# Fundamentals of Piano Theory 

by
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## kJs

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Publisher

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## PREFACE

The study of music theory is an integral part of a complete musical education. Piano students who have consistent theory instruction will retain and interpret music more easily and accurately. Fundamentals of Piano Theory from the Neil A. Kjos Piano Library provides piano students with an organized course for the study of music theory. Each volume contains essential rudiments of theory particularly relevant to the study of piano music. The appropriately graded levels present concepts in a clear, systematic manner to ensure steady and thorough progress as pianists advance in their understanding of music theory.

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REVIEW TEST

## Preparatory Level Review

The following two pages are a summary of the concepts and terms presented in Fundamentals of Piano Theory: Preparatory Level.

## Note Values

Quarter Half Dotted Half Whole

Eighth 2 Eighths
4 Eighths
0

-

## Rests

Quarter Half Whole Eighth
Time Signatures $\begin{array}{ll}2 & 3 \\ 4 & 4\end{array}$ 4

## Treble clef

## The Grand Staff

Doubl bar lit

## Notes on the Staff <br> 



Bar line
Bass clef


## Intervals



## Signs and Terms

Dynamics: $p, m p, m f, f$, cresc. $\sim, \operatorname{dim} . \square$
Articulation: accent $>$, staccato $\underset{d}{ }$, tenuto $\underset{\sim}{d}$, legato
Tempo: allegro, allegretto, andante, andantino, con moto, lento, moderato, ritardando
Character/Style: cantabile, dolce
Additional Signs and Terms: D. C. al fine, Fermata $\curvearrowleft$, Slur $\curvearrowleft$, Tie $d$, Repeat Sign

## Accidentals

Sharp Sign


Flat Sign


Natural Sign


## Enharmonic Notes



## Half Steps



Whole Steps


Major 5-finger Patterns and Triads


## Minor 5-finger Patterns and Triads



Major Scales
C Major
G Major
F Major


Key Signatures


## Unit 1

## Note Naming

## Ledger Lines

Ledger lines are short lines added above or below the staff. Ledger lines extend the range of the staff up or down.

## Treble Clef Ledger Line and Space Notes



## Bass Clef Ledger Line and Space Notes


C
D
E
F

E D C B

1. Name these ledger line and space notes.


## Naming Notes on the Grand Staff

2. Write the letter name of each note.


GP661

## Unit 2

## Time Signatures and Rhythm

## Time Signatures

The time signature is the two numbers written at the beginning of a piece.

- The top number tells how many beats are in each measure.
- The bottom number tells what kind of note gets one beat.

In a time signature with a $\mathbf{4}$ on the bottom, the quarter note gets one beat.
2 means two beats in each measure.
4 means the quarter note gets one beat.
The half note gets two beats. $\mathcal{d}=2$ beats

3 means three beats in each measure.
4 means the quarter note gets one beat.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =1 \text { beat } \\
& =2 \text { beats }
\end{aligned}
$$

The dotted half note gets three beats. $d_{.}=3$ beats

4 means four beats in each measure.
4 means the quarter note gets one beat.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& d=1 \text { beat } \\
& d=2 \text { beats } \\
& d .=3 \text { beats }
\end{aligned}
$$

The whole note gets four beats. o $=4$ beats
$\boldsymbol{C}$ is another way to write the time signature $\frac{4}{4}$. It is called common time.

## Rest Signs

Rest signs are used in music for silence. These notes have rest signs of the same value.


## Eighth Notes

One eighth note looks like this:
Two or more eighth notes are joined by a beam.


Eighth notes may be counted by saying "and" after the number.

1 and 2 and

1 and 2 and 3 and 1 and 2 and 3 and

1. Write the correct time signature for each example.

Write in the counts. Use a + sign for the word "and".
Clap and count the rhythms aloud.

2. Draw bar lines to divide these rhythms into measures.

Write in the counts. Use a + sign for the word "and".
Clap and count the rhythms aloud.



## Dotted Note Rhythms

A dot on the right side of a note adds half of the value of the note.

$$
d_{0}=d+d=d+d
$$

The dotted quarter note may be understood when seen as a quarter note tied to an eighth note. Clap and count these rhythms.

3. Rewrite each measure of tied note rhythms with dotted note rhythms.

Write the counts under the notes. Clap and count aloud.


## Triplet

The word triplet means three.
The eighth note triplet is equal to one quarter note:


Triplet rhythms may be counted in many ways. Clap and count this triplet rhythm in the ways suggested below.

4. Clap and count these rhythms.

5. Play and count aloud.


## Time Signature $\mathbf{8}_{8}$


6. Clap and count this rhythm aloud.

7. Write in the counts. Clap and count aloud.
8 - y • y d d

8. Add barlines to this rhythm.

Write in the counts. Clap and count aloud.
8 .


- d d

9. Write in the counts. Play and count aloud.


## Time Signature ${ }_{8}^{3}$

Notes Rests
3 means three beats in each measure. 8 means the eighth notes gets one beat.

2 beats $\%$ y $\quad\left(\begin{array}{l}\text { not used in } \mathbf{8}\end{array}\right)$
$d 3$ beats $-\quad\left(\begin{array}{l}\text { not used in } \mathbf{3}\end{array}\right)$
10. Clap and count this rhythm aloud.

123

123 123
11. Write in the counts. Clap and count aloud.

| $\mathbf{3}$ | y | - y | y |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | $|\cdot| \quad-\quad \mid$

12. Add barlines to this rhythm.

Write in the counts. Clap and count aloud.
8

13. Write in the counts. Play and count aloud.


## Unit 3

## Intervals

An interval is the distance between two notes.
Melodic intervals are two notes played one at a time.
Harmonic intervals are two notes played at the same time.

Melodic Intervals
Harmonic Intervals


1. Name these melodic intervals (2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th).

2. Name these harmonic intervals (2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th).

$\qquad$
3. Draw melodic intervals up from the given note

4. Draw harmonic intervals up from the given note


## 6ths

6th on the keyboard
6ths on the staff



Melodic 6ths

6ths on the keyboard skip four white keys.
6ths on the staff move from a space to a line or a line to a space.

## Melodic 6ths

5. Draw a melodic 6th up from each given note. Use quarter notes. Name each note.

6. Draw a melodic 6 th down from each given note. Use half notes. Name each note.


## Harmonic 6ths

7. Draw a note above each given note to form harmonic 6ths. Use whole notes.

Name the notes.

8. Name each interval (3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th).


## 7ths

7th on the keyboard


7ths on the staff


Harmonic 7ths

7ths on the keyboard skip five white keys.
7 ths on the staff move from a space to a space or a line to a line.

## Melodic 7ths

9. Draw a melodic 7th up from each given note. Use quarter notes. Name each note.

10. Draw a melodic 7th down from each given note. Use half notes. Name each note.


## Harmonic 7ths

11. Draw a note above each given note to form harmonic 7ths. Use whole notes. Name the notes.

12. Name each interval (3rd, 4th, 5th, 6 th or 7 th).


## Octaves (8ths)

Octave (8th) on the keyboard


Octaves (8ths) on the staff


Melodic Octaves (8ths) Harmonic Octaves (8ths)

Octaves (8ths) on the staff move from a space to a line or a line to a space.

## Melodic Octaves (8ths)

13. Draw a melodic octave (8th) up from each given note. Use quarter notes.

14. Draw a melodic octave (8th) down from each given note. Use half notes.


## Harmonic Octaves (8ths)

15. Draw a note above each given note to form harmonic octaves (8ths). Use whole notes.

16. Name each interval (6th, 7th, or 8th).


## Interval Practice

17. Name each interval. Name each note.


18. Draw each interval. Name each note.

19. Write letter names to form 3 rds going up.
$A \quad C \quad E$
20. Write letter names to form 4ths going up.
G
21. Write letter names to form 5 ths going up.

22. Write letter names to form 6 ths going up.

23. Write letter names to form 7ths going up.

24. Write letter names to form 3 rds going down.

25. Write letter names to form 4ths going down.

26. Write letter names to form 5 ths going down.

27. Write letter names to form 6ths going down.

28. Write letter names to form 7ths going down.
$\qquad$

## Unit 4

## Accidentals: Sharp, Flat, and Natural

Accidental is the name for any sharp, flat, or natural that appears in music. When an accidental appears in music, it lasts for an entire measure. The bar line at the end of a measure cancels the accidental.

## Sharp Sign \#

A sharp sign means to play the very next key higher.

1. Draw a sharp sign before each note. Name each note.



Flat Sign b
A flat sign means to play the very next key lower.
2. Draw a flat sign before each note. Name each note.


## Natural Sign $\ddagger$

A natural sign cancels any sharp or flat.
3. Draw a natural sign before the second note in each measure. Name each note.


## Enharmonic Notes

Notes that sound the same but are written differently are called enharmonic notes.
4. Draw the enharmonic note for each given note. Name each note.


## Unit 5

## Half Steps and Whole Steps

## Half Step

A half step is the distance from one key the very next key with no key between.

1. Draw the note a half step above each given note. Use quarter notes. Name each note.

2. Draw the note a half step below each given note. Use half notes. Name each note.


## Whole Step

A whole step is the distance from one key to the next key with one key between.
3. Draw the note a whole step above each given note. Use whole notes. Name each note.

4. Draw the note a whole step below each given note. Use half notes. Name each note.

$5 \mathbf{W r i t e} \mathbf{H}$ for half step and $\mathbf{W}$ for whole step.


## Unit 6

## 5-Finger Patterns and Triads

## Major 5-Finger Patterns

Major 5-finger patterns have five notes formed in a pattern of whole steps and half steps. The half step is between the 3 rd and 4 th notes of the 5 -finger pattern.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& W=\text { whole step } \\
& H=\text { half } \text { step }
\end{aligned}
$$



A 5 -finger pattern may begin on any note. The lowest note names the 5 -finger pattern.

1. Draw the notes of these Major 5-finger patterns. Use whole notes.


D Major


F\# Major



Eb Major

2. Name these Major 5-finger patterns Remember that the lowest note names the 5 -finger pattern.


## Major Triads

A triad is a three note chord.
The 1 st, 3rd, and 5th notes of a Major 5-finger pattern form a Major triad.
The notes in a triad are called the Root, the 3rd, and the 5th.


3. Draw each Major 5-finger pattern. Draw each Major triad.


E Major

Gb Major
Db Major

4. Name each triad.

$\qquad$

Triads may be broken or blocked.


The root, 3 rd , and 5 th of a broken triad may appear in any order.
5. Name these broken triads.


## Tonic (I) and Dominant (V)

The first note of a 5 -finger pattern is called tonic.
The fifth note of a 5 -finger pattern is called dominant.
Roman numerals are used as symbols for tonic and dominant.

$$
I=\text { Tonic } \quad V=\text { Dominant }
$$

C Major 5-Finger pattern

6. Turn back to pages 20 and 21 and label the tonic and dominant notes of each 5 -finger pattern with $\mathbf{I}$ and $\mathbf{V}$.
7. Name the tonic (I) and dominant (V) notes for these 5 -finger patterns:

| C Major I | V |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| G Major I | V |  |  |  |
| D Major I | V |  |  |  |
| A Major I | V |  |  |  |
| E Major I |  |  |  |  |
| B Major I | V |  |  |  |
| F\# Major I | V | Enharmonic to: | Gb Major I | V |
|  |  |  | Db Major I | V |
|  |  |  | Ab Major I | V |
|  |  |  | Eb Major I | V |
|  |  |  | Bb Major I | V |
|  |  |  | F Major I | V |

Did you notice that the dominant $(\mathrm{V})$ of each 5 -finger pattern became the tonic (I) of the next? Did you notice that you began and ended with C ?


## The Circle of 5ths

When you move from the tonic (I) to dominant (V) of each 5-finger pattern, you are moving up by the interval of a 5 th. The 5 ths in order, beginning and ending on C are:

$$
\mathbf{C}-\mathbf{G}-\mathbf{D}-\mathbf{A}-\mathbf{E}-\mathbf{B}-\underset{\text { (enharmonic notes) }}{\mathbf{F} \# \mathbf{G} b}-\mathbf{D} b-\mathbf{A} b-\mathbf{E} b-\mathbf{B} b-\mathbf{F}-\mathbf{C}
$$



## At the Piano...

8. Start at the lowest C on the piano and play tonic (I) to dominant (V) 5ths going up.

You will end on the highest C on the piano!
9. Play each 5 -finger pattern around the Circle of 5ths.

## 5-Finger Patterns Around the Circle of 5ths

$$
\mathbf{F \#} \mathrm{G} \# \mathrm{~A} \# \mathrm{BC} \mathrm{C}
$$

BC\#D\#EF\#
EF\#G\#AB
ABC\#D E
DEF\#GA
CDEFG

## G A B C D

## Minor 5-Finger Patterns

To change a Major 5-finger pattern into a minor 5-finger pattern, lower the third note one half step.

## C Major 5-Finger Pattern

## C minor 5-Finger Pattern



If the third is a natural note, it will become a flat note.
If the third is a sharp note, it will become a natural note.
10. Draw these Major and minor 5 -finger patterns.


G Major
G minor



F minor

11. The notes of a 5 -finger pattern may appear in any order.

Arrange the notes of each phrase into a 5 -finger pattern.
Name the 5 -finger pattern you have drawn. The first one is done for you.


## Minor Triads

To change a Major triad into a minor triad, lower the 3rd one half step.
If the 3 rd is a natural note, it will become a flat note.
If the 3 rd is a sharp note, it will become a natural note.


Reminder: The bar line cancels any accidental in the measure before.
It is not necessary to draw the natural sign.
12. Draw these Major and minor triads.


Bb Major

13. Name these Major and minor triads. $\mathrm{M}=$ Major, $\mathrm{m}=$ minor

14. Triads may be blocked (as in the examples above) or broken. The root, 3rd, and 5th of a broken triad may appear in any order. Name these broken triads.


Major Maze
15. Follow the Major triads and 5 -finger patterns through the maze. Start at Da Capo ("from the beginning") and finish at al fine ("to the end"). Be sure to watch the clef signs.


## Unit 7 <br> Tetrachords and Major Scales

A tetrachord is a group of four notes formed in a pattern of whole steps and half steps.* The pattern for a Major tetrachord is whole step - whole step - half step (W-W - H).


Major scales can be formed by joining two tetrachords.

- The 1 st tetrachord is called the tonic tetrachord.
- The 2nd tetrachord is called the dominant tetrachord.
- The two tetrachords are joined by a whole step.


## C Major Scale



## Drawing Major Tetrachords and Scales

1. Draw each Major tetrachord. Then, draw the Major scale by joining the tetrachords. (The first note of each tetrachord and scale is drawn for you.)

C Major Tetrachord


G Major Tetrachord


C Major Scale


[^0]

Bb Major Scale
2):
2. Add the correct sharps or flats to form each Major scale.

Circle the half steps in each scale.


D Major


F Major


Bb Major


## Key Signatures

The key signature is the sharps or flats at the beginning of each staff. It tells you:

- notes to be sharp or flat in a piece, and
- the tonic note, or key, of the piece.


## Major Key Signatures



1. Name these Major key signatures.

2. Draw each Major key signature three times.


## D Major



F Major


Bb Major


## Minor Key Signatures

Each Major key signature has a relative minor key signature with the same sharps or flats.

3. Name these minor key signatures.

4. Draw each minor key signature three times.

E minor


B minor


## D minor



G minor

5. Play each example and determine if it is Major or minor.

Name each key signature.
Key of


5

Key of


Key of


Key of


Key of


Key of


Key of


## Unit 9

## Primary Triads: I, IV, and V

Triads built on the first, fourth, and fifth notes of a scale are called primary triads. Primary triads are labeled with Roman numerals: I(one), IV(four), and $\mathbf{V}$ (five).
In a Major key, the primary triads are Major triads.
Primary Triads in C Major


1. Draw the Major scale.

Draw the primary triads on the first, fourth, and fifth notes of the scale.
Label the triads with Roman numerals (I, IV, V).


G Major


Bb Major

2. Draw the primary triads for each key in treble and bass staff.

Example: C Major


D Major



F Major


C Major


42

## Unit 10

## Triads and Inversions

A triad is in root position when the root of the triad is the lowest note.

- A triad in root position may appear two ways on the staff:


An inversion is created when the notes of a root position triad are rearranged.

- A triad is in 1st inversion when the 3rd of the triad is the lowest note.
- A triad is in 2nd inversion when the 5th of the triad is the lowest note.


1. Draw the notes of these triads in root position, 1st inversion, and 2 nd inversion.


G Major


## F Major



Root position
D Major


A Major


E Major


Db Major


Ab Major


Eb Major


## Unit 11

## Accompanying a Melody with Tonic (I) and Dominant (V)

Melodies which use the notes of a 5 -finger pattern may be accompanied by the tonic (I) and dominant (V) notes of the same 5 -finger pattern.

Tonic (I) accompanies measures that mostly use triad notes (the 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes of the 5 -finger pattern).
Dominant (V) accompanies measures that mostly use non-triad notes (the 2nd and 4th notes of a 5 -finger pattern).

This melody uses the notes of the C Major 5-finger pattern.
The tonic note is C . The dominant note is G .
The triad notes are C, E, G. The non-triad notes are D and F.


Write an accompaniment for the following melodies using tonic (I) and dominant (V).

1. Complete the sentences above each melody.
2. Label measures that mostly use triad notes with $\mathbf{I}$.

Draw the tonic note in the bass clef. Use whole notes.
3. Label measures that mostly use non-triad notes with $\mathbf{V}$.

Draw the dominant note in the bass clef. Use whole notes.
This melody uses the notes of the $\qquad$ 5 -finger pattern.
The tonic note is $\qquad$ . The dominant note is
The triad notes are $\qquad$ . The non-triad notes are $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ .


This melody uses the notes of the 5 -finger pattern. The tonic note is $\qquad$ . The dominant note is $\qquad$ .
The triad notes are $\qquad$ The non-triad notes are $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ .


This melody uses the notes of the $\qquad$ 5-finger pattern.
The tonic note is $\qquad$ . The dominant note is $\qquad$ .
The triad notes are $\qquad$ . The non-triad notes are $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ .


This melody uses the notes of the $\qquad$ 5-finger pattern.
The tonic note is $\qquad$ . The dominant note is
The triad notes are $\qquad$ . The non-triad notes are $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ .


## Unit 12

## Transposing

Transpose means to play in a different key than written.
To transpose music, play the same pattern of intervals beginning on a different note.

This piece is in the key of C Major.


Here is the same piece transposed to the key of G Major.


1. Now transpose the piece to the key of F Major.


## Are You Sleeping?

Here is "Are You Sleeping?" in the key of C Major.

2. Transpose "Are You Sleeping?" to the key of D Major.


## Unit 13

## Signs and Terms

## Dynamics

Dynamic signs tell how loud or soft to play.

| TERM | SIGN | MEANING |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| pianissimo | $\boldsymbol{p p}$ | very soft |
| piano | $\boldsymbol{p}$ | soft |
| mezzo piano | $\boldsymbol{m p}$ | medium soft |
| mezzo forte | $\boldsymbol{m f}$ | medium loud |
| forte | $\boldsymbol{f}$ | loud |
| fortissimo | $\boldsymbol{f f}$ | very loud |
| crescendo (cresc.) | - | gradually louder |
| diminuendo (dim.) | - | gradually softer |

## Articulation

Articulation signs tell how to touch and release the keys.

| TERM | MIGN | MEANING |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| accent | strong emphasis |  |
| legato | smooth, connected |  |
| staccato | short, detached |  |
| tenuto | hold full value; slight emphasis |  |

## Tempo

Tempo marks tell how fast or slow to play.

| TERM | MEANING |
| :--- | :--- |
| allegro | fast (also means cheerful, happy) |
| allegretto | somewhat fast (slower than allegro) |
| andante | walking tempo (flowing) |
| andantino | slightly faster than andante |
| con moto | with motion |
| lento | slow |
| moderato | moderately |
| ritardando (rit.) | gradually slower |
| vivace | lively, quick |
| vivo | lively |

## Changing Tempo

a tempo
return to the original tempo
ritardando (rit.)
gradually slower

## Character or Style

These words help establish feeling, mood, or performance style.

| TERM | MEANING |
| :--- | :--- |
| cantabile | in a singing manner |
| dolce | gently, sweetly |
| giocoso | humorous |
| scherzando | playful |

## D. C. al Fine

D. C. al fine means to play from the beginning to the fine (end).
D. C. is the abbreviation for Da capo, which means from the head.

In music, D. C. means to play again from the beginning. Fine means end.

## Fermata Sign

Fermata means to hold a note longer than its time value.
Grace Note $\stackrel{\ominus}{\bullet}$
A grace note is printed in small type. It is not counted in the rhythm; it is played quickly, almost together with the next note.

## Slur

A slur is a curved line over or under two or more notes that are to be played legato.
Legato means to play smoothly connected.
Tie


A tie is a curved line that connects notes on the same line or space.
Play only the first note and hold it for the value of both notes.

## Octave Sign 8va

When the octave sign is placed over notes, play them one octave (eight notes) higher than written. When the octave sign is placed under notes, play them one octave lower than written.

## Pedal Sign

$\qquad$
The pedal sign shows when to press and lift the damper (right) pedal.

## Repeat Signs

1. 


2.

3.


Repeat from the beginning.

Repeat between the pairs of dots and double bar lines.

Play the first ending and repeat from the beginning; then skip the first ending and play the second ending.

## Matching and Crossword Puzzle

1. Draw a line to match each meaning or sign with its term.

Across
2. gradually slower
6. strong emphasis
8. fast, cheerful
9. smooth, connected
11. gradually softer
14. short, detached
15. play from the beginning to the fine.
16. $8 v a$
18.

3
4
20. very loud
$\frac{\text { Terms }}{\text { tie }}$
ritardando
accent
legato
a tempo
tenuto staccato
allegro cantabile repetition
pianissimo
D. C. al Fine crescendo
fortissimo diminuendo
mezzo forte mezzo piano
slur
octave sign
time signature

## Down

1. gradually louder
2. 


4. repeat of a note or rhythm pattern
5. medium loud
7. hold full value; slight emphasis
10. very soft
12. medium soft
13. in a singing manner
17. return to original tempo
19.

2. Write the term for each meaning or sign in this crossword puzzle.


## Unit 14

## Form in Music

## Question and Answer Phrases

A melody often has two parts: a question phrase and an answer phrase.
The question phrase will end on a note other than the tonic.
The answer phrase will end on the tonic.
From Dance by Türk
Question Phrase


## Repetition

Repetition occurs when a melodic or rhythmic pattern is repeated.
From Minuet by L. Mozart
Repetition


## Binary Form

Music written in binary form has two sections: section $\mathbf{A}$ and section B. Each section is usually repeated.

Section A
Allegro
Dance


Section B

## Ternary Form

Music written in ternary form has three sections: section $\mathbf{A}$, section $\mathbf{B}$, and a repeat of section $\mathbf{A}$.

Section A
Song


> Section B

Study this Minuet by James Hook.

1. Identify the sections by writing letters $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$.
2. What is the form of this piece?(Circle your answer) Binary Ternary
3. Look at the first two lines of music. Put a check $(\checkmark)$ at the end of the question phrase.
4. Look at the third line of music. Circle the repetition.

## Minuet

James Hook


## The Four Periods of Music History

The history of music writing is generally divided into four basic periods. Each period has certain styles which make it unique. The four periods are:

## 1. The Baroque Period (1600-1750)

Keyboard music of the Baroque period was often written with each hand playing its own melody or "voice". This style of writing is called polyphonic. Baroque keyboard pieces were usually written in binary form. Composers during the Baroque period frequently wrote pieces with dance titles. One of the most popular dances was the minuet. The piano was not yet invented during the Baroque period. Composers wrote for keyboard instruments such as the organ, harpsichord, and clavichord.

Important Baroque composers: Johann Sebastian Bach (Germany, 1685-1750)
Georg Philipp Telemann (Germany, 1681-1767) Jean Philippe Rameau (France, 1683-1764)

## 2. The Classical Period (1750-1825)

Piano music of the Classical period was often written with the right hand playing a melody and the left hand playing an accompaniment. This style of writing is called homophonic. Classical piano pieces were usually written in ternary form. Although many composers still wrote minuets during the Classical period, a new type of piece called sonatina became very popular. Pianos during the Classical period were called fortepianos. Fortepianos have a softer sound and lighter touch than modern pianos.

Important Classical composers: Joseph Haydn (Austria, 1732-1809)
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (Austria, 1756-1791)
Ludwig van Beethoven (Germany, 1770-1827)

## 3. The Romantic Period (1825-1900)

Piano music of the Romantic period was often written with long, beautiful melodies and complicated accompaniments. Romantic piano pieces frequently have descriptive titles and are called character pieces. The waltz became a popular dance which replaced the minuet. Pianos in the Romantic period developed into a larger instrument with a louder sound than the pianos of the Classical period.

Important Romantic composers: Franz Schubert (Austria, 1797-1828)
Robert Schumann (Germany, 1810-1856)
Frédéric Chopin (b. Poland 1810-France 1849)

## 4. The 20th Century (1900-2000)

Piano music of the 20th Century is written in many different styles. 20th century composers frequently experimented with unusual harmonies and rhythms to give their music a distinctly different sound than music of the earlier periods. In the second half of the 20th century, electric keyboards and synthesizers became an important part of creating new musical sounds. The piano remained one of the most popular of all instruments, and more people took piano lesson than ever before in history.

Important 20th Century composers: Béla Bartók (b. Hungary, 1881-d. New York 1945)
Dmitri Kabalevsky (Russia, 1904-1987)
Dmitri Shostakovich (Russia, 1906-1975)

## Unit 16

## Ear Training

Listen as your teacher plays one interval from each pair. Circle the one you hear.

2.

6.


Listen as your teacher plays a Major or minor 5 -finger pattern. Circle the one you hear.

11.
12.


Listen as your teacher plays a Major or minor triad. Circle the one you hear.


Listen as your teacher plays one melody from each pair. Circle the one you hear.


Listen as your teacher taps one rhythm from each pair. Circle the one you hear.

20.


## Unit 17

## Sight Reading

The best way to become a good sight reader is to read new music everyday.

1. Before you sight read, look through the entire piece and observe:

- key signature
- time signature
- clef signs
- dynamics
- accidentals
- slurs, ties, staccatos, accents, etc.
- rhythmic and melodic patterns

2. Find the first note and finger number for each hand.
3. Play slowly.

- Use a metronome to keep a steady beat.
- Count one measure aloud before you begin to play.
- Continue to count aloud as you play.

4. Keep your eyes on the music.

- Avoid looking up and down from the music to your hands.
- Look ahead to see what is next.

5. Keep going, even if you make some mistakes:

- Avoid going back to fix anything.


5
After you sight read:

1. Evaluate your playing.
-Were the notes and rhythm correct?

- Were the dynamics and articulation markings clear and distinct?
- Did the music continue to move forward as you maintained a steady beat?

2. Sight read the music again.

- Concentrate on correcting any previous mistakes.
- Set a goal for a perfect performance by the third reading.

Con moto


Andante


Andantino


## Review Test

1. Write the letter name of each note.

2. Add barlines to this rhythm. Write in the counts.

3. Write the correct time signature for this rhythm. Write in the counts.

4. Write in the counts for these rhythms.

$+8$

- .
-d d

9. 


5. Name these intervals.

$\qquad$
6. Write $\mathbf{W}$ for whole step and $\mathbf{H}$ for half step.

7. Draw these Major and minor 5 -finger pattern and triads.

Label the tonic and dominant notes with $\mathbf{I}$ and $\mathbf{V}$.


D Major
5-finger pattern triad

8. This melody uses the $\qquad$ Major 5-finger pattern.

9. Transpose the melody above to the D Major 5-finger pattern.

10. Add the correct sharps or flats to form these Major scales. Circle the half steps.


D Major


F Major

11. Name each Major key signature.


Major


Major

$\qquad$ Major
12. Draw the primary triads for these keys in both clefs.


I IV V
I
IV
V
13. Draw these triads in root position, 1st inversion, and 2 nd inversion.

| root | lst <br> position | inversion |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |$\quad$| 2nd |
| :--- |
| inversion |

root position inversion inversion


14. Draw lines to match the signs and terms.

15. Write the meaning for each term.

| allegro |
| :--- |
| moderato |
| legato |
| crescendo |
| dolce |

andante $\qquad$ vivace $\qquad$
mezzo piano $\qquad$
ritardando $\qquad$
scherzando $\qquad$

## Happy Ending



5

16. Answer these questions about "Happy Ending".
A. Write the meaning of allegro $\qquad$ scherzando
B. What is the key of this piece? $\qquad$
C. What is the time signature called?
D. What is another way to write the time signature?
E. Name the circled intervals. a. $\qquad$ b. $\qquad$ c. $\qquad$ d.
F. Name the rest in measure 6. $\qquad$ How many beats will it get? $\qquad$
G. How many ties are in this piece? $\qquad$
H. Name the 5-finger pattern in measure 5 . $\qquad$
I. Name the triad and its inversion on the first beat of measure 6 .
J. Name the triad on the third beat of measure 6 . $\qquad$
K. Are the triads in measure 6 Primary Triads? (Circle your answer.) YES
L. What does D. C. al fine mean?
M. Measures 5 and 6 have the same notes as measures 7 and 8. This is called:
(Circle your answer.) Repetition
Question and Answer Phrases
N. What is the form of this piece? (Circle your answer.)

Binary
Ternary

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Keith Snell maintains an independent piano studio with students ranging from advanced high school students to typical young beginners. In the summer, Keith teaches at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, where he is Assistant Director of the Young Artist Piano Program.

Co-author of the Piano Town method, Keith is also well known to piano teachers as editor of Piano Repertoire, the Master Composer Library, and producer of the recordings for each series. He has shared his insights about piano teaching in workshops and master classes throughout the United States and abroad.

Keith received Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, where he studied with John Perry. Significant pre-college studies include work with Boston University professor Maria Clodes. A successful performing career began for Keith after he won the Joanna Hodges International Piano Competition, which provided his London debut in 1984. He subsequently signed with Columbia Artist Management and recorded for Virgin Records.

Keith divides his residence between Reedley, California, and Bath, England.

Martha Ashleigh teaches piano, music theory, Advanced Placement Theory and composition in her private studio in California. She is a faculty member of Modesto Junior College where she teaches piano, music theory and music appreciation. Her students are consistent regional and state competition winners in both piano and composition. Martha is an active member of the Music Teachers Association of California. She has served on the Certificate of Merit Council for the MTAC since 1991 and became state coordinator for the MTAC certificate of Merit student evaluation program in 1996. Martha received her B.S. degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her M.A. degree in music and education with an emphasis in composition from California State University, Stanislaus.

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[^0]:    * The first four notes of a Major 5-finger pattern form a Major tetrachord.

