# Sampler Catalog of Succeeding at the Piano® The All-In-One Approach

by Dr. Helen Marlais

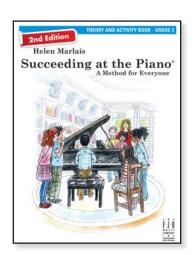
Succeeding at the Piano (SATP) Sampler Catalog: Grade 2B and 3 The All-In-One Approach to Succeeding at the Piano® (AIO) Sampler Catalog: Gr. 2C

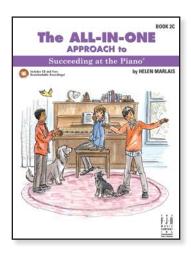












SATP consists of levels:
Prep, 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3, 4, 5

AIO consists of levels:
Prep A and B, 1A and 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C

# COMPAN

Frank J. Hackinson

### The FJH Music Company Inc.

# **Technique at the Piano**

### 1. Posture and Arm Weight

Sit tall on the bench. Imagine a plant is growing through your spine and out the very top of your head! The plant is gently pulling your body up until it is tall, long, and balanced. When you lean forward, lean with your torso instead of your head. Your torso provides you with power and balance.



### Reviewing "Drip-Drop-Roll"

 Lift your arms and let your fingers hang down, like the boy in the picture. Pretend water can drip through your fingertips to your thighs.



 Let your arms drop to your thighs. Can you feel the weight of your arms drop? (Your fingers should land flat on your legs.) This is arm weight.



 Roll your wrists forward onto your fingertips, and lift your wrists first and then your forearms.



### 2. Free Arm and Flexible Wrist

- Using fingers 2 and 3 on your R.H., play any two white keys on the piano together (blocked).
- Roll your wrist and forearm to the right, then around and over to the left. Then do another roll!





- Notice how your upper arm moves freely as you do each roll.
- Now try it with your L.H. It rolls clockwise.

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### **Practice steps:**

- Learn and memorize the *ostinato\** pattern in the L.H.
- Make up a story about this cat and tell your teacher.



# **Billy Cat's Blues**



Theory p. 6



\*ostinato—a short pattern that is repeated over and over. poco—means "a little".

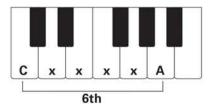
rit. is abbreviated for ritardando; it means to slow down.

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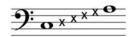
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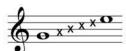
## Interval of a 6th

1. Find any C on the piano. Going higher skip 4 white keys and find A. This is a 6th!



On the staff, a 6th looks like this:





space to line, 4 skipped notes

line to space, 4 skipped notes

2. With your R.H. play this 5th.



Now play this 6th, moving your fingers slightly away from your thumb.



4. With your L.H. play this 5th.



Playing this 6th, move your thumb slightly away from your

other fingers.



### Practice step:

TRACK 23

· Silently prepare your fingers over each interval as you name each one aloud.







Transpose this piece to one key of your choice.

# F<sub>J</sub>H

### **Rotation Review**

- Rotation is when the hand, wrist, and forearm move from side to side, as if turning a doorknob.
- Or you can imagine a boat rocking side to side in water.





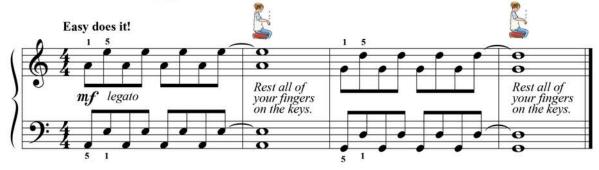


- Notice that you play on the outside tip of your thumbnail.
- Practice at 4 tempos:
   Adagio J = 72, Andante J = 88, 104,
   Allegro J = 126





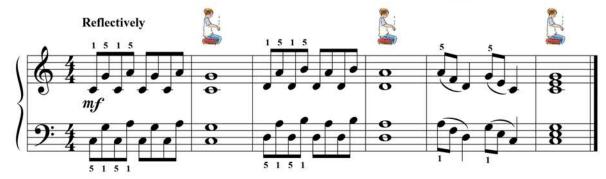
# Dancing, Then Resting



· Tell your teacher how playing with rotation feels.

# **Diligent Dragonfly**





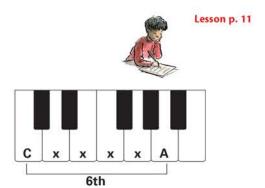


**Note to Teachers:** Encourage students to play with their hand, wrist, and forearm completely aligned, not twisting in any way.

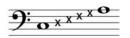
FJH2278 **11** 

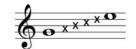
# **Learning 6ths**

1. Find any C on the piano. Going higher skip 4 white keys and find A. This is a 6th!



On the staff, a 6th looks like this:





space to line, 4 skipped notes

line to space, 4 skipped notes

2.

### Note Challenge No. 1:

Play Bass C. Go down a 4th, then go up a 3rd. Lastly, go down a 6th. What is the letter name of the key you land on? \_\_\_\_\_

### Note Challenge No. 2:

Play Guide Note Treble G. Go up a 5th. Go up a 6th. Lastly, go down a 3rd. What is the letter name of the key you land on?

- 3. Answer the following questions as fast as a lightening bolt. Time yourself by using a clock.
  - Draw an X on the nearest guide note to help you.
  - Write the interval and the letter name of the notes.





Ex. 6th up

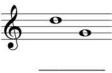
A F



\_\_\_\_









\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_



3

How long did it take you to finish?

you to finish? minutes

\_\_\_ seconds

8

# **Ear Training**



Parrots love to repeat what they hear!

- · Your teacher will play Hush, Little Baby.
- Can you sing it together and sway to the beat?
- Listen to the intervals of a 6th. Sing this song to remember the 6th.







Hush, lit-tle ba - by, don't say a word, Ma-ma's gon

Ma-ma's gon-na buy you a mock-ing-bird.



Check the box when you can play this song.

# 2. Ear Training:

Let's review other intervals by singing these songs:



Yan-kee Doo-dle went to town, rid-ing on a po - ny.

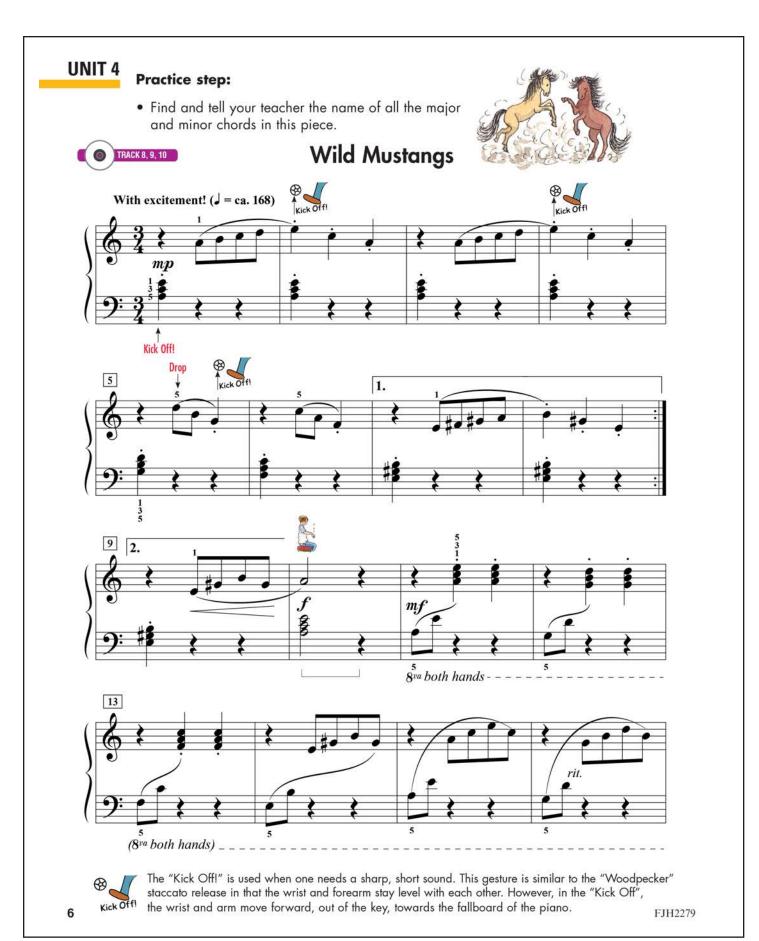




Here comes the bride, all dressed in white!



Now close your eyes and listen to your teacher play intervals of 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, 5ths, and 6ths. How many can you identify?







# **Balance Between the Hands Review**

• Bring out (make louder) the hand that plays the melody.



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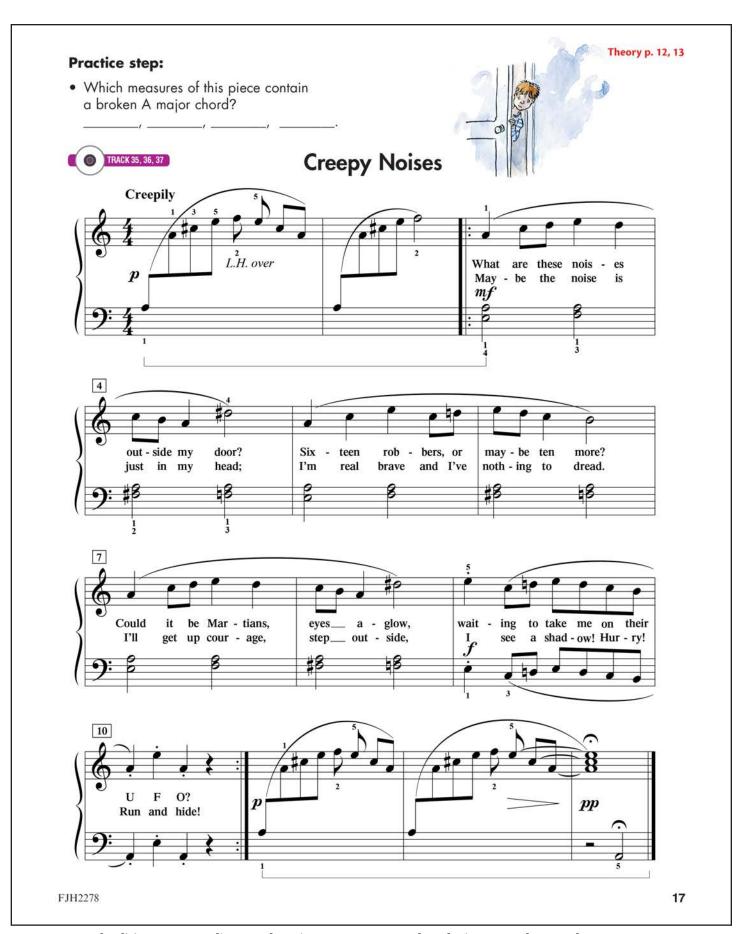


## **Finlandia**

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)



FJH2278 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano°, Lesson and Technique Book, Grade 2B Balance Between the Hands Review – page 13



FJH2278 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano°, Lesson and Technique Book, Grade 2B Creepy Noises – page 17

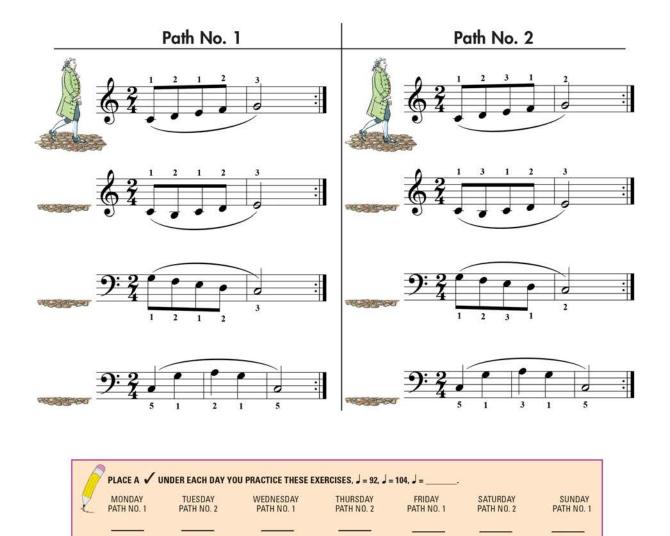


Haydn

# **Finger Crossings**

The thumb often moves under the fingers, or the fingers cross over the thumb.

- Do one path every day with Papa Haydn. (See the practice chart below.)
- Practice each exercise molto legato (very smoothly).
- Roll your wrist from note to note. Use a free arm and flexible wrist so that your thumb doesn't tuck itself under your palm. Let your thumb follow the 2nd and 3rd fingers and look for the shape between fingers 1 and 2.



Note to Teachers: Tucking the thumb under the hand and moving it back and forth halfway across the palm is unhealthy and incorrect because it causes tension in the hand and wrist. Watch students so they do not twist or lock their wrists.



FJH2278 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano $^\circ$ , Lesson and Technique Book, Grade 2B Flower Drum Song – page 23

# **Technique with Beethoven**

over the next four keys.

1. Playing the G major scale in the R.H.



Technique Tip: Your 4th finger plays only one key. Which key is it?

2. Now play the G major scale going up and going down. Listen carefully for evenness and forward direction, making a \_\_\_\_\_\_ to the High G. This is the phrase goal. Then \_\_\_\_\_ to the Guide Note G.



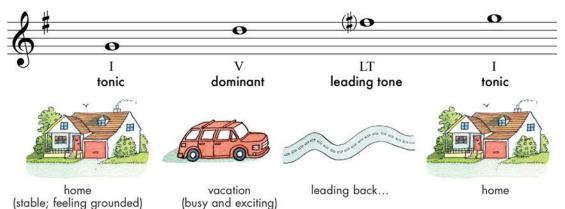
Without twisting your wrist, cross finger 3 over 1.

Move your thumb quickly to the left to prepare for the G.



Beethoven says: Notice that G and C major scales have the same fingering.

3. Find and play three important notes in the G major scale:



### QUICK QUIZ:

- A. What is the dominant note in the key of G major? \_\_\_\_\_
- B. What is the leading tone in the key of G major?
- C. What is the tonic note in the key of G major? \_\_\_\_\_

- 4. Playing the G major scale in the L.H.
  - Say the fingering aloud as you play the scale.

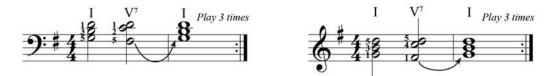


- 5. Now play the G major scale going up and going down.
  - Roll your arm weight in the direction of the notes, using weight transfer.
  - Play the scale with a beautiful legato sound throughout.

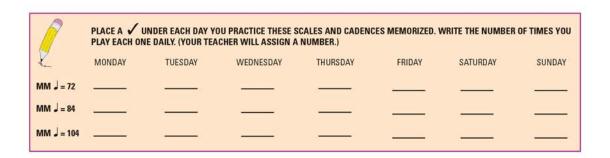


Technique Tip: What is the one key your 4th finger plays? \_\_\_\_\_

- 6. Playing a G major cadence
  - Notice the leading tone (F# in the V7 chord) that leads back to tonic (G).
  - The leading tone is always a whole half step below tonic. Circle one.



**Technique Tip:** Shift the weight of your hand forward into the keys when playing the  $V^7$  chord.



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### **Practice steps:**

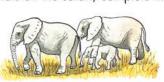
- Show your teacher the following: G major scales \_\_\_\_, I and V<sup>7</sup> chords \_\_\_\_, ABA¹ form \_\_\_\_.
- When playing scales, sweep your arm from left to right, without twisting your wrist.



Often a "Push Off" touch release is used even if the sound isn't meant to be staccato. Instead, the motion produces a full, longer sound. As usual, push forward with the upper arm for this gesture. Give the notes their full value, and feel the muscles in the forearm and upper arm working. Then release the muscles as you move your wrist and arm forward. This physical gesture is for longer note values at the end of phrases as well as for phrase goals.

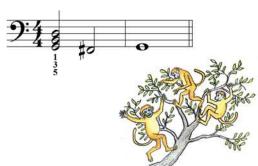
# **Going On Safari**

As you meet the animals on the safari, complete the musical examples.



# Wise elephants:

- Complete the G major cadence in the L.H.
- · Add the fingering.



# 3. A troop of monkeys:

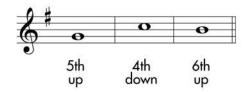
 Circle the correct fingering for an **ascending** G major scale in the R.H.

1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5



# 5. The tiger's trail:

 Write the following harmonic intervals in G major.





• Complete the G major cadence in the R.H.

Lesson p. 33

Add the fingering.





# 4. Digging warthogs:

 Write the correct fingering for a **descending** G major scale in the L.H.





# 6. Playful rhinoceros:

• Write the following melodic intervals in G major.



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## **Broken Chord Bass**

• A broken chord bass can be used to play the L.H. harmony while the R.H. plays the melody.

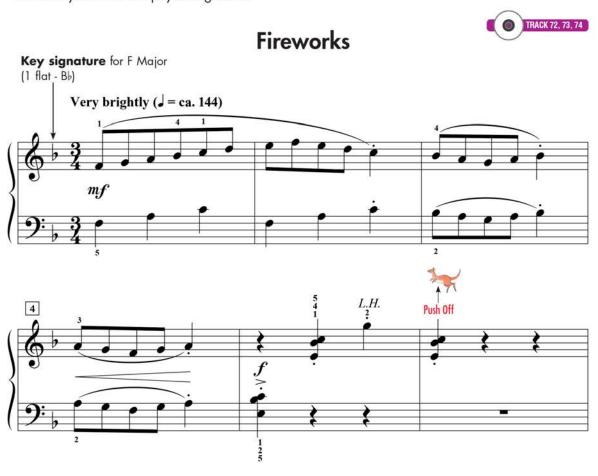
Notice this F major chord, played one note at a time:





### **Practice steps:**

- Point to broken chords in the piece below and practice them first.
- Then practice the first phrase at least 5 times correctly, focusing on the rhythm and the physical gesture.





FJH2278 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano°, Lesson and Technique Book, Grade 2B Broken Chord Bass and Fireworks – page 45

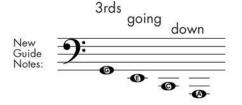


FJH2278 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano°, Lesson and Technique Book, Grade 2B Ledger Line Notes Below the Bass Staff – page 48

# Help the Tuba Player Find His Notes!

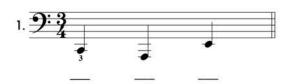


- The tuba player forgot his glasses and can't see his music.
- Write the name of the notes. Then play them.







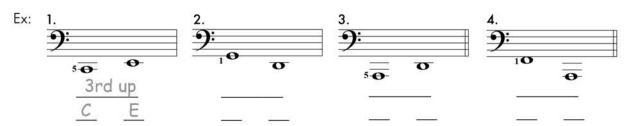








 Write the intervals and then the name of the notes. Play them every day, saying the name of the notes aloud.





- Make up a piece using any of these notes.
- Will it be mysterious, or strong?
   Will it have chords, or a single melody?

Your title: \_\_\_\_\_



# At The Concert Hall



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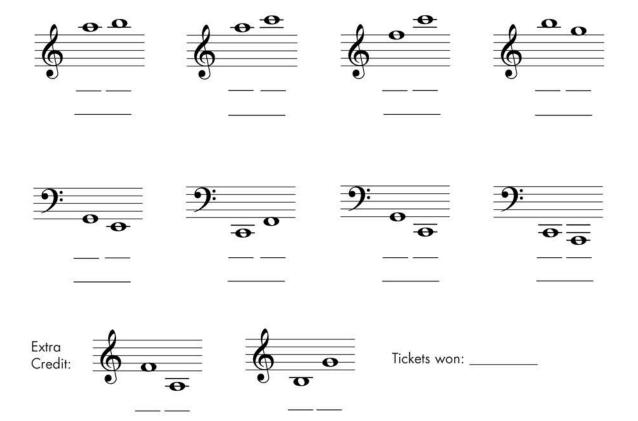
Win as many orchestra tickets as you can so you can take your family and friends to hear a concert of beautiful music.

- Write the letter names and intervals below. Then play the patterns.
- Your teacher will check your answers and write in the total number of tickets.
   (You win 1 ticket for every correct example.)





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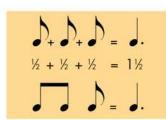
# **Dotted Quarter Note**

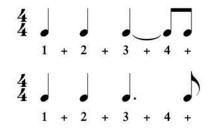
gets one and one-half beats.

Clap and count the rhythms below.

Both rhythms are the same.

The dot in the . replaces the tied note.







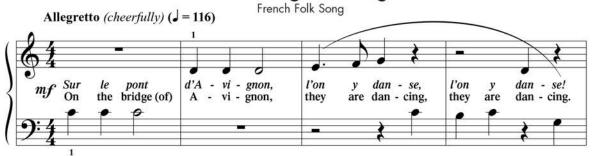
### **Practice steps:**

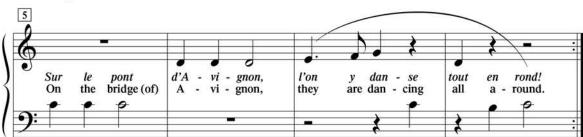
- Clap and count aloud.
- Can you step to the J beat while clapping the rhythm?





# On the Bridge of Avignon

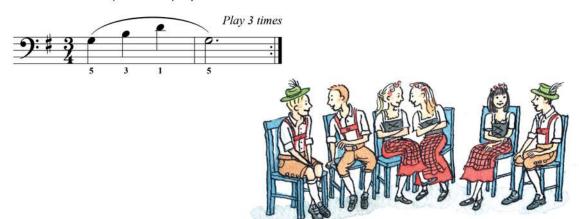




## **Broken Chord Bass**

• A broken chord bass can be used to play the L.H. harmony while the R.H. plays the melody.

Notice this G major chord played one note at a time:



### **Practice steps:**

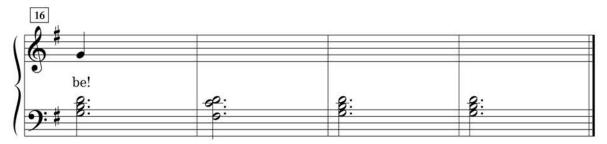
- Point to the three broken chords in the piece below.
- Then practice the first phrase in the R.H., focusing on the fingering, at least 5 times correctly.







- Make up your own ending to The More We Get Together.
- Play the piece to the downbeat of measure 16 and then write a new ending below.
   Be sure to end on the tonic.





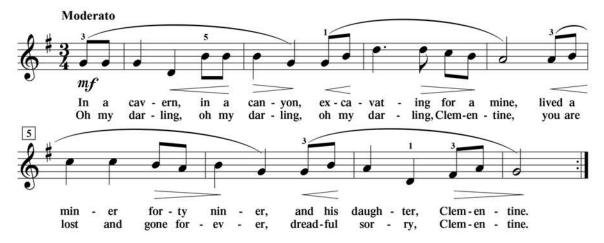
- Your teacher will play Clementine.
- · Sing it together. Circle the only 6th.
- By ear, play each phrase after your teacher plays it.
- Did each phrase have a "phrase goal"? This is where the music leads to.
- Did you hear the forward direction in each phrase?





### Clementine

American Folk Song



**Note to Teachers:** After students can play Clementine, you may wish to experiment with rhythm or note changes to see if your students hear the mistake(s).

# F Major Scale

- Write the F major scale below.
- Then mark the two half steps.
- Notice that the key of F major needs one flat (B) to keep the major pattern.



Key signature-

- Now, write "I" below the tonic notes, "V" below the dominant note, and "LT" under the leading tone. Play these notes on the piano.
- Trace the Bb in the key signature below.
- Then draw the key signature for F major twice on your own.



F















- Draw the key signature for F major.
- Then write an F major scale, ascending and descending.



Can you close your eyes and say the letter names of the F major scale?
 Memorize it today!

### **Practice steps:**

• Does this piece use a waltz bass or a broken chord bass? Circle one.



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# FyII Haydn

# **Technique with Haydn**

- Musical phrases lead somewhere. Feel the forward direction of each phrase, making a to the longest note in a phrase, or a downbeat.
- Playing with the correct gestures will help you be musical.



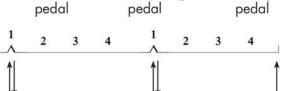


# **UNIT 7 D Major One-Octave Scale** and I and V7 Chords 1. Playing the D major scale in the R.H. Key signature for D major (sharp all F's and C's) Chopin Play 3 times As soon as the F# is played, Shift your hand and wrist to the right. release and untuck the thumb. Let your thumb follow. Chopin says: Remember to play legato with a flexible wrist. 2. Fun with scales! Transpose to: C major \_\_\_\_ 3. Find and play three important notes in the D major scale. 0 (<u>#</u>) O O O I V LT Ι dominant leading tone tonic tonic home on vacation! going back... home 40 FJH2229

# **Legato Pedaling**

- To connect one note or chord to the next one, without a break in sound, use *legato* pedaling.
- In piano music, you will see pedal markings to show you how to use the damper pedal.

Count aloud while you pedal:



the sustaining

Press your right foot down. Use the ball of your foot to press, with your heel on the floor.

Lift pedal exactly when you say the count of "1"

the soft

 Then immediately press the pedal down again and hold until the next downbeat.

Let your foot motion be relaxed and guiet.

Lift foot slowly and silently but keep your foot on the pedal.

the damper





When you wear shoes, it's easier to pedal.



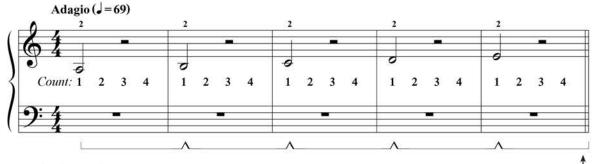
Chopin

Then play the notes on the piano.

# Legato Pedal Study

Play the notes on your right thigh first to get used to the pedal.





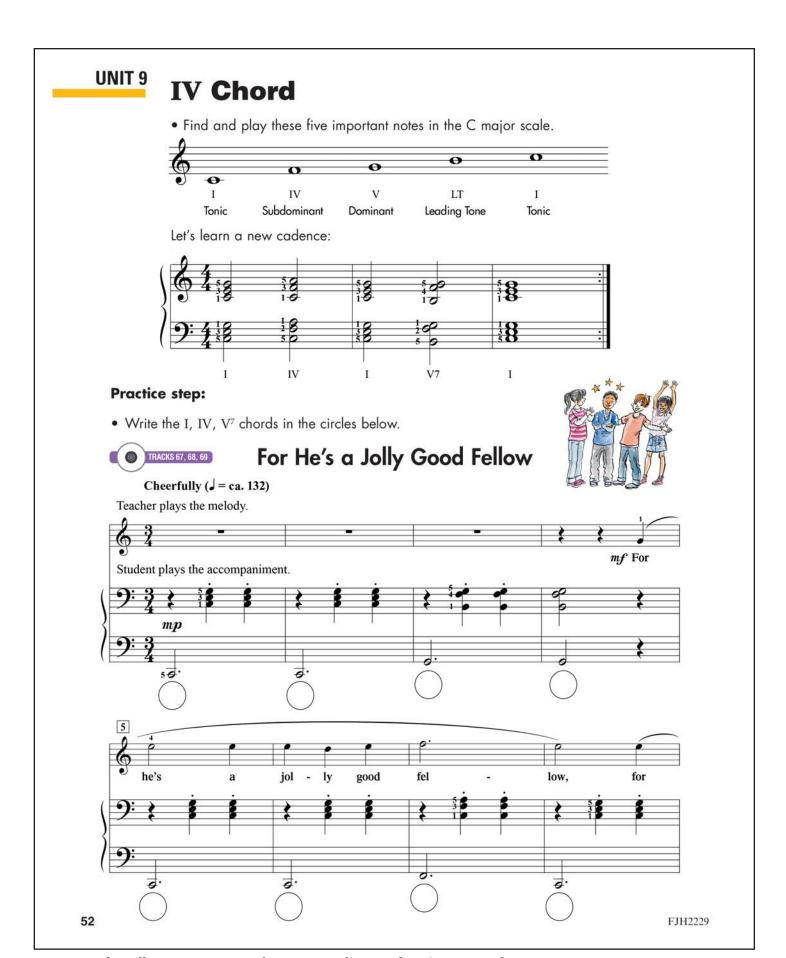
### Technique Tip:

- Practice this study with your L.H. finger 2 as well, 1 octave lower.
- If you hear a connection from one note to the next, without overlapping, then you are pedaling correctly.
- Let your ear always be your guide when pedaling.

Lift foot and hand off together.

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FJH2229 The All-In-One Approach to Succeeding at the Piano $^{\circ}$ , Book 2C The IV Chord – page 52

Lesson p. 3

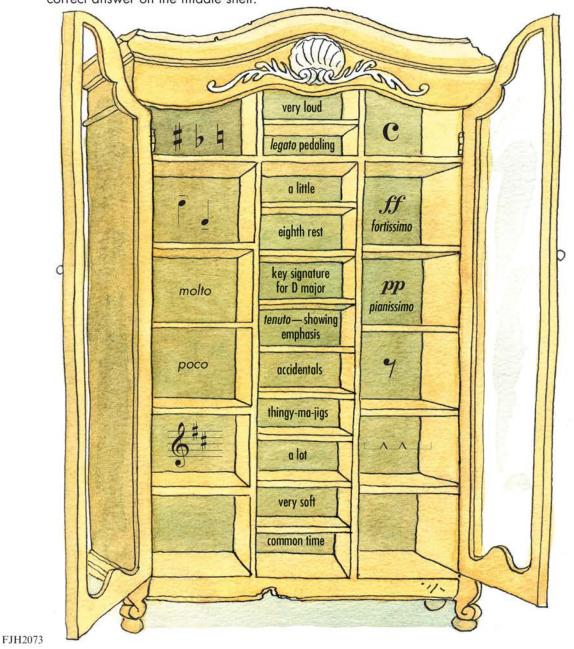
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# **The Mysterious Bookcase**

(Review of Music Symbols and Terms from Grade 2B)

- In an attic, a mysterious bookcase is locked.
- · You find the key for the lock in a floorboard!
- Once you open it, you see music symbols and terms that have been hidden for hundreds of years!
- Draw a line from the musical symbol or term on the right and left shelves to the correct answer on the middle shelf.



FJH2073 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano°, Theory and Activity Book, Grade 3 Review of Music Symbols and Terms from Grade 2B – page 3

## **Pirate's Gold**

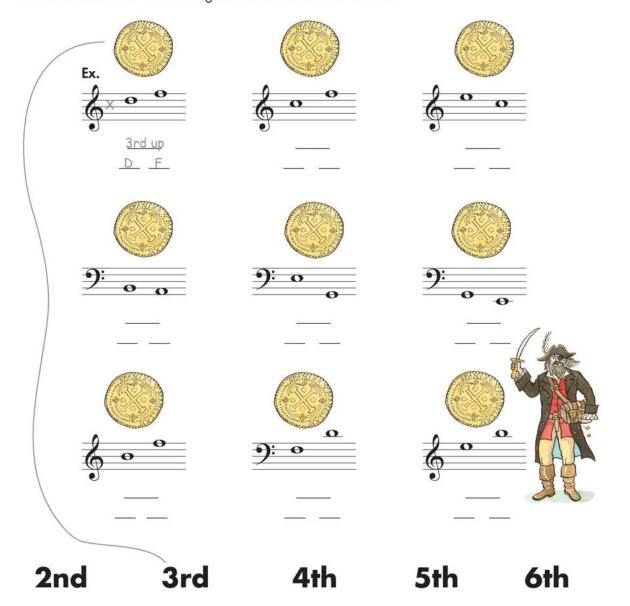


Lesson p. 5

(Review of Intervals and Note Names)

• Draw an X on the nearest guide note.

- Name the intervals and notes.
- Then draw a line from each gold coin to the correct interval.



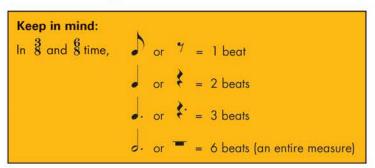
### **Extra Credit:**

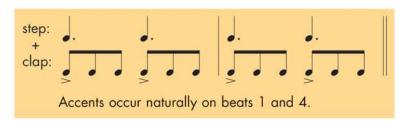
 These 2 patterns are made up of: 2nds 3rds 4ths (circle one)



# **Another New Time Signature**

6 beats in every measure gets 1 beat



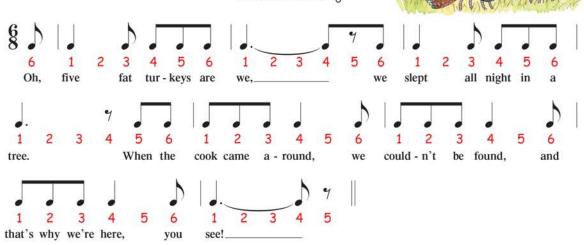


1. First, step • while clapping and counting the rhythm of the song below.

Then say the words while clapping the .. pulse.

# **Five Fat Turkeys**

American Folk Song



2. Now clap and count these patterns with your teacher:

$$D = ca. 138, D = ca. 152, J. = ca. 76$$

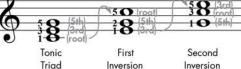


# **Technique with Haydn** Arm weight and flexible wrist

### **Triads and Inversions**

Notice there are different ways to play a C major triad:

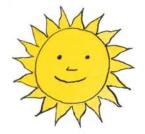




When the **bottom** note is moved to the top, it's called an inversion.



### The Sunshine Exercise



### **Practice steps:**

- Drop your arm weight on the first note of every three-note slur.
- Then roll your wrist slightly forward when playing through the slur.
- Be sure to play on the outside tip of your thumbnail.



- Play "The Sunshine Exercise" every day as you learn Grade 3.
- Play while watching your hands and arms, listening all the time for the correct sound.
- You will be ready to play pieces with triads and inversions in Grade 4!

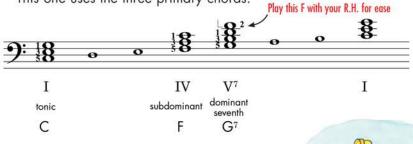






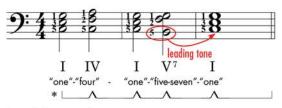
# **Technique with Brahms** I-IV-I-V<sup>7</sup>-I Cadence in C Major

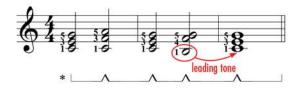
Now you are ready to learn another cadence.
 This one uses the three primary chords:



Think about a submarine when you see the IV chord (<u>sub</u>dominant).
 The root of the IV chord is F.
 F is 1 step lower, or below, the root of the V<sup>7</sup> chord (G).

### Playing a C major cadence:



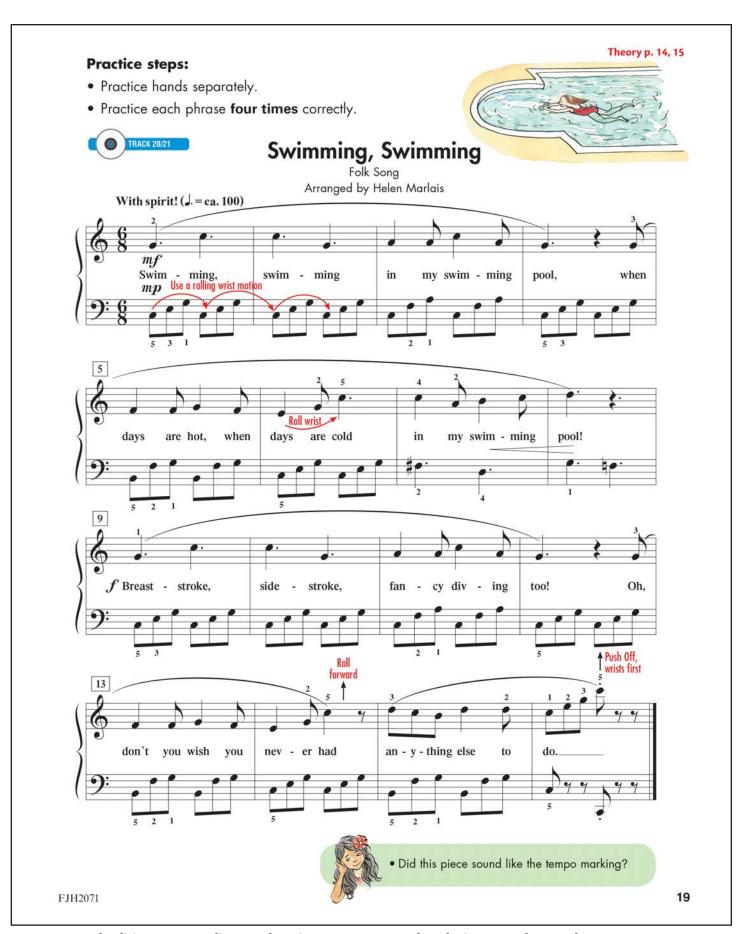


<sup>\*</sup> pedal optional



**Brahms says:** Say the name of the chords as you play them. ("one" - "four" - "one" - "five-seven" - "one")

P	PLACE A 🗸 UNDER EACH DAY YOU PRACTICE THE C MAJOR SCALE IN EIGHTH NOTES FOLLOWED BY THIS CADENCE MEMORIZED. WRITE THE NUMBER OF TIMES YOU PLAY EACH ONE DAILY. (YOUR TEACHER WILL ASSIGN A NUMBER.)						
2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		<u> </u>	· · · · · · · · ·				
			·				



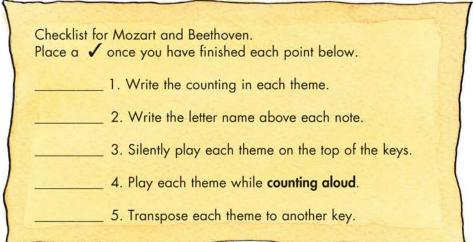
FJH2071 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano°, Lesson and Technique Book, Grade 3 Swimming, Swimming – page 19

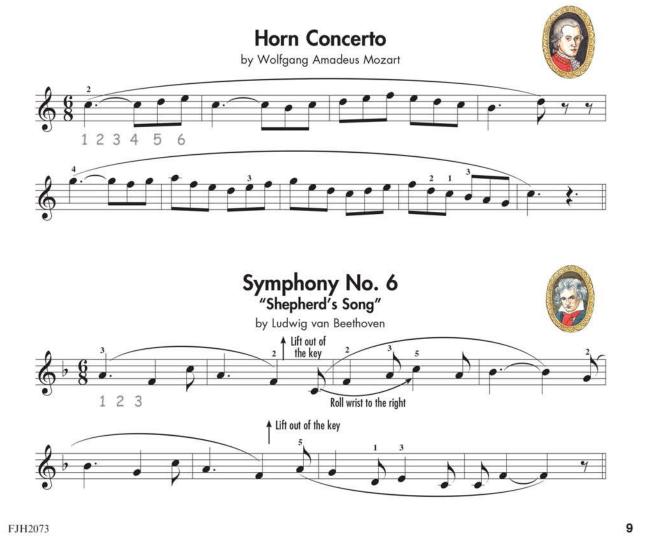
## **Two Famous Themes**





Lesson p. 11





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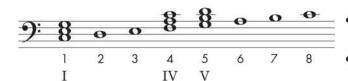




Lesson p. 15

## **The Primary Triads**

- The IV chord (called "4" chord) is built on the 4th note of the scale.
- You already know that the V chord (called "5" chord) is built on the 5th of the scale.



- These 3 triads are in
- · Play them.
- · Write the correct Roman numeral below each triad.

Key of C major:

















Draw the following triads in C major.



What is the I triad?

What is the IV triad?

What is the V triad?

IV triad:



Quick Quiz:



1 In G major:



2, In F major:

What is the I triad?

What is the IV triad?

What is the V triad?

Now play these triads.

12

## **Swing Rhythm in Jazz and Blues**

• When the word "swing" is in the tempo marking, the feels like a without the middle note of the triplet.



#### Practice step:

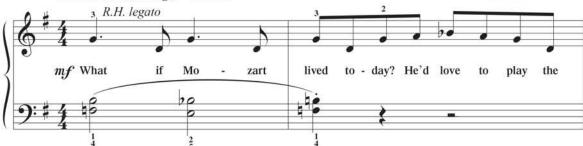
• Practice the L.H. ostinato patterns until easy.

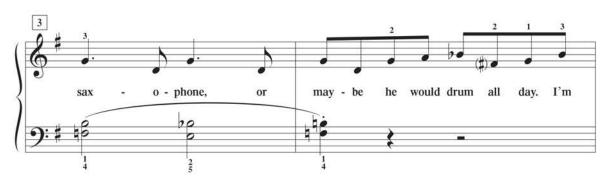


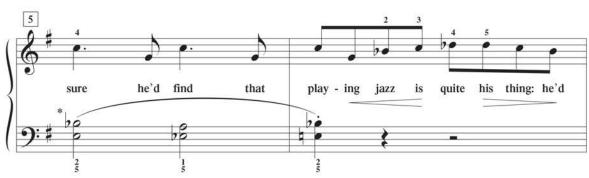
## A Little Jazzy Night Music

from Mozart's Eine kleine nachtmusik by Kevin Olson









\* Keep the upper notes (Bb-A-Bb) legato while releasing your 5th finger as you move.



FJH2071 2nd Edition, Succeeding at the Piano®, Lesson and Technique Book, Grade 3 A Little Jazzy NIght Music – page 41

#### **UNIT 8**



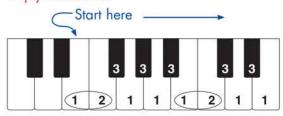


# Technique with Beethoven Playing the chromatic scale

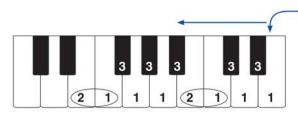
• The chromatic scale contains all of the half steps in an octave. Every key is used, black and white, one after the other.

Beethoven

1. Play the chromatic scale **slowly** going up in the R.H. Enjoy the sound!



- For every black key, use finger 3.
- For every two white keys in a row, use fingers "1 - 2" as you go up.
- 2. Now play the chromatic scale **slowly** going down in the L.H.



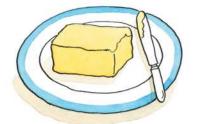


Start here

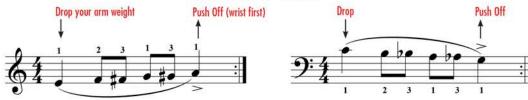
#### Beethoven says:

Memorize the fingering and play the scales going up and going down.

- 3. A chromatic scale can begin or end on any note.
  - When less than an octave scale is played, it is called a chromatic passage.
  - Play the following chromatic passages molto legato.











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#### **UNIT9**



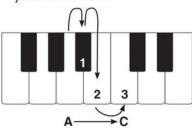


**Technique with Brahms** 

#### The Key of A Minor

- Every major scale has a relative minor scale that shares the same key signature. A minor is the relative minor of C major.
- There are three half steps between each major scale and its relative minor scale.

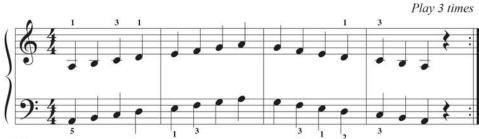
 To find the relative major, count three half steps up from A and you will find C.





## 2. Now play the A minor scale.

• Like C major, there are no #s or bs.





Brahms says: Play evenly and legato with flexible wrists.

## There are 3 forms of minor scales: NATURAL, HARMONIC, and MELODIC.

- a. The scale above is the NATURAL form, using the same notes as the C major scale.
- b. In the HARMONIC form, the 7th note is raised by one half step ascending and descending.



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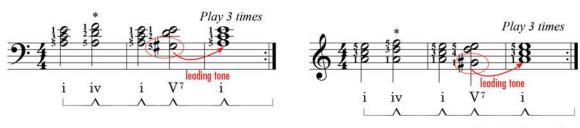
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c. In the MELODIC form, the 6th and 7th notes are raised one half step on the way up and lowered on the way down. The descending melodic minor scale is identical to the descending natural minor scale.

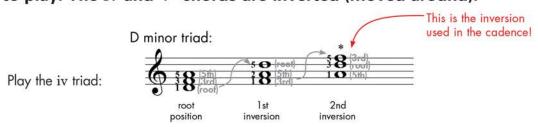


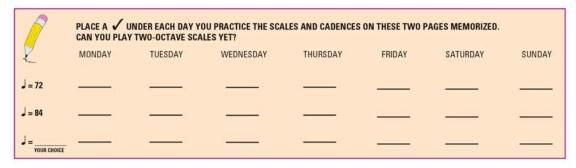
## 4. Playing an A minor cadence



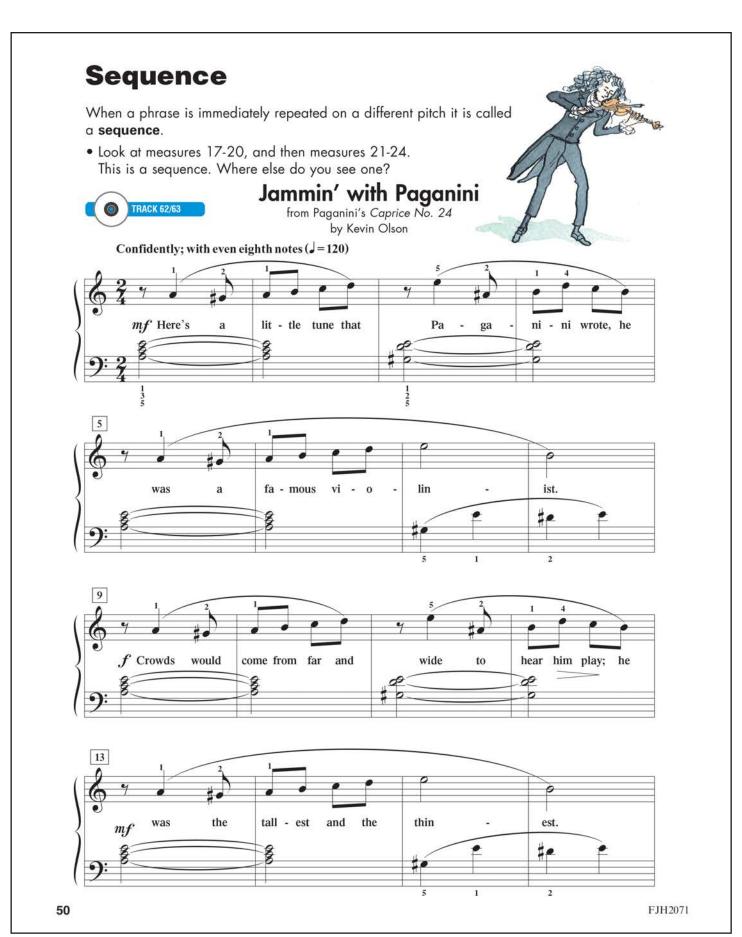
- Add pedal if you like!
- Notice that the HARMONIC form of the scale is used in the  $V^\tau$  chord, with the raised 7th (G#) note.
- The minor triads are the i and the iv. These are shown with small Roman numerals.

## 5. The minor cadence uses chord inversions to make it easier to play. The iv and V<sup>7</sup> chords are inverted (moved around).

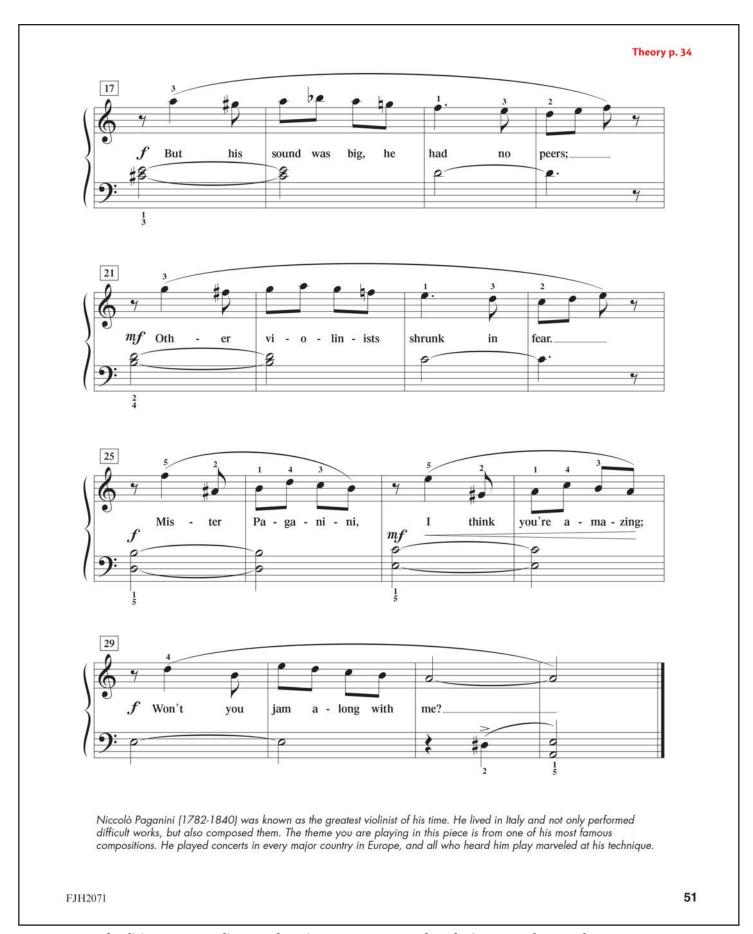




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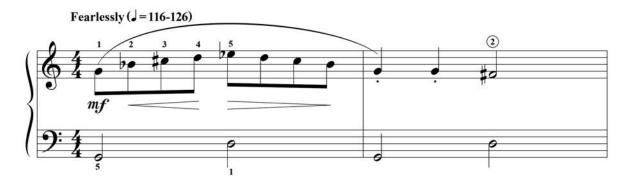
#### **Practice steps:**

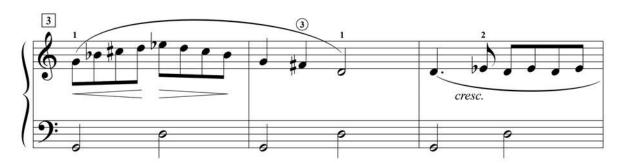
- Learn the ostinato pattern in the L.H.
- Where does it change?
- · Show your teacher the accidentals.

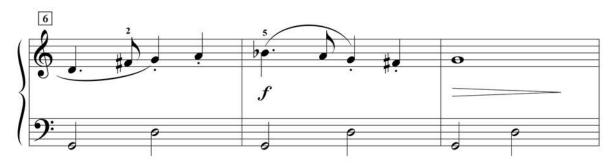




## The Sultan's Palace







A sultan is another word for emperor. The Sultans of the Ottoman Dynasty ruled from 1299-1922. Starting in 1453 the empire's capital was Constantinople, which is now Istanbul, Turkey.