Let's play

PIANO



Heather Milnes

FOREWORD

This course has been designed for young beginners who a lessons. The basics of piano playing and music reading are there are lots of tunes to play so that each new skill can be

WELL KNOWN TUNES

As much as possible, well know tunes are used, in very eastudents know what they should sound like when they are a

ACCOMPANIMENTS

Many of the tunes have accompaniments which can be pla order to make a more satisfying performance and to encou rhythmically.

QUICK QUIZ PAGES

These pages give the student the opportunity to revise what fun and easy quiz.

WISE OWL HELPS OUT

The yellow owl appears regularly in order to explain important information.





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On the March Again

USING BOTH HANDS

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Direct Current

LET'S PLAY B

Bee in the Garden

TWO TOGETHER.

2 Plus 2 Makes Great!

QUICK QUIZ

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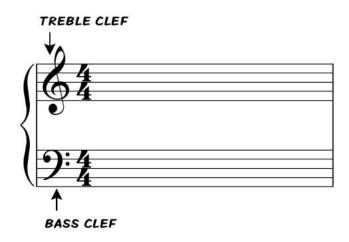
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The Sprinter
The Mocking Bird
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INTRODUCTION

MUSICAL NOTATION

Music is written on a set of 5 lines called a stave.

The right hand stave has a treble clef at the start and the left has a bass clef at the start.



Music is divided into bars, with a line at the end of each one. The: bar lines.

The numbers after the clef sign are called the time signature. The there are in each bar.

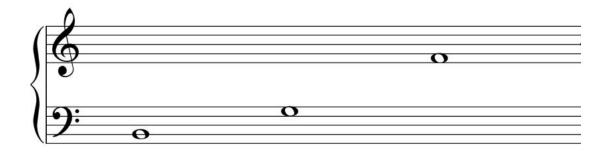
THIS TIME SIGNATURE TELLS US THERE
ARE 4 BEATS IN EACH BAR.

BAR LINE

BAR

BAR

Notes are written on the staves and their position tells you which the piano. Notes that are higher on the stave are played further the keyboard and they sound higher. For example, each note her the one before:



NOTE LENGTHS

Music has a beat and the way notes are written shows how me they should be held for:

- = 4 beats this is called a semibreve or a whole no
- = 2 beats this is called a minim or a half note
- = 1 beat this is called a crotchet or a quarter no

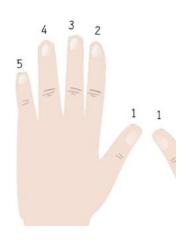
NOTE NAMES

Each note on the piano has a letter name. There are only 7 let



FINGER NUMBERS

Your fingers are numbered 1 to 5 in each hand. When you read piano music you will notice that many notes have a number above or below them telling you which finger to use.



HOW TO HOLD YOUR HANDS ON THE KEYS

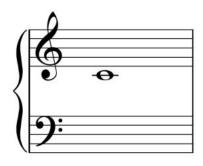


LET'S PLAY C - WITH THE RIGI

The first note we will learn to play is middle C with the right hand.

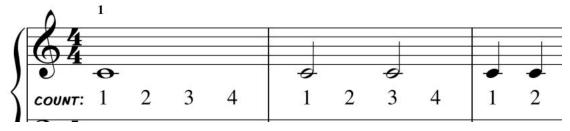
If you look at the piano keys, middle C is the C that is nearest to the middle of the keyboard.

It looks like this in the music. Notice, it is not on any of the 5 lines up the stave but has a small line of it's own just underneath the 5



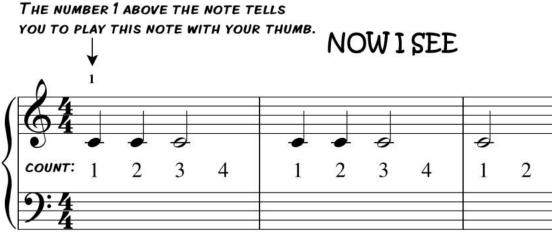
Here are your first two tunes, both using middle C. You will be placed with your thumb. Count as you play and remember to hold each correct number of beats.

FOUR TIME MARCH





THE NUMBER 1 ABOVE THE NOTE TELLS



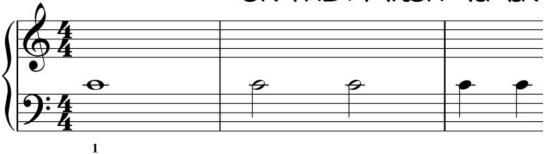
LET'S PLAY C - WITH THE LEF

When middle C is to be played with the left hand it is written on the bass clef stave. It looks like this in the music:



Play the next tune with your left hand thumb.

ON THE MARCH AGAIN



USING BOTH HANDS



LEFT, RIGHT, QUICK MAR

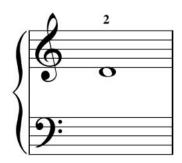




Accompaniment for LEFT, RIGHT, QUICK MARCH

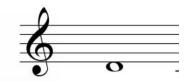


LET'S PLAY D



D is next to C and you should play it with finger 2 of your right hand.

SAY THESE NOTE NAMES

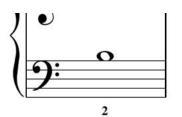




LET'S PLAY B



B is on the left of C and you should play it with finger 2 of



your left hand.

BEE IN THE GARDEN



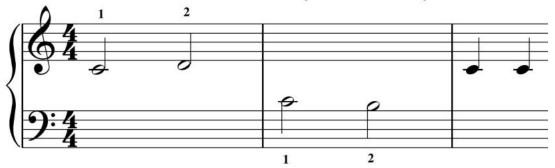
2

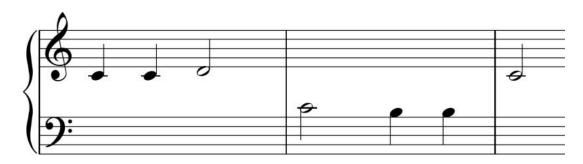
Two together!

The next tune uses C and D in the right hand plus C and B in the left hand, thats 2 plus 2!

It's another duet. You can play it on your own but it will sound much better if you ask your teacher to play the accompaniment with you.

2 PLUS 2 MAKES GREAT!







QUICK QUIZ

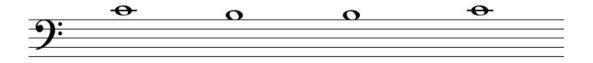
You have learnt a lot so far but how well can you remember i Try this quiz to test youself.

1. Underneath each note write how many beats it should last:



2. Name these notes (ie write the letter name):





3. Give the name of these symbols:

9:

4. Draw each of these notes:

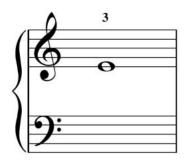
a crotchet (quarter note)

a semibreve (whole note)

a minim (half note)

LET'S PLAY E

Play E with finger 3 of your right hand.



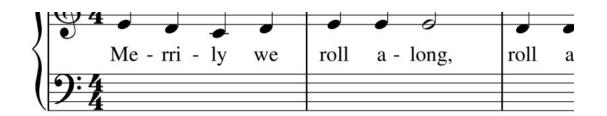
UP TO E AND BACK AGAIN

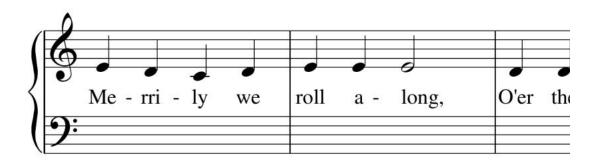




MERRILY WE ROLL ALON



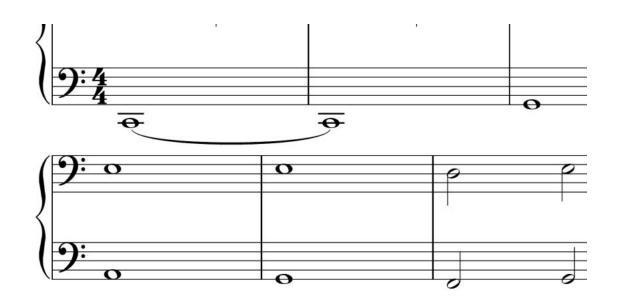






Accompaniment for I SAW A UNICORN

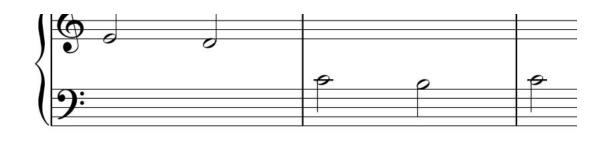


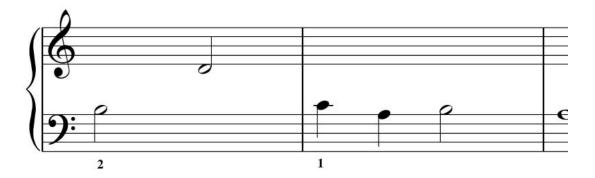


LET'S PLAY A

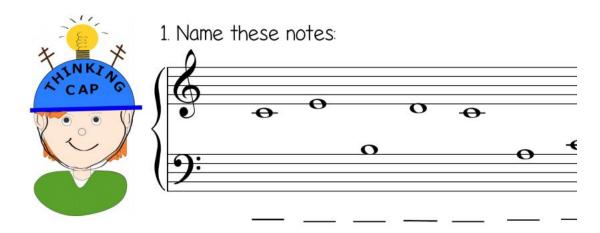
Play A with finger 3 of your left hand.







QUICK QUIZ



2. Write the correct finger numbers above these notes:



3. Draw these notes in the treble clef:

- a crotchet E a minim C a semibreve D
- a minim



- 4. Draw these notes in the bass clef:

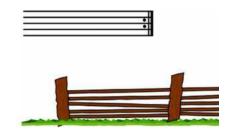
 - a crotchet C a semihreve R a minim A



5. Complete these musical sums (the first one has been done fo

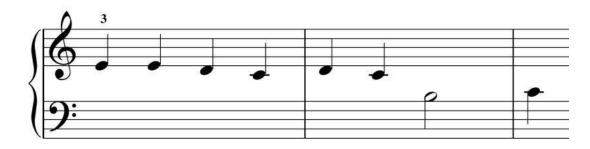
REPEAT DOTS

If you see two dots just next to a double bar line it means that you should repeat the music from the beginning.













Accompaniment for DEEP BLUE HORIZON





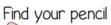
LET'S PLAY LEFT HAND G

Play G with finger 4 of your left hand.



HOT CROSS BUNS



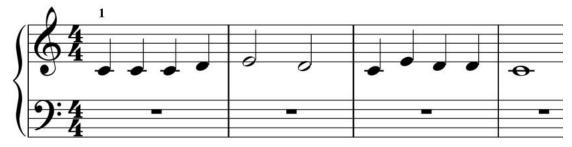




Write in the note names

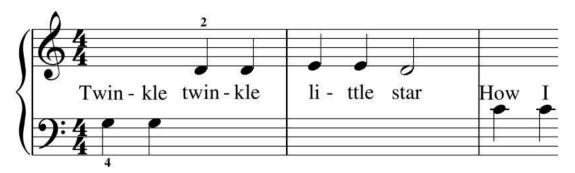


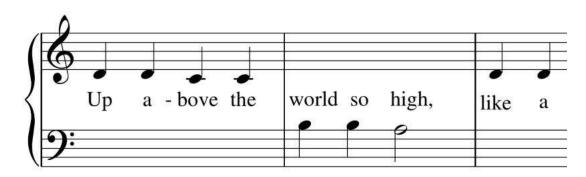
AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE





TWINKLE, TWINKLE LITTLI

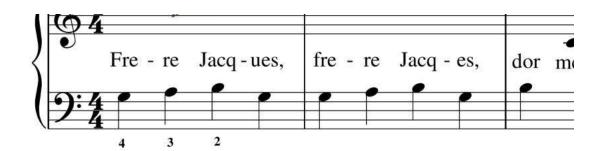








FRERE JACQUES





LET'S PLAY RIGHT HAND F

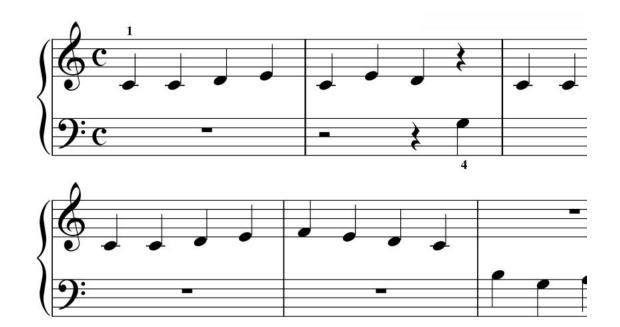
Play F with finger 4 of your right hand.



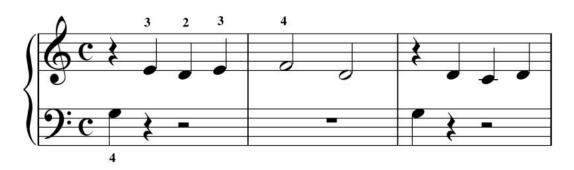


TIME SIGN
As you know
signature ¼ me
in each bar. It i
abbreviated to C
for "commo

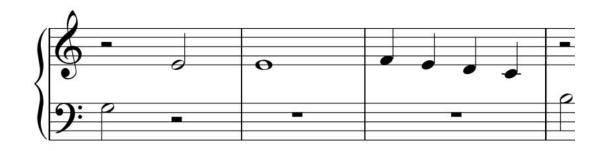
YANKEE DOODLE



SHOPPING TROLLEY







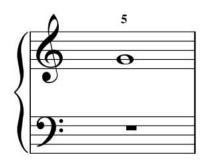


Accompaniment for SHOPPING TROLLEY



LET'S PLAY RIGHT HAND G

Play G with finger 5 of your right hand.



I JUST WANT TO RIDE MY!



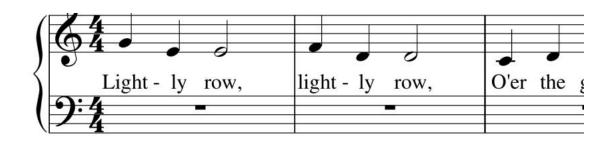
Find your pencil

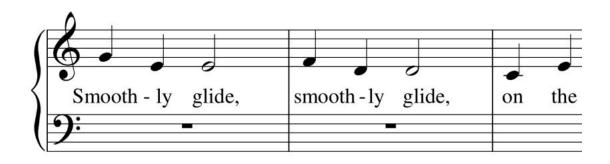
Well done, you have now learnt 5 notes in the right They are C, D, E, F and G. But can you name them Here are the 5 notes you have learnt - write the (the first 2 have been done for you).



Here is a tune which uses all of the right hand notes you now kr

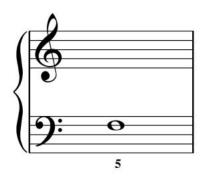
LIGHTLYROW





LET'S PLAY LEFT HAND F

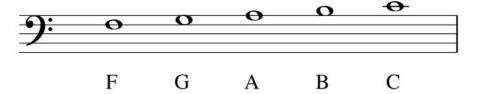
Play F with finger 5 of your left hand.



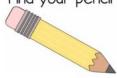
IN THE FOREST



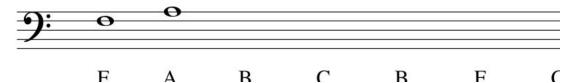
You now know 5 left hand notes



Find your pencil



To help you to remember which note is which you practise writing them here. (The first 2 have be



THIS IS NOT A TUNE

You should try to memorize all 5 of the left hand notes you hav so far. Here they all are, jumbled up! Try to play through these can. They do not make any sort of tune though.



RESTS

You already know these note values:

- a semibreve (whole note), which is 4 beats long
- = a minim (half note), which is 2 beats long
- a crotchet (quarter note),which is 1 beat long

REST Each note val equivalent rest moment of silence This is what th

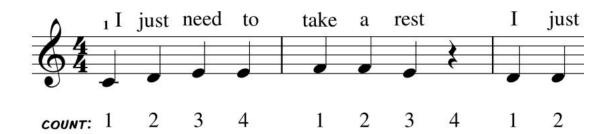


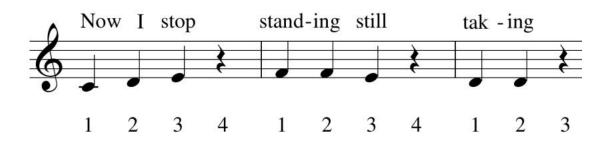
this is a semibreve rest which is 4 beats long

this is a minim rest which is 2 beats long

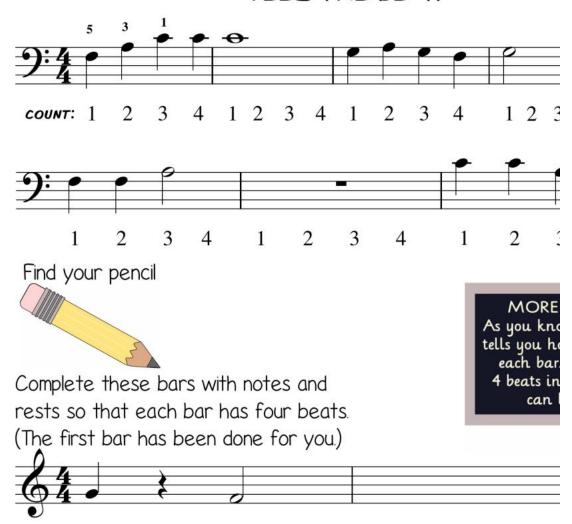
Here are two tunes which will give you practice at counting rest you play so that you can make sure you rest for the correct ar

TAKE A REST





FEEL THE BEAT

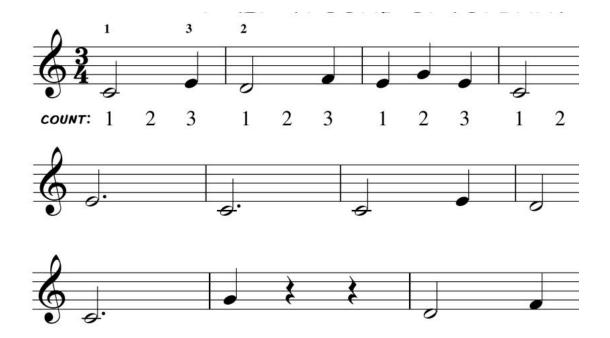


A NEW TIME SIGNATURE

The $\frac{3}{4}$ time signature is used to show that each bar has only 3 k

Tunes with the $\frac{3}{4}$ time signature are said to be in 3 time (or tripl time signature are said to be in 4 time (or quadruple time).

HALF A POUND OF TUPENNY



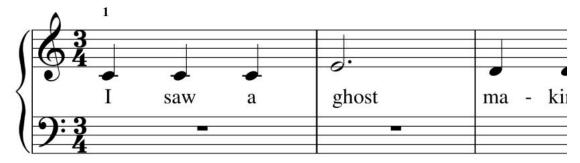
THE DOTTED MINIM

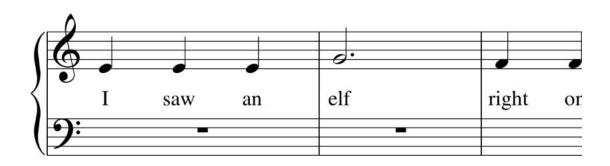
A dotted minim (or dotted half note) looks just like a minim but has a small dot to the right of the note head:



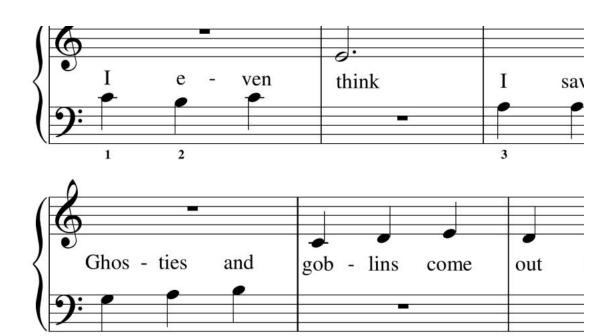
It is held for 3 beats.

I SAW A GHOST!









THE QUAVER

A quaver (or eighth note) looks a bit like a crotchet, but there little tail on the end of the stem:

A quaver lasts for half of a beat. Quavers often appear in pairs with the tails joined together like

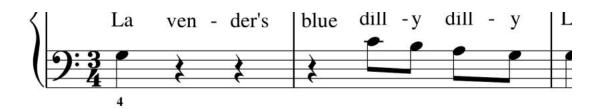
A quaver rest looks like this:

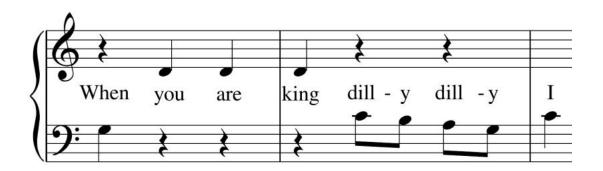




LAVENDER'S BLUE









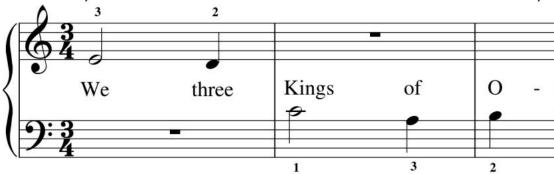
If you see this sign above a note it means that you should hold that note for a little longer – ie. pause on the note.





WE THREE KINGS OF ORIEN

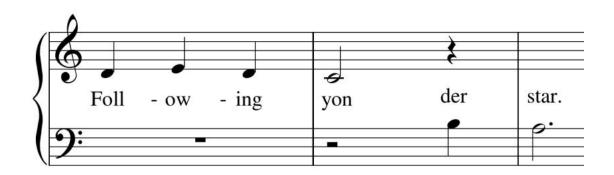
It may not be Christmas, but this tune is a nice one for any







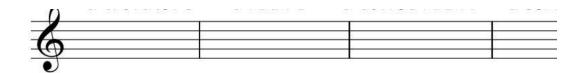




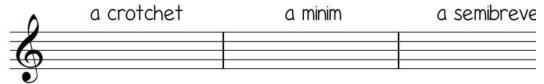


QUICK QUIZ

- 1. Draw these notes:
 - ▲ a crotchet D a minim E a dotted minim F a sem



2. Draw these rests:



- 3. How many beats are in each of these notes:
- a crotchet (quarter note) =
- a minim (half note) =
- a semibreve (whole note) =
- a dotted minim (dotted half note) =

THE UPBEAT

THE UPBEAT

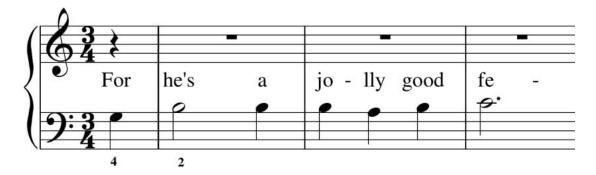
Sometimes the first bar of a tune has fewe

beats than the others. This happens when the tune starts on an upbeat.

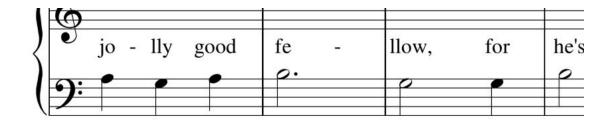
If a tune starts with an upbeat, the number of beats in the final bar is usually adjusted so that, when added together, the beats in the first and last bar add up to one whole be

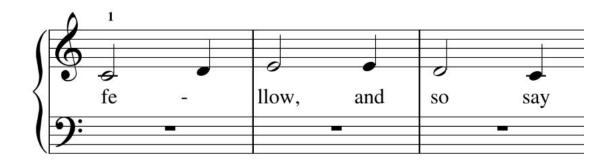
In the following tune, the first bar has one beat and the last be beats, so between the two bars there are three beats.

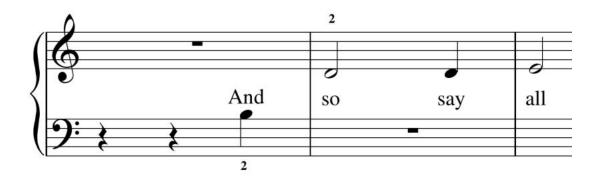
FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FE

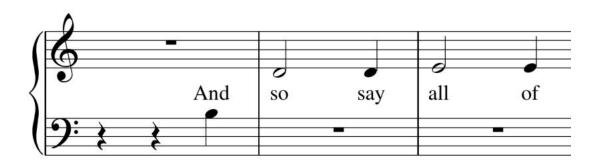


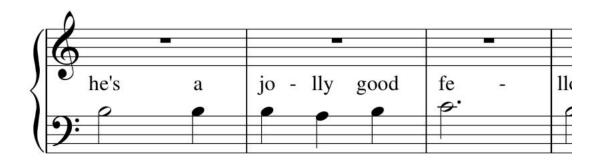


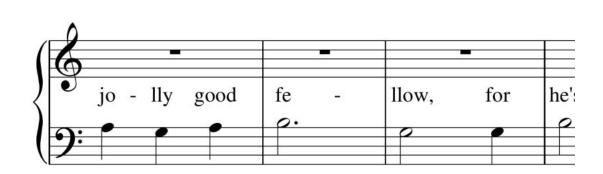


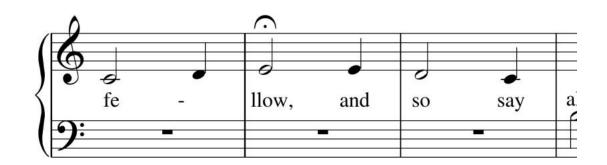










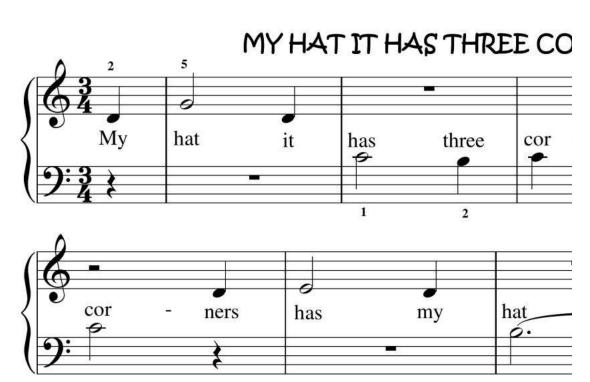


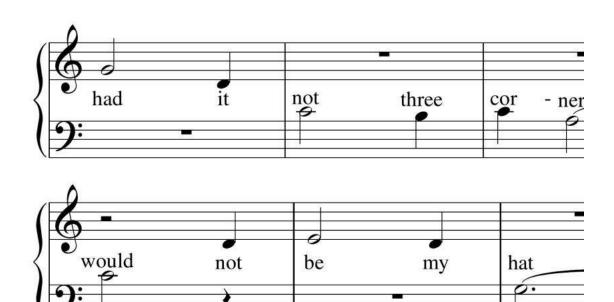
HIP HIP HO

THE TIE

A tie is when a note is joined, with a curved line, to another one same line or space. It means that the second note isn't played aç but just held on.







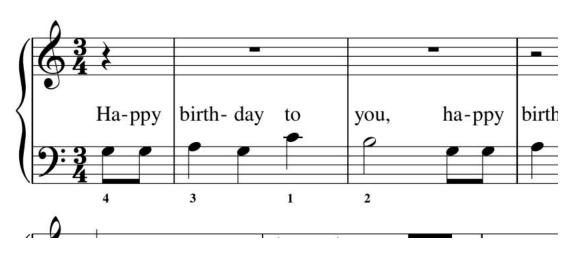


Can you tell what this tune is just by clapping it? (Answer or



If playing Happy Birthday with an accompaniment, play it one octave higher than written.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YO





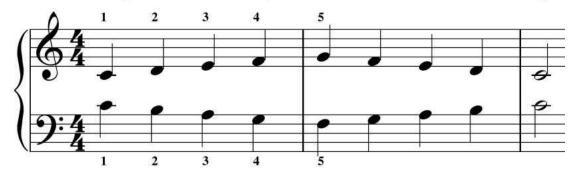
Accompaniment for HAPPY BIRTHDAY



PLAYING HANDS TOGETHER

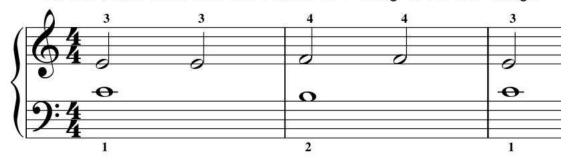
Try this easy exercise to get you started. Here you will be using the same fingers in each hand most of the time. You will be able to plan more interesting music if learn to play notes in the and right hand toge It is tricky at first but keep practicing you wi the hang of it eventu

EXERCISE 1: HANDS TOGETHER - FINGERS :

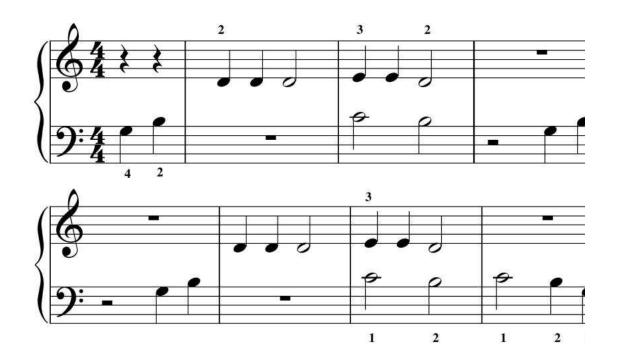


EXERCISE 2: HANDS TOGETHER - TAKE IT S

In the next exercise the hands are doing different things -



KUM BA YAH



Musical Terms: Tempo

TEMPC The word tempo means we talk of the tempo of we are talking about Three musical words you sh

Lento – which me Andante – which means 'd Allegro – which me

When you play the next three tunes make sure you them at the correct tempo.











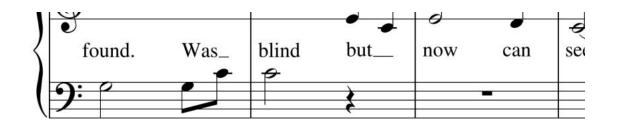


Andante TOGETHER AGAIN TOGETHER AGAIN TOGETHER AGAIN 2 1 2 1

SAY THESE NOTE NAMES 2:0







QUICK QUIZ

Find these notes on the piano as quickly as you can

In the right hand: DFEGC

In the left hand: B C G F A

MUSICAL TERMS: DYNAMICS

DUNAMI

When we talk about the d how loud or soft the music is. will often see instructions tell to play. Try to remember who

forte – which is shortened to piano – which is shortened to crescendo – which means gra diminuendo – which means gr

When you play the next two tur remember to follow the dynamic directions.





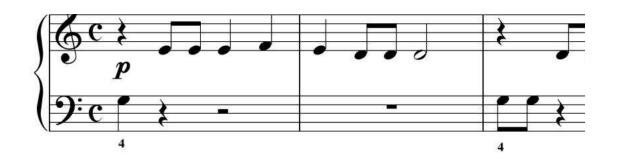
SAY THESE NOTE NAMES

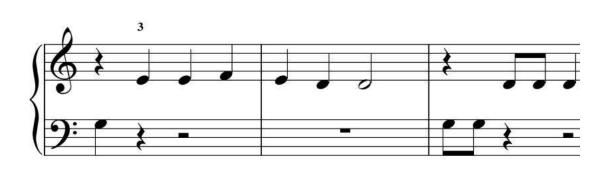
3



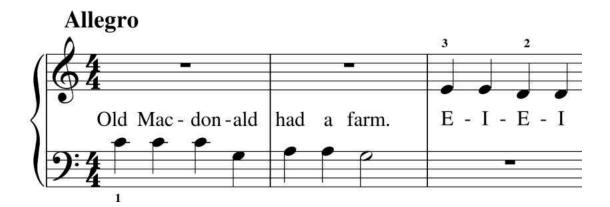
Andante

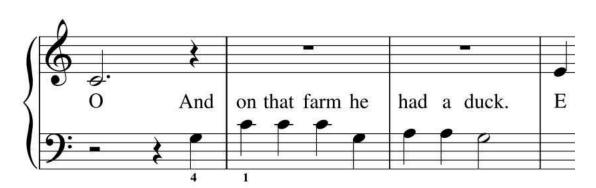
THE MOCKING BIRD

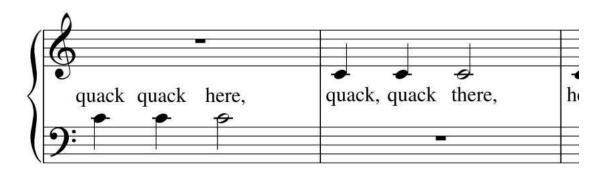




OLD MACDONALD HAD A F.











Accompaniment for Old Macdonald



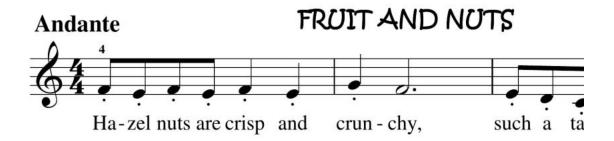


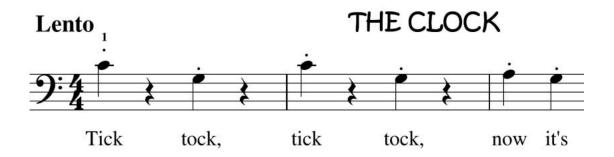
STACCATO

STACCATO

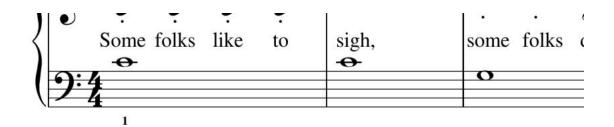
If a note has a dot above or should make that note very separate it from the follow

Your hands should feel very you are playing stac









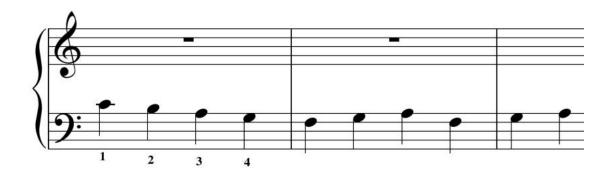


FINGER GYM

When you are learning to play the piano it is import you keep your fingers fit and flexible.

The next tune will give your fingers a good workou play with a really even tone and at a controlled te









TECHNICAL TIPS

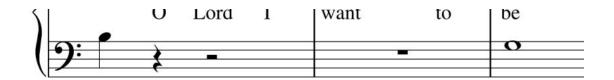
How you hold your fingers on the keys and how you are really important:

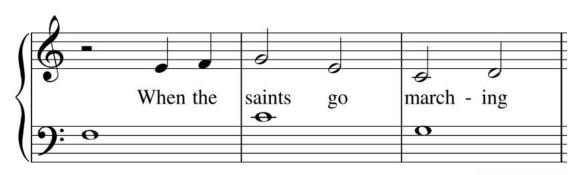
- * Remember, always keep your fingers gently cu
- * Keep finger nails trimmed quite short
- * Sit up straight



This is an American gospel tune. It should be pla and with a happy smile on your face!







Answer: the clapping tune on page 31 is AWAY IN A MANGER

This note is which is 8 1 below mid:

More books for young |

Young pianists will love these exciting books whic make practice fun and easy!

PIANO SCALES GRADE 1

It can be difficult to remember all of the notes and fingering for sc and standard musical notation doesn't help much.

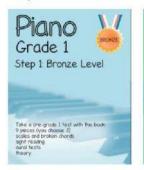
This book presents every scale as a picture, each showing the fing which should be used on the keys.

Students will have their scales and broken chords memorized in notime!

PIANO GRADE 1 - in easy steps

Pianists who want to take grade 1 but need to approach it in easy steps can try these pre grade 1 books. They each contain a selection of all of the types of test which are found in a real grade 1 exam:

9 pieces, Scales and broken chords Aural tests, Theory Mark sheet and certificate



MUSIC MANUSCRIPT BOOK

Kids love learning to draw treble and bass clefs and can take their steps in music composition with this fun little manuscript book.

Six large staves on each page make this super easy for littlies to us

SMOKE SIGNALS

Get those feet tapping with these rhythmic and tuneful pieces! Each piece comes with a colourful illustration and bite size facts about American Indian history.

The tunes are suitable for ages 7 and up and progress in standard from very easy to about grade 1.