

TRANSITIONS:

Whether you use sheet music or not, you need a way to transition between tunes, but if you need to turn pages you still need a way to keep the sound flowing during those page turns. Assuming you have 3 or 4 tunes that do not require key changes, here are some ideas for transitions between pieces (everything is in the key of C – no levers engaged):

- Use this basic pattern: Left hand plays 1 – 5 – 1 (8), Right hand plays 2 – 5 at the next octave. Keep this pattern set but move it around.
- Going from C major to A minor:
 1. Start with C – G – C (left hand) and D – G (right hand)
 2. Move to A – E – A (left hand) and B – E (right hand)
 3. You can go back and forth between these two, but end with the A minor
- Going from A minor to C major:
 1. Start with A – E – A (left hand) and B – E (right hand) and play twice
 2. Move to F – C – F (left hand) and G – C (right hand) and play twice
 3. Then move to C – G – C (left hand) and D – G (right hand) and play twice
 4. You can go back and forth between steps 2 and 3 (C and F), but end with C.
- Staying in C major between pieces:
 1. Start with C – G – C (left hand) and D – G (right hand)
 2. Move to F – C – F (left hand) and G – C (right hand)
 3. Go back to C – G – C (left hand) and D – G (right hand)
 4. Move to G – D – G (left hand) and A – D (right hand)
 5. Repeat steps 1-4 as often as you like. You can also do only steps 1 and 2 and just repeat those two. End on C.
- Staying in A minor between pieces:
 1. Start with A – E – A (left hand) and B – E (right hand)
 2. Move to F – C – F (left hand) and G – C (right hand)
 3. Repeat 1 and 2 as often as you like, ending on A

ADAPTING TUNES FOR SMALL HARP:

- Try to avoid moving the entire song up an octave unless it “fits” well
- Keep melody as close to the first octave above middle C as much as possible
- For left hand, move “missing” notes up an octave