

FIRST
15
LESSONS

PIANO

by Barbara Henry



Includes Audio
& Video Access

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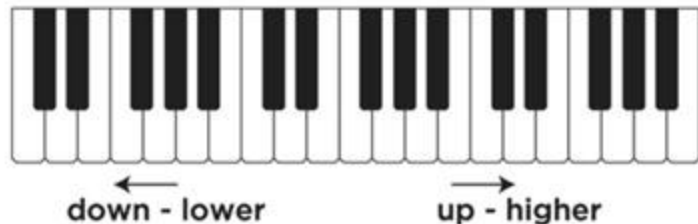
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The Piano Keyboard

A full piano keyboard consists of 88 white and black keys. Some digital or electronic keyboards may have fewer than 88. The black keys alternate in groups of two and three. If you play the keys to the right you are moving **up** the keyboard and sound higher. If you play the keys to the left you are moving **down** and sound lower.

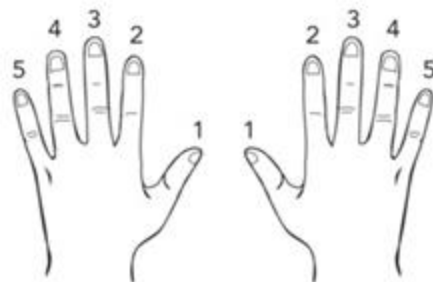


1A



1B

Sit squarely at the keyboard with a straight back; arms hanging loosely from shoulders. The bench or chair should be high enough for elbows to be slightly higher than the keyboard. When playing the piano, numbers are assigned to each finger.



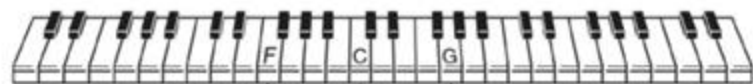
1C

The first seven letters of the alphabet are used to name the keys on the piano.



The Grand Staff

Piano music is written on an upper and lower staff joined together, called the **Grand Staff**.



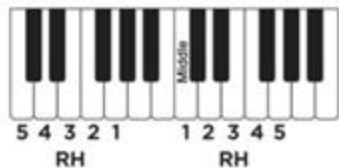
Middle C uses the short line (ledger line) between the Bass Staff and Treble Staff.

The two staves are joined together using a bar line and a brace to form the **Grand Staff**. The higher staff has a symbol at the beginning called the **Treble clef**. It shows the notes that are played on **Middle C** and higher. Notice that the treble clef circles the second line on the staff. This is the G line, which is five notes above middle C. The lower staff has a symbol at the beginning of it called the **Bass clef**. It shows the notes that are played on **Middle C** and lower. Notice that the clef starts on the fourth line and has a dot placed above and below the fourth line. The fourth line is Bass F. **Treble G**, **Middle C** and **Bass F** are three notes that can be used as reference points to help you to identify which notes to play.



6A

Little River Flowing



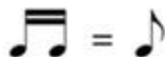
Folk Melody

R.H.

L.H.

Sixteenth Notes

Two 16th notes equal one eighth note:



Count and clap the example below.



12A



12B

Blackbird

Words and Music by John Lennon and Paul McCartney

Slowly

mf Black-bird sing-ing in the dead of night. Take these bro - ken wings and learn to

fly. All your life you were on - ly wait-ing for this mo-ment to a -

rise. Black - bird, fly. Black - bird,

fly in - to the light of a dark, black night.

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