

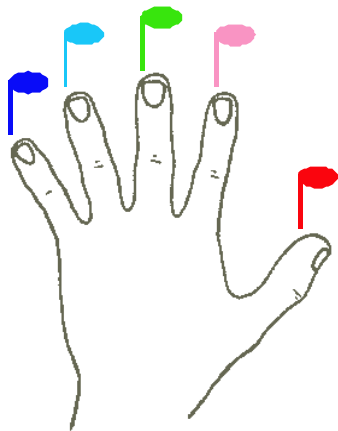
Playing
With
Colour
Taster Book



Created by Sharon Goodey

Playing With Colour

Taster Book



This booklet is not intended to be used as a beginners tutor book. It has been designed to give new students the experience of learning to play a few tunes, before making the decision to continue with more formal tuition.



Created by Sharon Goodey
Playing With Colour Publications
www.playingwithcolour.co.uk

Cover design by Michael Coleman.

Finding Middle C

The black keys on the piano are divided into groups of two and three.

The middle white key of each group of two black keys is called D.

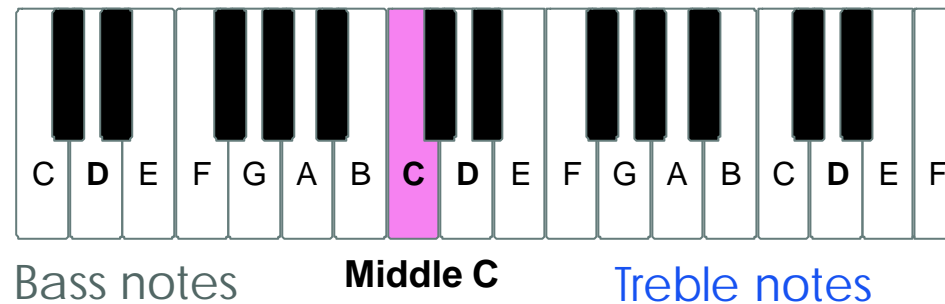
The key to the left of D is C.

Middle C is the C that is more or less in the centre of the keyboard.

Middle C is a special note because it divides the keyboard into two halves.

The notes to the right of Middle C are called TREBLE notes.

The notes to the left are called BASS notes.



Make sure you know how to find Middle C on your piano.

Now let's play!
 Begin by placing your right hand thumb on Middle C.
 Now place one finger on each of the following four notes.
 Keep your fingers curved and lift your wrist so that it supports your hand.
 Now follow the colours!


Rolling In The Snow

This kind of note is called a CROTCHET.

 It tells us to play WALKING notes.


Make sure your crotchet notes WALK along at a regular pace.
 Imagine each note is a footstep.

This kind of note is called a
MINIM

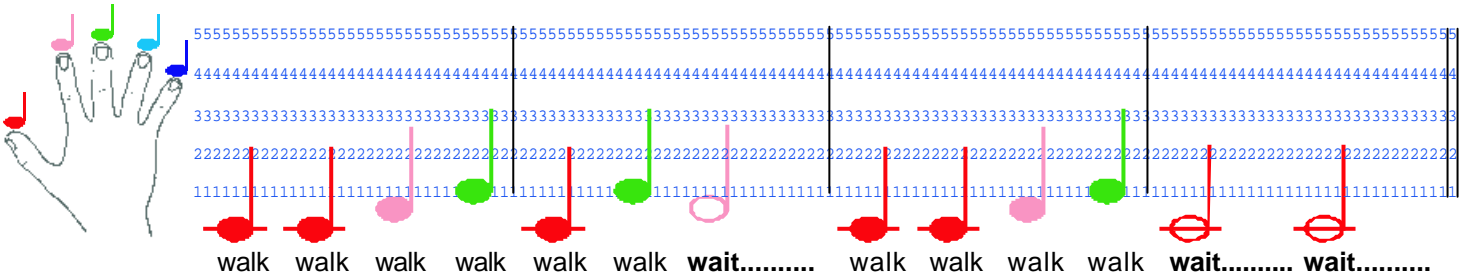


MINIMs are WAITING notes.
A MINIM lasts as long as
two CROTCHETS

A note with a line through it
tells you that you are playing
Middle C.



Yankee Doodle



walk walk walk walk wait..... walk walk walk walk wait..... wait.....

Brother Jack

A musical score for 'Brother Jack' featuring a hand diagram on the left with colored dots on the fingers (red on thumb, pink on index, green on middle, blue on ring, and light blue on pinky). The score consists of five staves: the top staff has a sequence of numbers (5s, 4s, 3s, 2s, 1s) corresponding to the fingers; the second staff contains rhythmic patterns of vertical lines; the third staff shows musical notes (red, pink, green, blue) with stems; the fourth staff contains more rhythmic patterns; and the fifth staff shows musical notes (green, blue) with stems. The piece is divided into three measures by vertical bar lines.

QUAVERS are JOGGING notes. They are played a little FASTER than CROTCHETS.

Three Blind Mice

A musical score for 'Three Blind Mice' featuring a hand diagram on the left with colored dots on the fingers (red on thumb, pink on index, green on middle, blue on ring, and light blue on pinky). The score consists of five staves: the top staff has a sequence of numbers (5s, 4s, 3s, 2s, 1s) corresponding to the fingers; the second staff contains rhythmic patterns of vertical lines; the third staff shows musical notes (green, pink, blue) with stems; the fourth staff contains more rhythmic patterns; and the fifth staff shows musical notes (blue, green) with stems. The piece is divided into three measures by vertical bar lines. Below the staves, the lyrics are: "walk walk wait..... walk walk wait..... walk jog-jog wait..... walk jog-jog wait.....".

Jingle Bells

This musical notation for "Jingle Bells" is presented on a five-line staff with letter-number equivalents (5-1-4-3-2-1) above and below the lines. The melody is written on the fourth line (G4) and the bass line on the first line (F3). The notes are colored to match the finger diagram on the left: pink for index, green for middle, blue for ring, and red for thumb. A semibreve note (whole note) is circled in green on the first line. A legend box on the right explains this note: "This kind of note is called a SEMIBREVE. It is held as long as 4 CROTCHETS." Below the legend is a diagram of a semibreve note.

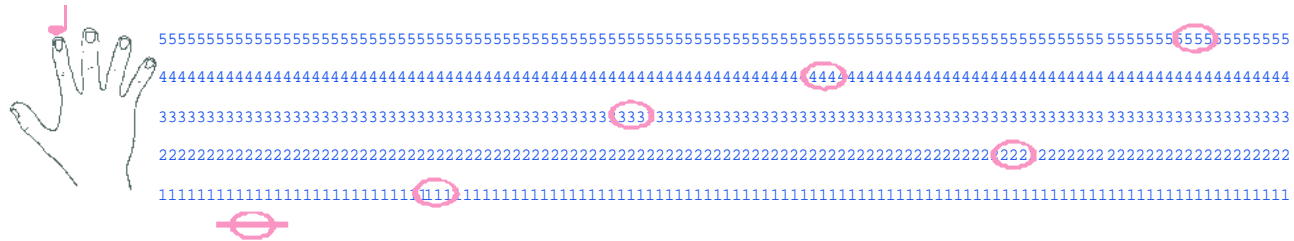
Oranges and Lemons

This musical notation for "Oranges and Lemons" uses the same five-line staff and letter-number equivalents as the previous piece. The melody is written on the fourth line (G4) and the bass line on the first line (F3). The notes are colored to match the finger diagram on the left: pink for index, green for middle, blue for ring, and red for thumb. A semibreve note is circled in red on the first line.

Good King Wenceslas

This musical notation for "Good King Wenceslas" uses the same five-line staff and letter-number equivalents. The melody is written on the fourth line (G4) and the bass line on the first line (F3). The notes are colored to match the finger diagram on the left: pink for index, green for middle, blue for ring, and red for thumb. A semibreve note is circled in red on the first line.

Find and play these TREBLE notes with one finger.



Now you know how to find each of these lines, find line 2, place your thumb on this note, then place one finger on each of the four following notes. Now follow the colours.

Happy Birthday To You



Notes are turned upside-down when they are written above line 3. This is only to make the music look tidy; it makes no difference to the way the note is played.



Playing With Colour



Playing With Colour is a series of three tutor books,
plus a supplementary Fun Book,
that take children through the first stages of learning to play the piano.
Book 1 introduces note reading in a simple way, using coloured notation.
Conventional notation is taught progressively throughout the three books.
By the end of Book 3 children have a
solid foundation in both playing and reading *without* colour.
For further information visit www.playingwithcolour.co.uk.