

## KEYBOARD COURSE



## CRAIGMARLOCH SCHOOL



## KEYBOARD COURSE

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This booklet will help get you started on the keyboard or tuned percussion instrument (e.g. xylophone or glockenspiel).

It introduces you to rhythm and ways to find notes, using figurenotes and standard musical notation.

All pieces are shown in figurenotes stage one, figurenotes stage two and standard notation.

The pieces gradually increase in their level of challenge and encourage you to play along with your left hand and a keyboard rhythm as soon as you can.

This booklet contains the following:

## Rhythm

Lines and Spaces
Semibreve Siesta
Minim Mix Up
Crotchet Cricket
Merrily we roll along

Hot Cross Buns
Au Claire De La Lune
We Will Rock You
Fast Forward
Ode to Joy
Largo from the New World
Symphony


Rhythm


This diagram shows how figurenotes and standard notation relate to each other.


The diagram below shows the different types of notes:

Semibreve $\mathbf{O}$



Lines


The notes on the lines can be remembered with the phrase
Every Good Boy Deserves Football


## Spaces



Spaces can be remembered by thinking of the word FACE.



Hint: Use the finger numbers to help you play it. 1 is your thumb, 2 is your pointer and 3 is your middle finger.

Count to 4 on each note. All the notes are 4 beat notes, which are called semibreves.

| C) | C |  |  |  | C) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |


| C) | E |  |  | D) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |



Here it is in Figurenotes, stage 2, with Left Hand chords added in:

s


|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |




And here it is in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm.



## Minim Mix Up

Hint: Use the finger numbers to help you play it. 1 is your thumb, 2 is your pointer and 3 is your middle finger.

Count to 2 on each note. All notes (except the last one) are two beat notes, which are called minims.


| $C$ | $C$ | $E$ | $E$ | $D$ | $D$ | $C$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |



Here it is in Figurenotes, stage 2, with the left hand chords added in:


And here it is in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm.

C

${ }_{5}{ }_{5}$ C
G
C



## Crotchet Cricket

Hint: Use the finger numbers to help you play it. 1 is your thumb, 2 is your pointer and 3 is your middle finger.

Some notes last for only one beat. These are called crotchets.

Watch out for different note lengths, as there are notes lasting 1 beat, 2 beat and 4 beats.

| $C$ | $C$ | $C$ | $C$ | $C$ | $C$ | $C$ | $D$ | $D$ | $D$ | $C$ | $C$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 |  |  | 2 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |




Here it is in Figurenotes, stage 2:


D (D) D (D)

And here it is in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm.



## Merrily we roll along

Hint: Use the finger numbers to help you play it. 1 is your thumb, 2 is your pointer and 3 is your middle finger.

This piece uses all three of the different notes you have used so far, plus all the different note lengths you have played.


Here it is in Figurenotes, stage 2, with the left hand chords added in:

G




And here it is in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm.

$=\frac{C}{5}$
G
C



Hot Cross Buns

Hint: Use the finger numbers to help you play it. 1 is your thumb, 2 is your pointer and 3 is your middle finger.

This piece uses all three of the different notes you have used so far, plus all the different note lengths you have played.

| (E) | D) | C |  | E | D) | C) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |


| (C) $C$ | $C$ | $C$ | $D$ | $D$ | $D$ | $D$ | $E$ |  | $(D)$ | $C$ |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 |  | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



Here it is in Figurenotes, stage 2, with the left hand chords added in:


And here it is in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm.



Here is Au Claire de La Lune in standard format.



|  |  |  | D D |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |




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Hint: This piece uses all 5 fingers of your right hand. 5 is your pinkie and 4 is your ring finger.


| $G$ | F | E (D)C | D) |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| F) | E |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4 | 3 | 2 |  |  |  |


| G | F (D) C | D) |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |



Here it is in Figurenotes, stage 2, with the left hand chords added in:


## ร <br>  <br> \%



And here it is in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm.




G

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |




Here is Ode To Joy in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm. The dot turns a 2 beat note (minim) into a 3 beat note (dotted minim).



New World Symphony - Dvorak

Hint: This piece uses several 3 beat notes, as well as all five fingers of your right hand.


| D) | E | G | E | D) |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 |  |  |  |  |


| (E) | G | G |  | E |  | D | C) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |


| (D) | E | D) | C | C |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |



Here it is in Figurenotes, stage 2:
${ }^{\alpha}$

\%


And here it is in standard format. Give the left hand (in boxes) a try with a rhythm. The dot turns a 2 beat note (minim) into a 3 beat note (dotted minim).


