

Tuesday Piano Lessons with Lucy

04.08.20

Hello everyone, I hope you are safe and well.

Let's start today with the five finger warm up exercise: Both hands together playing each note consecutively C up to G then back down to C.

Now get the metronome out ('Pro Metronome' is a great app if you don't have a metronome at home) and set the tempo to 120. This sounds fast, but to begin with we will only be playing 1 note per click. So each time the metronome clicks change the note in time with the beat. Repeat this 10 times.

Now see if you can play two notes per click. Repeat this another 10 times.

If it's too fast and you're not managing to stay in time, change the metronome tempo to 100.



Now let's play through Feeling Good, Nina Simone.

Feeling Good

Words & Music by Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley

Rhythmically

♩ = 78

f

1 5 2 1

1 4 2

mf

1 3

I. Birds fly - ing high,

5 1 4 2

you know how I feel. _____

1

*****If you can play these two lines hands together and don't need to read through notes from last week, please skip to page 5...

If not, here are the first two lines again. As I have mentioned before, only go onto the second line when you are comfortable with the first line and can play it by memory.

Let's go through the right hand.

We should be a lot familiar with the chord in the Right Hand now, so go ahead and find it (this is A minor by the way). Place your thumb on middle C, your 2nd finger on E and your 5th finger on A. Remember to play *forte* (loud, but not *too* loud!).

Before playing remember to count a beat every three quavers. There will be 4 beats in the bar "1, 2, 3, 4". Below I have labelled each beat.

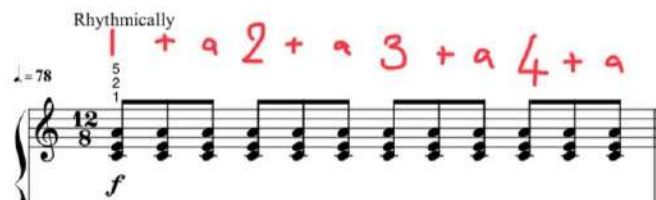
♩ = 78

1 2 3 4

f

1

You can count like this: "1 and a 2 and a 3 and a 4 and a". When counting aloud, each syllable, will fall on a chord like so:



Count either aloud or in your head and give yourself a whole bar of counting before you start to play. This helps you set the speed. Play this on repeat whilst counting aloud until you feel confident to move on.

Now let's look at the left hand.

Below I have written out the rhythm. This is how you can count. I've written in **red** notes you are playing or holding down. The **yellow** means rests.



Before playing the notes on the piano, let's clap the rhythm counting aloud "1 and a 2 and a 3 and a 4 and a 1 and a 2 and a 3 and a 4 and a".

Begin to play slowly. It could also help to have the tune playing either in your head or through speakers so you can clap along to it.

Then let's start playing! Read the notes carefully. Hands separately. When you're comfortable playing this put your hands together!

If you're finding this super easy, please feel free to go onto the next line but don't worry if you're not there yet.

If you feel comfortable moving on to the second line, let's go through it *hands separately*.

First let's start with the right hand. Let first just play the bar. The finger numbers are in black above the note (starting on an A with your thumb or "1", the C with a 3rd finger, D with a 4th and the C and E chord with your 3rd and 5th fingers).



So when we count "1 and a 2 and a 3 and a 4 and a" we're just playing notes on "2 and a 3" and then hold down that chord until the end of the bar. Repeat it until we feel confident playing.

Now lets play the next bar using the same method, counting aloud.



On the 3 "+" that D is tied, meaning that you don't need to replay it.



Let's look at the left hand now.



Clap the rhythm first. It's almost the same as the first line, but a slight change at the end. Write in pencil how to count above the right hand and then if you feel ready to move on put the hands together.

If you've skipped the previous info because you're ready to move on start reading from here:

Now that we can play *hands together* for the first two lines let's move onto the next few lines.

Feeling Good

Words & Music by Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley

The musical score for "Feeling Good" is presented in four systems. Each system consists of a piano accompaniment (piano) and a vocal melody (voice). The piano part features a steady eighth-note bass line and a more complex treble part with chords and eighth-note patterns. The vocal melody is written in the treble clef and includes lyrics: "I, birds fly - ing high, you know how I feel, Sun in the sky, you know how I feel, Breeze - ing on - by, you know how I feel, It's a".

If the rhythm is tricky at first, try singing (without playing) "1 and a 2 and a 3 and a 4 and a" whilst reading the notes on the page. So this should sound like you're singing the melody, but the words you sing should be the rhythm.

Break it down into a bar at a time if you need to, or less. And gradually work your way through the new part.

Play hands separately and then put the hands together.

I look forward to seeing you all and hearing how you've got on with this in September!

Have a good summer break,
Lucy