

Learn to play Sample Pack

Beginner Piano: A Guide for Parents



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Beginner Piano: A Guide for Parents



One of the few benefits of these difficult times is a bit more time and motivation to take up a new skill or improve on an old one, and there has been a huge uptake in music making in the home and across the internet.

For beginners or those returning to an instrument after some time off, **'Learn To Play Sample Packs'** present FREE content from some of the most popular tuition books on the market, distributed by Hal Leonard Europe. From tried-and-tested methods that have sold hundreds of thousands of copies, to fresh new learning approaches, each Sample Pack includes introductory lessons to help you or your child get off to the perfect start.

The **Beginner Piano** sample pack provides parents with a selection of our favourite piano methods aimed at young beginners, and gives context to how players can progress through each series. The books included are:

John Thompson's Easiest Piano Course Part 1

WMR000176

Piano Adventures Primer All-In-Two

HL00119898

Rockschool Piano Method Book 1

RSK200119

Get Set! Piano Book 1

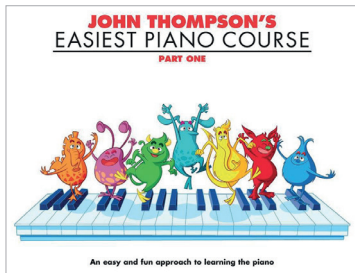
9781408179468

Hal Leonard Piano Library: Piano Lessons

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JOHN THOMPSON'S EASIEST PIANO COURSE



Five reasons to pick this method

- UK's bestselling piano method
- Presents a clear and simple approach to playing piano
- An 8-part course and dozens of songbooks to expand repertoire
- 2018 update with new, modern caricatures
- Each book contains writing exercises, sight-reading drills, review work and technical studies

4

The Piano Keyboard

There are WHITE KEYS and BLACK KEYS on the Piano Keyboard.

The WHITE KEYS are named:



Recite the letters of the Musical Alphabet several times.

The BLACK KEYS are grouped in TWOS and THREES.

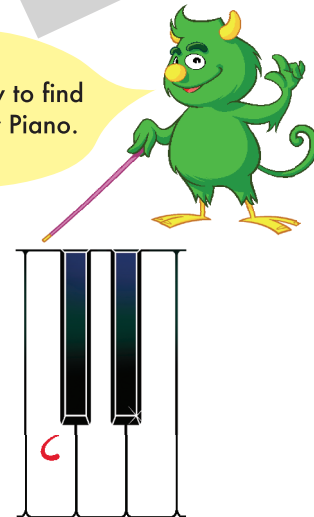
Touch all the groups of TWO BLACK KEYS on your Piano.

This is how to find
C on your Piano.

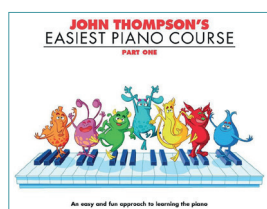
C is found to the **left** of the TWO BLACK KEYS.

Letter all the Cs you can find on the Keyboard Chart, opposite.

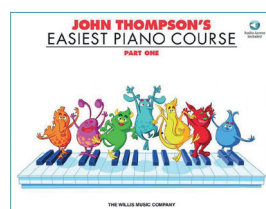
Now, on your piano, PLAY all the Cs you can find – using the thumb.



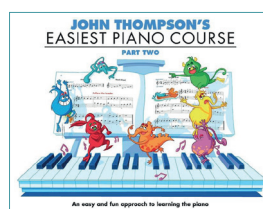
Click below for links to this book and relevant material



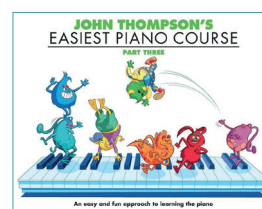
Part One



Part One & Audio



Part Two

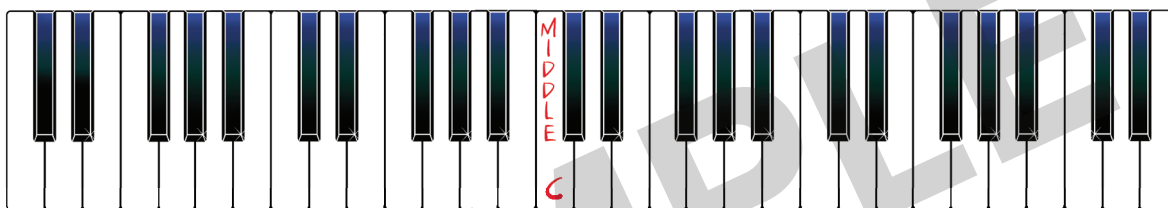


Part Three



First Disney
Songbook

Keyboard Chart



This is a picture of your keyboard – as you learn the name of each new key, turn back to this page and mark ALL the keys having the same name.

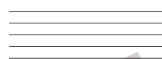
6

Middle C on the Music

Music is written on the LINES and SPACES of the STAVE.

The Stave

The NOTES on the music tell us which KEYS to play.



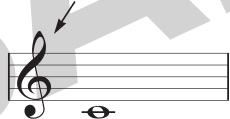
There are different kinds of notes, but first we shall learn the SEMIBREVE.

A SEMIBREVE looks like this: 

It is held for FOUR COUNTS.

Clef Signs

Treble Clef sign



This is how MIDDLE C looks in the Treble.
It is written as a SEMIBREVE, and gets FOUR counts.
It is played by the RIGHT HAND thumb.
Play it and count FOUR.

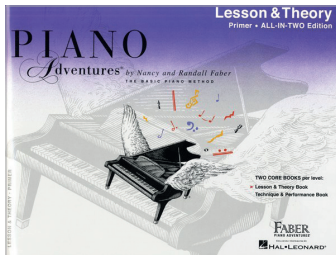


Bass Clef sign




This is how MIDDLE C looks in the Bass.
Written as a semibreve, it gets FOUR counts.
It is played by the LEFT HAND thumb.
Play it and count FOUR.

PIANO Adventures®

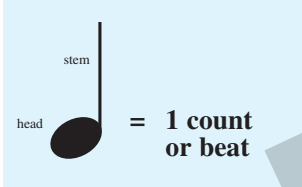


Five reasons to pick this method

- North America's best-selling piano method, used by piano teaching colleges around the world
- Pianistic music, imaginative lyrics, and colourful artwork are hallmarks of Piano Adventures, making it keenly attractive to children
- Step-by-step note learning taught alongside theory, technique and performance
- Anglicised All-In-Two editions provide all four aspects of the course in two books for each level
- 6 levels of the method and over 100 supporting repertoire books, all developed around the principles of the method


2 UNIT  **The Crotchet Note**

Music, like your body, has a steady "heartbeat."
The beat can be slow, medium, or fast, but must always be steady.
Counting with a steady beat gives us RHYTHM.




= 1 count or beat


1. Tap and count aloud: **one** **uno** **eins** **un**
or **Ta** **Ta** **Ta** **Ta**

2. Play steady **crotchets** on any key. Count aloud.
If your teacher has a metronome, tap ♩ notes to its steady beat. 

3. Draw 3 crotchets for the **right hand**.
The stem goes up on the right side.
Write a 1 below each note.

Ex.  count count count count

4. Draw 3 crotchets for the **left hand**.
The stem goes down on the left side.
Write a 1 below each note.

Ex.  count count count count

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Click below for links to this book and relevant material



Primer Lesson & Theory



Primer Lesson & Theory + CD



Primer Technique & Performance



Level 1 Lesson & Theory



Level 1 Classics

The Minim

two

dos

zwei

deux

stem
head = 2 counts or beats

♪ + ♪ = ♩

1. Tap and count aloud:
Feel 2 beats. or **1-2** Ta-ah **1-2** Ta-ah **1-2** Ta-ah **1-2** Ta-ah
2. Play steady **minims** on any key. Count aloud and feel the beat!
Tap ♩ notes to the steady tick of the metronome.

3. Draw 3 minims for the **right hand**.
The stem goes up on the right side.
Write 1-2 below each note.

Ex. $\frac{1-2}{\text{counts}}$	$\frac{\quad}{\text{counts}}$	$\frac{\quad}{\text{counts}}$	$\frac{\quad}{\text{counts}}$

4. Draw 3 minims for the **left hand**.
The stem goes down on the left side.
Write 1-2 below each note.

Ex. $\frac{1-2}{\text{counts}}$	$\frac{\quad}{\text{counts}}$	$\frac{\quad}{\text{counts}}$	$\frac{\quad}{\text{counts}}$

DISCOVERY Close your eyes and listen. Your teacher will begin playing some **minims** and then change to **crotchets**. When you hear the change, say, "crotchets." Keep going and name each change that you hear.

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The Semibreve

four

cuatro

vier

quatre

= 4 counts or beats

♪ + ♪ + ♪ + ♪ = ♩

1. Tap and count aloud:
Feel 4 beats. **1-2-3-4** Ta-ah-ah-ah **1-2-3-4** Ta-ah-ah-ah
2. Play steady semibreves on any key. Count aloud and feel the beat!

Old MacDonald

Find the Keys



R.H. $\overset{2}{\text{♩}}$ Old Mac - Don - ald had all a song, $\overset{4}{\text{♩}}$ $\overset{3}{\text{♩}}$ $\overset{2}{\text{♩}}$
f Played his key - board long, e - i - e - i - O (2 - 3 - 4)

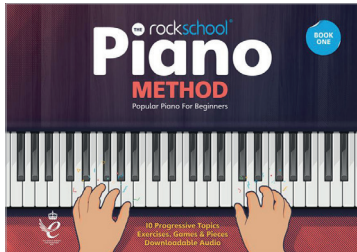
L.H. $\underset{3}{\text{♩}}$ $\underset{2}{\text{♩}}$ $\underset{3}{\text{♩}}$

Repeat sign
These dots mean to go back to the beginning and play once again.

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CD 10-11 Tech & Perf pages 11, 12-13

THE rockschool® Piano METHOD



Five reasons to pick this method

- Brand-new method, published in 2019
- Introduces piano from a contemporary angle, including rock, pop & jazz
- 10 progressive topics, with newly composed exercises, games and pieces
- Professionally recorded downloadable backing tracks
- Prepares pupils for further learning with Debut and Grade 1 Rockschool syllabus

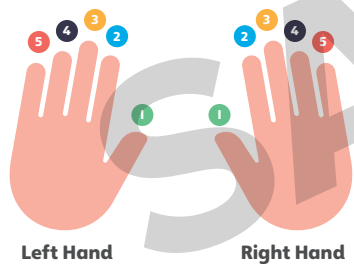
TOPIC 1 Getting Started Playing The Piano

Sitting At The Piano

Try to sit towards the front of the bench, facing the middle of the keyboard.

Placing Your Hands And Feet

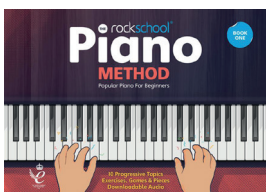
Place your feet on the floor in front of you. Try placing your fingers in front of you on the keys. See if you can place each finger and thumb on a separate key!



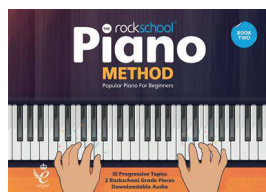
We give each thumb and finger a number, from 1 to 5.



Click below for links to this book and relevant material



Method
Book 1



Method
Book 2



Piano
Debut



Piano
Grade 1

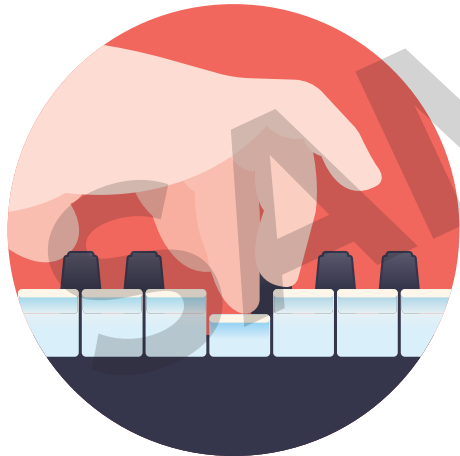


Keys
Debut

How To Press The Keys

Place your **right hand** over the keyboard, and **press any key** with **finger 2 or 3**. Your finger should be curved, and the tip should touch the key.

Press down from where your finger joins your hand.

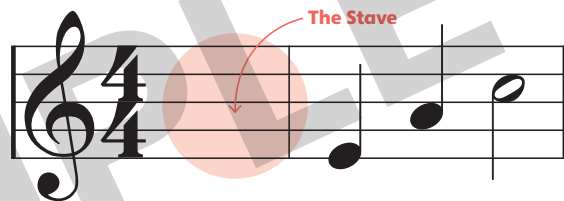


How To Read Music

You'll be reading music in no time with The Rockscool Piano Method!

The Stave

The stave tells you what notes to play, when to play them and how long to play them for. The stave consists of **five lines**. Notes can be placed on any of these lines or any space between the lines.

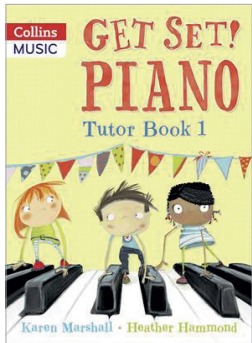


Tempo, Bar Lines and Time Signatures

Music is divided into groups of beats called **bars**. Vertical lines on the stave are called **bar lines**. They show where each bar begins and ends. The **tempo** of a piece tells us how fast or slow it is. The **time signature** tells us how many beats there are in every bar, and what kind of beat it is.



GET SET! PIANO



Five reasons to pick this method

- New piano method, aimed at the twenty-first century child
- Note learning taught alongside aural, theory and composing skills
- Packed with classic favourites, engaging new tunes and teacher duets
- Supported by **Get Set! Pieces** books, providing plenty of material to reinforce the method
- Free resources to support the method available from the publisher directly

Click below for links to this book and relevant material

Pulse

- Most music has a **steady heartbeat or pulse**. ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ This is also known as the **beat**.



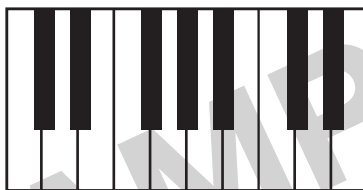
The pulse (or beat) can go quickly (like footsteps when you run fast)



... or slowly (like a dripping tap)....

- Tap, click or walk to the pulse while your teacher plays *Pizza song* (page 15), *Sunny days* (page 18), then *Popcorn popping* (page 26).

Black keys



- Play some **black keys** to see what they sound like.

Black key bounce accompaniment

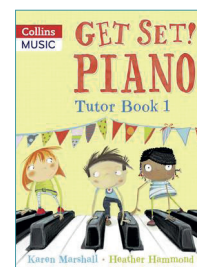
- Use any of the black keys to make up your own tune to the *Black key bounce accompaniment*.

Teacher part:



- Try playing your tune at different speeds: slow, medium, fast.
- Try playing loudly and quietly.
- Don't forget to keep to your teacher's steady pulse.

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Get Set!
Tutor Book 1



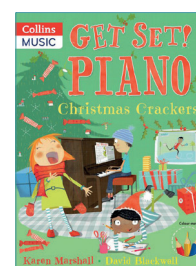
Get Set!
Tutor Book 2



Get Set!
Pieces Book 1



Get Set!
Pieces Book 2



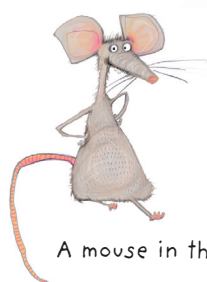
Piano
Christmas

High and low

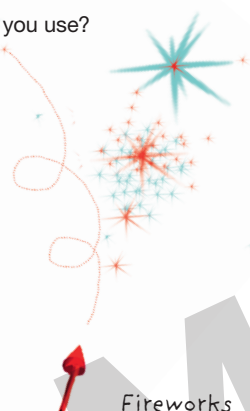
- On your piano there are **high** and **low** notes.
- Can you work out which are the high notes and which are the low notes? (Your teacher will help you if you are not sure.)

Musical pictures game

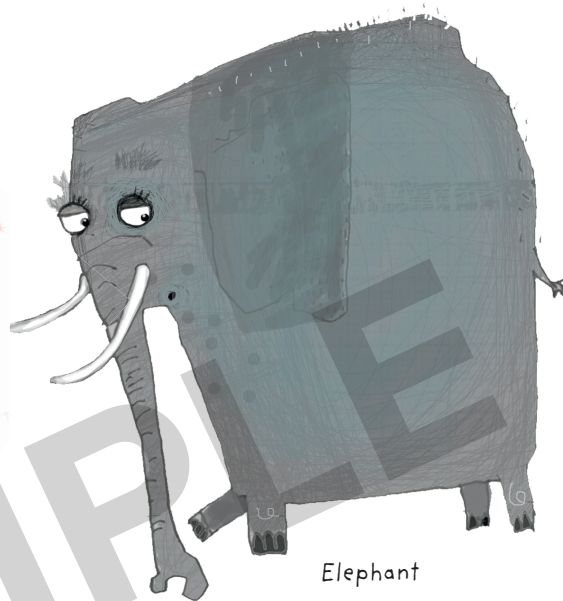
- Make up tunes to go with the pictures.
- Which part of the piano will you use?



A mouse in the house

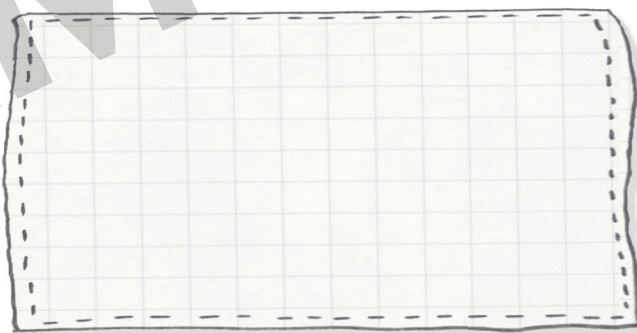


Fireworks



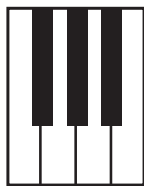
Elephant

- Make up a tune and draw a picture for it here:



Find, say and play

- The black keys come in 2s and 3s.
- Play all the groups of two black keys.
- Play all the groups of three black keys.

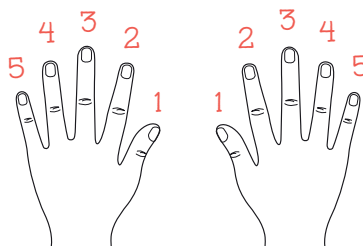


Bounce your fingers like a ball, moving across from one side of the keyboard to the other.



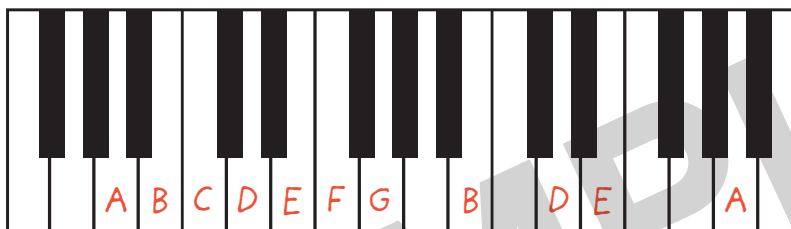
Finger taps

- Using the piano lid, can you tap your number 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 fingers in turn?
- Say the number as you tap each finger.



White keys

- The white keys are: A, B, C, D, E, F, G (the first seven letters of the alphabet).
- Once you've got to G, start all over again at A.
- Fill in the missing notes on the keyboard picture:



Quiz

- ★ Fill in the answers to these questions, then play the word on the piano keys.

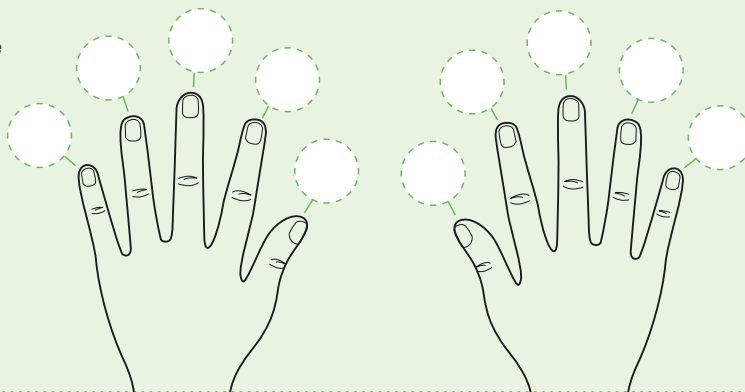
1. You sleep in this: E

2. You can eat this fried, scrambled or sunny side up: E

3. You put your books in this and carry it: B

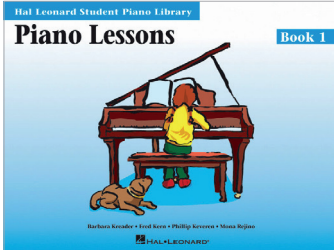
4. You get these for birthdays or when you've done well at Brownies or Cubs: B D

- ★ Can you write in the finger numbers?



Piano Lessons

Five reasons to pick this method



- Clear, concise and carefully graded piano method, to please students, teachers and parents
- Book 1 covers sitting at the piano, feeling the beat, keyboard structure, black and white key groups, 2nds and 3rds
- Expertly conceived and developed by four of the most renowned piano teachers in America
- Encourages practice, progress, confidence and above all, success
- Each book is also available with Online Audio support

THE MUSICAL ALPHABET

Playing on the White Keys

UNIT 2

Music uses the first seven letters of the alphabet. These letters are used over and over to name the white keys.

With your right-hand third finger, play and sing the music alphabet three times, using this rhythm:

Alphabet Soup

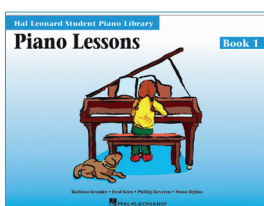
Student part to be played by rote.

Steady (♩ = 120) 8va ----- 15ma ----- Fred Kern

Student Teacher

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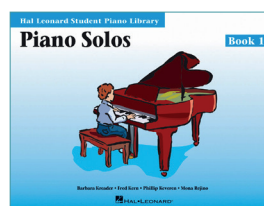
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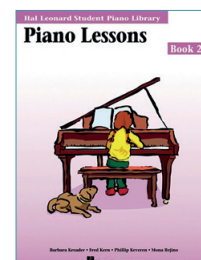
Piano Lessons Book 1



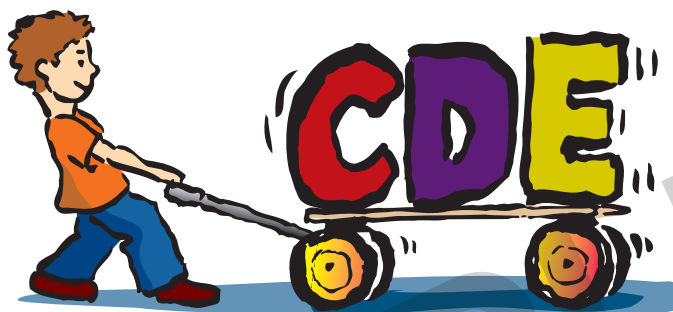
Piano Lessons Book 1 & Audio



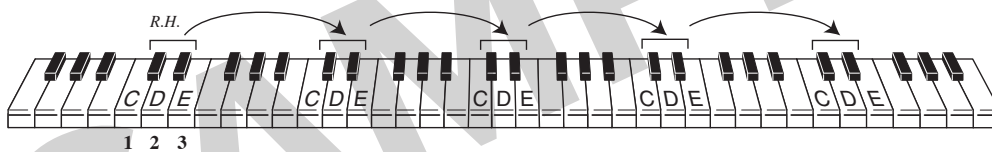
Piano Solos Book 1



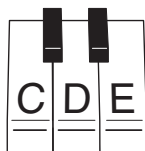
Piano Solos Book 2



C D E GROUPS



With your right hand, start at the low end of the keyboard and play the C D E groups with individual fingers 1-2-3 going up the keyboard.



Now explore the keyboard, playing the C D E groups with your left hand using fingers 3-2-1.

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My Own Song On C D E



With your right or left hand, choose any C D E group in the upper part of the piano.

Listen and feel the pulse as your teacher plays the accompaniment below. When you are ready, play C D E. Experiment by playing E D C.

Mix the letters any way you want and make up your own song.

Have fun!

Accompaniment

Flowing (♩ = 85)



With pedal

Repeat as necessary

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