

NorthEast Arkansas Caledonian Pipes and Drums
Pipe Student Progression

As an aid to providing a progressive and motivational course of instruction. The following outline shall be a reference for students and instructors of the NorthEast Arkansas Caledonian Pipes and Drums.

This document outlines those skills and tunes which should be demonstrated to, and mastered by the student for each of the 4 student levels. Unless otherwise stated, all playing is on a practice chanter.

Level I

Lesson's 1-10 in the College of Piping's "Green Book", including completed and graded skill sheets.

Tunes:

- 1) Scots Wae Hae
- 2) May Morning Dew (band setting)
- 3) Brown Haired Maiden
- 4) High Road to Gairloch

Student must play all 4 tunes for the Pipe Major & present graded skill sheets to progress to Level II.

Level II

Lesson's 11-20 in the College of Piping's "Green Book", including completed and graded skill sheets.

Tunes:

- 1) Highland Laddie
- 2) 79th Farewell to Gibraltar
- 3) Amazing Grace (band setting)
- 4) Scotland the Brave (band setting)

Marching. Be able to demonstrate:

- 1) Parade marching, & counter marching (no instrument)
- 2) Competition marching. (ranks, into "the circle" & back out)

Pipes:

- 1) Able to identify the parts of a Great Highland Bagpipe
 - 2) Able to list the 2 primary materials GHB's are made from
 - 3) Able to list and describe at least 4 types of pipe bags.
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Level III

Lesson's 21-26 in the College of Piping's "Green Book", including completed and graded skill sheets.

At this stage, the Pipe Major and other experienced pipers in the band will aid the student in picking and ordering a full stand of pipes. Once they come in, we will aid the student in setting them up, and beginning to build the stamina and technique for striking in, cutting off and playing them.

Tunes:

- 1) Green Hills of Tyrol
- 2) Wha Saw the 42nd (Band Set, this with tunes above, completes our "parade set")
- 3) Morag of Dunvegan (band setting)
- 4) Molly Connell (band setting)

Marching:

- 1) Wheeling Right and Left
- 2) Into and out of "the circle" variation #2

Pipes:

- 1) Consistently able to strike in with all 3 drones going & no squealing
 - 2) Consistently able to cut off without trailing drones.
 - 3) Able to play the band's "parade set" through with one other piper and drummer.
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Level IV:

During this stage, the student will continue to learn to:

- 1) Play those embellishments commonly used in light music
- 2) Play the tunes above by memory on the full set of pipes
- 3) Learn to maintain their pipes
- 4) Learn to tune their pipes
- 5) Learn to play on the march.
- 6) Be given an introduction to Piobaireach
- 7) Be given an introduction to solo competition
- 8) Gain experience in playing with the full band.
- 9) Student will be attending performances as well to gain experience in band dynamics and behavior in the public eye.