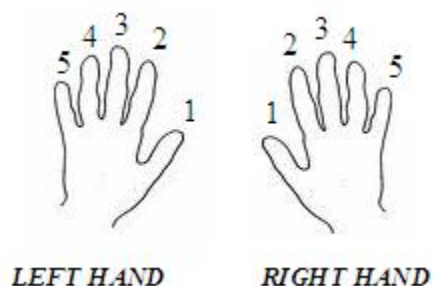


Piano Lesson 1

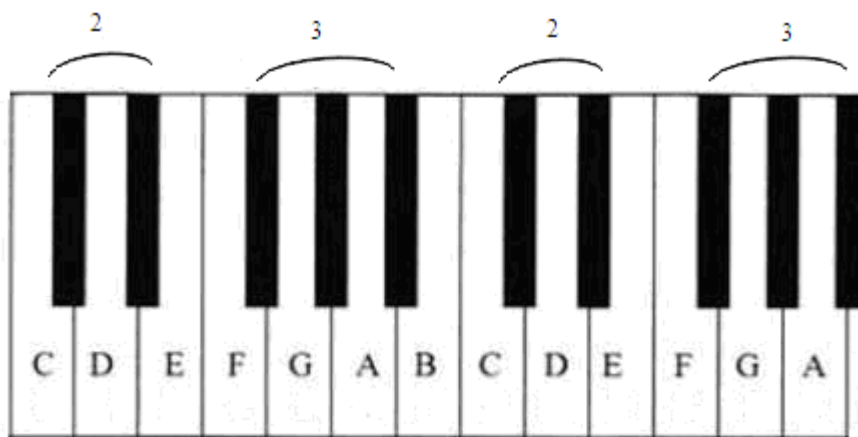
1. Introduction;
2. Hand position and fingering;
3. Musical notation;
4. Rhythm and rhythmic patterns; a time signature.

1. I am pleased to offer you piano lessons for beginners who love music and want to learn how to play the piano. The lessons were designed based upon my over 35 years of piano teaching experience, well-developed and proven unique methods of learning musical pieces that result in quicker learning of the piano. They will help you improve your musical hearing, musical memory, motor skills, and logical thinking. With persistence you will learn music theory and acquire sufficient practical skills within a few weeks.

2. Let arms hang loosely from your shoulders. Keep your elbows off your hips. Try to curve your fingers and touch any keys. Please note each finger has a certain number as you can see below:



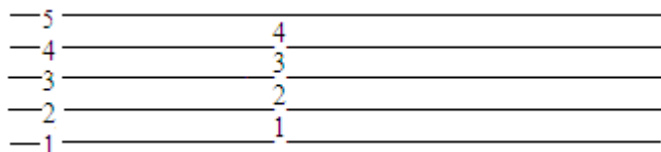
3. The musical alphabet consists of 7 letters, which are easily to find as they group around patterns of 2 and 3 black keys.



7 letters

Try to remember them.

Music is written on a staff, which consists of 5 lines and 4 spaces. Start with the lowest line and count up:



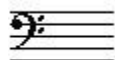
At the beginning of the music staff we always have 2 clefs:

Treble clef or clef G, as depicted on the image below,



is mostly used for the Right hand.

Bass clef or clef F, as depicted on the image below,

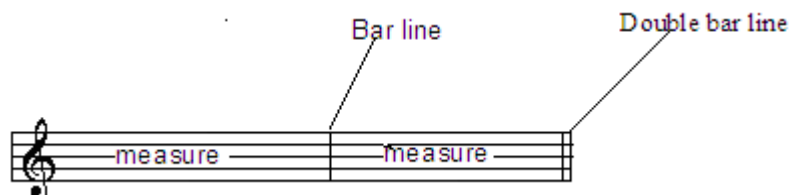


is normally used for the Left hand.


A Grand staff is a combination of the Treble clef and the Bass clef grouped together with a brace and the bar lines extended through both staves. We usually use the Grand staff for both hands when we play them together. Please see the image below.





Music is divided into measures by using bar lines between them or a double bar line - when any movement of the music is complete. Please see the image below.




4. Any musical patterns consist of different length of the tones. Some of the tones are longer, some of them are shorter. A combination of the long and short notes into patterns is called rhythm.

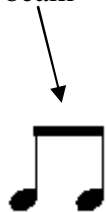
The longest note is  -the whole note = 4 counts.



Another long note is  -the half note = 2 counts.

Next note is  -quarter note = 1 count.

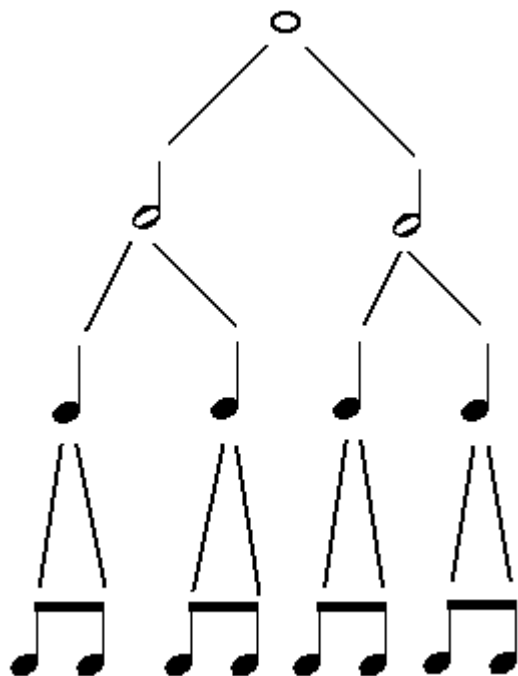
There is even shorter note:  - an eighth note = $1/2$ count.

 - Please note that an eighth note has a flag. If you have 2 eighth notes, you should write them with a beam





One quarter note consists of 2 eighth notes.  = 


Look at the following table below that reflects the length of the tones:



Again: ○ -the whole note = 4 counts

 -the half note = 2 counts

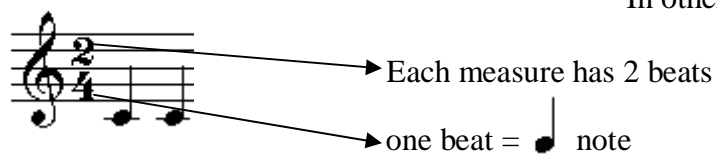
 -the quarter note = 1 count

 -an eighth note = ½ count


There are 2 numbers that are called a time signature. The time signature is located at the beginning of a musical piece.

- 2 The upper number indicates the number of beats in the measure.
- 4 The lower number indicates the value of the note that gets one beat.

In other words:



Each measure has 2 beats

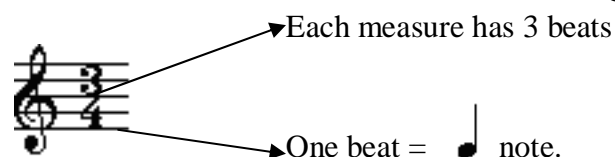
one beat =  note

Example: “Old French song” P. Tchaikovsky


Moderato assai.



Or



Each measure has 3 beats

One beat =  note.

Example: “Minuet” J.S. Bach



5. Next lesson you will start to play.