

Finger Exercises

by

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Instructions

These finger exercises are designed to help the beginning student gain strength, control and dexterity on the keyboard.

The metronome should be used at all times. The student should choose a tempo that allows the entire piece to be played smoothly and evenly. The articulation should always be legato by default.

It is always better to play a piece slowly in the correct tempo rather than quickly with poor technique and sloppy execution.

If necessary, practice with the hands separate at first and then progress to playing both hands together.

There are many variations possible for these pieces:

- Play each piece staccato

- Play each piece as softly as possible

- Play each piece with varying dynamics (soft to loud, loud to soft, soft to loud to soft)

- Play one or both hands an octave higher

- Play one or both hands an octave lower

- Play in other keys, always using the same fingering.

- Invent your own variations

Above all, remember these are exercises and should occupy no more than 25% of your daily practice time.

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Exercise 1

Exercise 1 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a first finger (1) on C4 and plays a sequence of eighth notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The left hand (bass clef) plays a sequence of eighth notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The exercise concludes with a whole note C4 in the right hand and a whole note C3 in the left hand.

Exercise 2

Exercise 2 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a fifth finger (5) on C4 and plays a sequence of eighth notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The left hand (bass clef) plays a sequence of eighth notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The exercise concludes with a whole note C4 in the right hand and a whole note C3 in the left hand.

Exercise 3

Exercise 3 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a first finger (1) on C4 and plays a sequence of eighth notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The left hand (bass clef) plays a sequence of eighth notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The exercise concludes with a whole note C4 in the right hand and a whole note C3 in the left hand.

Exercise 4

Exercise 4 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a first finger (1) on C4 and plays a sequence of eighth notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The left hand (bass clef) begins with a first finger (1) on C3 and plays a sequence of eighth notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The exercise concludes with a whole note C4 in the right hand and a whole note C3 in the left hand.

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Exercise 5

Exercise 5 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a finger number 5 above the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand (bass clef) begins with a finger number 1 above the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The exercise concludes with a whole note G4 in the right hand and a whole note G3 in the left hand.

Exercise 6

Exercise 6 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a finger number 5 above the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand (bass clef) begins with a finger number 5 below the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The exercise concludes with a whole note G4 in the right hand and a whole note G3 in the left hand.

Exercise 7

Exercise 7 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a finger number 3 above the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand (bass clef) begins with a finger number 3 below the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The exercise concludes with a whole note G4 in the right hand and a whole note G3 in the left hand.

Exercise 8

Exercise 8 is a piano exercise in common time (C) with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece consists of eight measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a finger number 3 above the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand (bass clef) begins with a finger number 3 below the first note and plays a sequence of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The exercise concludes with a whole note G4 in the right hand and a whole note G3 in the left hand.