

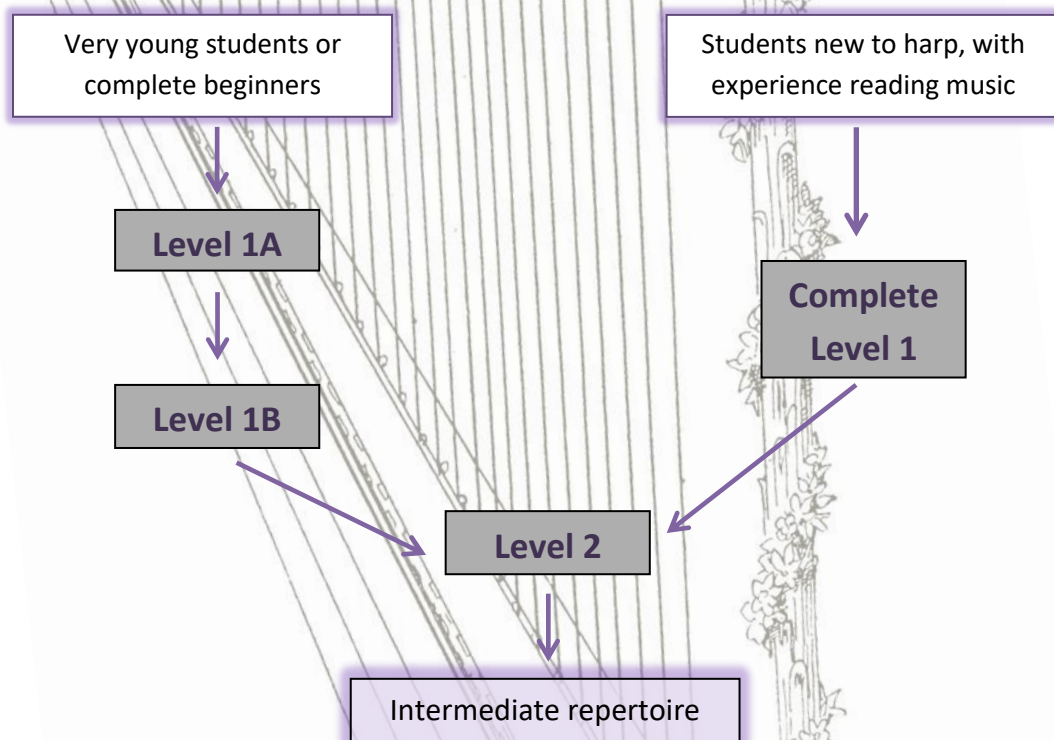
# Happy Harps

level 1B

by Zoe Coppola

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*The Happy Harps curriculum is organized as follows:*



More information about the author can be found at her website, [www.zoecoppola.com](http://www.zoecoppola.com)

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### ***Introduction:***

Welcome to the happy world of harp playing! This curriculum is designed to be a step-by-step approach that provides satisfying repertoire as well as a solid foundation in technique and theory/note reading. The basic pedagogical approach is that taught by Ruth Inglefield at the Peabody Conservatory; the student begins by using fingers one and two in order to develop secure hand position, placing, and closing. In this Level 1B, the third finger is added as well as more advanced technical and theoretical concepts like sharps, 8va, gesture/raising, key signatures, p.d.l.t., arpeggios, and triads. This level also includes opportunities for critical listening, improvisation, writing/notation, and exposure to sounds from the musical traditions of various cultures.

### ***This book is for:***

Any student who has completed Level 1A.

### ***Notes for teachers and parents:***

This book is for use by a student and knowledgeable teacher, rather than for self-instruction. When adding the third finger, it's important to remind the student that the third finger places and closes just as the second finger does, with no funny angles or "curling in" necessary.

Theory information listed on the section pages may be learned before looking at the first exercise/piece of each section, or as needed while working through the material. New information for the section will be highlighted in purple. Additional materials such as a staff paper notebook, a theory workbook, or flash cards may be beneficial. Each section contains a lot of information, and all skills and knowledge within a section are necessary for success during the next section. Therefore each section may take a few weeks to complete. One or more exercise and one or more piece may be assigned each week.

At this point, the student will need to have a harp with levers as we will be working with sharps. I still recommend tuning it in C major, as flats will only be introduced in Level 2. A 26-string harp (like a harpsicle) is sufficient for this level, as no piece will call for strings outside that range. If you haven't already, this may be a good time to start working with the student on tuning, making sure to include ear training in this practice.

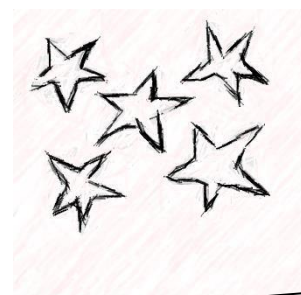
*Happy harping!*

*Zoe Coppola*





# Section 1



## Exercises

Third Finger!  
2 and 3 Stick Together

## Pieces

Stars

## Theory

Half & whole steps

Sharps

Whole rest

You already know that a step is between two consecutive notes like C to D. Now we will get more specific: the distance from C to D is called a *whole step*, because there is a pitch in between C and D. To find it, use the C lever to get a *sharp*.

A sharp  raises the note by one *half step*.

\*there is no separate half step between B and C, and between E and F. You can play a B-sharp, but it will sound the same as C. Looking at a piano keyboard may help illustrate this.


Listen to the difference between C, C-sharp and D.

Now check yourself:

Which note is higher – F or F-sharp? Which note is lower – A or A-sharp?

Whole step or half step – D-sharp and E? Whole step or half step – E and F?

**Important: We always change levers with our left hand.**

A *whole rest*  lasts for the whole measure. If the time signature is  $\frac{3}{4}$ , the whole rest indicates three beats of silence.