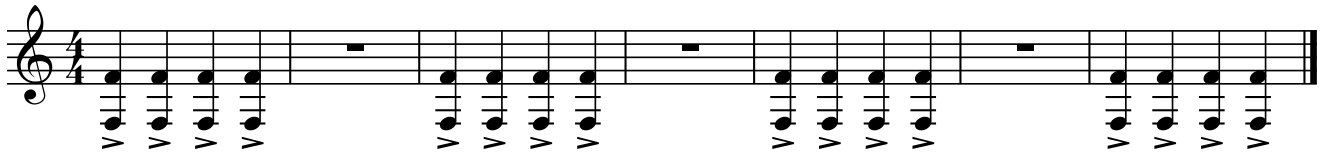

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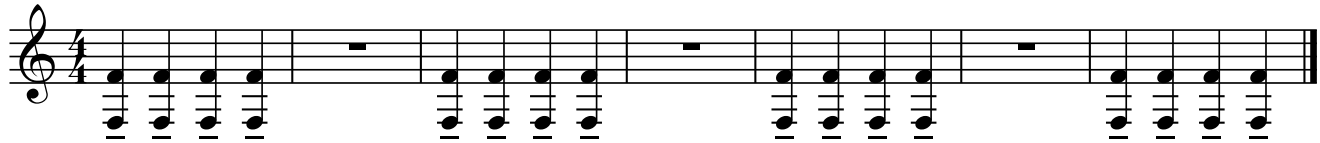

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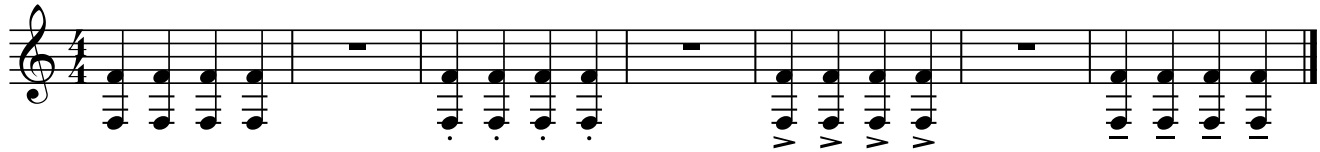

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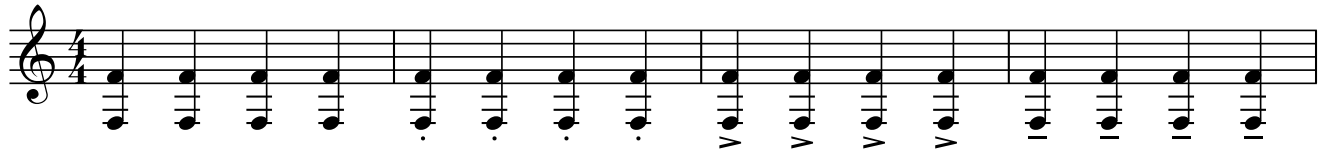

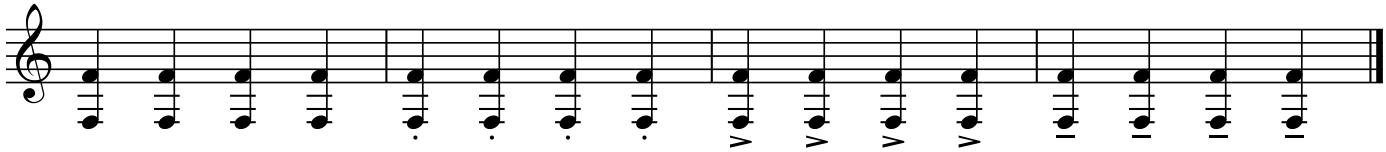

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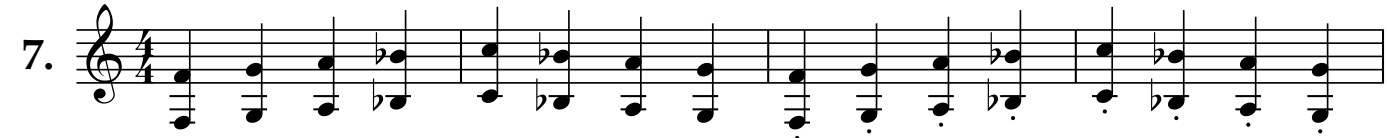

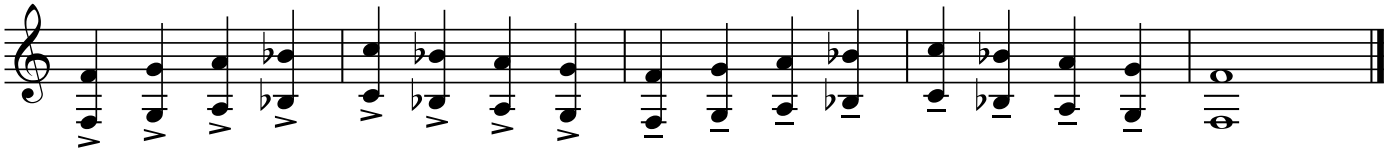

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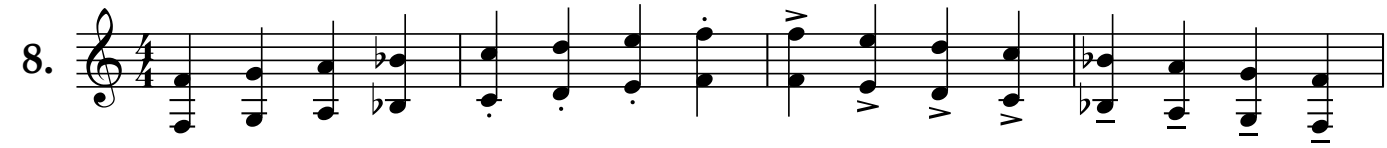

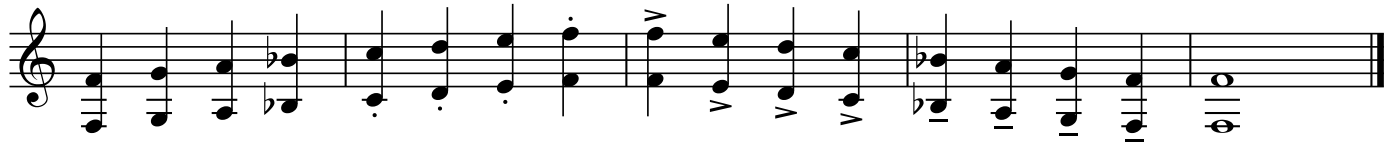

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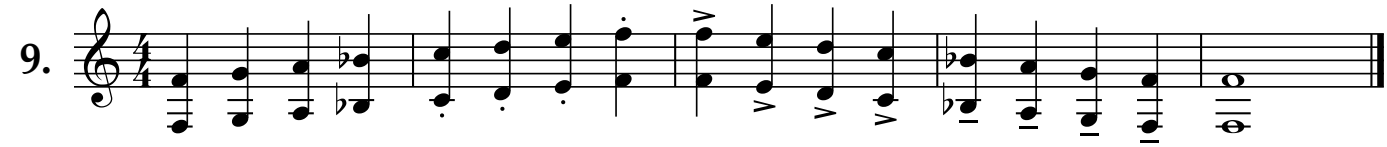

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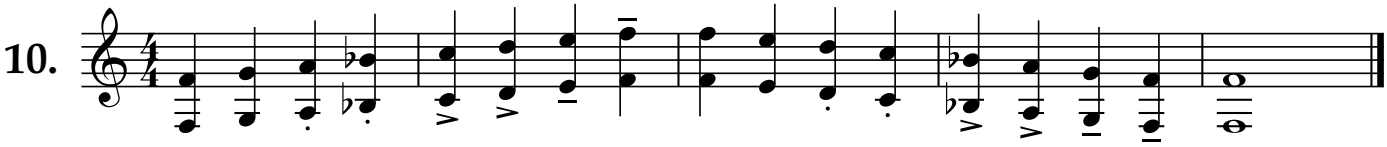

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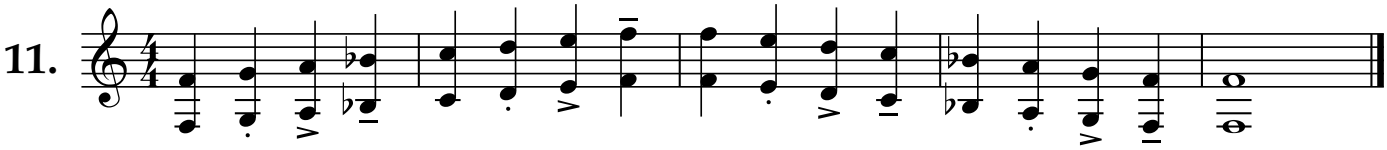

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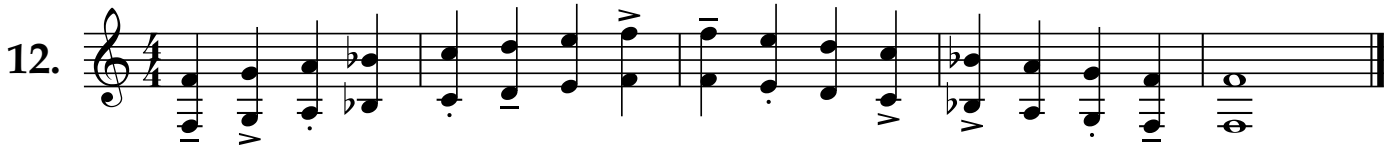

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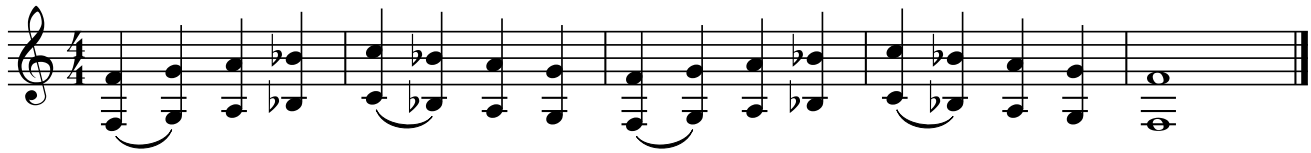

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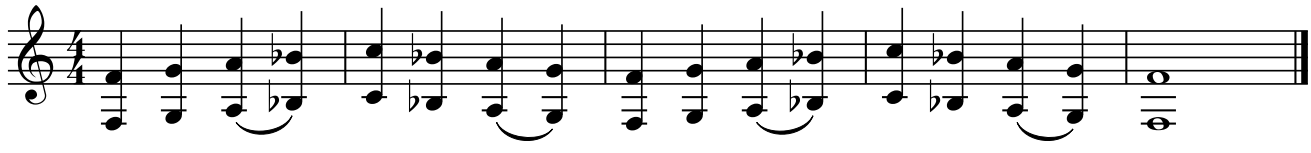

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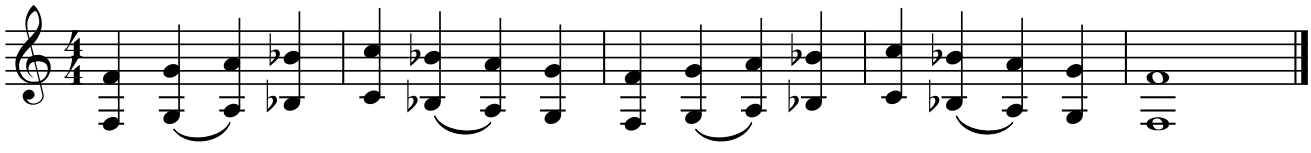

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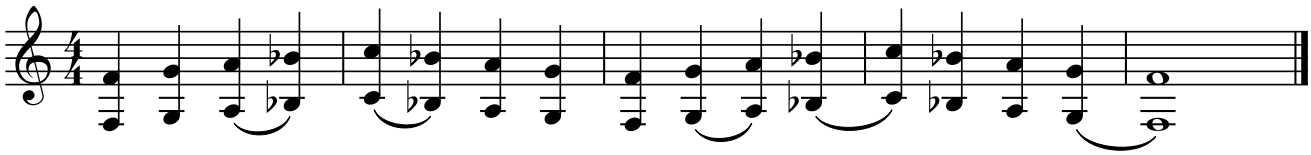

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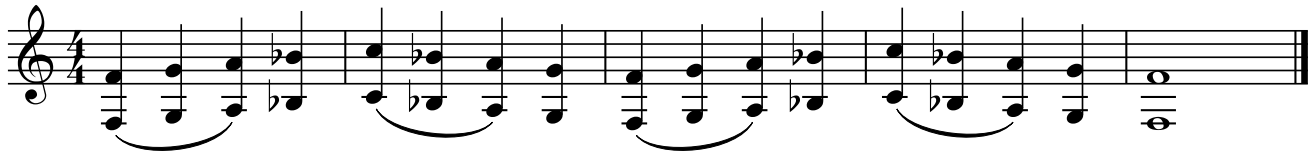

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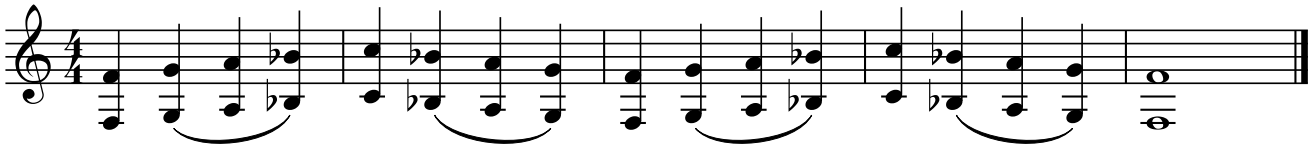

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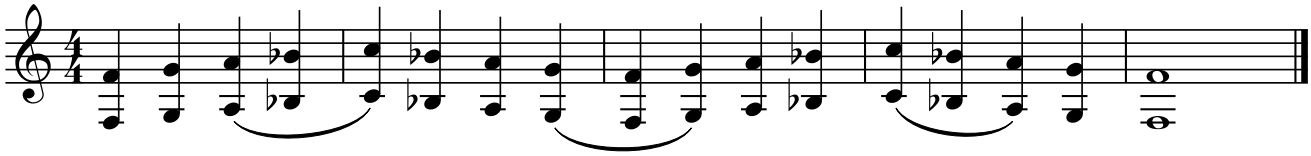

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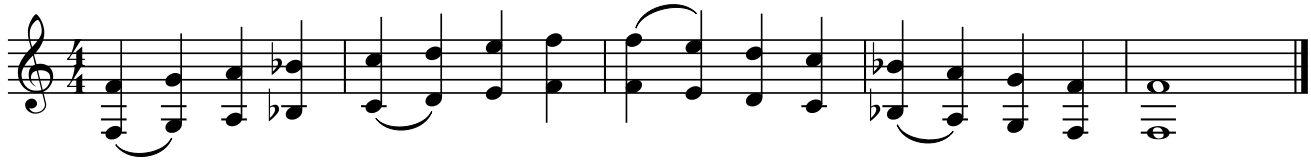

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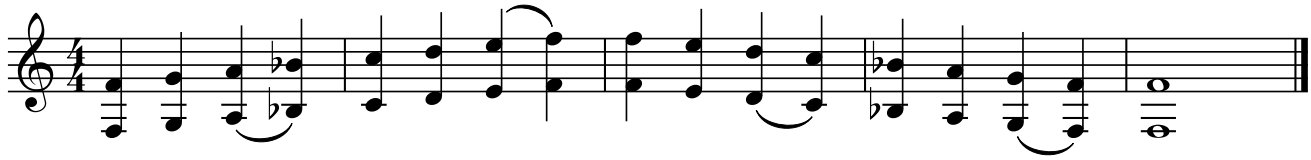

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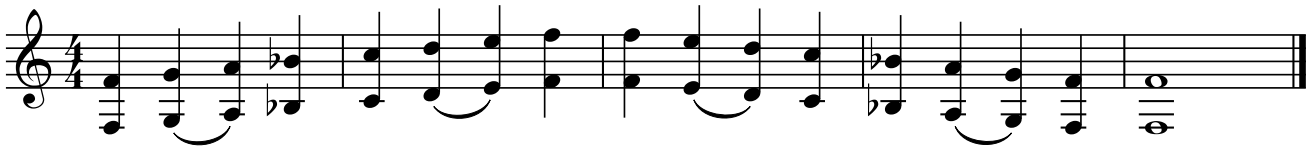

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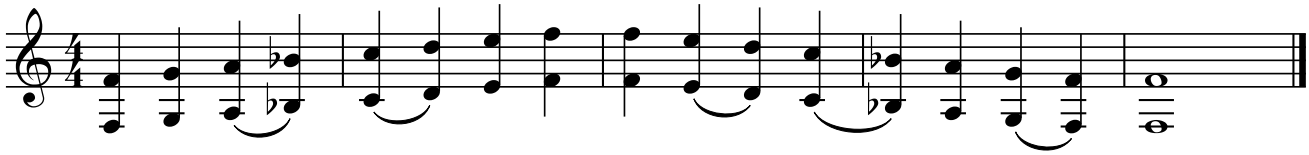

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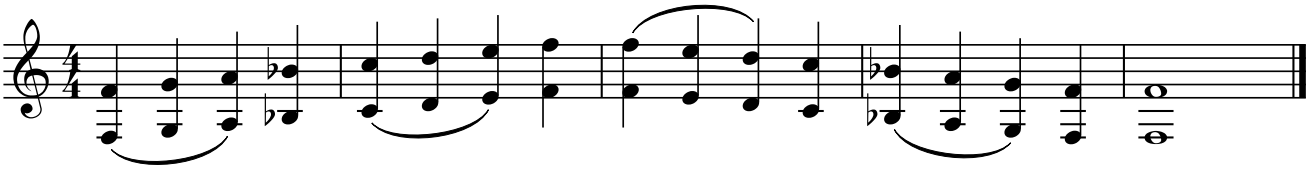

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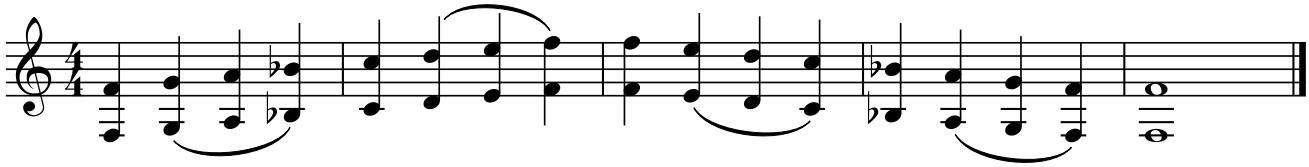

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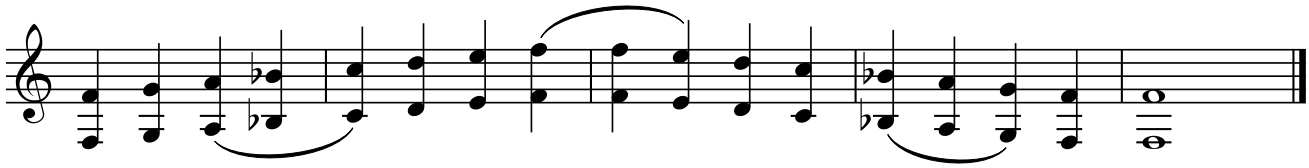

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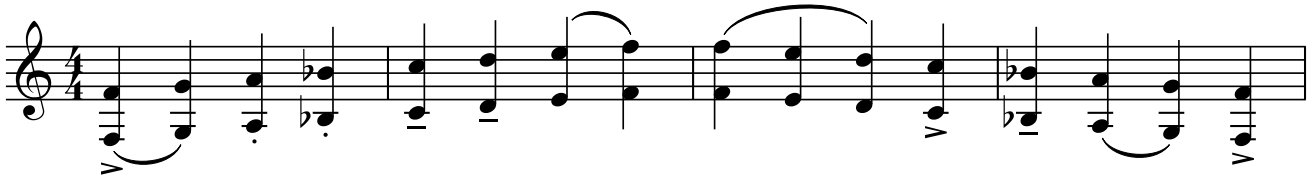
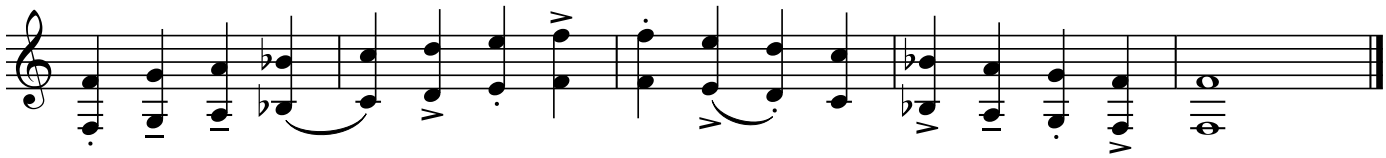
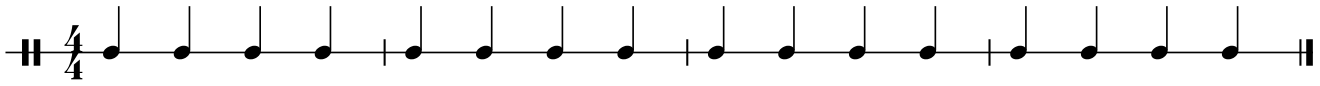
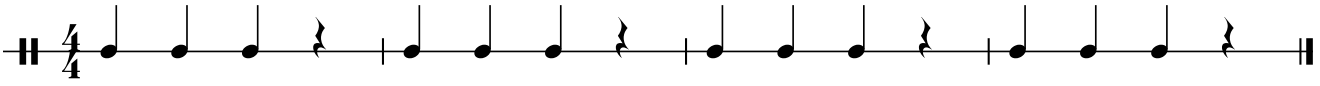
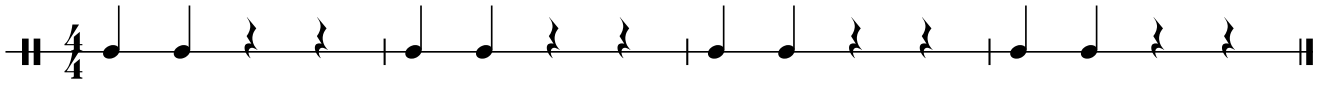
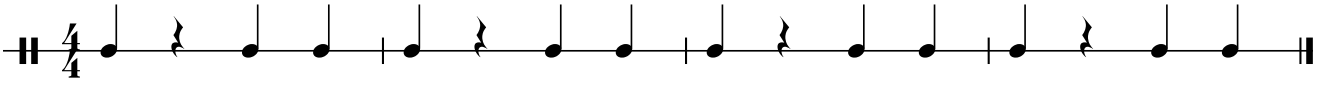
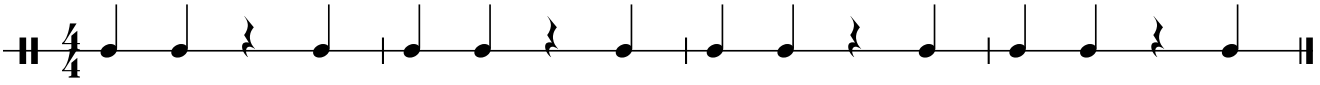
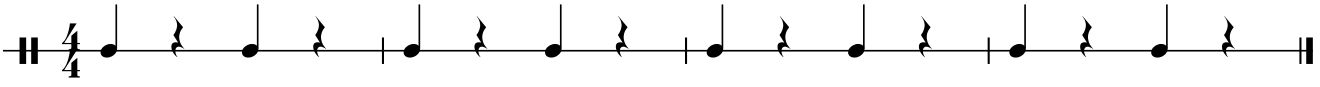
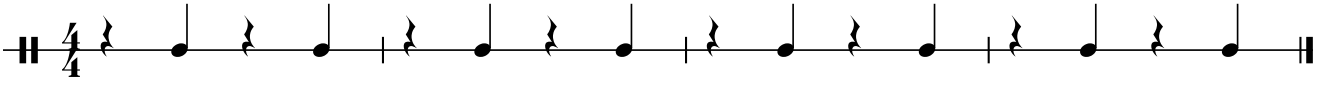
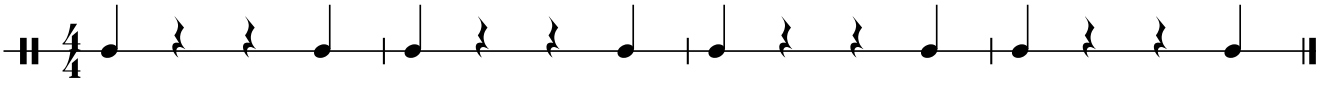




Rhythms and Time Signatures

A strong understanding of rhythm is one of the most important factors in a musician's abilty to sight read. These exercises should be practiced with a metronome and varying tempos.

4/4 Time

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 

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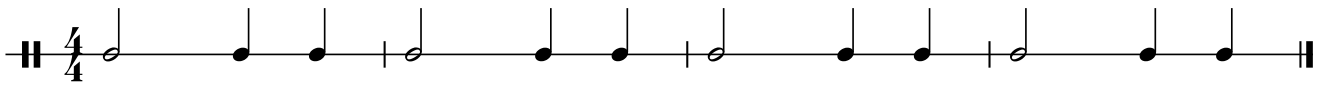

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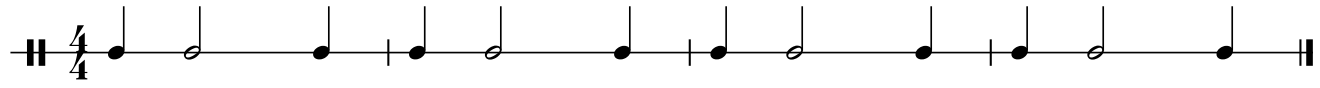

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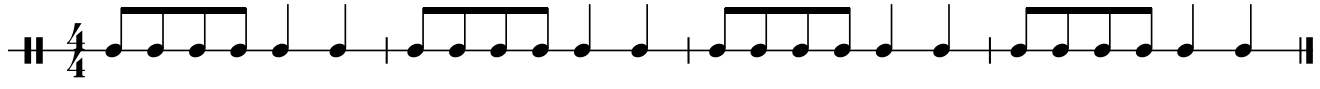

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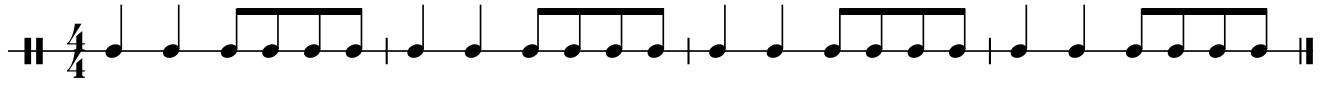

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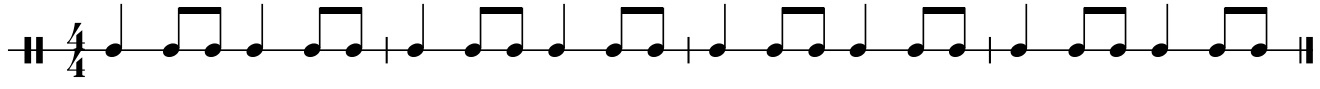

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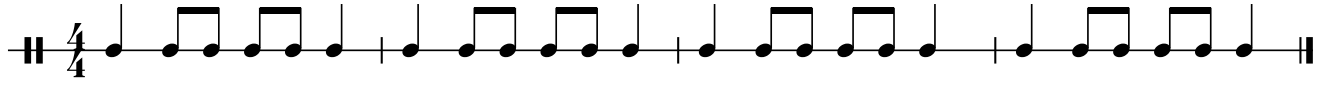

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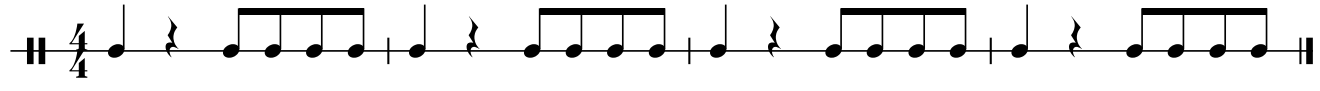

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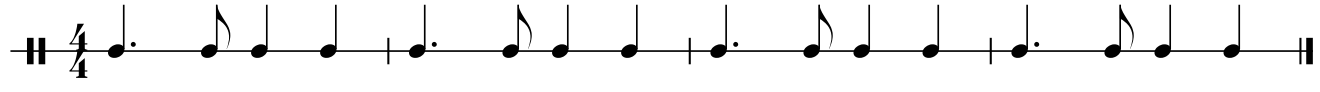

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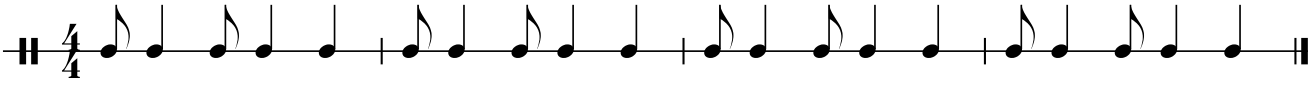

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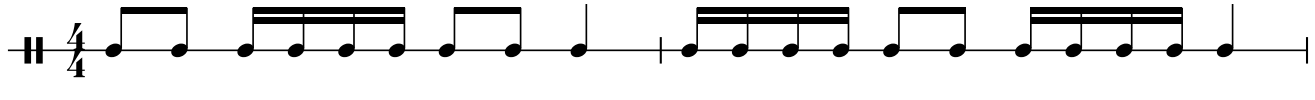

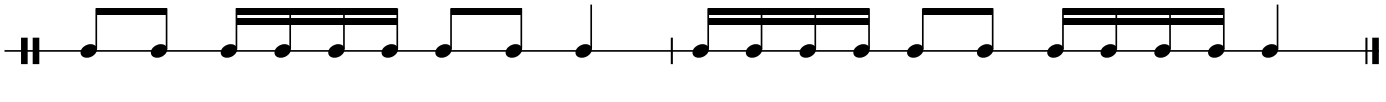

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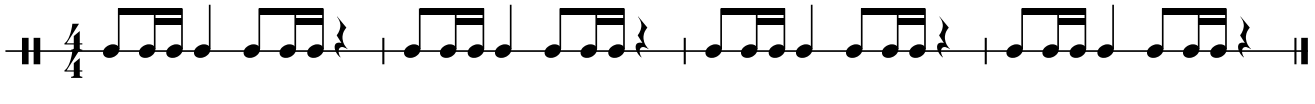

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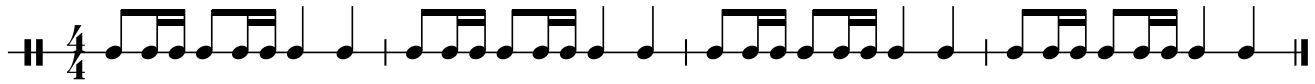

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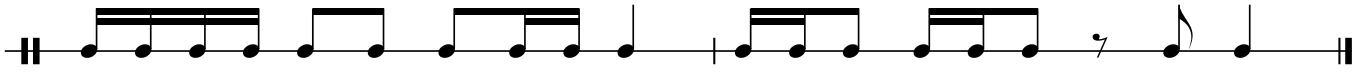

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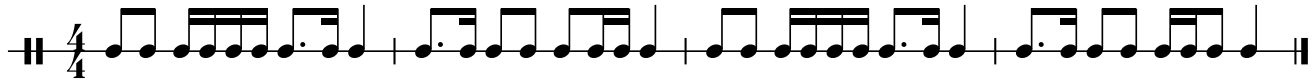

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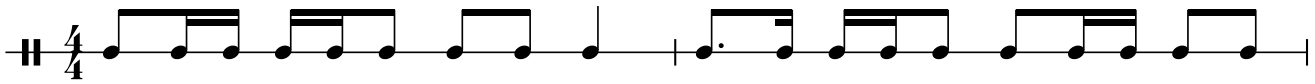

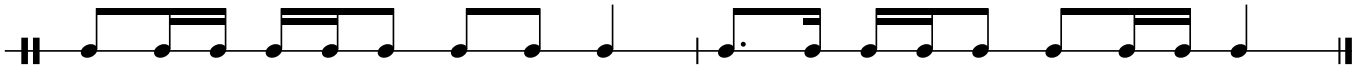

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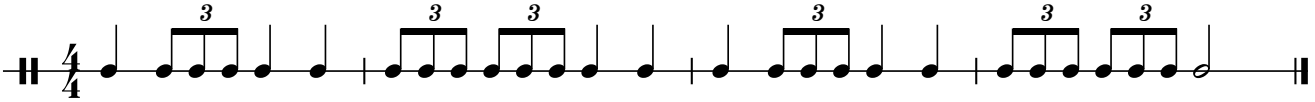

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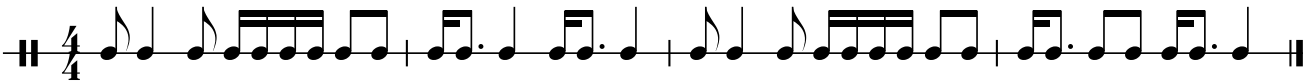

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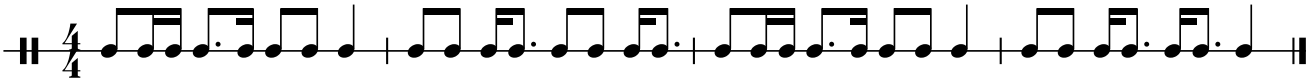

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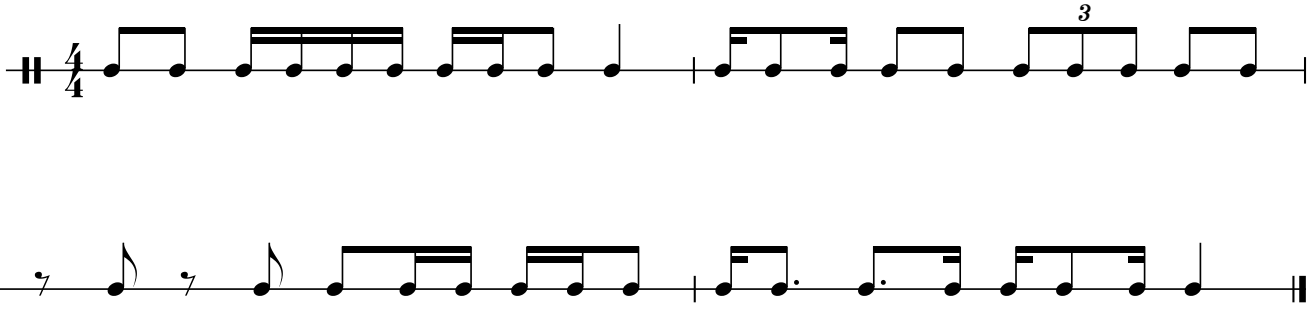

3/4 Time

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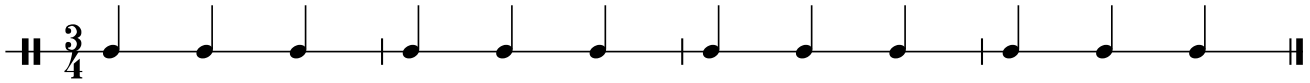

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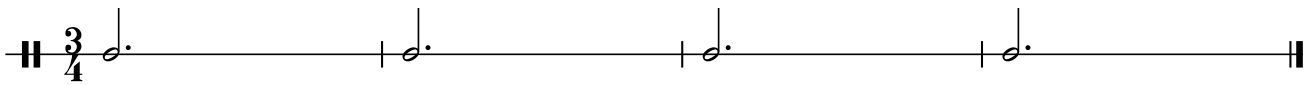

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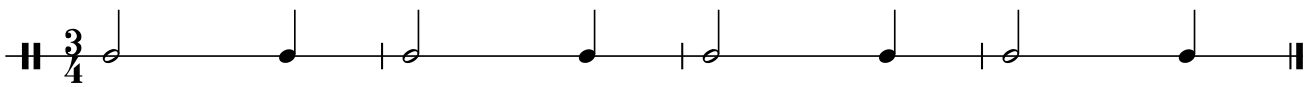

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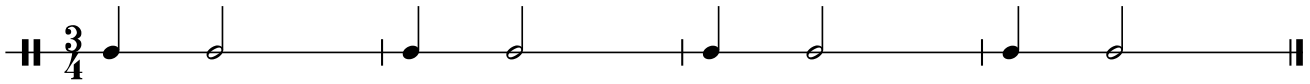

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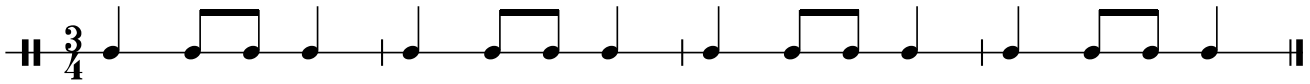

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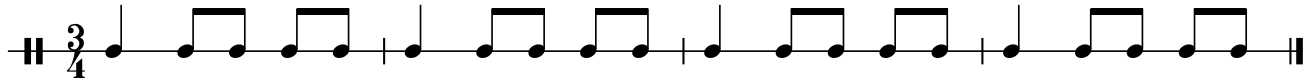

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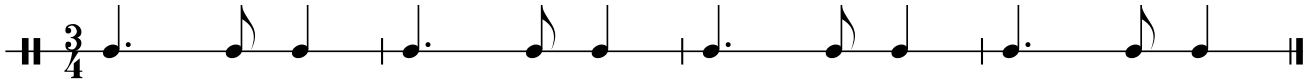

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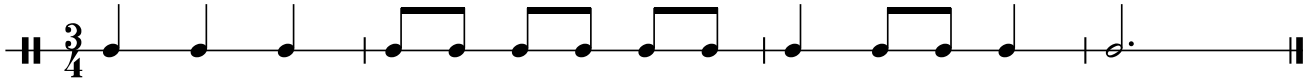

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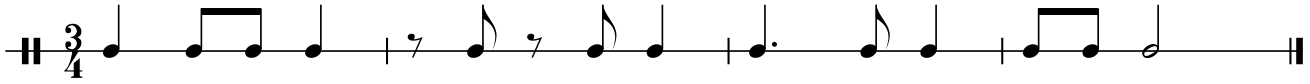

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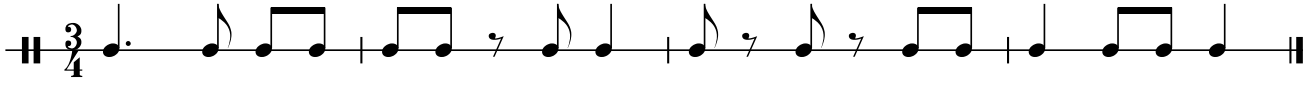

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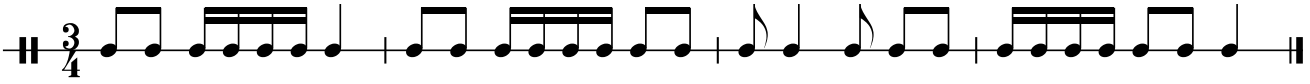

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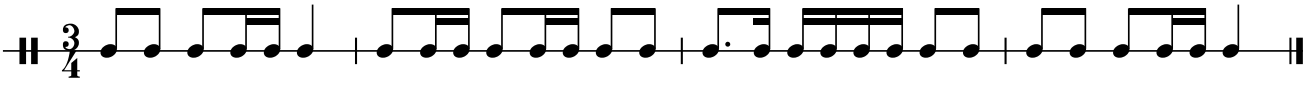

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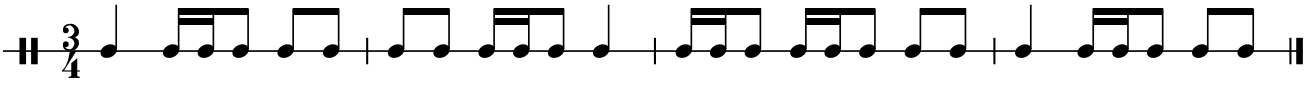

2/4 Time

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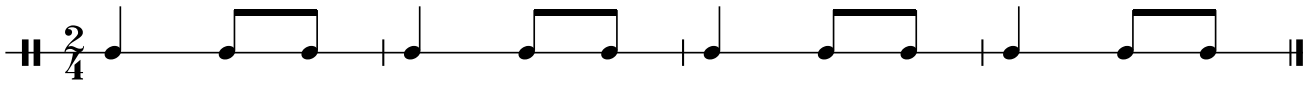

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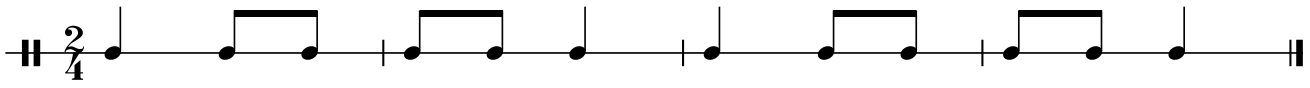

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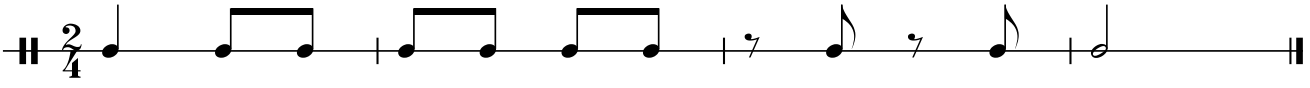

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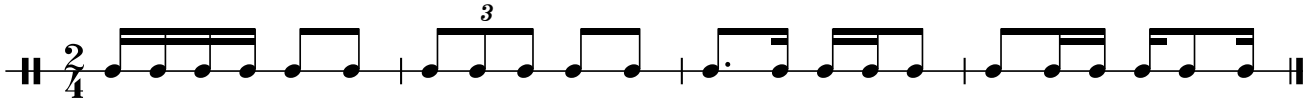
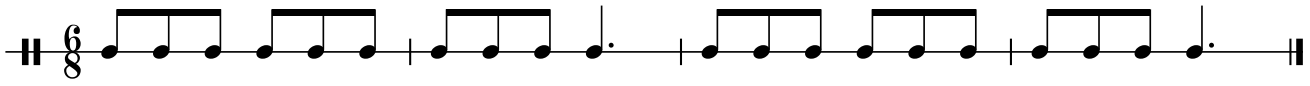


6/8 Time

63. 

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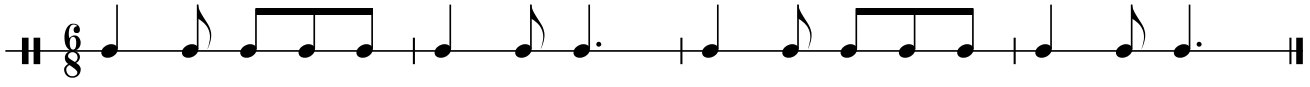
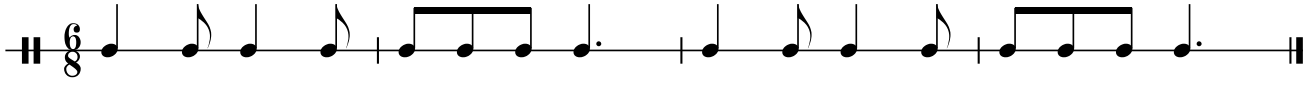
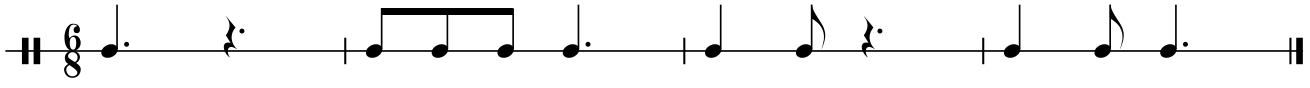
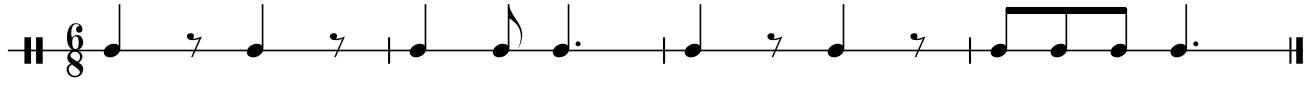
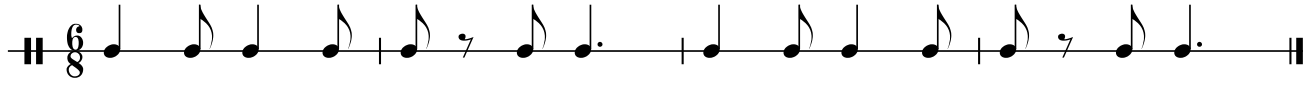
65. 

66. 

67. 

68. 

69. 

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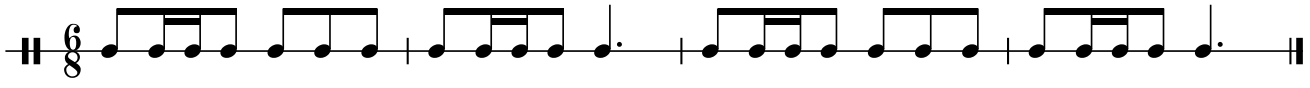
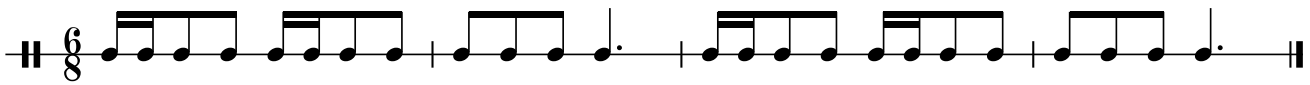
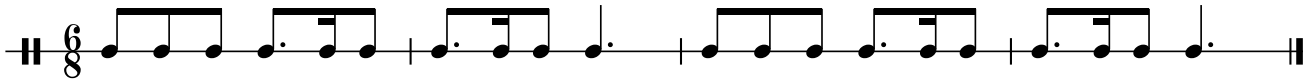
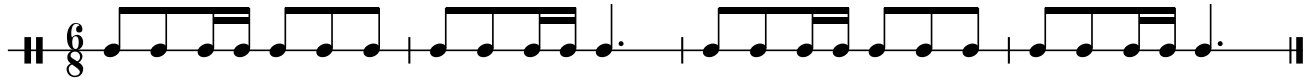
71. 

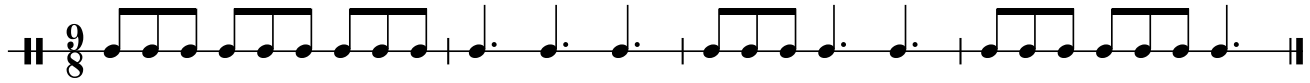
72. 

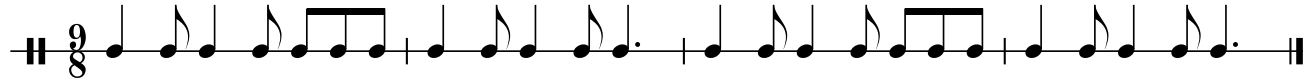
73. 

74. 

75.

9/8 Time

76. 

77. 

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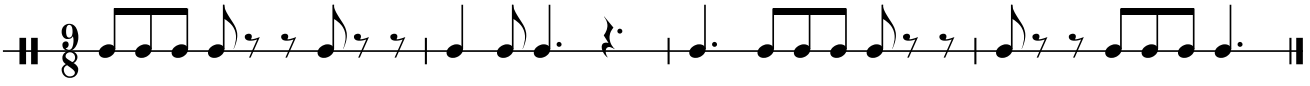
79. 

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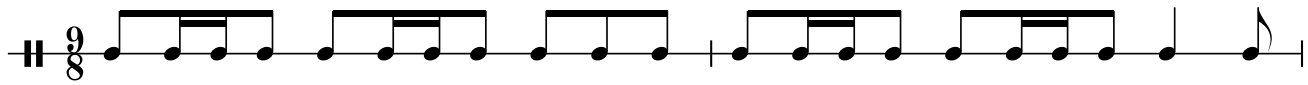

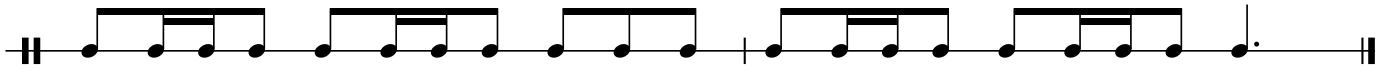

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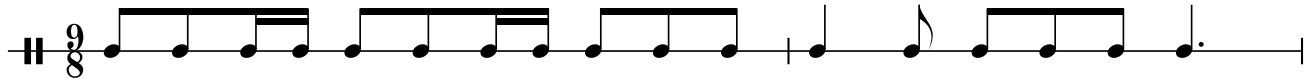

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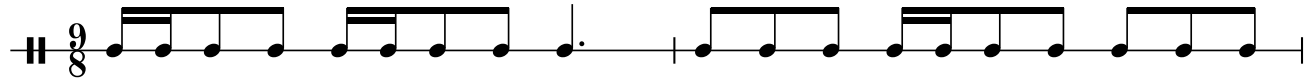

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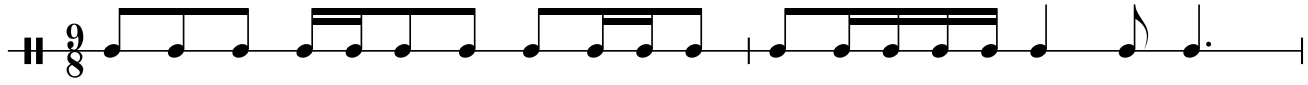

12/8 Time

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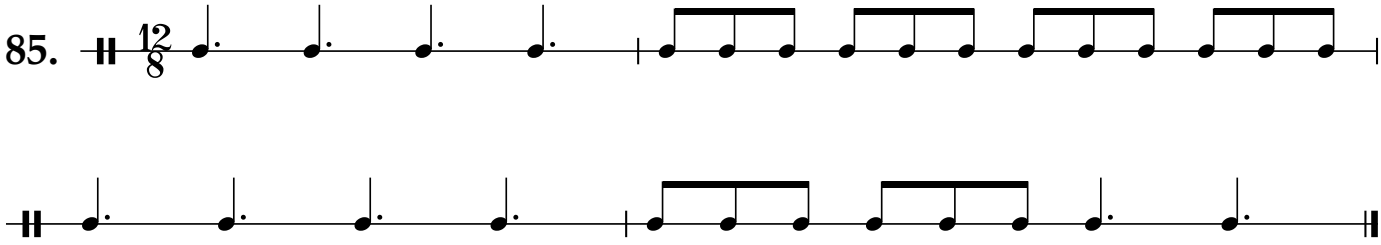

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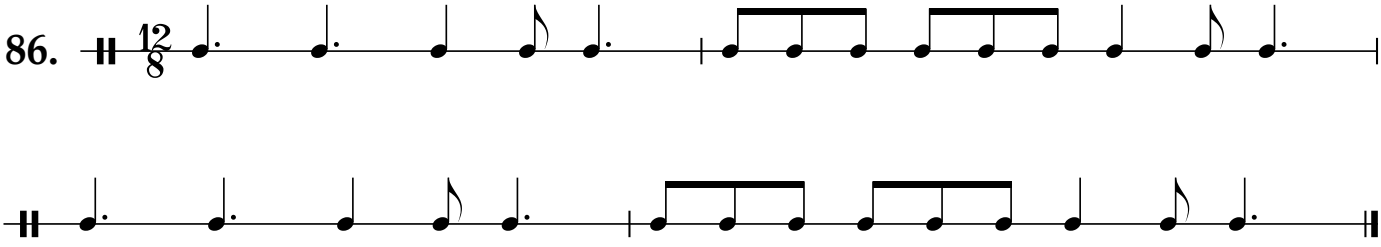

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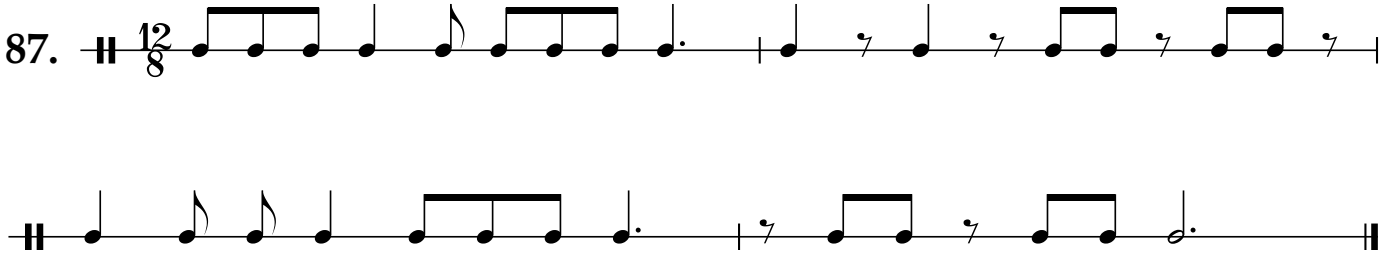

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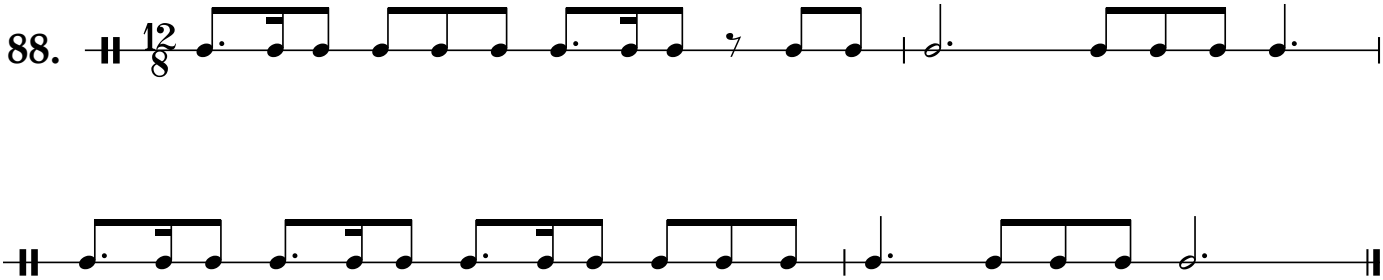

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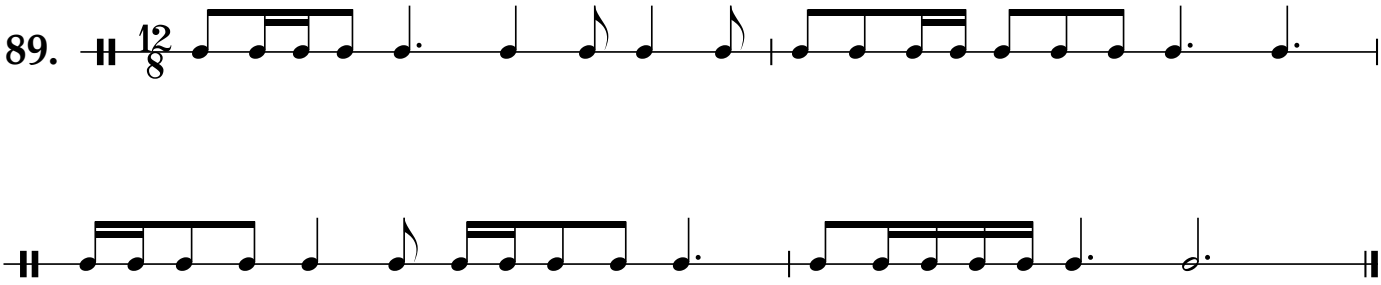

5/8 Time

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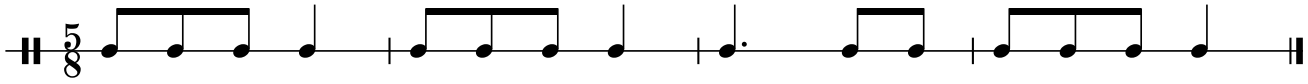
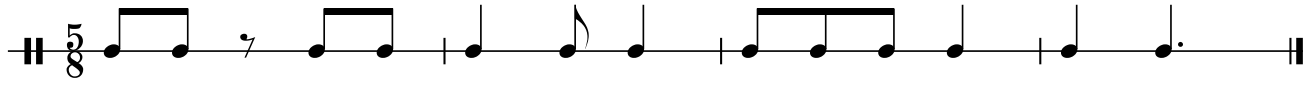
91. 

92. 

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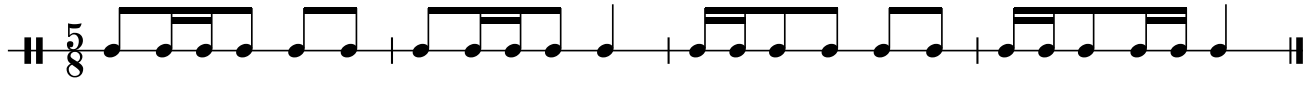
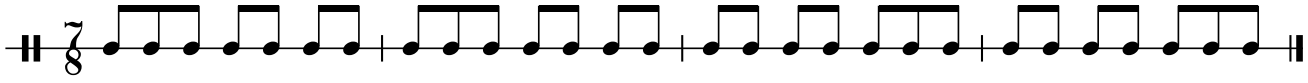
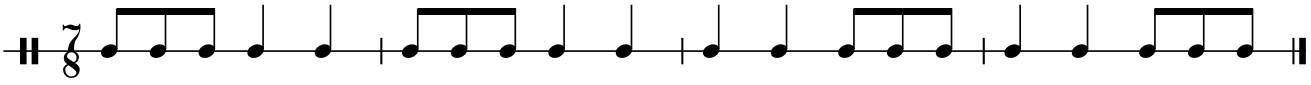
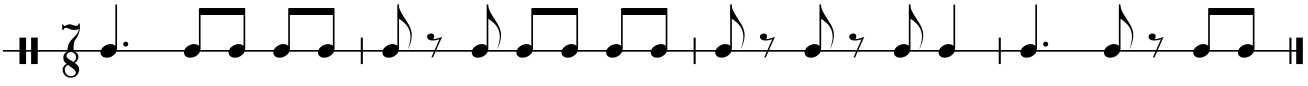
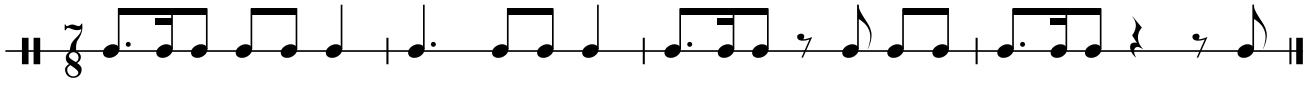
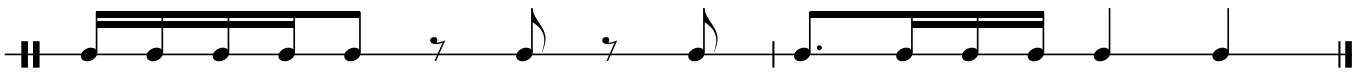
94. 

7/8 Time

95. 

96. 

97. 

98. 

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