

"Way Cool" Keyboarding is a new piano program designed to create a successful and motivating first experience at the piano.

This program:

- will have each student playing from the first lesson
- introduces original music in contemporary, rock 'n roll, praise and worship and pop styles
- uses CD recordings and MIDI files to develop the students' listening skills and accelerate their learning
- provides ensemble experience that allows students the enjoyment found in making music with others
- encourages playing 'off the page' through realizing Chord Charts and experimenting with improvisation
- prepares students to μlay in musically satisfying venues like Contemporary Worship Services and Garage Bands

May "Way Cool" Revisarding be a program that encourages who on have music and happortant part of your life. At any age, at any level, making music is good for you.

Debra L. Perez

Pedagogy in Motion

www.MusicalMomentsRMM.com

Student Tips

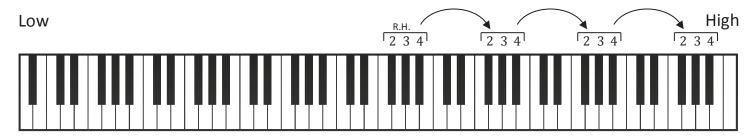
Using the CD: Listening and playing with the CD will accelerate your learning. When learning a new song, try the following:

- 1. Listen to the CD without looking at the music. Begin to get the sound in your ear and experience the overall feeling of the piece.
- 2. Listen to the CD while looking at the music. First time through, watch the right hand. Listen again and watch the left hand. Imagine yourself playing as you listen and watch. This will help you connect what you see with what you hear.
- 3. Each piece begins with an introduction. As you work with the CD, you will become more familiar with the introductions. You will soon recognize when to begin playing.
- 4. The "Piano" version of each piece provides a piano only listening experience. Use this version to help you develop your ability to read music. Listen to the "Piano" version while following the music. This exercise allows your eyes to become familiar with the music before playing it on the piano. This familiarity will help you learn quicker and read faster.
- 5. The "Orchestration" version provides a similar experience to playing with a band or in an orchestra. Working with this 'piano plus band' recording helps develop both your listening skills and your rhythm.
- 6. The "Solo Accompaniment" version is the "band minus the piano". After you feel comfortable with a piece, try this version which features you as the solo keyboardist. The "Solo Accompaniment" version will allow you to use your CD to share your music with the solo have a share your music with the solo have a share your music with start of the solo have a share your music with start your an enjoyable way.

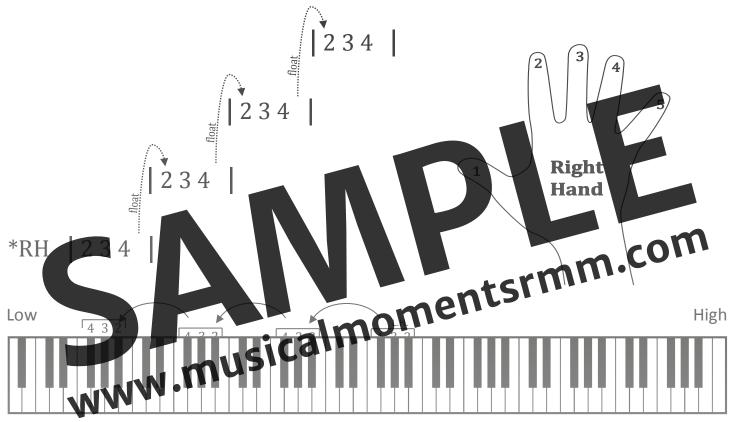
Technique: Developing as a keyboard player includes learning uset of technical skills. This skill set will ultimately help you express the mood and character of each place year play. The **Technique** ideas throughout the book are based on the belief that particular motions will tree technique sounds. And these hand, wrist and arm motions will become more natural with awareness and repetition.

Try This: The *Try This* suggestions throughout the book provide both learning tips and playing ideas. The learning tips will help you know how to approach a new piece of music and the playing tips show you how to create music off the page.

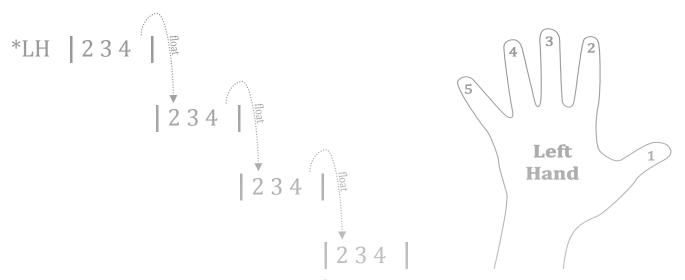
Replay [CD1]



*RH starts on the 3 black keys in the middle of the keyboard and moves higher...



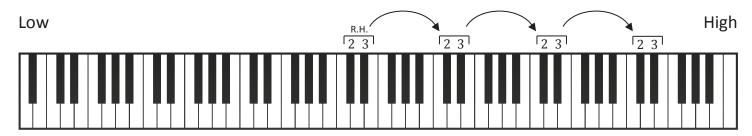
then, *LH starts on the 3 black keys in the middle of the keyboard and moves lower.



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Lavender

[CD2]



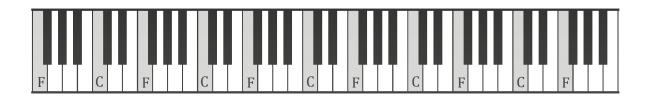
*RH starts with fingers 2 and 3 on the 2 black keys in the middle of the keyboard. Follow the arrows up and then back down.



Try This: Using the Teacher Accompaniment, play Lavender as a Side-by-Side duet (2 people at one piano) or with each player at their own piano.

The Keyboard

The 2 and 3 black key groups are good reference points for locating and learning the white keys. On the keyboard below, notice how "C" is always to the left of the 2 black key groups and "F" is always to the left of the 3 black key groups.



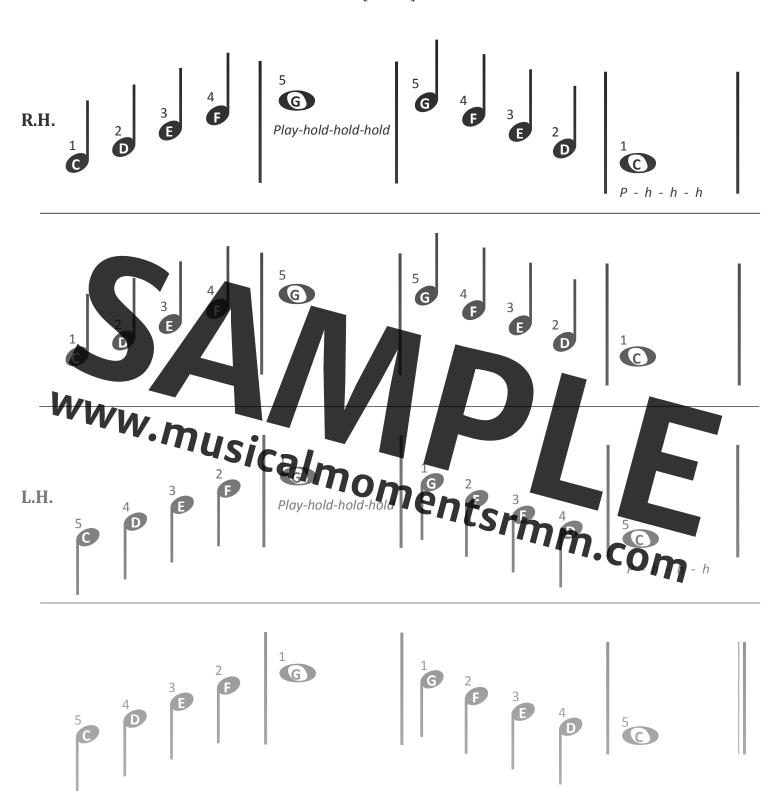
The complete musical alphabet is shown on the keyboard below. Notice the repetition of the 7 notes and their relationship to the black keys. Take a moment to locate the musical alphabet on your keyboard.



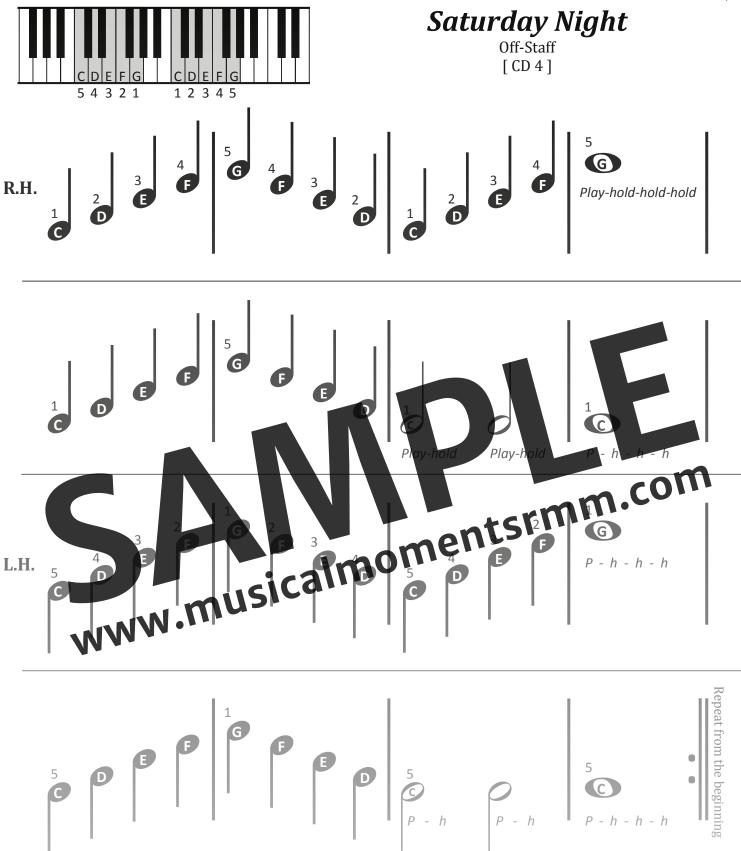
The next two pieces, *Techno-Twins* and *Saturday Night*, are played on the white keys. The hand position for both pieces is found at the top of p. 7. Before playing, listen to the recording of each piece. Next, listen and follow the music with your eyes. Notice how the notes step up (higher) and step down (lower). Can you see how the longer and shorter notes are notated? Enjoy!

Techno-Twins

Off-Staff [CD 3]



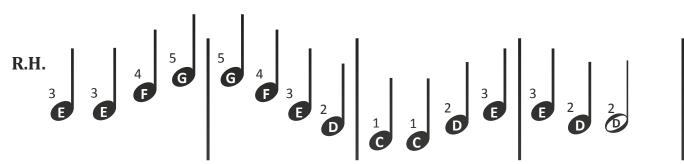
Try This: Play **Techno-Twins** starting on all the C's on your keyboard. Can you play this piece hands together?



Try This: Think the names of the notes while playing. This will help you learn the note names both forward and backward.

Radically Joyful

Off-Staff [CD 5]



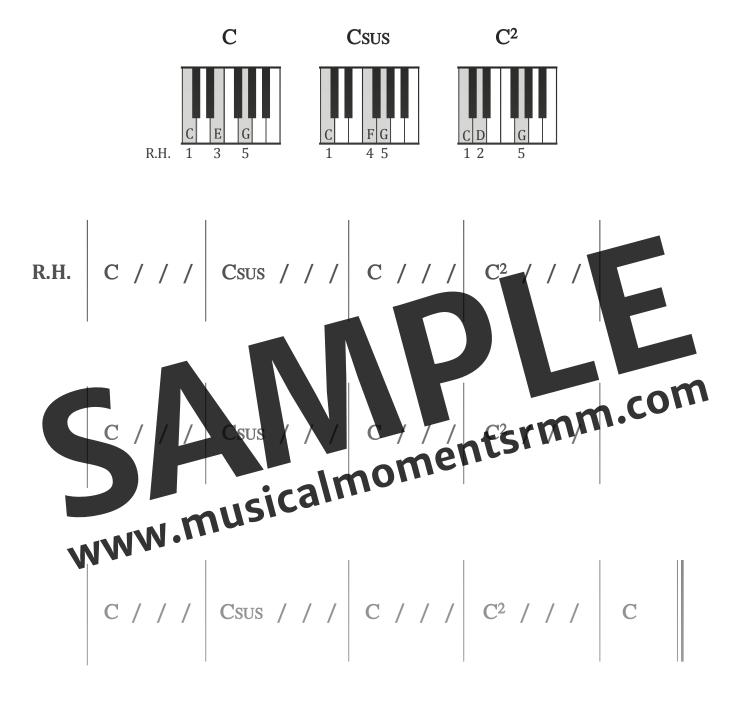


Try This: As you begin connecting what you hear to what you see, notice how this tune moves. Some notes repeat, some step up and down, while others skip. This is called directional reading.

"Way Cool" Chords 1

[CD6]

Will Baily

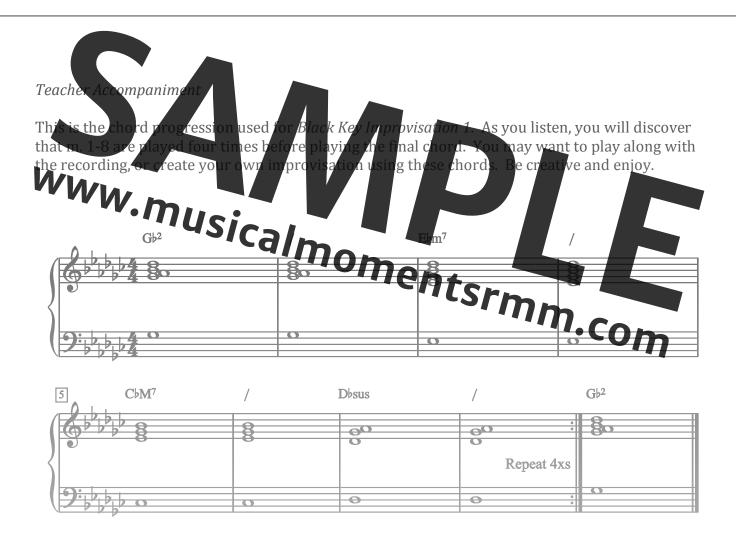


In popular music, keyboardists often read from Chord Charts. In this style, the right hand provides the harmony by playing the chords. The slash marks (/) simply mean to repeat the same chord until a new chord is indicated. This repetition helps maintain the pulse of the music.

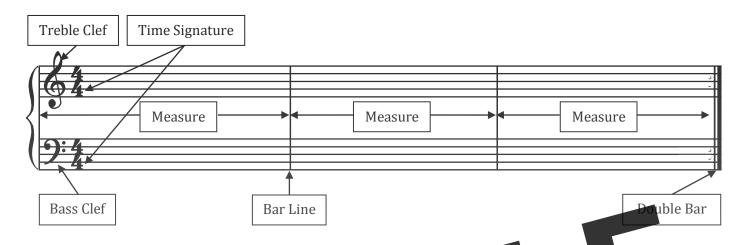
Black Key Improvisation 1

Improvisation is the act of composing, performing or otherwise playing without prior planning or consulting specific music notation. The individual player or singer may create something entirely new or elaborate on something they have previously heard.

The wonderful thing about this experience is that there is no right or wrong. The *Black Key Improvisation 1* works with any black keys you choose to play. Take a moment to listen to the recording [CD 7]. Begin to respond to what you are hearing and feeling. Experiment and try not to judge yourself along the way. Stay on the black keys and you will be amazed at how good the music will sound. Each time you try this, expect to play something different.



Grand Staff



3 beats per measure 4 beats per measure = 1 beat Can 4 - = 1 beat

Note Values

0	Whole Note	4 Beats	Play-hold-hold-hold
0.	Dotted Half Note	3 Beats	Play-hold-hold
0	Half Note	2 Beats	Play-hold
	Quarter Note	1 Beat	Play

Techno-Twins

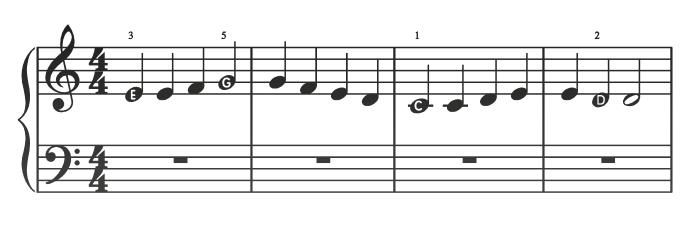
[CD3]

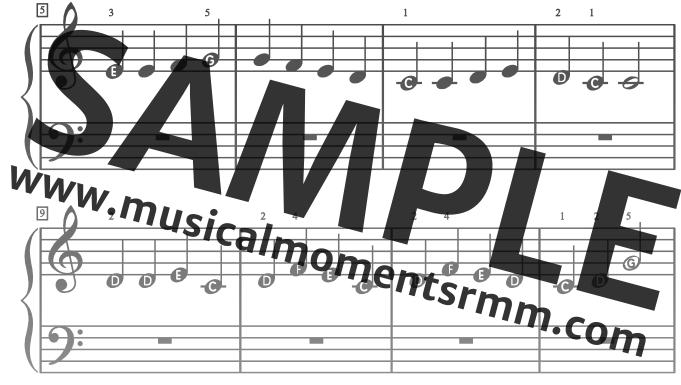


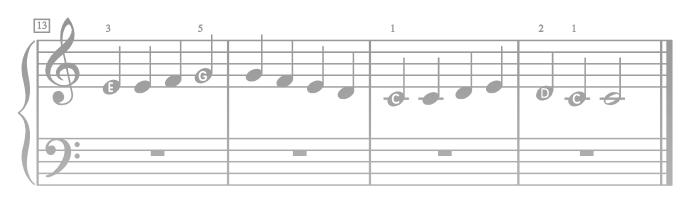
Try This: Alternate between playing while looking at the music and playing while looking at your hands. As you develop your skills at the keyboard, you will become comfortable doing both.



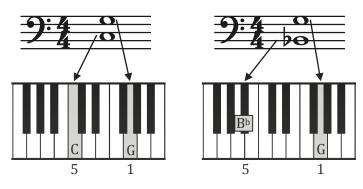
Radically Joyful [CD 5]







Chord Shells



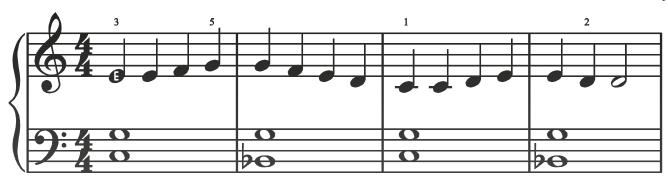
Feelin' Groovy

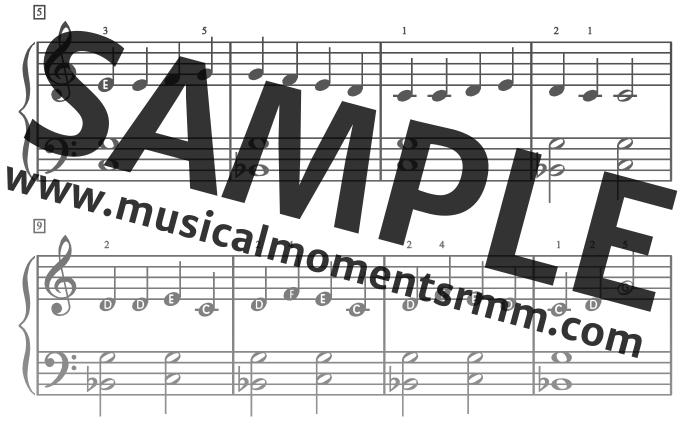
When moving to a black key, slide both the 5^{th} and 1^{st} fingers forward to play the notes. Do not twist your wrist.

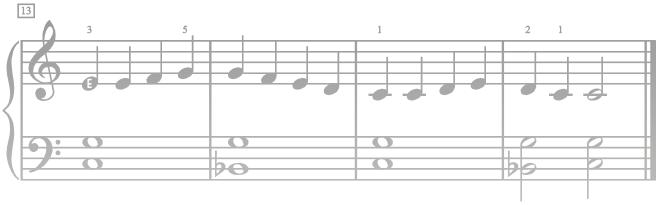


Radically Joyful [CD 9 - Orchestration]

Arr. Will Baily







"Way Cool" Chords 2

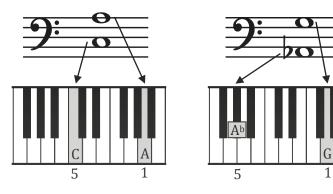
[CD 9 - Orchestration]

Will Baily



Try This: The chord symbols above the staff indicate what your right hand plays while your left hand plays chord shells. [CD 9] is "**Way Cool" Chords 2** played at the same time as **Radically Joyful**. Can you identify the instruments playing each part? Choose a part and play along.

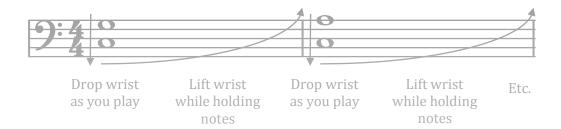
Chord Shells



Thru' the Storm



Technique: Having a flexible wrist while maintaining strong fingers is important when playing the piano. Try the following movements as you play **Thru' the Storm**.

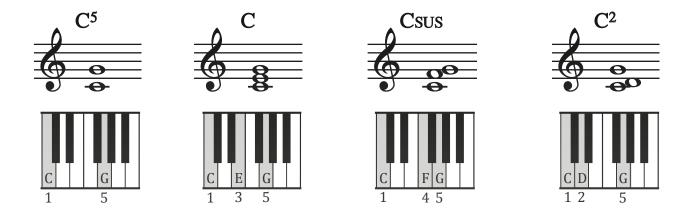


Friends

[CD 11 - Piano / CD 12 - Orchestration]

Will Baily **9**(B) ww.musicalmomentsrmm.com O 0 0

A *tie* is a curved line placed between two notes that are the same pitch (m. 19-20). The two should be played and held for the combined value of both notes.

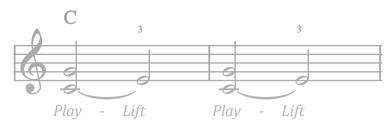








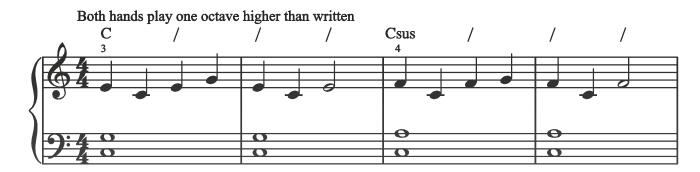
Technique: A curved line either under or over two notes is called a *two-note slur*. This curved line indicates the notes are to be played legato (smooth and connected). Try the playing directions below to create this sound each time you see the two-note slur in "Way Cool" Chords 3.

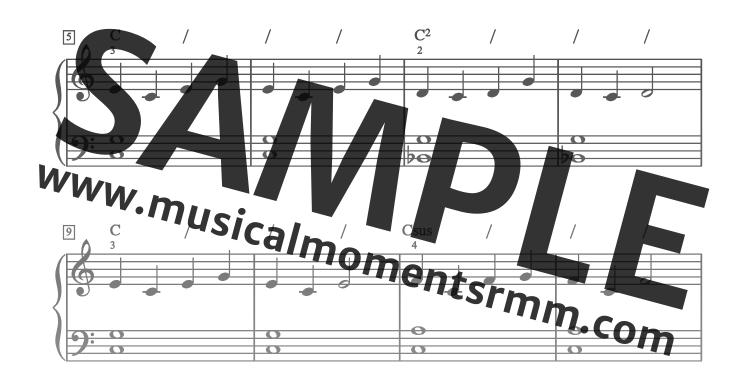


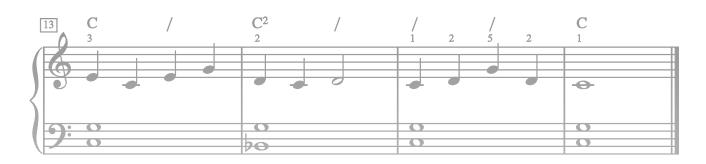
Cool Down

[CD 14 - Piano / CD 15 - Orchestration]

Will Baily





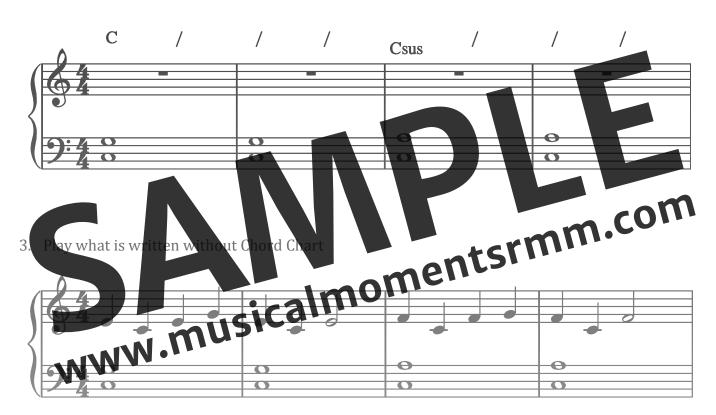


Try This: Experiment with these options for playing *Cool Down*.

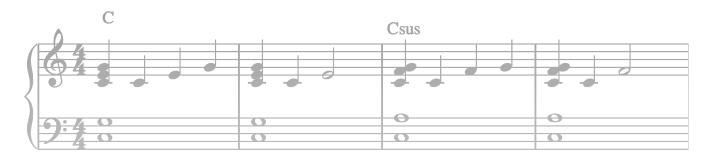
1. R.H. Plays Chord Chart Only. Can you hear how the acoustic guitar is playing the chords on [CD 15]? Try creating your own rhythm as you play the chord chart.

C / / CSUS / / /	1
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2. R.H. plays Chord Chart L.H. plays Chord Shells



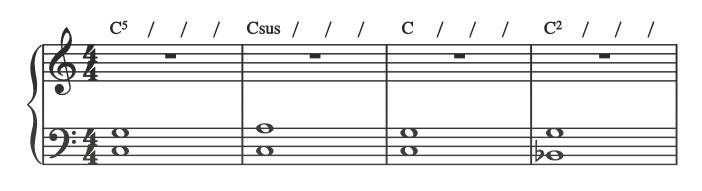
4. Play what is written plus Chord Chart

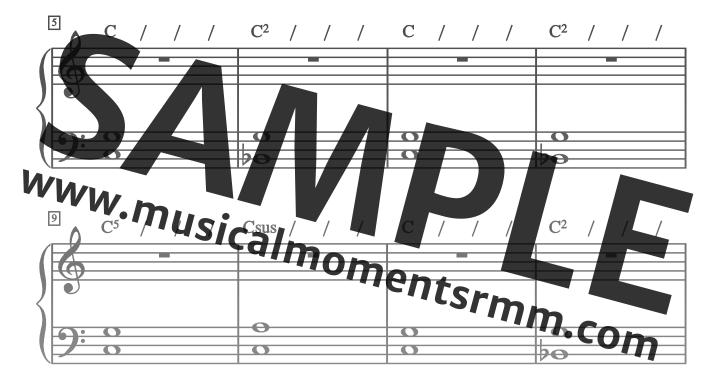


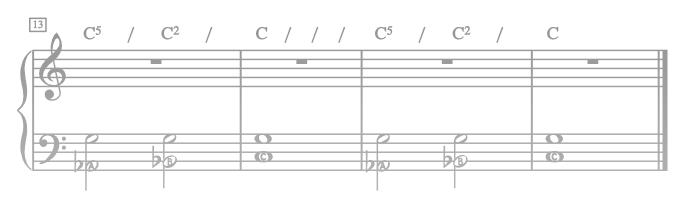
"Way Cool" Chords 4

[CD 16]

Will Baily







Technique: Listen carefully to the R.H. chords as you play. Are all the notes of the chord sounding together? As you change the middle note of the chord, try for an even and solid sound.

Black Key Improvisation 2

[CD 17]

Digital pianos and keyboards provide the opportunity to experiment with various instrument sounds. If you have a digital piano, try improvising with different instrument sounds. Some instrument possibilities include: Strings, Choir, Pad, Pan Flute, Saxophone and French Horn. As you experiment, notice how certain instruments blend with this style better than others. Remember, there is no right or wrong. Stay on the black keys, experiment with what you hear and enjoy.

Teacher Accompaniment

This is the chord progression used for *Black Rey Improvisation 2*. As you listen, you will discover that m. 1-8 are played three times before going to the bridge. After the bridge, return to the beginning and play through m. 8. You may want to play along with the recording or create your own improvisation using these chords. Be creative and enjoy.



7	Dbsus	/	Abm ⁷	Dbsus	Abm ⁷	Dbsus	/	
	- OO	-00	. 80	-00	80	90	-00	
	0	32	(Bridge)	0	-8-	0	0	
9:5) o	0	•	0	0	0	0	

Circus Phantom

[CD 18]

When you repeat, move up to the next C and play staccato.



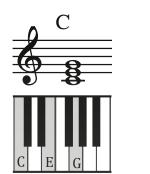
Rule: The flat

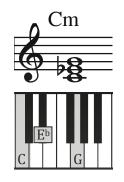
remains active for the

entire measure unless otherwise marked.

Legato

Smooth and connected with no pause in sound between notes. The opposite of staccato.



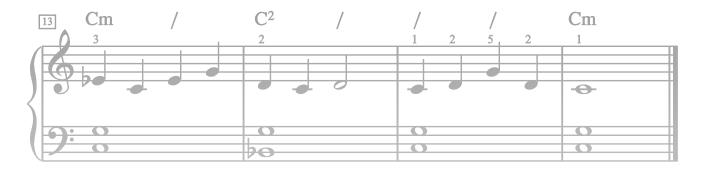


In a Trance

[CD 19 - Piano / CD 20 - Orchestration]

Will Baily





Drivin'

[CD 21 - Piano / CD 22 - Orchestration]

Will Baily







Try This: Before playing hands together, listen to the CD and practice reading both hands at once. Notice which notes stay and which notes change. Try to keep your eyes relaxed and moving forward.

Technique: Playing the piano is more than just moving your fingers on the keys. Many of the finger muscles needed to play the piano originate in the forearm. These same muscles continue through the upper arm and connect to the shoulder. As you develop your skills at the piano, including using the pedal, you will realize why playing the piano is considered a total body experience.

The following information is included to help you play the piano more comfortably and with minimal tension. Finding this place of ease and comfort at the piano will ultimately help you create a beautiful and expressive sound.

Posture - Slouching over the keyboard can lead to tension in the lower back, shoulders and neck area. Sitting tall, without feeling rigid, helps your entire upper torso function more freely. Here are some ideas to help you find a comfortable position at your piano.

- Sit on the front half of your piane bench and place both feet on the floor in front of you. This position will help you remain halanced when playing in different areas on the keyboard.
- Distance from the keyboard is also important. Too close and your arms are cramped. Too far away and your arms are too stiff. Find a distance where your elbows fall front of your torso when your hands are on the keys.

Shoulders - Raising your shoulders or holding tention in the shoulder area can place stress on the arms and hands. It is easy for your thoulders to begin to creep up when you are focused on learning a new piece. Belaware of your body when playing. Try to keep your shoulders down and relaxed for ppin a use of your arms and hands.

Wrists - The wrist is another important component for creating sound at the piano. Try this experiment. While maintaining a stiff and rigid wrist and forearm, play a few chords with your R.H. Can you describe this sound? Now play the same chords with a flexible wrist. As you play the chords, let the weight of your arm bring your wrist down. Float the wrist up and prepare to play another chord. Did you hear a difference in the sound you created? A flexible wrist helps keep the arm relaxed and affects the tone you produce.

Begin to connect how you use your hands, wrists, arms and shoulders to the sound you create.

Jazz Hands [CD 23]



Missing You

[CD 24 - Piano / CD 25 - Orchestration / CD 26 - Solo Accompaniment]

Will Baily







Try This: Try exchanging all of the E's in **Missing You** with E flats. Can you describe the change in sound this exchange creates?

After Dark

[CD 27 - Piano / CD 28 - Orchestration / CD 29 Solo Accompaniment]

Will Baily





Technique: The R.H. of this piece uses two movements: A back and forth arm rotation and an arm drop from the elbow. As you play, think:



By Myself

DUET

[CD 30 - Piano (SOLO/DUET) / CD 32 - Orchestration]

Will Baily



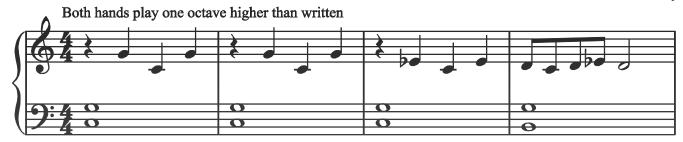




By Myself

SOLO

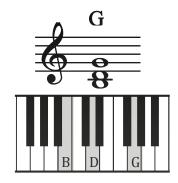
[CD 31 - Piano (SOLO) / CD 33 - Solo Accompaniment]





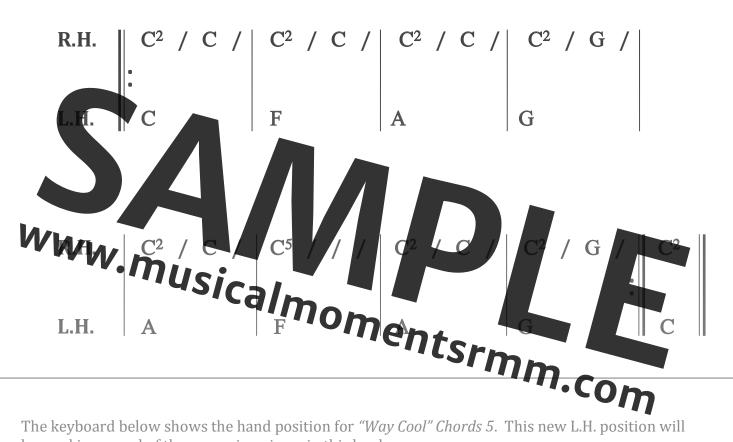




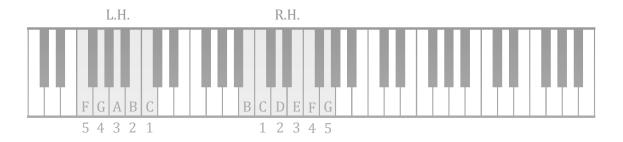


"Way Cool" Chords 5 [CD 34]

Will Baily



The keyboard below shows the hand position for "Way Cool" Chords 5. This new L.H. position will be used in several of the upcoming pieces in this book.



Try This: As you first learn this Chord Chart, play single notes in the L.H. while playing the R.H. chords. As you become comfortable, experiment with adding different rhythms in the L.H.

There are numerous ways to play Chord Charts. [CD 35] demonstrates 3 possibilities for playing "Way Cool" Chords 5. After listening to [CD 35], try playing "Way Cool" Chords 5 using the Blocked, Rocking and Broken versions of the chords.



Try This: Go back to your previous Chord Chart pieces and try playing with these three options.

On My Own

[CD 36 - Piano / CD 37 - Orchestration / CD 38 - Solo Accompaniment]



Technique: The accent mark > means to stress the note by dropping the weight of your arm stronger into the key.

Remembering

[CD 39 - Piano / CD 40 - Orchestration / CD 41 - Solo Accompaniment]



Technique: When playing m. 7-10 and 17-20, imagine that you are tossing the sound from hand to hand. A flexible wrist will help create this sound.

Hold On!

[CD 42 - Piano / CD 43 - Orchestration / CD 44 - Solo Accompaniment]





Lost in Thought
[CD 45 - Piano / CD 46 - Orchestration / CD 47 - Solo Accompaniment]

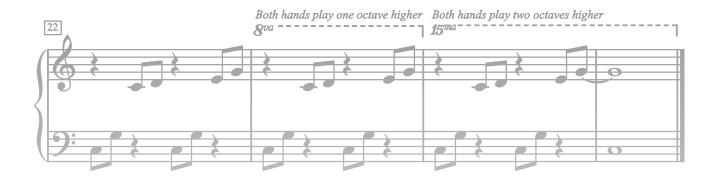












The *Enlightened* exercise on the following page is a form of improvisation. Three lines of music are provided. You will determine what you want to do with these lines of music. Similar to the *Black Key Improvisation* exercises, there are many ways to create music using these three lines. And each time you sit down to play *Enlightened* expect to have a different musical experience.

1. Become familiar with each line of music

The L.H. is a great place to start. Play through the L.H. of each line several times until you feel comfortable and the sound begins to be smooth and connected.



Technique: The 5th finger begins on "A". As you move to the "E", begin to pivot on your 2nd finger. This motion will help you reach your thumb up to the next "A". Use this same motion at the start of each measure.

Next, look at the R.H. The R.H. of line 1 is playing broken chards. Try blocking the chords first to discover the feel of each chord in your hand.



The following ideas will help when playing the R.H. of fine (3). Begin by finding the hand shape needed to play the "E" and C. Without clinching your hand, keep this hand shape and practice bouncing with E" and "C". Now, while watching the bottom note, begin to bounce down to "D" and back to "E".



2. Listen to the recording of *Enlightened* [CD 48]

This is one version of how these three lines can be played to create music. Listen while watching the music and try to identify what you hear.

- **3. Play and enjoy.** Here are some ideas of things you may want to try.
 - Mix up the order of the lines
 - Change octaves
 - Repeat lines

- Use measures from each line to create a line 4
- Find an ending

Remember not to judge or plan. Just play and listen.

Enlightened [CD 48]



Chill - Part 1

[CD 49 - Piano / CD 51 - Orchestration / CD 52 - Solo Accompaniment]





Chill - Part 2

[CD 50 - Piano]





Try This: Chill - Part 1 and Chill - Part 2 can be played as an ensemble for 3 players.

Player 1 - plays the R.H. of Part 1

Player 2 - plays the R.H. of Part 2

Player 3 - plays either L.H. part

Experiment with different instrument voices and octaves as you create this ensemble version.

"Way Cool" Chords 6

[CD 53]

R.H.	C ² /	C / C ⁵	Csus C	$C^2 \mid C^2 \mid$	C / C^2	/ G /	
L.H.	С	F	1	A			
			\mathbb{N}	C ² OM	ontst	mm.	com
R.H.	\int_{0}^{2}	C / C5	Csus C	mom (SI) C2	/ / /	
IH.	A110				F		

R.H.

$$C^2$$
 / C / C^2 / C / C^2 / C^3 / C^5 / / / C^5
 C^5

 L.H.
 A
 F
 G
 C
 C

