BASTIEN PIANO BASICS

THEORY

PRIMER LEVEL



BY JAMES BASTIEN

KOS NEILA, KJOS MUSIC COMPANY • SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Dear teachers and parents:

BASTIEN PIANO BASICS is an exciting and comprehensive series for piano study designed to get the young student off to the right start. The learning sequence is carefully graded to assure steady progress in all areas.

Theory, Primer is coordinated page-by-page with **Piano, Primer** and **Performance, Primer.** The three books should be used simultaneously for thorough reinforcement of each concept. The suggested sequence among the books is listed in the *Contents*.

Theory contains written work and some short pieces to reinforce each concept introduced. Students will have a better understanding of the music they are playing—and will learn it more easily—when theory is integrated as a regular part of the learning process.

We offer you our best wishes for achievement and success.

Neil A. Kjos Music Company James Bastien Jane Smisor Bastien

BASTIEN PIANO BASICS

THEORY

PRIMER LEVEL

BY JAMES BASTIEN

Contents

Pe	.				Pena			
This Book	D _{ia}	rman no	rechi	be.	This Book Pial	rmai	Tech lce	۸.
		' 0 '	ce.	"C	Ok.	10 ·	ce .	AlC.
The Piano Keyboard	2	6			Dynamics 21	31	13	7
Low and High	3	7			Measuring Intervals: 2nds 22	32	14	8
Rhythm in Music	4	8	2		Measuring Intervals: 3rds 23	33	15	9
Stems on Notes	5		4		The Slur and the Tie 24	34	16	10
Bar Lines	6				Note-Spelling Game 25			
The Music Alphabet	7	14			Measuring Intervals: 4ths 26	36	18	12
White Key Names	8	15			Measuring Intervals: 5ths 27	38	19	13
Space Flight Game 1					Melodic and Harmonic Intervals . 28	39		14
C Position 1		16		2	Rest Signs	40	20	15
2 Time Signature 1	.2	18	8	4	The C Chord	41	22	16
$=$ $=$ $\frac{3}{4}$ Time Signature		20	9		Middle C Position	44	24	18
Time Signature 1		22	10	5	Two Eighth Notes	46	26	19
Review Quiz		24			Sharp Sign	48	27	20
The Staff		25			G Position	52	28	22
Clef Signs 1					Staccato Notes	56		24
How Notes Move on the Staff 1		26			Flat Sign	58	30	26
The Grand Staff 1		30	12		Matching Games 40	62	32	30
C Position				6				

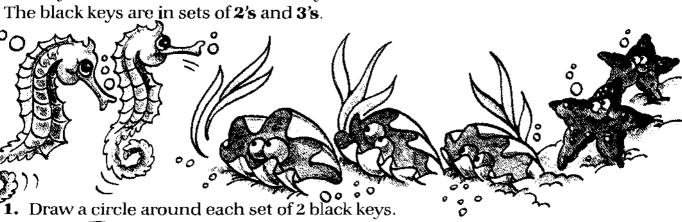
^{*}To reinforce the feeling of achievement, the teacher or student may put a $\sqrt{}$ when the page has been completed.

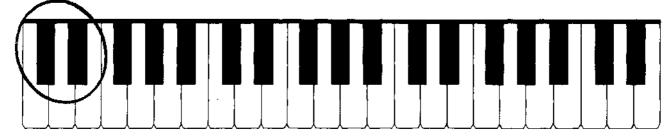
ISBN 0-8497-5270-1

©1985 Kjos West, 4382 Jutland Drive, San Diego, California 92117. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

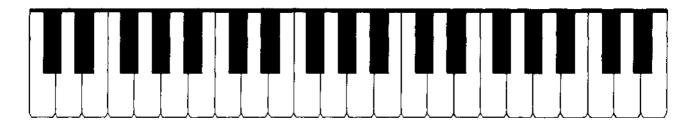
The Piano Keyboard

The keyboard has white and black keys.

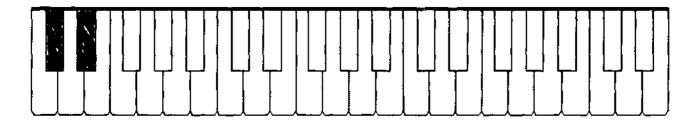




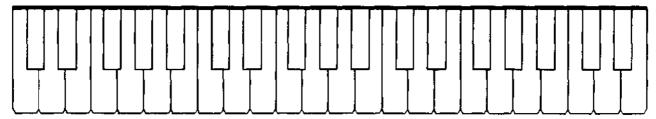
2. Draw a circle around each set of 3 black keys.

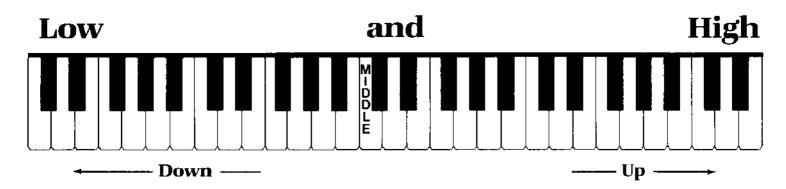


3. Fill in all the sets of 2 black keys.



4. Fill in all the sets of 3 black keys.





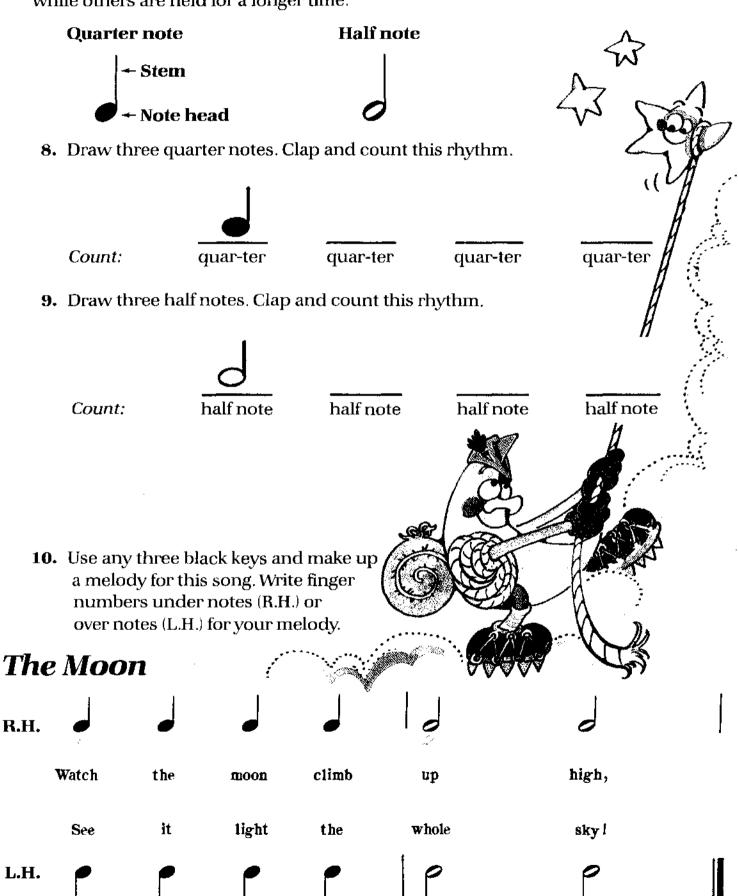
- **5.** On the keyboard, **high** keys are usually played with the Right Hand.
 - a. Play the sets of 2 black keys up the keyboard with your R.H. Start at the middle of the keyboard.
 - b. Play the sets of 3 black keys up the keyboard with your R.H. Start at the middle of the keyboard.
- **6.** On the keyboard, low keys are usually played with the Left Hand.
 - a. Play the sets of 2 black keys down the keyboard with your L.H. Start at the middle of the keyboard.
 - b. Play the sets of 3 black keys down the keyboard with your L.H. Start at the middle of the keyboard.
- **7.** Make up some pieces using sets of black keys.
 - a. Make up a piece using the sets of 2 black keys.
 - b. Make up a piece using the sets of 3 black keys.

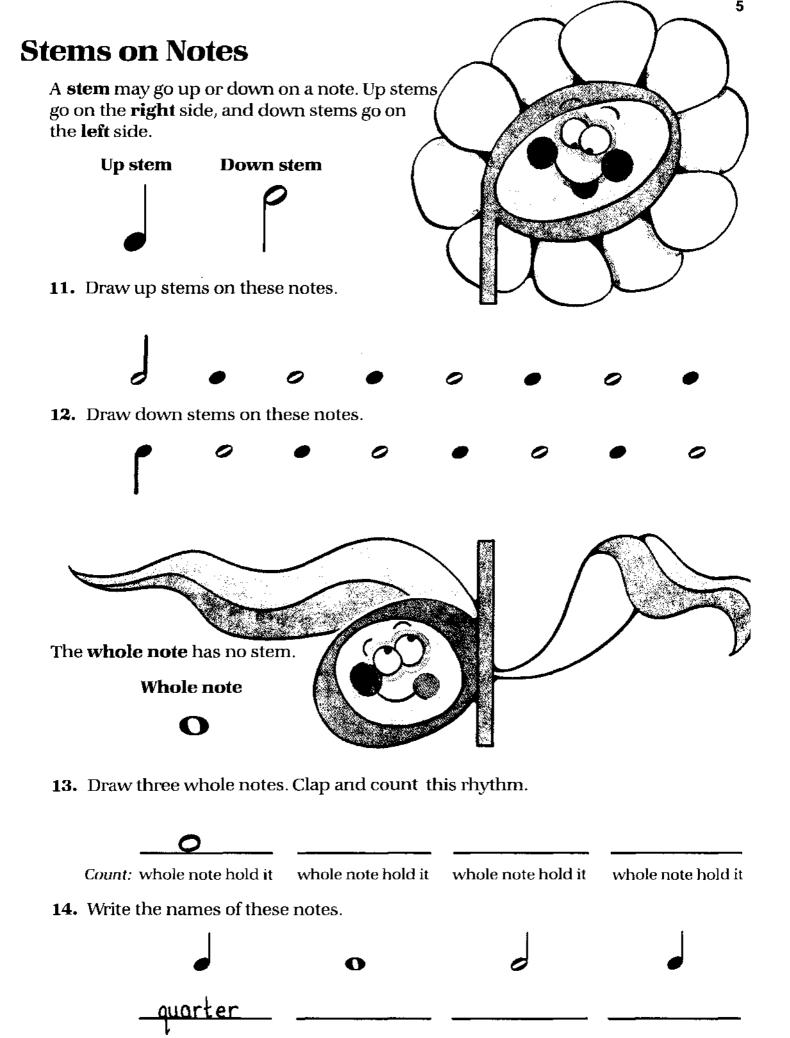
Your pieces could be about growling lions, a cat high in a tree, or whatever you like.



Rhythm in Music

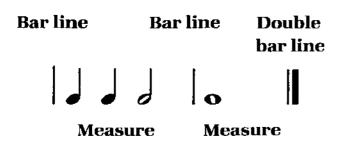
Different kinds of notes are used to make **rhythm** in music. Some notes are short, while others are held for a longer time.



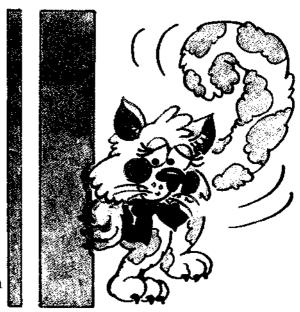


Bar Lines

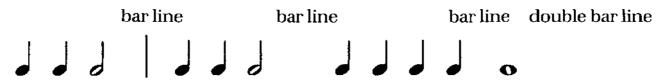
Bar lines divide music into **measures**. The end of a piece has a **double bar line**.



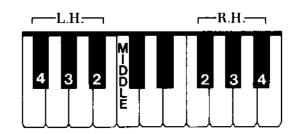
The **repeat sign** is shown by two dots before a double bar line. Repeat the music from the beginning.



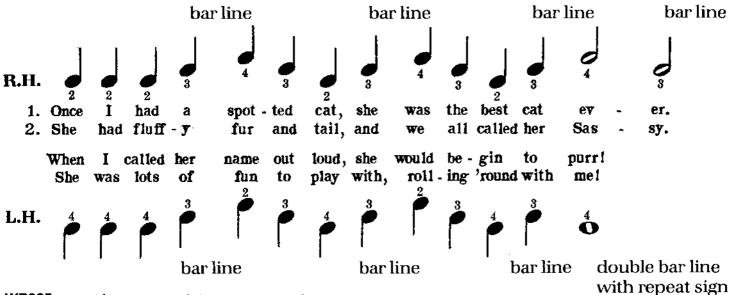
15. Draw bar lines to separate these notes into measures. Use a double bar line at the end. Clap and count this rhythm.



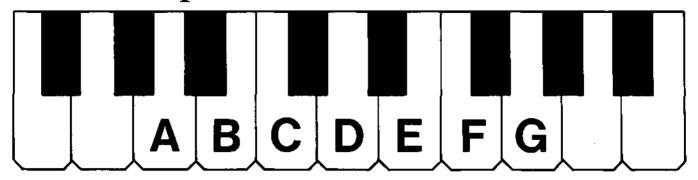
16. Draw bar lines in this piece.
Draw a double bar line at the end and put two dots before it.
Play this piece.



My Spotted Cat

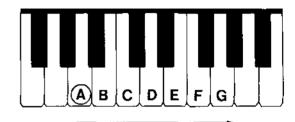


The Music Alphabet

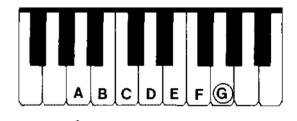


- **17.** How many letters are there in the music alphabet?
- **18.** When you play and say the music alphabet forward, you go **up** the keyboard to the **right**.

 Write the music alphabet forward. Play it.



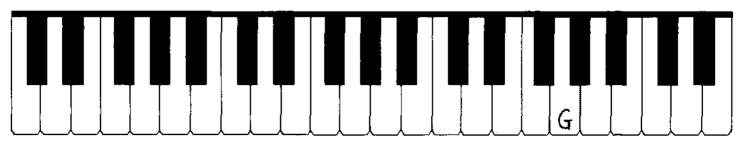
19. When you play and say the music alphabet backward, you go down the keyboard to the left.
Write the music alphabet backward. Play it.



20. Write the music alphabet forward two times on this keyboard. Play it.



21. Write the music alphabet backward two times on this keyboard. Play it.



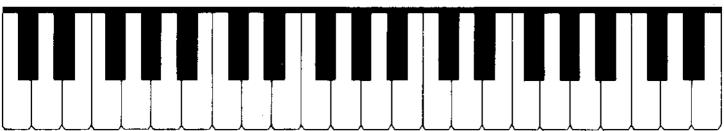
White Key Names



A is between the 2nd and 3rd keys in the 3 black key set.

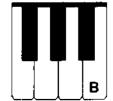


22. Write an *A* on all the A's on this keyboard. Play all the A's on your piano.

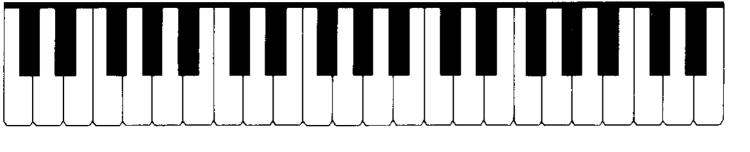




B is to the right of the 3 black key set.



23. Write a *B* on all the B's on this keyboard. Play all the B's on your piano.

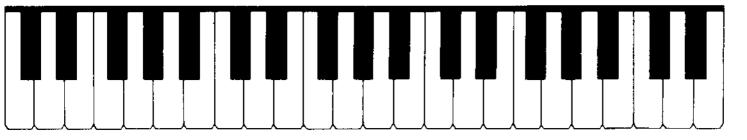




C is to the left of the 2 black key set.



24. Write a *C* on all the C's on this keyboard. Play all the C's on your piano.

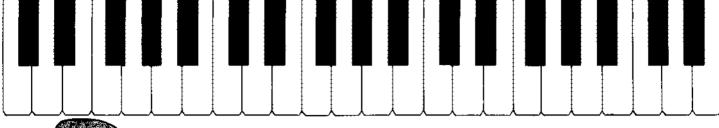




D is in the middle of the 2 black key set.



25. Write a *D* on all the D's on this keyboard. Play all the D's on your piano.

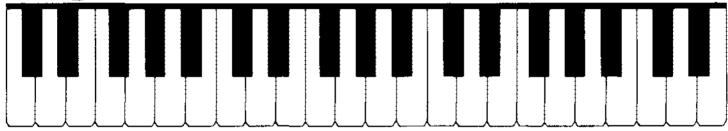


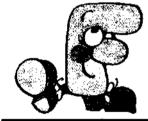


E is to the right of the 2 black key set.



26. Write an *E* on all the E's on this keyboard. Play all the E's on your piano.

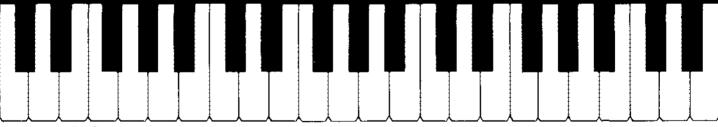




 ${f F}$ is to the left of the 3 black key set.

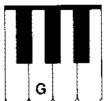


27. Write an *F* on all the F's on this keyboard. Play all the F's on your piano.

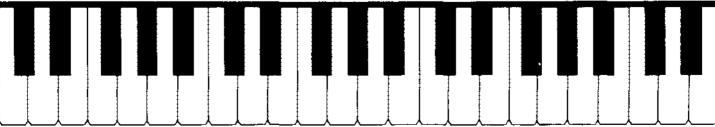




G is between the 1st and 2nd keys in the 3 black key set.



28. Write a *G* on all the G's on this keyboard. Play all the G's on your piano.

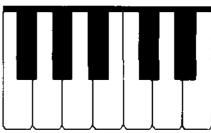


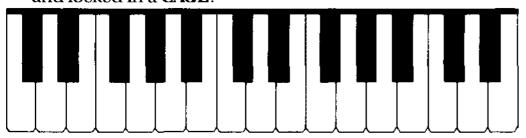
Space Flight Game

In this game, write the word that has all capital letters on the keyboard.

This is Star Ship Commander Fletcher. He and his crew travel far into outer space. Their ship's name is **ACE**.

Commander Fletcher's mission is to find the alien creatures who are on a distant planet and locked in a **CAGE**.





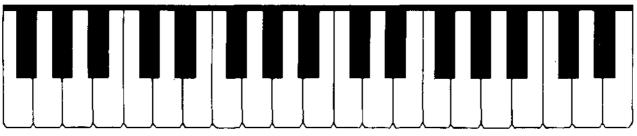
Each creature has weird arms and feet and a wild expression on its **FACE**.



But Commander Fletcher understands that their yelling means they want to be **FED**.

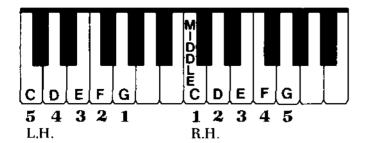


Once fed, the creatures are brought aboard the Star Ship Ace for the long trip back to Earth. For outstanding work, Commander Fletcher and his men are all given a special medal which they wear like a **BADGE**.



Mission Complete!

C Position

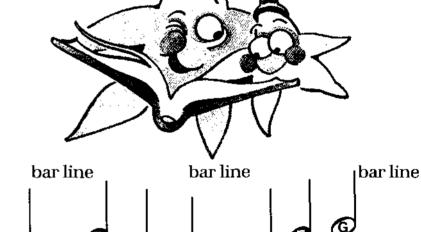


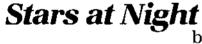
29. Write the alphabet letters in the C position. Play and name these letters.

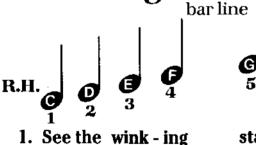
30. Write the letters backward, starting with G. Play and name these letters backward.

___ __ __ L.H. ___ __ R.H.

31. Draw bar lines in this piece.
Draw a double bar line at the end with a repeat sign. Play this piece.







stars at night, fore the dawn,

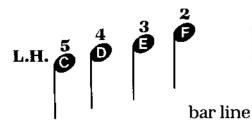
what a sight, they are dim, oh, how bright! al - most gone!

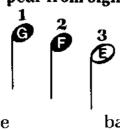
How they twin - kle Soon they'll dis - ap

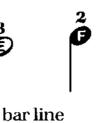
2. When we wake be

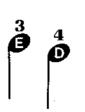
mer - ri - ly, pear from sight, down on you and they'll come back next

me! night!











bar line double bar line with repeat sign

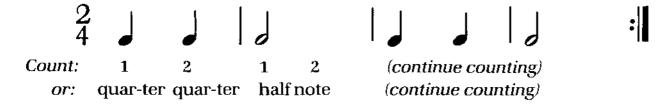
Time Signatures

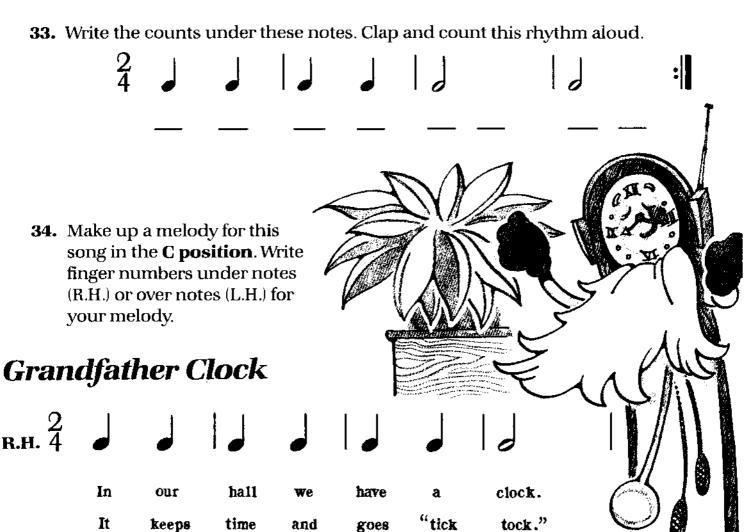
The **time signature** is the two numbers written at the beginning of a piece.

The **top** number tells how many beats are in each measure.

The **bottom** number tells what kind of a note gets one beat.

- **2** means two beats in each measure.
- 4 means the quarter note gets one beat.
- **32.** Clap and count this rhythm aloud.

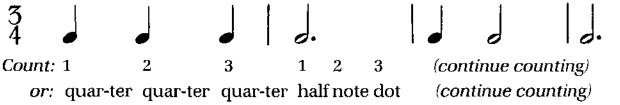




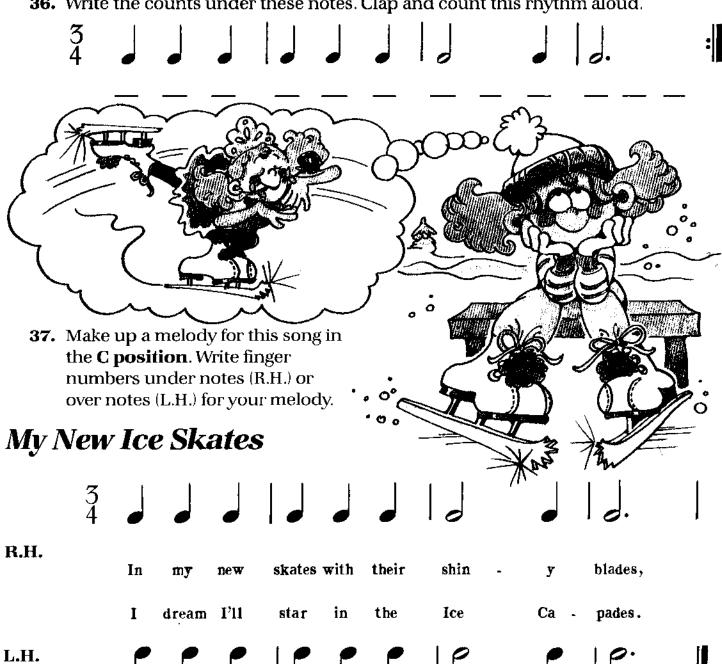
WP205 Use with pages 18-19 of Piano, Primer Level.

L.H.

3 means three beats in each measure. 4 means the quarter note gets one beat. The **dotted half note** gets three beats. 35. Clap and count this rhythm aloud.



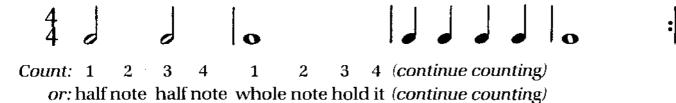
36. Write the counts under these notes. Clap and count this rhythm aloud.



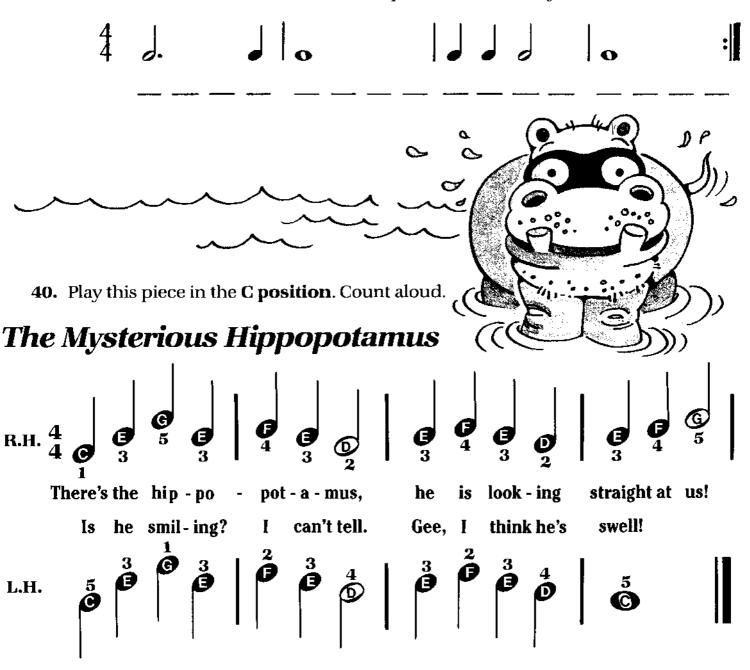
- **4** means four beats in each measure.
- 4 means the quarter note gets one beat.

The **whole note** • gets four beats.

38. Clap and count this rhythm aloud.

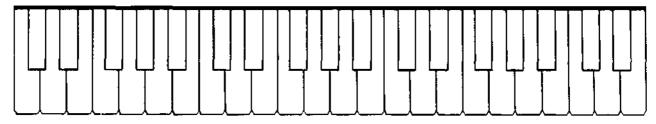


39. Write the counts under these notes. Clap and count this rhythm aloud.

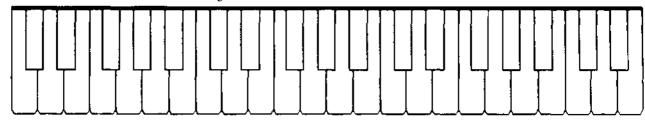


Review Quiz

41. Fill in the sets of 2 black keys.



42. Fill in the sets of 3 black keys.



43. Draw up stems on these notes.

Draw down stems on these notes.



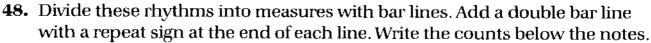
44. Write the music alphabet. _

45. Write the alphabet letters in the C position. _____ _

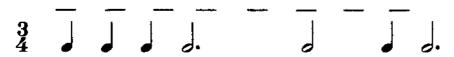
46. Write the names of these white keys.



47. Write the names of these notes.



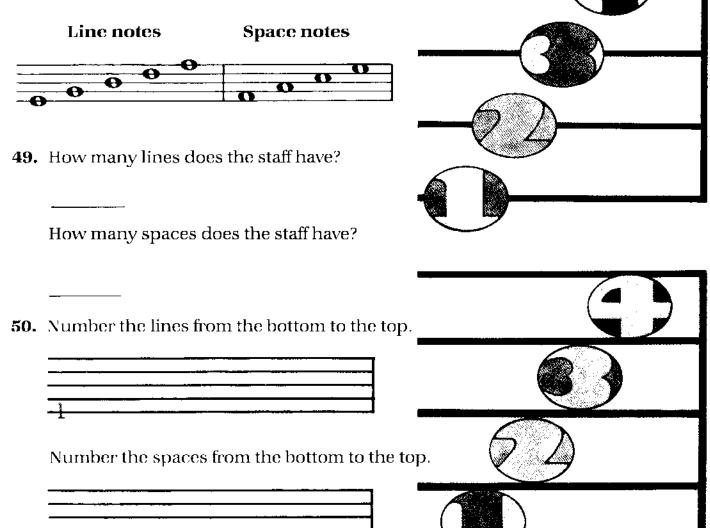






The Staff

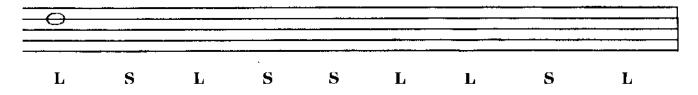
The **staff** has lines and spaces. Notes are written on **lines** or in **spaces**.



51. Write L for the line notes and **S** for the space notes.

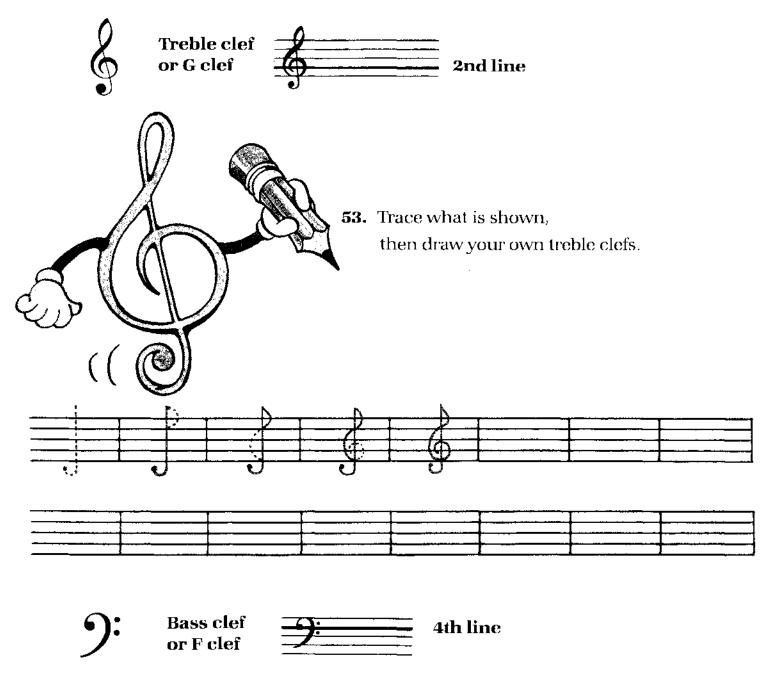


52. Draw line and space notes on the staff above the letters. Use whole notes.



Clef Signs

A clef sign is used at the beginning of each staff.

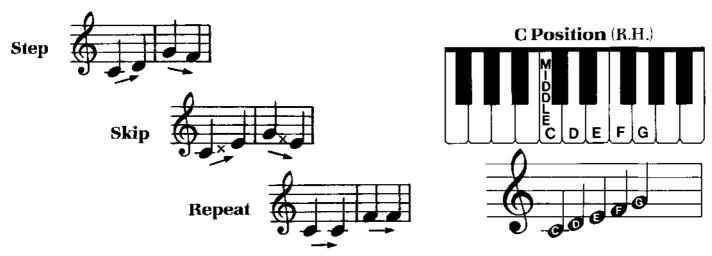


54. Trace what is shown, then draw your own bass clefs.

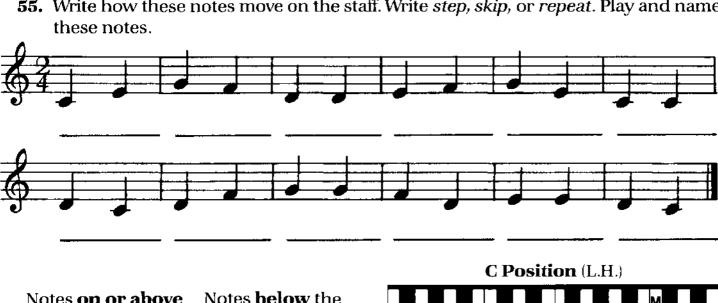
	4*5	4		· ·			
	***	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , 	 	/ ·	 		
<u></u>		-	 		 		
	*		 		<u>*</u>	<u> </u>	
	·····	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1		· _• · ·		·•
	· " ·······					I	

	,44. ,						

How Notes Move on the Staff



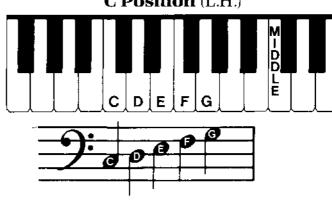
55. Write how these notes move on the staff. Write step, skip, or repeat. Play and name



Notes on or above the middle line have down stems.

Notes **below** the middle line have up stems.



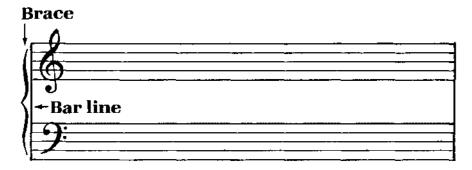


56. Write how these notes move on the staff. Write step, skip, or repeat. Play and name these notes.

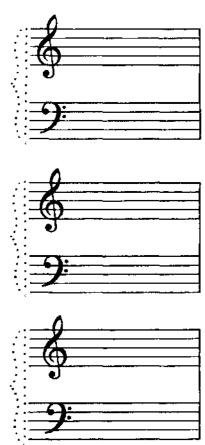


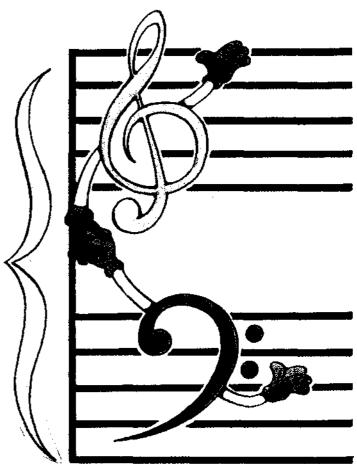
The Grand Staff

The **grand staff** is formed by joining the treble staff and bass staff with a **brace** and **bar line**.

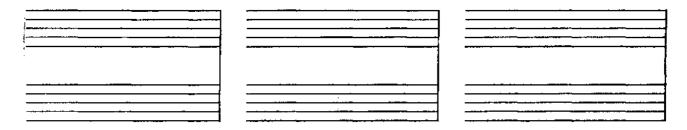


57. Trace these braces and bar lines to form grand staffs. Use a ruler to draw the bar lines.





58. Draw braces and bar lines to form grand staffs. Draw treble and bass clef signs.



C Position



Notes on or above Notes **below** the middle line have up stems.

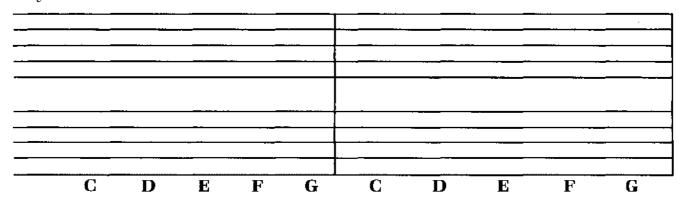


59. Draw a brace and bar line to form the grand staff.

Draw a treble and bass clef sign.

Draw the C position notes in the bass clef two times.

Play and name these notes.



60. Draw a brace and bar line to form the grand staff.

Draw a treble and bass clef sign.

Draw the C position notes in the treble clef two times.

Play and name these notes.

 C	D	E	F	G	<u>C</u>	D	Е	F	G
 	· · ·		<u> </u>					·	
 	,,	<u></u>		***					
						·			

61. Write the names of these notes. Play them.

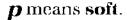


Dynamics

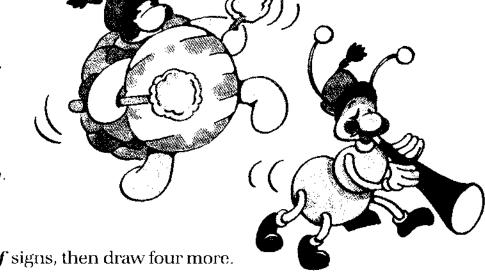
Dynamics are **loud** and **soft** signs in music.

f means loud.

Its Italian name is forte.



Its Italian name is *piano*.



62. Trace the first two f signs, then draw four more.



63. Trace the first two p signs, then draw four more.



64. Read the words of this song. At the beginning of each line, write the dynamic sign that matches the words of that line. Play this piece.

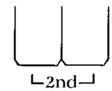
Our School Band





Measuring Intervals

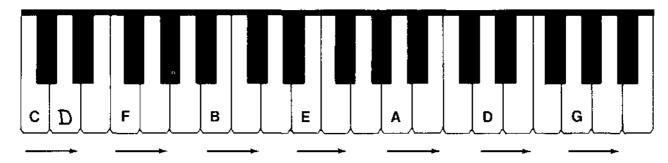
2nd The distance from one key to the next key is a **2nd**.



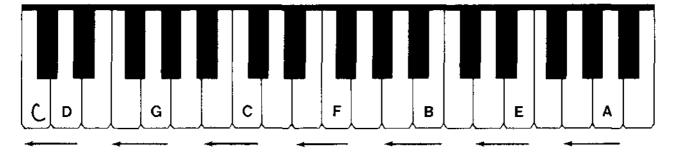
On the staff a 2nd is either line to space or space to line.



65. Write an interval of a 2nd **up** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano. Use either hand.



66. Write an interval of a 2nd **down** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano. Use either hand.

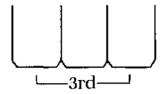


67. Draw a note an interval of a 2nd from the given note. Draw the note above if the arrow is up, or below if the arrow is down. Play and name these notes.



3rd

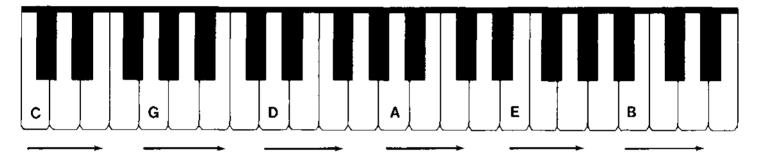
One skipped key is a 3rd.



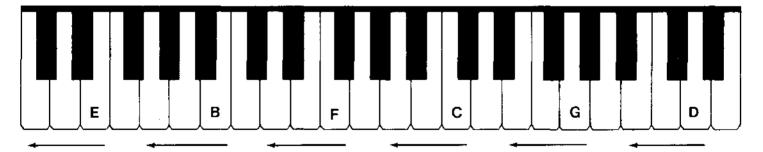
On the staff a 3rd is either line to line or space to space.



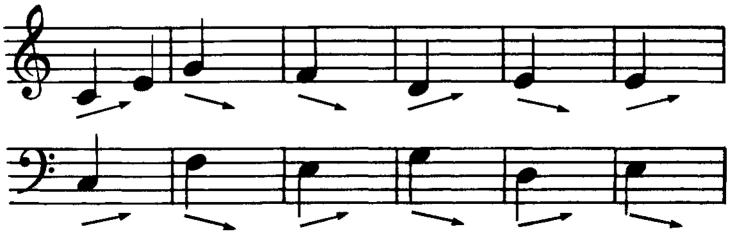
68. Write an interval of a 3rd **up** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano. Use either hand.



69. Write an interval of a 3rd **down** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano. Use either hand.

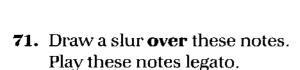


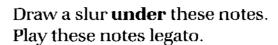
70. Draw a note an interval of a 3rd from the given note. Draw the note above if the arrow is up, or below if the arrow is down. Play and name these notes.



The Slur

The **slur** is a curved line over or under two or more **different** notes that are to be played legato (smooth, connected).









72. Draw a slur **under** these notes. Write the interval names (2nd, 3rd) on the lines below. Play these notes legato.



The Tie

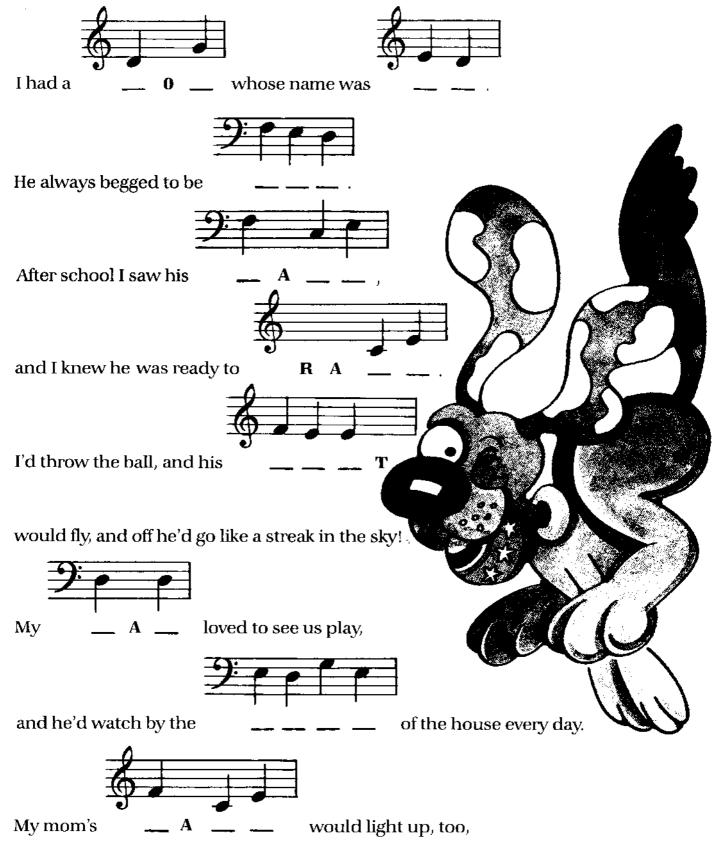
The **tie** is a curved line which connects notes that are on the **same** line or space. Play the first note and hold it for the value of both notes.

73. Draw a tie to these pairs of same notes. Write the total number of counts for the tied notes on the lines below.



Note-Spelling Game

In this game, write the note names in capital letters on the lines below.



and when she saw the fun we had, she'd shout Ya-hoo!

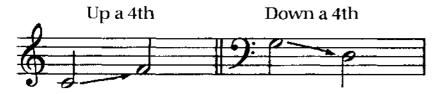
Measuring Intervals

4th

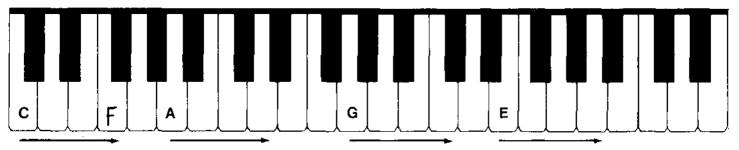
Two skipped keys is a 4th.



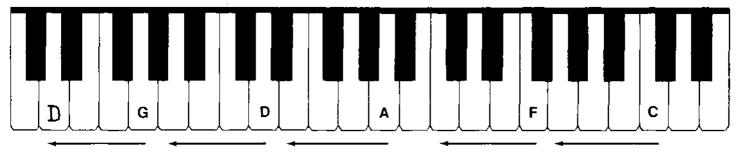
On the staff a 4th is either line to space or space to line.



74. Write an interval of a 4th **up** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano. Use either hand.



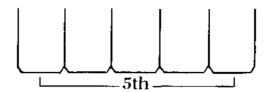
75. Write an interval of a 4th **down** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano.



76. Write the names of these intervals. Play and name these notes.



5th

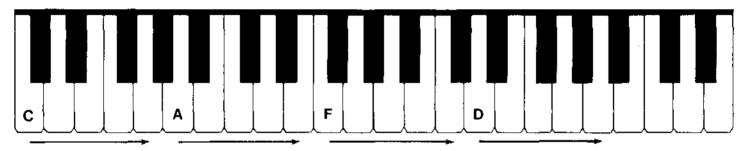


Three skipped keys is a 5th.

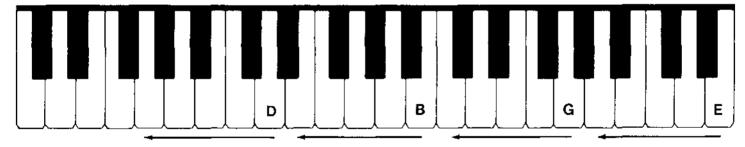
On the staff a 5th is either line to line or space to space.



77. Write an interval of a 5th **up** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano. Use either hand.



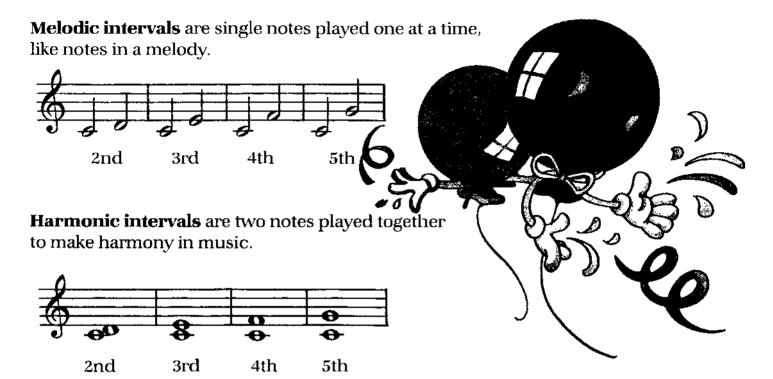
78. Write an interval of a 5th **down** from the given letters. Play these intervals on your piano. Use either hand.



79. Write the names of these intervals. Play and name these notes.



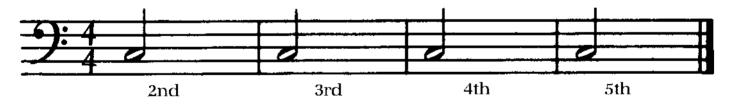
Melodic and Harmonic Intervals



80. Write the names of these melodic intervals. Play and name these intervals.



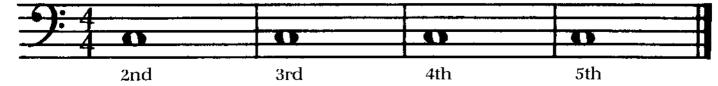
81. Draw a half note after the one given to form a melodic interval. Play them.



82. Write the names of these harmonic intervals. Play them.



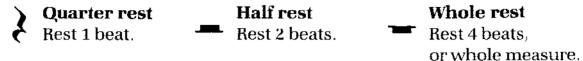
83. Draw a whole note above the one given to form a harmonic interval. Play them.



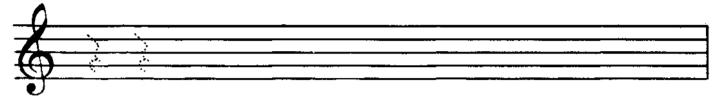
WP205 Use with page 39 of Piano, Primer Level.

Rest Signs

Rest signs are used in music for silence.



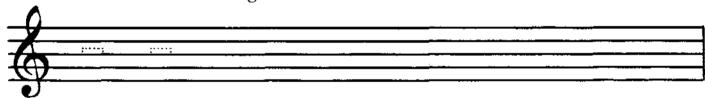
84. Trace the first two quarter rests, then draw four more.



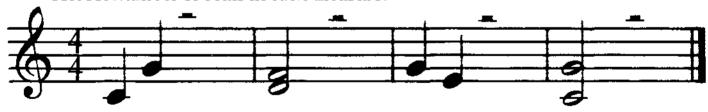
85. Draw quarter rests in this melody to complete the correct number of beats in each measure.



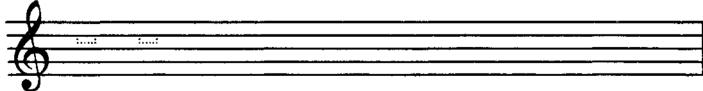
86. Fill in the first two half rests, then draw four more. Draw the half rests sitting on the 3rd line.



87. Draw half rests in this melody to complete the correct number of beats in each measure.



88. Fill in the first two whole rests, then draw four more. Draw the whole rests hanging down from the 4th line.



89. Draw whole rests in this melody to complete the correct number of beats in each measure.



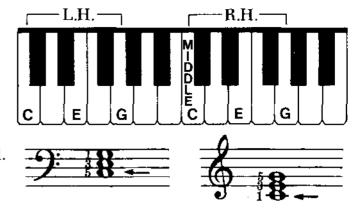
The C Chord

The **C** chord is formed from three of the keys in the C position:

 \mathbf{G}

 \mathbf{C}

The **bottom** note names the chord.



Solid chords: notes played together.

90. Circle the bottom note of each chord. Write the names of the chords on the lines below. Play these chords.



91. Draw these C chords and rests in the correct rhythm. Play them.



Broken chords: notes played one at a time.

92. Play these broken chords.



WP205 Use with pages 41-43 of Piano, Primer Level.

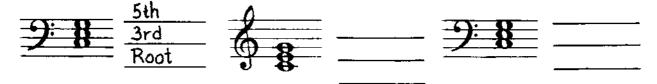
The three notes in a chord are root, 3rd, and 5th.



Measure the intervals from the bottom note to the middle note (3rd), then from the bottom note to the top note (5th).



93. Write the names of the intervals in these chords (root, 3rd, 5th).



94. Play and count the rhythm for these C chords.

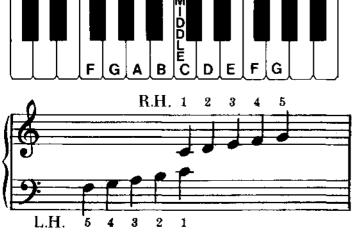


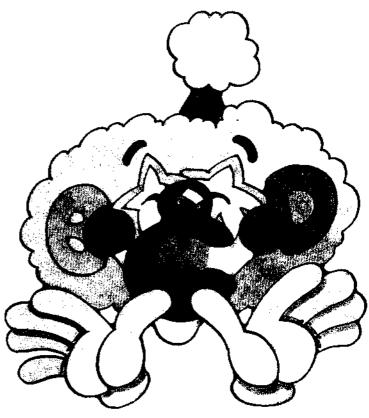
95. Play the solid chords softer than the broken chords in the music below! Count aloud while you play.



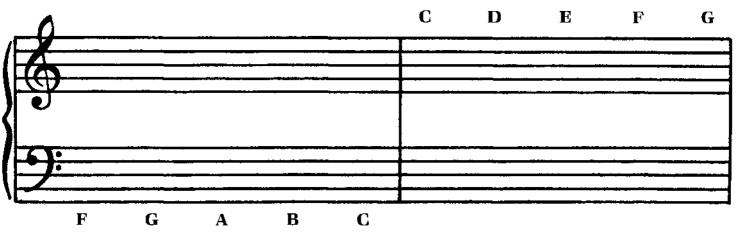
Middle C Position

To play in the middle C position, place both thumbs on middle C.





96. Draw quarter notes in the middle C position. Play and name these notes.



Note-Spelling Fun!

97. Write the letter names of these notes to spell words. Play and name these notes in the middle C position.

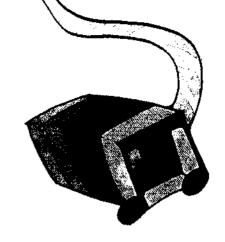


Two Eighth Notes

Two eighth notes equal one quarter note. They are connected with a **beam**.







98. Add a beam to these pairs of notes to form two eighth notes.



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



99. Clap and count the following rhythm.



Count: 1 and

2 and

or: two eighths quar-ter

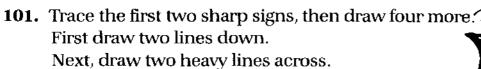
100. Play this music and count aloud. Use either of the counting systems shown on this page.

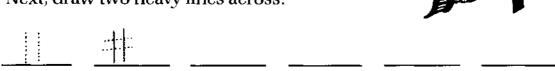
At School



Sharp Sign

The **sharp sign** before a note means to play the next key to the **right**.





The "square" in the middle of the sharp is placed



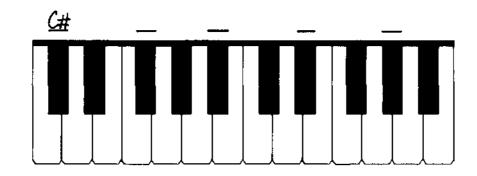
102. Draw a sharp before each note. Play and name these notes.



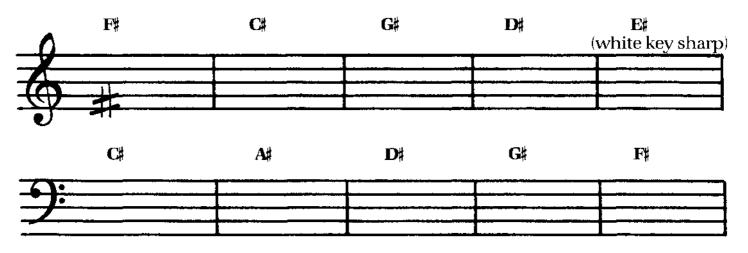
103. Draw a sharp before each note with a # sign over it. Play and name these notes.



104. Write the names of these sharp keys. Play them.



105. Draw these sharps on the staff. Play and name them.



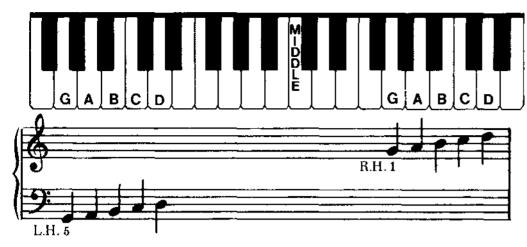
The sharp sign lasts for the whole measure.



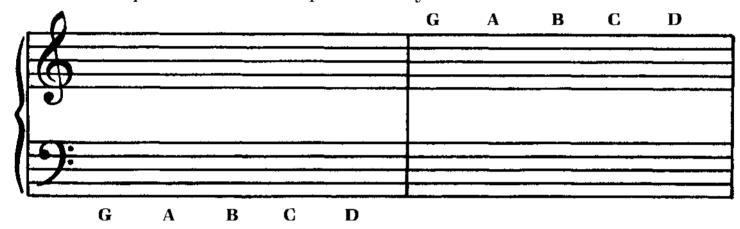
106. Draw a sharp before each note with a \$\psi\$ sign over or under it. Play and name these notes.



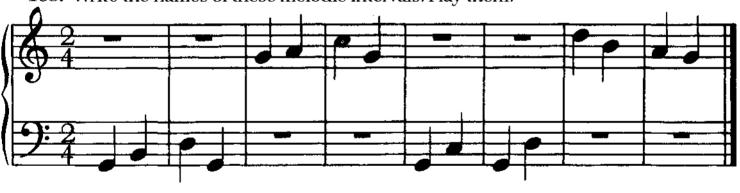
G Position



107. Draw quarter notes in the G position. Play and name these notes.

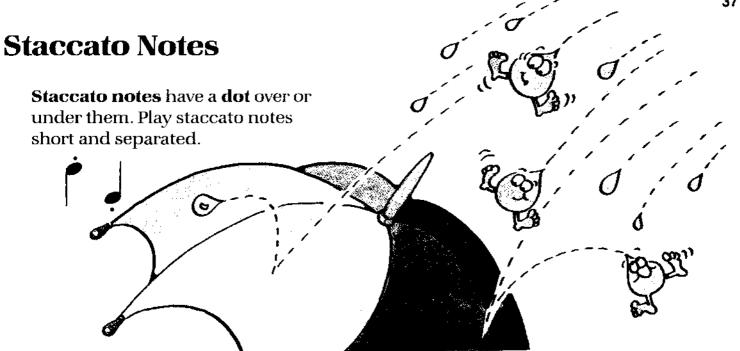


108. Write the names of these melodic intervals. Play them.



109. Write the names of these harmonic intervals. Play them.

- 1 4			-0-	48				
$\Delta \dot{A}$						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
W 4		+	+ -	-		 	· 	+
•		Į.		ļ]		ļ	1
		i		}				1
			i					1
1.4	·····							
].].		 	+		-0	·· ·		 Q -
4								10
						•	•	



110. Draw dots over or under these notes. A dot goes over the note if the stem is down. A dot goes **under** the note if the stem is up. Play these staccato notes.



111. Draw dots over or under these harmonic intervals. Play these staccato notes.

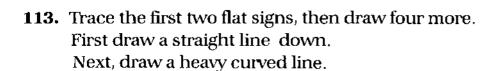


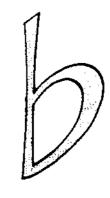
112. Draw dots over or under these G chords. Play these staccato chords.



Flat Sign

The **flat sign** before a note means to play the next key to the left.





The "round" part of the flat is placed

on a line

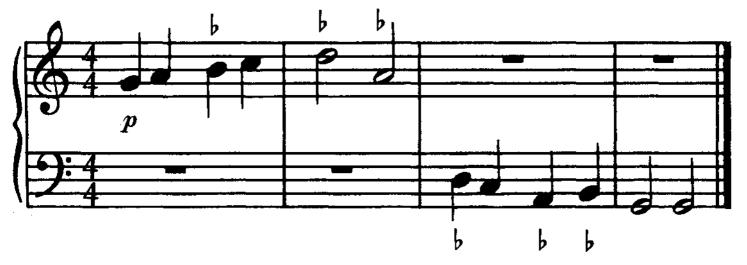
or in a space.



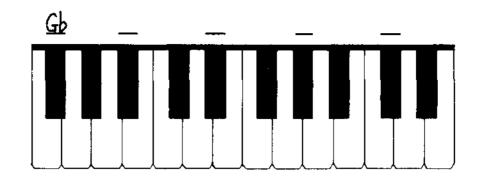
114. Draw a flat before each note. Play and name these notes.



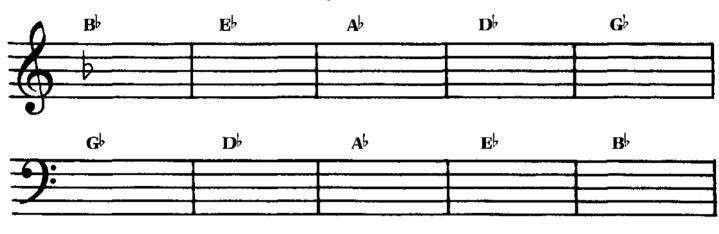
115. Draw a flat before each note with a sign over or under it. Play and name these notes.



116. Write the names of these flat keys. Play them.



117. Draw these flats on the staff. Play and name them.



The flat sign lasts for the whole measure.



118. Draw a flat before each note with a sign over or under it. Play and name these notes.



Matching Games

Write the number in front of the correct term.

Game 1

1.

- ____ half note
- 2.
- ____ quarter note
- 3. o
- _____two eighth notes
- 4.
- ____ whole note
- 5. 4
- ____ treble clef sign

measure

4 beats to each

- 2
- _____ bass clef sign
- s. 9:
- _____ 3 beats to each measure
- 9. 6 _____ grand staff
- 10.
- ____ 2 beats to each measure
- 11.
- _____ repeat sign
- 12.
- ____ double bar
- 13.
- ____ bar lines
- 14.
- _____ G position (R.H.)
- 15.
- _____ C position (R.H.)
- 16. middle C position (L.H.)

- Game 2
 - **1.** 3rd
 - 3rd _____ 4
 - **2.** 2nd
- **3.** 5th
- 4. 4th



- quarter rest
- 6. 51 ti
- 7. **-** half rest
- s. }
- ____ slur
- 9.
- _____ whole rest

 $_$ G chord

- 10.
 - 1. Sharp sign
- 11. 7 8
 - _____ C chord
- 13. #

12.

- _____ flat sign
- 14.
- ____ loud

- 15. p
- _____ soft

16. f

____ staccato notes