

Keyboard Accompaniment Basics

PREPARATORY SAMPLES

Download 34, of 82, pages from Keyboard Accompaniment (KA) PREP

TO TEACHERS: By assigning two or three new melodies routinely, students' ability to quickly sense a change of harmony is strengthened. Repeatedly choosing chords, chord variations, progressions, styles, rhythms & embellishments, the decision-making & hearing skills are targeted - to a point where creating accompaniment for melodies becomes intuitive.

MUSIC INSTITUTIONS are recognizing 'Creative Keyboard Accompaniment' (at the keyboard) as a subject to receive marks at all grade levels. To have students prepared, the KA BASICS & MA SERIES challenge students' theoretical & creative skills, at all levels - through 18 keys.

www.quenmar.com

FOREWORD

By creating accompaniment for two or three new melodies routinely, the ability to quickly sense a change of harmony is strengthened. By repeatedly choosing chords, progressions, rhythmic styles and bass patterns, both the decision-making and the hearing skills are targeted and stimulated - to a point where creating an appropriate accompaniment becomes intuitive. To help reach this goal, the Keyboard Accompaniment Series provides a wide variety of melodies for practice and enjoyment.

Developing your own expression, exploring chords and experiencing the joy of creating, can be fascinating and exciting! Listen carefully and have fun!

Musically yours,

Gayle Dunsmoor

Keyboard Accompaniment PREPARATORY

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

For VERY BEGINNERS

MELODY ADVENTURES PRIMER A & B

along with this book.

For KEYBOARD ACCOMPANIMENT BEGINNERS

MELODY ADVENTURES BOOKS 1 & 2

along with this book.

Not only will you recognize many of the melodies from this book, but the interesting arrangements will provide additional support for creating your own accompaniment.

Time Values in 2/4, 3/4 & 4/4 Time

Eighth Note = 1/2 beat

Quarter Note = 1 beat

Quarter Rest = 1 beat

Half Note = 2 beats

Half Rest (sits) = 2 beats

Outline Whole Rest (hangs) = 3 beats

Whole Note = 4 beats

Whole Rest = 4 beats in 4 time, or = 1 measure in any time signature

Clapping and Counting

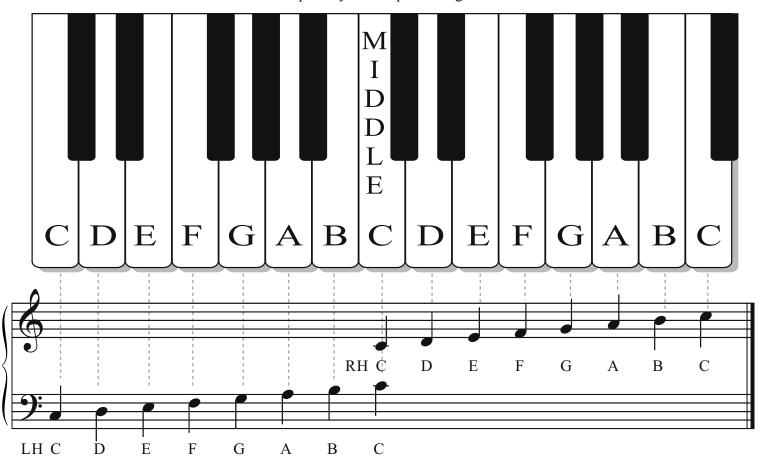


C Major

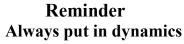
The Scale

The Scale is the foundation upon which music is written. All melodies are composed of tones* of a scale in various patterns. Most of the melodies in this book are in the key of C Major. This means the notes are generally from the C Major scale (see below) and for finality, end on the keynote or the home tone which is letter named 'C'.

* Tone: sound that can be sung, hummed or whistled. Note: Graphic Symbol representing a tone.



The above C Major scale continues for two octaves. An octave is an interval spanning eight letter names. For example: C to the following C is one octave.



pp very soft p soft

mf moderately loud

f loud ff very loud

Gradually louder

Gradually softer



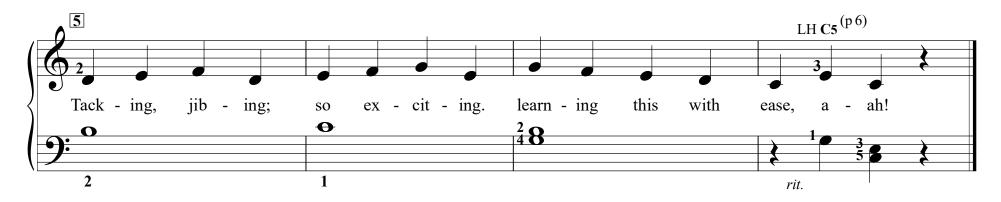
The difference between try and tri**umph** is just a little **umph**!

Marvin Phillips



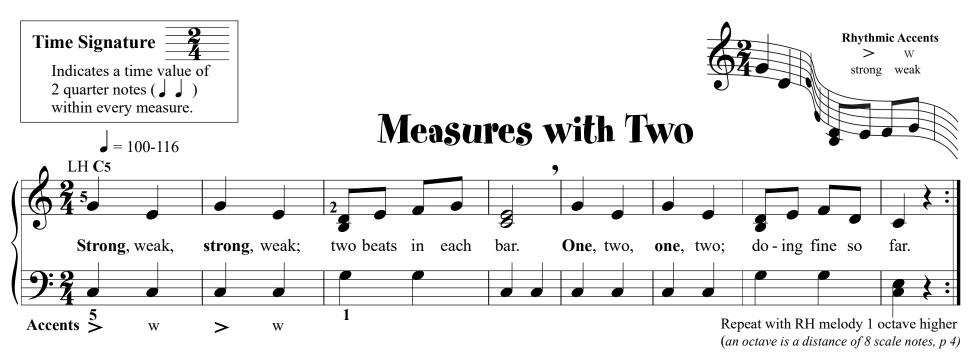
Sailing

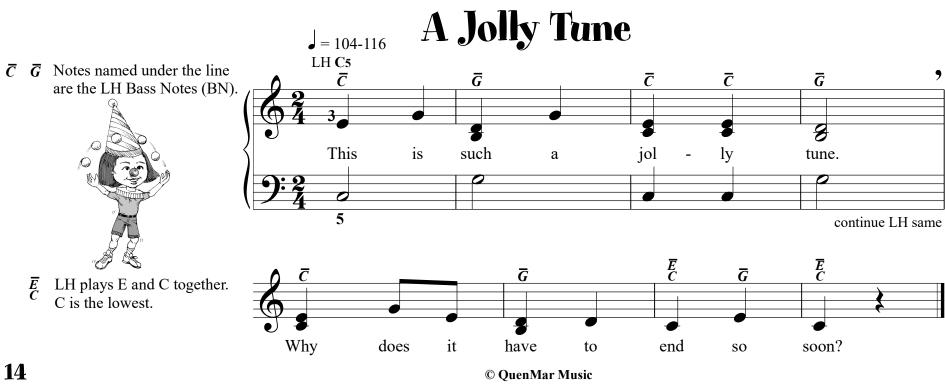




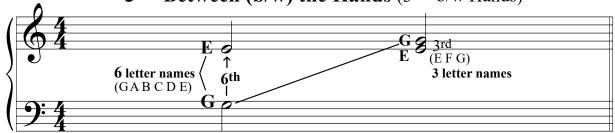
DUET/ACCOMPANIMENT







3rds Between (b/w) the Hands (3rds b/w Hands)

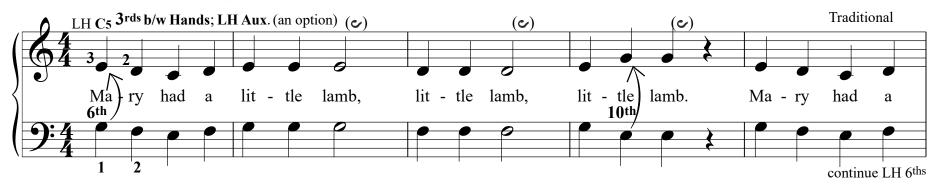


RH & LH notes that can be reduced to a 3rd (3^{rds} b/w Hands) generally gives a pleasant harmony.

Mary had a Little Lamb

Exercise

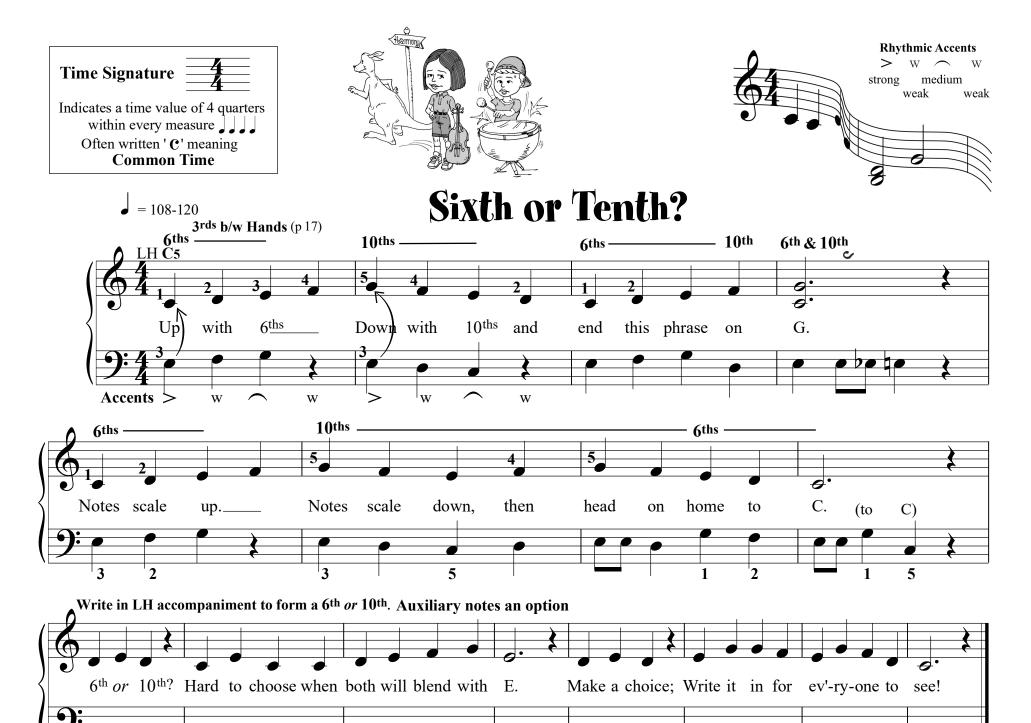
See/hear 6ths/10ths reduced to '3rds': Cross LH over RH & play LH note 1 octave higher than written.





^{*} Coda can be played an octave higher than written.

rit.







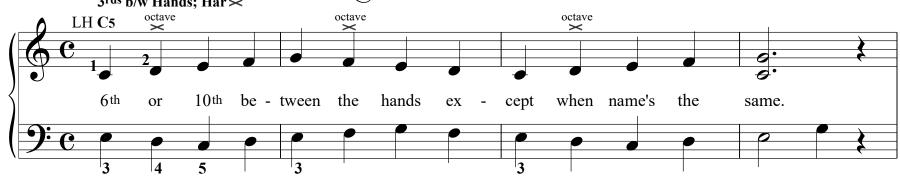
Crossing by step from opposite directions, the RH & LH play keys with the same letter name.

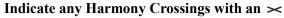
Notes on each side of a Har × are a 6th or 10th apart and can be reduced to 3rds between the hands (3rds b/w Hands).

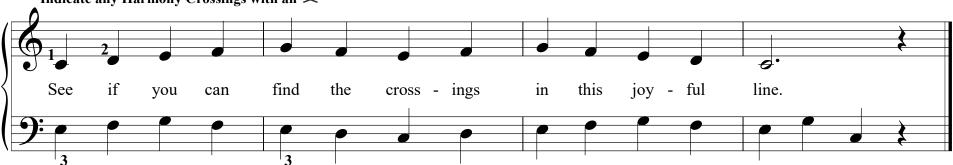
Harmony Crossings (Har ×) are generally **on a weak beat**.



NOTICE 6ths/10ths generally give a pleasant harmony.

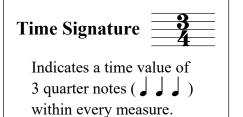






EXERCISE: repeat pages 6, 7 & 18 and include 'Harmony Crossings' - as well as the 6ths & 10ths



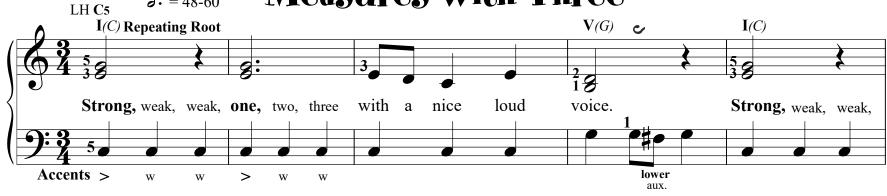


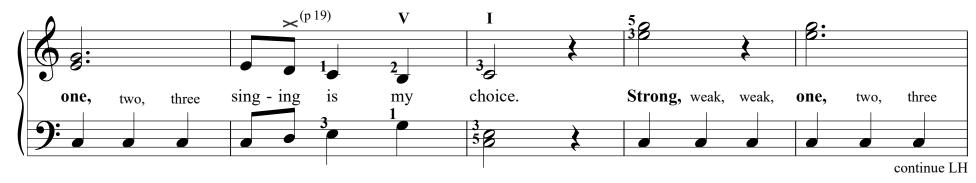
• = 48-60







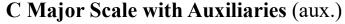


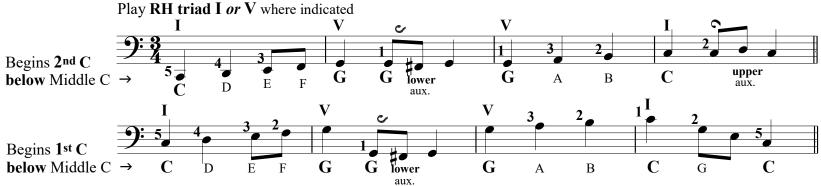




^{*}PN Passing Note(s): Inserted for transition by step from one harmony unit to another.

MA BOOK 1&2 Sup.





 8^{va} - Note(s) below are played 1 octave higher than written

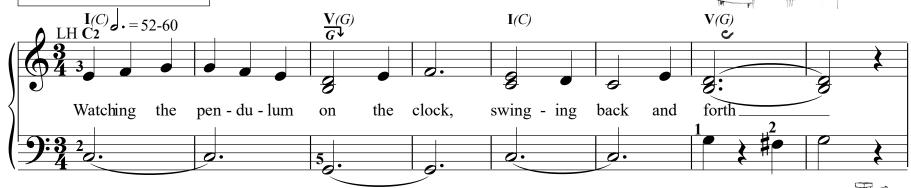
 8^{vb} – - Note(s) above are played 1 octave lower than written

> LH Bass Note (BN) **G**→ 2nd G below middle C **C** → 2nd C below middle C

LH C2 Position

2nd finger plays 1st C below Middle C Thumb plays 1st E or G below Middle C 5th finger plays 2nd G below Middle C

Back and Forth

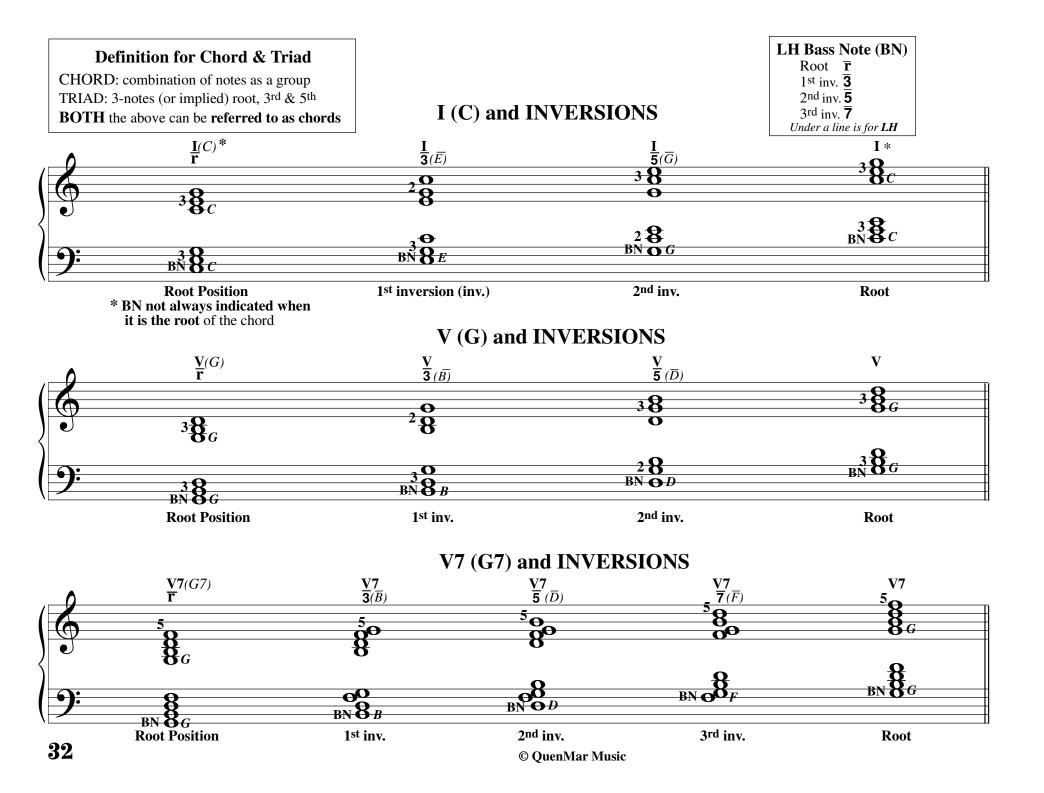


Continue accompaniment with the indicated LH BN



Won-d'ring if bird will ap - pear_ "cuc - koo, e - ver a





Roman Numerals

Triad **I** = **C**, **E**, G (**G** often omitted)

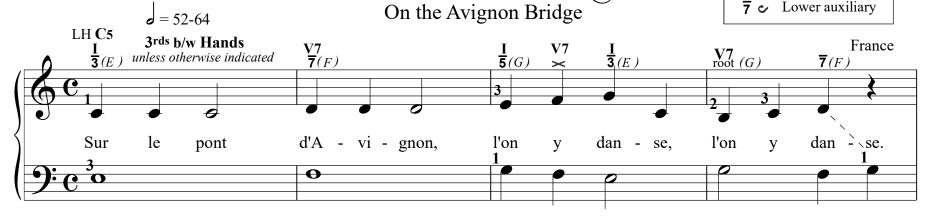
Triad **V** = **G**, **B**, D, (**D** often omitted)

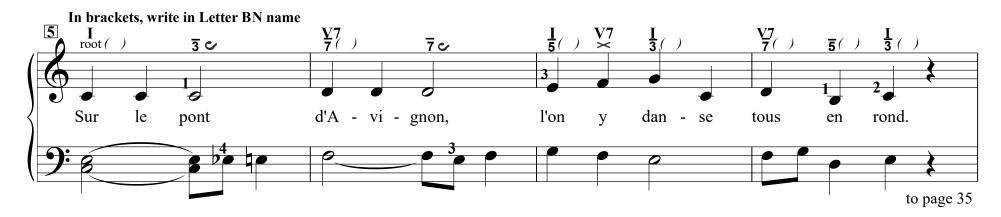
Chord **V7** = G, B, D, **F** (other than 7th often omitted)

Sur le Pont d'Avignon

Auxiliary on the 7th

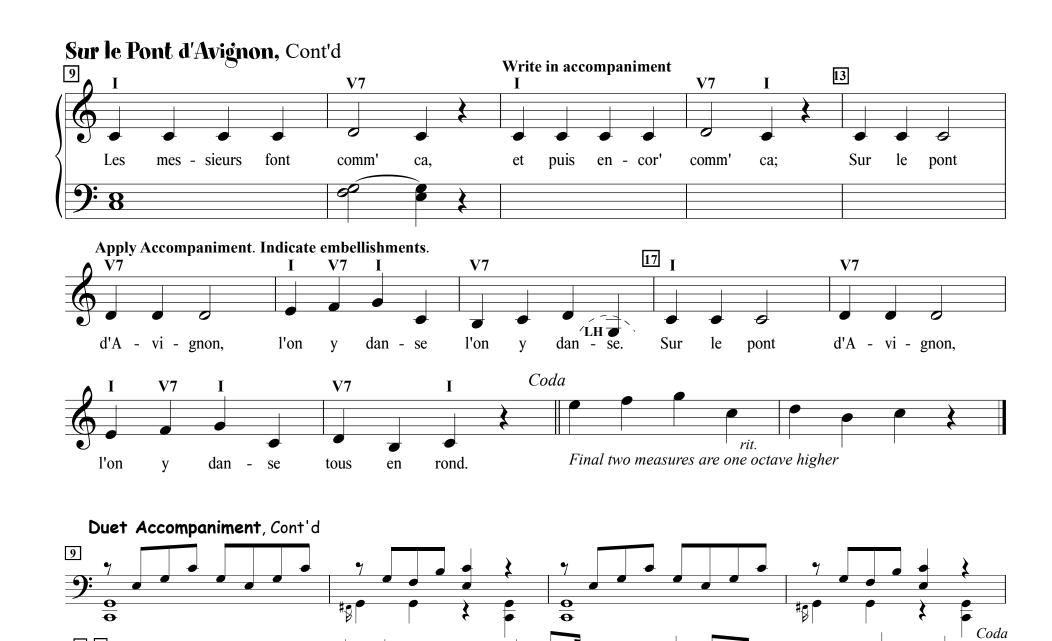
7 ○ Upper auxiliary 7 ○ Lower auxiliary





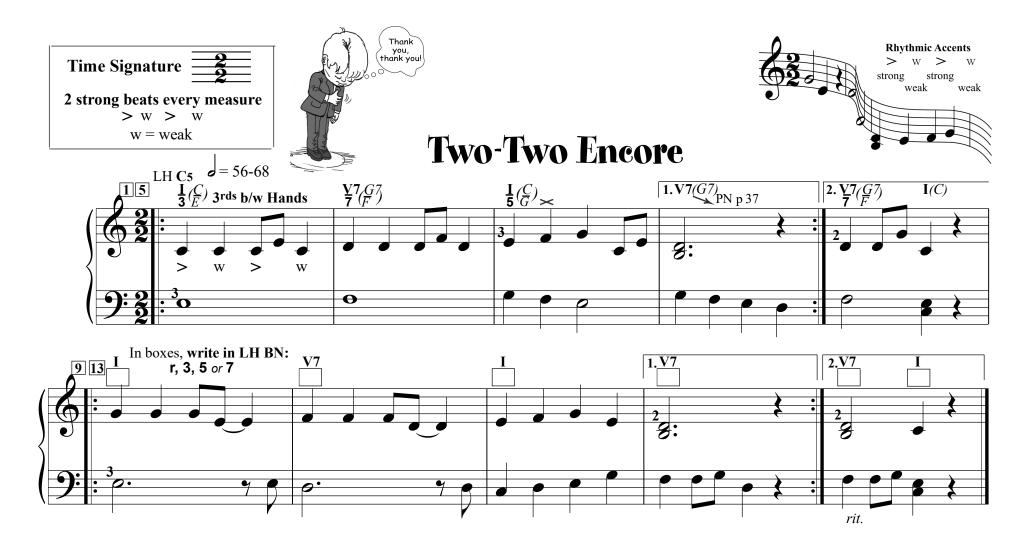
DUET/ACCOMPANIMENT: Play as written while "Sur le Pont d'Avignon" is performed 1 octave higher

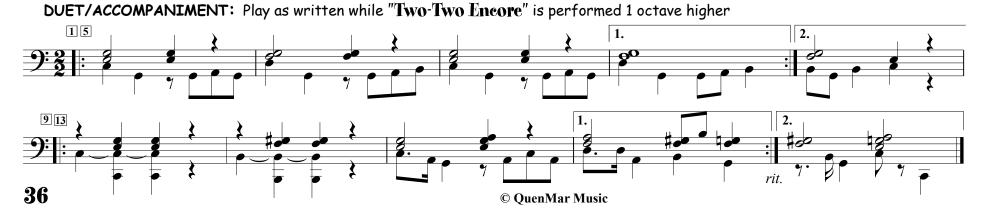




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Passing Notes (PN)

Inserted for transition by step from one harmony unit to another.

Passing Notes ascend or descend by scale steps from V(7) - I. Step often omitted. Hands generally move in opposite directions

Exception: moving together 3rds b/w Hands



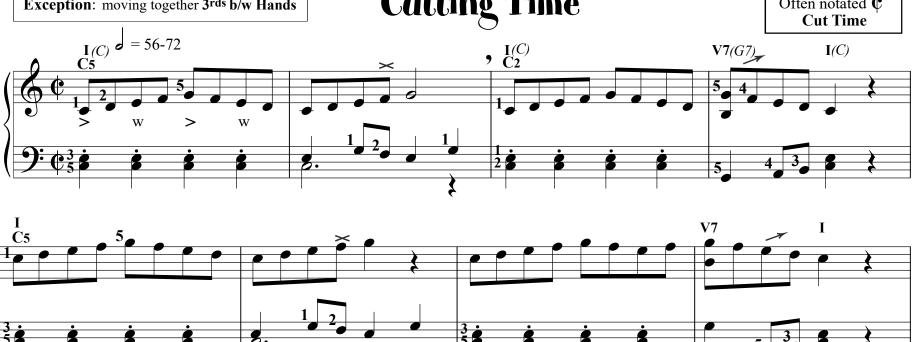
What's the preferred time signature of the prison pianist?

Cut Time!

2 Time Often notated **C Cut Time**

continue LH











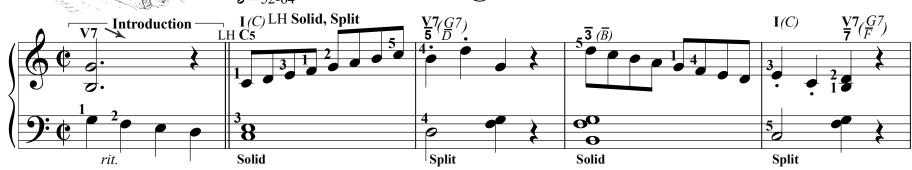




The Long Jump

Life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you react to it.

Coach Lou Holtz



In brackets, write in Letter names for chords & BN



Write in accompaniment. Indicate Har ×



The Can-Can: French in origin and traditionally performed by a chorus line of female dancers wearing long skirts, petticoats and black stockings. It is a very energetic dance characterized by high lifting and kicking of the legs.

Split - ~ ③ p 50 Single Bass Note (~) ascending to 2 or more chord notes (~)



Write in accompaniment & chord name



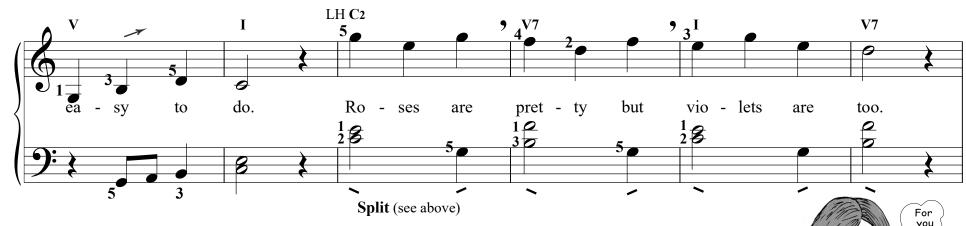


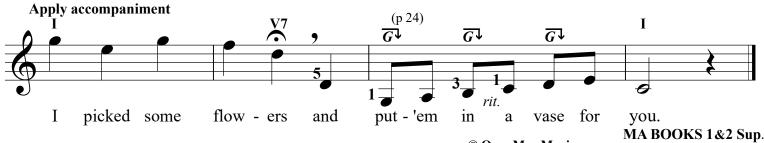
Split > - 2 p 50 2 or more notes of the chord () **descending** to a single BN ()

Motivation comes from within. Unknown

Pretty Flowers







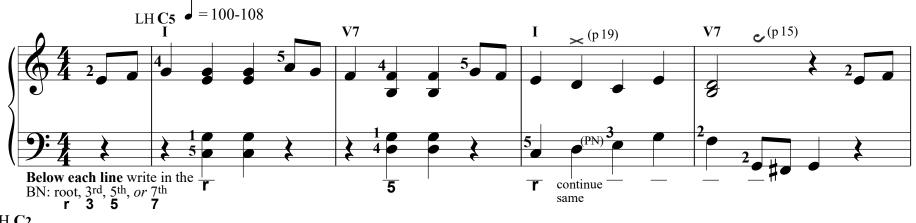
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Chromatic Step (CS) Closest distance between two keys on the keyboard. Example, C to C#.

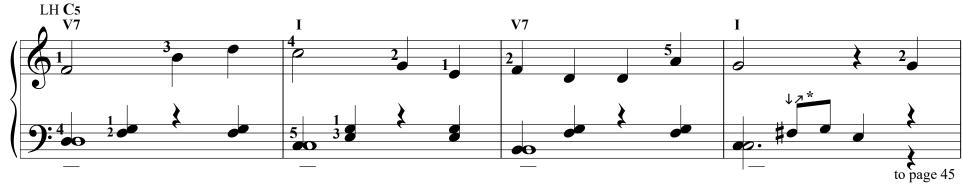
The Upbeat

This melody begins on the 4th beat. It precedes the first full measure. (3 missing beats in the final measure)

A Walk in the Park







^{*} Triad notes (root, 3^{rd} , 5^{th}) are often effective lowered 1 CS on the beat (Symbol $\downarrow \nearrow$) KA BASICS A.

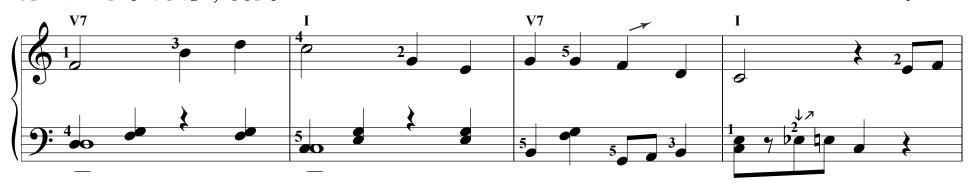
Reminder Always put in dynamics (p 10)



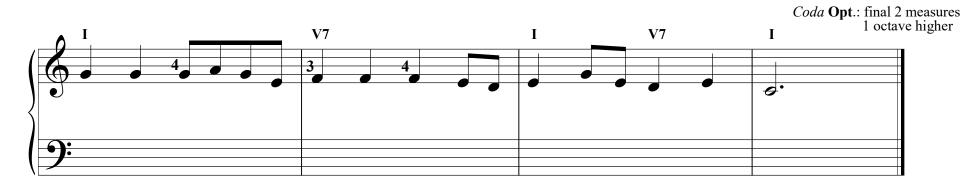
Yesterday is history; **tomorrow** is a mystery. **Today** is a gift. That's why we call it "**the present**".

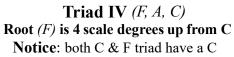
B. Olatunji

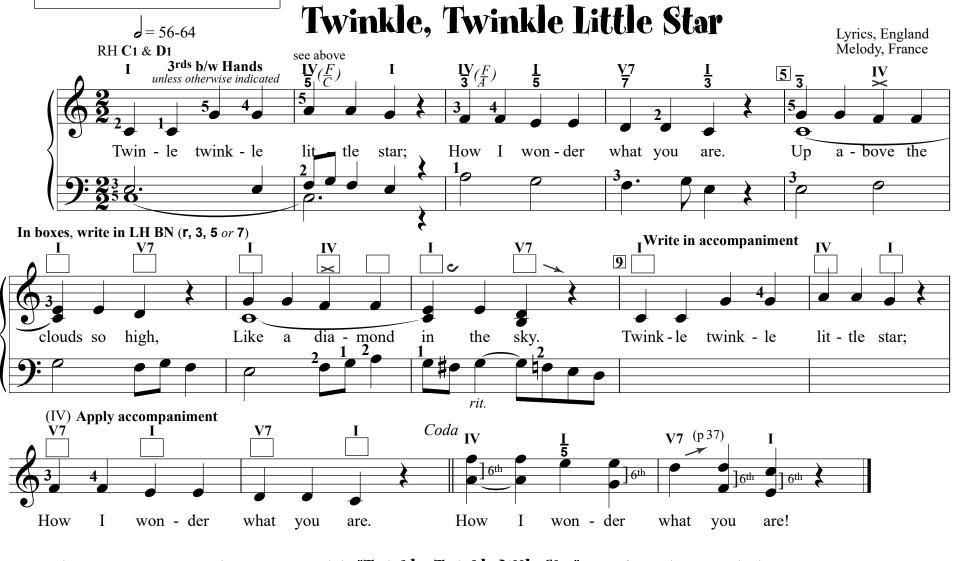
A Walk in the Park, Cont'd

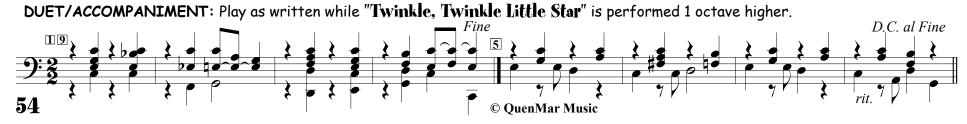












Taking the Challenge!



Create Your Own Accompaniment for Folk Songs

Each of the following melodies can be repeated with different accompaniments.

(Option: change accompaniments within the melody)

Following each melody: Circle the number that represents the hand positions/accompaniments (acc.) tried.

Circle the number that best represents how smoothly the hand positions/acc. changed.

Circle the number that best represents the **overall impression** (dynamics, timing, embellishments, presentation, etc.)

EMBELLISHMENTS: Auxiliary Note pp 21, 23-27, 34; Harmony Crossing pp 18-54; Passing Note(s) pp 26, 37; Intros pp 38-40, 49, 51 **ACCOMPANIMENTS:** 3^{rds} b/w hands pp 17-20, 23, 30, 34, 36, 41-47, 54

RIGHT HAND: C1 pp 6-54; **D1** pp 42-48, 54; **Solid Chords** pp 21, 23-28, 32-33, 35, 37, 49, 68

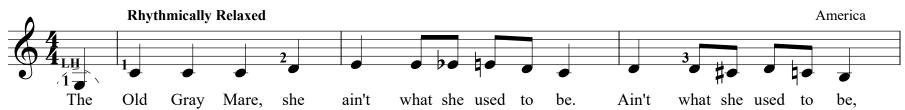
LEFT HAND: C5 pp 6-7, 11, 14-21, 23, 25, 27-54; C1 pp 8-10, 12-13, 47; C2 (with & without solid chords) pp 24-27, 35, 41, 50-51 **Alternating Bass** pp 50-51; **Solid Chords** pp 32-33, 38-40, 52, 68; **Split** -> or -> pp 40-45, 50





o = $\frac{1}{\text{write tempo}}$

The Old Gray Mare





Ain't what she used to be. The Old Gray Mare, she ain't what she used to be man-y long years a -







^{*} **Option:** change F A C to F A^b C (minor chord, KA BASICS A)

Hand positions/acc. 1 2 3
Smooth changes 1 2 3
Overall impression (includes embellishments)

Total 9 max.

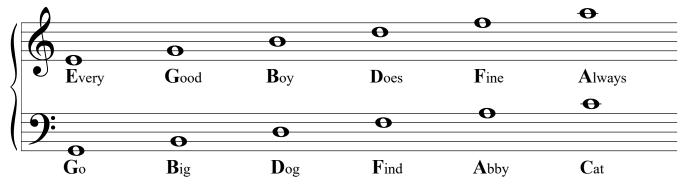




Note Helpers

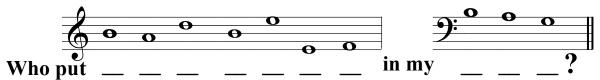
'Note Helpers' are suggestions. **Spaces** You could find your own helpers! O O A \mathbf{C} \mathbf{E} (Spells 'Face') \mathbf{O} O O \mathbf{A} 11 Cows Eat Grass

Lines



Help Needed!

Write note name on the line below



FROM THE AUTHOR



Gayle MacAulay Dunsmoor

BRAVO! You have completed KA PREPARATORY and are well on your way to creating

GREAT ACCOMPANIMENTS