



Successful Beginnings

Part 1 of the Free Lessons

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Welcome!

Hello! My name is Miss Lisa and I am your piano teacher.

Are you ready to play the piano? I have good news for you!

You have found the easiest-to-understand piano lessons on the planet.

Do you know what that means? That means that these lessons are so easy to understand that you will be able to learn and play everything I teach you!

The best part is you do not need to know anything about the piano to start!

Start your lessons with confidence, knowing that if you just follow my easy directions, you will be able to read music and play your favorite songs really soon!

The secret to learning piano is in having three things:

1. A happy student who practices every day with a smile!
2. An easy to understand lesson plan that enables fast progress.
3. A teacher who is available to help with anything you don't understand.

You are #1 on the list! You have #2 in your hands, and I am #3!

That's right, you can email me anytime!

Are you ready to start a new adventure? Are you ready to practice at least 10 minutes 5-6 times a week? Do you have a piano or keyboard to practice on?

If you answered yes to these questions, then let's get started!

Your teacher,

Miss Lisa

freepianosupport@learnpianoonline.com

<http://www.LearnPianoOnline.com>

Lesson 1

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Online Resources:

(Cut and paste these links into your browser and save them in your bookmarks.)

For audio and video help:

http://www.learnpianoonline.com/freelessons/part_1.html

For answers to your questions, check out our awesome FAQ:

<http://www.learnpianoonline.com/blog/faq/>

For information about the entire course:

<http://www.learnpianoonline.com/premiumpiano.html>

Piano Lessons and Your Piano

Whether you have a full size piano or an electronic keyboard, or even an organ, these lessons will teach you how to read music which will give you the skills to play your favorite songs!



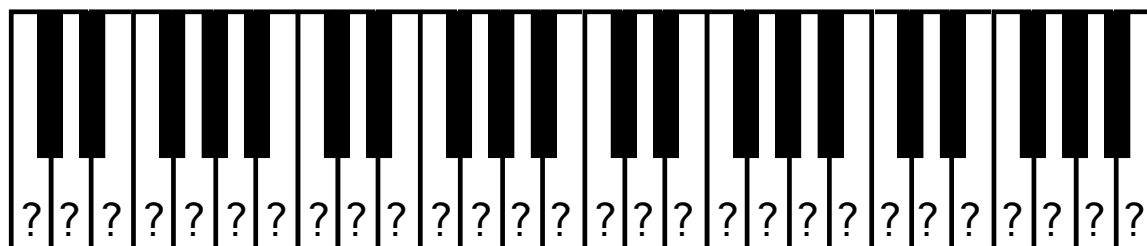
If you are using a keyboard, I recommend that there are at least 61 keys on it, including the black keys.

If your keyboard has less than 61 keys, you can still start the lessons, but you will eventually need a bigger keyboard.

I also recommend that your keyboard is touch sensitive. Touch sensitive means that when you play the keys hard, they will sound loud, and when you play the keys soft, they will sound quiet. (Just like a real piano.)

In these lessons, when I say “your piano”, that means the same as saying “your keyboard”, or “your organ.” No matter what you are using, “your piano” is what I will call it.

So Many Keys!...Where do I begin?



Just looking at your piano can be overwhelming!
You may wonder, "How am I ever going to learn all these notes?" Well, you have come to the right place.

I am going to teach you how to play the piano,
one easy step at a time!

These pages are divided into short lessons. The pages will tell
you where each lesson starts and where it ends.

Once you start a lesson, you will need to complete it before
you leave your piano!

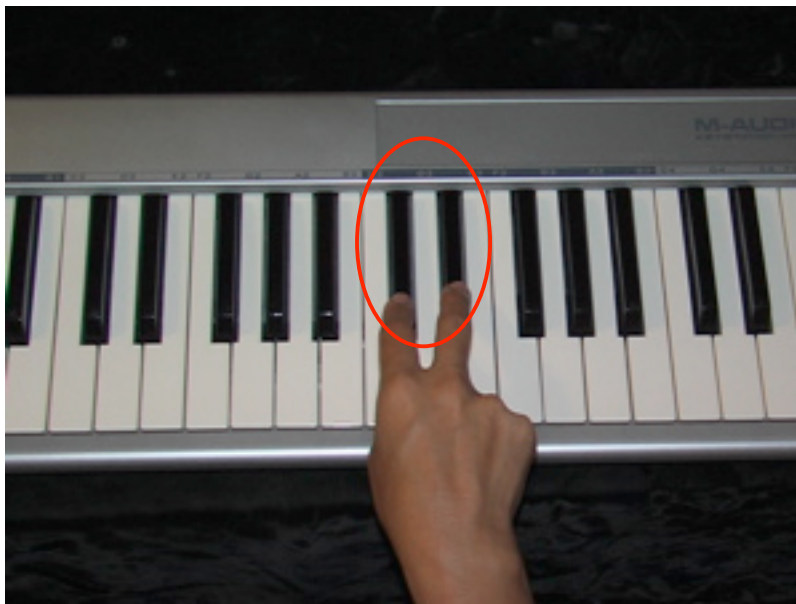
Your job is to follow the directions carefully, find time to
practice and keep a smile on your face!

Groups of Two and Three Black Keys

Look at your piano. You will see black keys that are grouped in two's and black keys that are grouped in three's.

When you are sitting at your piano, find and play all the groups of two black keys.

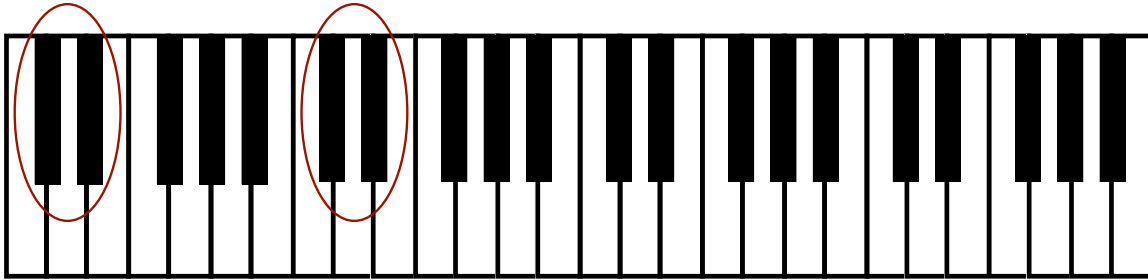
This picture shows a group of two black keys being played.



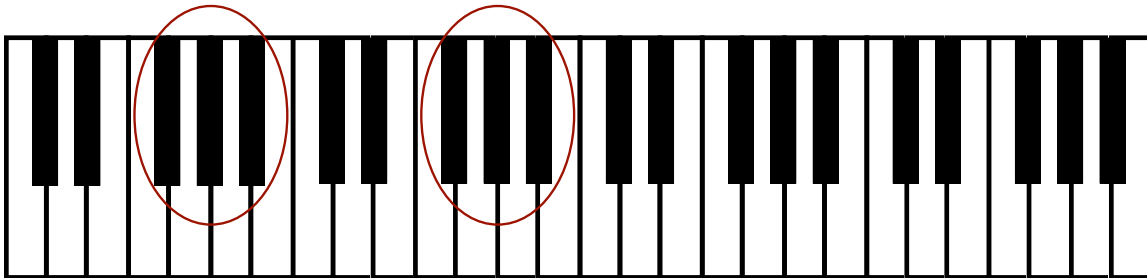
When you finish playing all the groups of two black keys, I want you to find and play all the groups of three black keys.

Worksheet

Circle the remaining groups of two black keys:



Circle the remaining groups of three black keys:



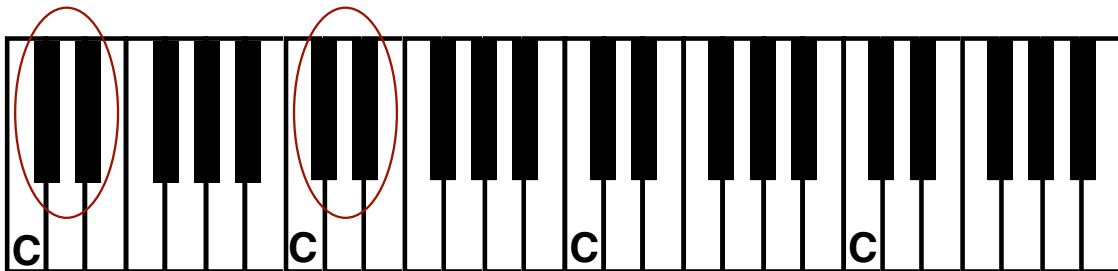
Finding C

Now that you are comfortable with finding the groups of two black keys and the groups of three black keys, it's time to talk about the white keys.

Look at the piano below. There is a letter "C" on the white key that is on the left side of each group of two black keys.

Can you find and play all the C's on your piano?

The secret is to first find a group of two black keys, and then you will find the C very fast!



Fast and Easy Way to Find C

First, find a group of two black keys and point to the white key in the middle. Use your **right hand** pointer finger to point:



Now all you have to do is put your thumb next to your pointer finger, and you are on C!



Practice finding all the C's on your piano until it is very easy for you. I want you to use your **right hand** thumb on all the C's.

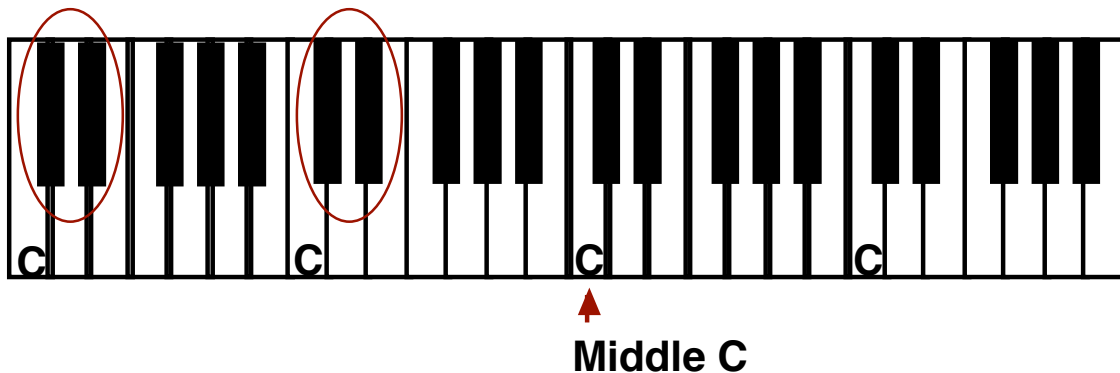
Middle C

There are lots of C's on the piano. I want you to learn which one is Middle C.

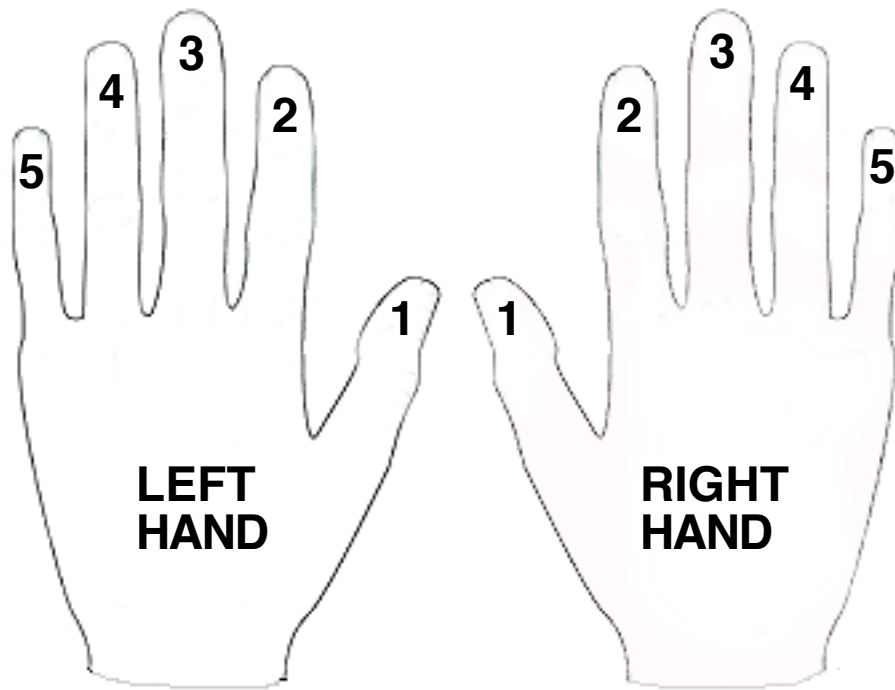
How to find Middle C:

1. Sit at your piano like you are about to play. Your body should be at the middle of your piano.
2. With your right hand thumb, place your thumb on the C that is closest to the middle of your tummy.
3. That C is Middle C!

It is important to know where Middle C is because that is the C that we will use the most with the right hand.



Finger Numbers



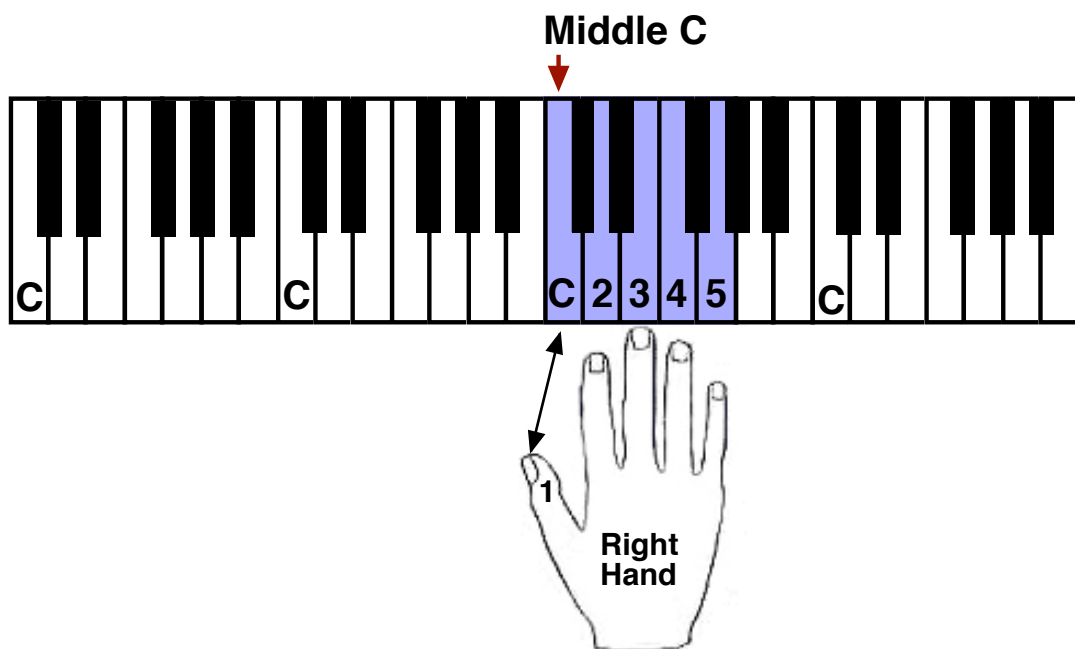
Are you ready to start having some fun? Let's play the piano!

First we are going to give each of your fingers a number....

Your thumb is number 1,
your pointing finger is number 2,
your middle finger is number 3,
then comes number 4 finger and
your little finger is number 5.

Placing Your Right Hand in Middle C Position

First, place your right hand thumb on Middle C.
Place #2 finger on the key that is marked with a 2.
Place #3 finger on the key that is marked with a 3.
Place #4 finger on the key that is marked with a 4.
Place #5 finger on the key that is marked with a 5.



Middle C Position

Here is how your fingers and hand should look on your piano when you place it in the right place.

The circle around the 2 black keys is for you to double check that your thumb is starting in the right place.



If your fingers are in the correct position, congratulations!

The position you are in is called **Middle C Position**.

Right Hand Practice

With your *right hand* in **Middle C position**, play the numbers at the bottom of this page.

When you see C, play the key that your thumb is on.

When you see 2, play the key that your #2 finger is on.

When you see 3, play the key that your #3 finger is on.

When you see 4, play the key that your #4 finger is on.

When you see 5, play the key that your #5 finger is on.

Practice #1:

C 2 3 4 5 5 5

Practice #2:

C C 2 2 3 4 5

Eyes on Music

VERY IMPORTANT RULE:

Do not look at your fingers while you are playing the piano.
You can only look at your hand while you are putting
it in C position. After your fingers are in position,
move your eyes to the lesson page.

Leave your hand in position, and do not move it.

If you do not move your hand, you will be able to play the correct key
without looking at the piano. This is called:

Keeping your eyes on the music.

Play these numbers again, this time without looking at your hands:

Practice #1:

C 2 3 4 5 5 5

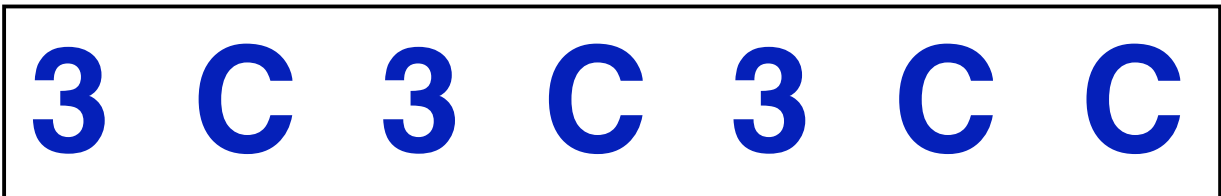
Practice #2:

C C 2 2 3 4 5

Eyes on Music Practice

The following exercises are very simple because they are for you to play over and over so you can start to feel the distance between the keys on the piano without looking.

Where do your eyes belong when you are playing these exercises?
That's right! On the music! Not on your hands!

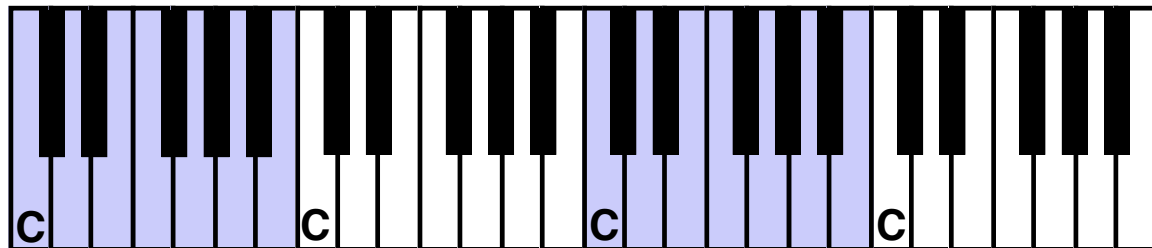


What Do You See Now?

Now that you have learned about the groups of black keys and how to find all the C's on the piano, does your piano look as confusing as it did when you started?

If you did everything right, you should be able to look at your piano and be able to find all the C's right away.

Remember the secret is to find all the groups of two black keys first!



Look at your piano. Each C section has 7 white keys, then it starts over with C again.

The piano is made up of 7 keys, over and over and over again.

Now when you look at your piano it won't be so overwhelming!

When you have completed this portion (Part One) of the free lessons, go back to your email and find the link to download Part Two.

Peeking Ahead

I want you to take a little peek at what you will be learning as you progress through the lessons.

All the lessons will be very easy to follow, just like the pages you just completed.

The next few pages are exciting samples of what you will be learning as you continue your lessons:

Reading Real Sheet Music:

The image displays three systems of musical notation, each consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system is in common time (C) and features a treble staff with eighth-note patterns and a bass staff with quarter notes. The second system is in common time (C) and features a treble staff with eighth-note patterns and a bass staff with quarter notes. The third system is in 3/4 time and features a treble staff with eighth-note patterns and a bass staff with quarter notes.

Learning Scales and Chords:

C Scale:

Musical notation for the C major scale in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff shows the ascending scale with fingerings: 1 (C), 1 (D), 2 (E), 3 (F), 3 (G), 2 (A), 1 (B), 1 (C). The bass clef staff shows the descending scale with fingerings: 1 (C), 2 (B), 3 (A), 3 (G), 2 (F), 1 (E), 1 (D), 1 (C). The piece ends with a double bar line.

Corresponding Chords:

Musical notation for the corresponding chords of the C major scale in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff has rests for all four measures. The bass clef staff shows the chords: C Chord (C-E-G), F Chord (F-A-C), G7 Chord (G-B-D-F), and a final C Chord (C-E-G). The piece ends with a double bar line.

Learning Proper Fingering:

Musical notation for the C major scale in 4/4 time, focusing on proper fingering. The treble clef staff has rests for all four measures. The bass clef staff shows the scale with fingerings: 1 (C), (3) 1 (D), (2) (E), (5) (F), (1) 3 (G), (2) (A), (1) 3 (B), (2) (C). Annotations include: (Thumb under 3) under the first D note, and (Cross over thumb) under the first G note. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Learning the Black Notes (Sharps and Flats):

The image displays three columns of musical notation and piano keyboard diagrams. Each column corresponds to a specific sharp note:

- Column 1: F Sharp**
 - Musical notation: Treble clef, F sharp note on the first line (F4).
 - Piano keyboard: A diagram of the F4 octave with the F sharp key highlighted in light blue. The natural F key is labeled 'F' below it.
- Column 2: G Sharp**
 - Musical notation: Treble clef, G sharp note on the second line (G4).
 - Piano keyboard: A diagram of the G4 octave with the G sharp key highlighted in light blue. The natural G key is labeled 'G' below it.
- Column 3: D Sharp**
 - Musical notation: Treble clef, D sharp note on the third space (D4).
 - Piano keyboard: A diagram of the D4 octave with the D sharp key highlighted in light blue. The natural D key is labeled 'D' below it.

This is just a very small sample of what is ahead of you! Hope you are excited!

Now it's time to move on to lesson 2. 😊