# Your First Improvisation

***Start playing freely on the piano, no sheet music needed***

If you've always wanted to make up your own music but freeze without sheet music, this is a lovely place to start. Each colour shows you the first notes of a major key. The solid dots are do, re and mi, the first three notes. The lighter dots are fa and sol, for when you're ready to add two more.

1. Pick a colour. Each colour is a different major key, and its name is written above the keyboard.

2. Find a backing track. Search YouTube for "backing track", followed by an instrument or style you like, and then the key. For example: "piano backing track in G major", "guitar backing track in D major" or "bossa nova backing track in F major".

3. Play along. Press play and improvise over the track using only the coloured notes. Every one of them belongs to the key, so whatever you play will fit.

# Ways to Play..

### *Once you've found your notes...*

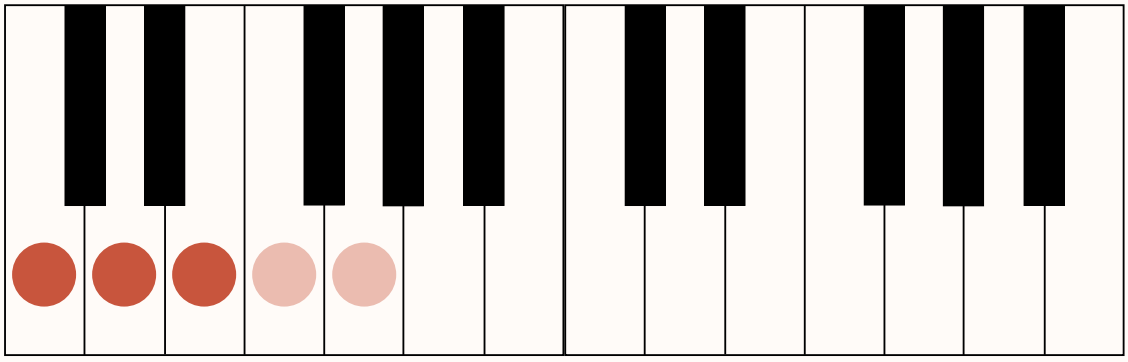
See how many different things you can do with them. Start with one note and go from there. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Play around with rhythm: long notes, short notes, and little pauses in between.
- Try playing very quietly, then very loudly.
- Repeat one note several times before moving on.
- Find the same pattern higher and lower on the piano.
- Can you play the same thing with both hands?
- Can you play something different with each hand?
- Can one hand play something, and the other answer it after a pause?

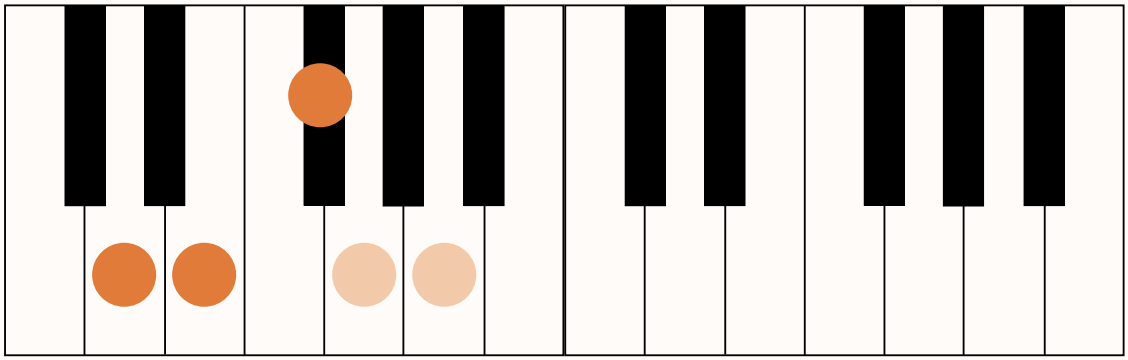
Above all, get as creative as you can. There's no right or wrong way to do this, and the notes you didn't mean to play often turn out to be the most interesting ones.

When you're ready, add fa and sol (the lighter dots) and see what changes.

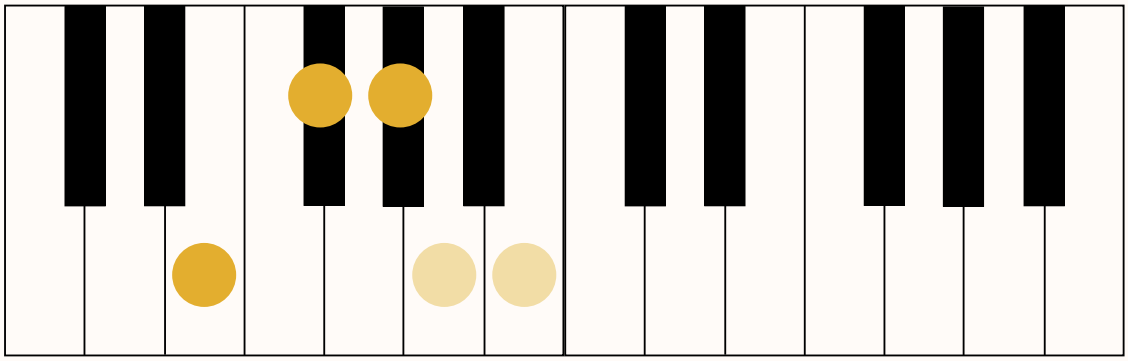
## C major: C, D, E + F, G



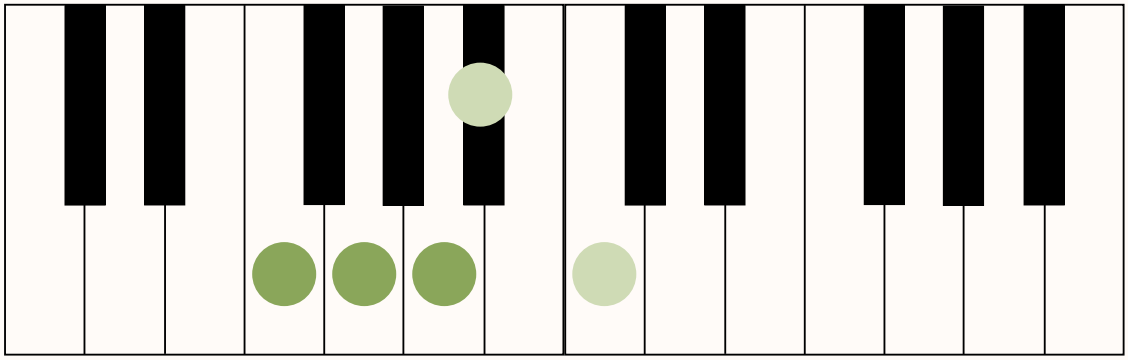
## D major: D, E, F# + G, A



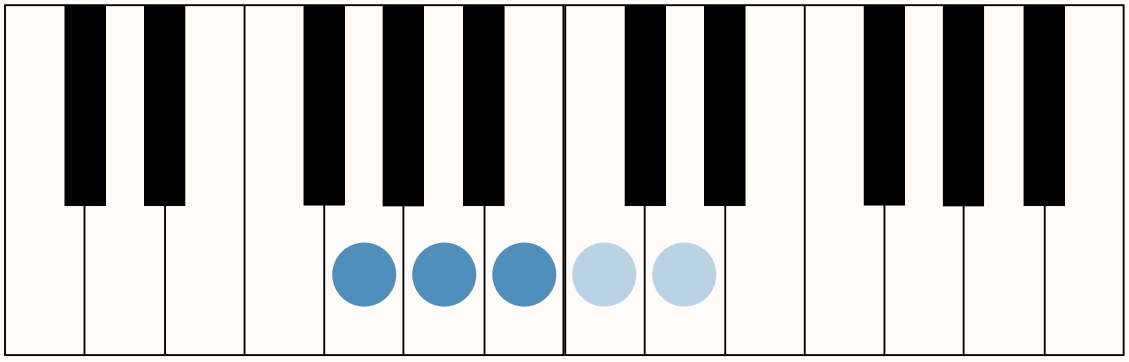
## E major: E, F#, G# + A, B



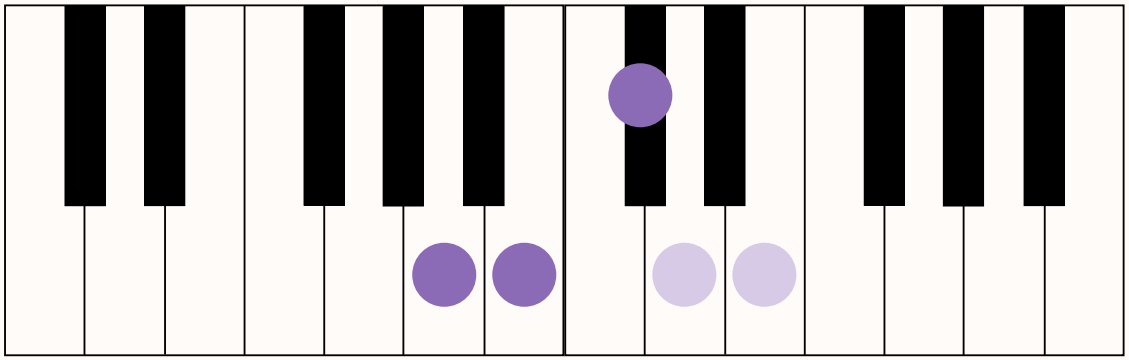
## F major: F, G, A + Bb, C



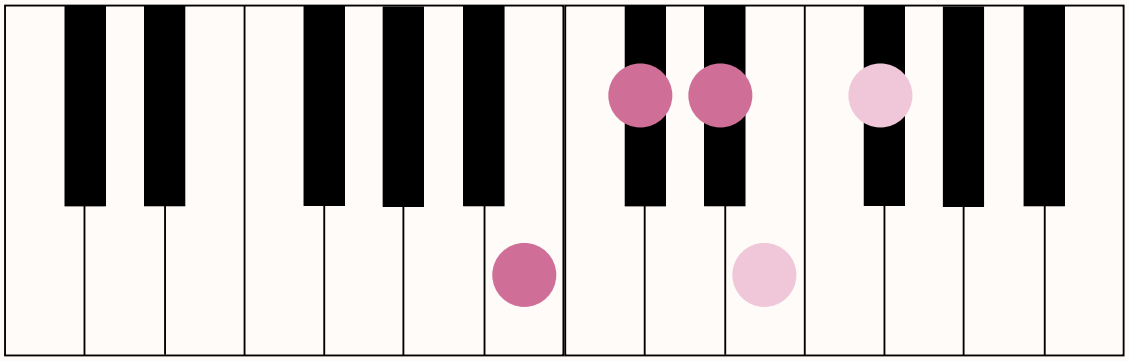
## *G major: G, A, B + C, D*



## *A major: A, B, C# + D, E*



## *B major: B, C#, D# + E, F#*



The darker dots are do, re and mi. The lighter dots are fa and sol. Start with the darker ones, and add the lighter ones whenever you feel ready.

# After

What did you discover? Which colour did you enjoy the most? Did a little tune or pattern appear that you'd like to come back to? Jot it down here.