

Two Basic Exercises

In general, you want to use the scale as a referential framework for these extra notes. So, here are two exercises you can use as scalar warm-ups with chromatic notes inserted.

The first inserts a chromatic passing tone between scale-degrees. However, if there is no “room” for an extra passing tone, you can just repeat the first syllable (like “mi mi fa.”) This works ascending and descending - use the “sharping” syllables on the way up and the “flatting” syllables on the way down.

do di re re ri mi mi fa fa fi sol etc.

The next one inserts a chromatic lower neighbor below each degree. Certain scale-degrees already have a half-step lower neighbor, so they are “plain” (like “fa mi fa”) You can continue to do lower neighbors on the way down as well (like “do ti do, ti li ti, la si la..”) though it is tricky.

do ti do re di re mi ri mi fa mi fa etc.