

PRAY
FREELYRAISE
PASTORSGO
OUTLEARN
ALWAYSCHURCH
AS FAMILY

Vocal skill levels and training. v3 (Adapted from Garage Hymnal's training sheet, who adapted it from Steve Crain and Ruth Kilpatrick) (Also adapted from Fiona Morton training sheet)

Level	1	2	3	4
Singing: pitch, timing, rhythm	Sing with consistently accurate pitch and suitable vocal range.	Very good pitch, tone and vocal control (tasteful vibrato, air support etc)	Maintain excellent pitch and time independently of any other instruments.	
	sing with good and consistent time (not rushing accompaniment etc.)	Control their vocal technique (e.g. chest voice, head voice, mix) to support their voice and maintain excellent intonation.		
	Manage a 1.5 octave range with pleasant tone (i.e. A to D#).	Listen to their own singing and self-correct minor sharp or flat notes.		
	Can do vocal exercises. E.g. Lip rolls Exercises on Dropbox have a 2 octave range, but don't worry if you can't do that. Being able to sing a larger range will make it easier to sing the range of our music.	Care for their voice with proper warm up and technique.		
Charts / Full song / theory	Listens to a recording of the song.		Check if the words are correct on the overhead. (<i>Initially the music director's responsibility</i>)	
	Make notes about the arrangement so that they come in at the right time, repeat the choruses the right number of times.	Read a chart (repeats, first and second time bars, sign, coda) and confidently lead vocal entries		Sight-sing unknown songs reliably from charts. (<i>This isn't as relevant for our bands</i>)
Singing in a band / Creating	Hold a melody while someone else sings a harmony.	Communicate with the band during performances, and respond to unexpected 'changes'	Interpret the melodies of songs with grace and flair whilst still enabling the crowd to sing along easily. (<i>Less relevant if there are two or more vocalists singing the lead melody together</i>).	Improvise vocal parts where stylistically appropriate. (e.g. during instrumentals).
	Sing with clear tone, blending well with other singers.	Sense different tonal qualities in their own voice and adjust where too harsh, nasal, etc.	Choose vocal technique and style appropriate to the music being played.	
		Learn and sing a basic harmony.	Hear basic harmony options (third above and below, etc) and choose carefully where to place them in a song.	Develop a harmony and teach it to other vocalists.
	Use a microphone with proper technique.	Control their sound: plugging in mics, using good mic technique.	Communicate well with the band, sound guy, service leader, etc.	Take responsibility for everything they need to perform well in challenging situations (microphones, foldback, etc)
		Know how to ask for the foldback they need to do their job		
	Receive positive and negative feedback with maturity.	Can teach others level 1 skills	Can teach others level 2 skills	Can teach others level 3 & 4 skills
Leading	Understand the role of a vocalist in leading singing in church.	Present and lead the congregation confidently	Lead the congregation through a worship service with verbal, visual and music cues, with sensitivity to all the vertical and horizontal, spiritual and pragmatic, considerations (where the sermon has just landed, what's coming after a song, what key the last song was in, how engaged or distracted the crowd is, whether they know the song, etc).	Understand the flow of the service and adapt accordingly
	Lead the crowd visually from up front – looking positive about the material, and giving basic signals to the crowd about when to start singing.	Know the words of the songs and perform them confidently without reading.		'Read' the congregation and help lead them musically and spiritually through the service.
	Be willing to discuss any lyrics you don't understand with the song leader.	Understand the songs' lyrical content and sing it with integrity.		
	Introduce songs with appropriate words.	Check with the band leader and/or music director for any particular concerns with songs prior to rehearsals.		