

#### **BEFORE WE BEGIN**

Just in case you didn't read the Introductory ebook (PDF INTRO-Contents.pdf)

I would like to remind you of what you are going to discover in each book and how the Pianoforall process works.

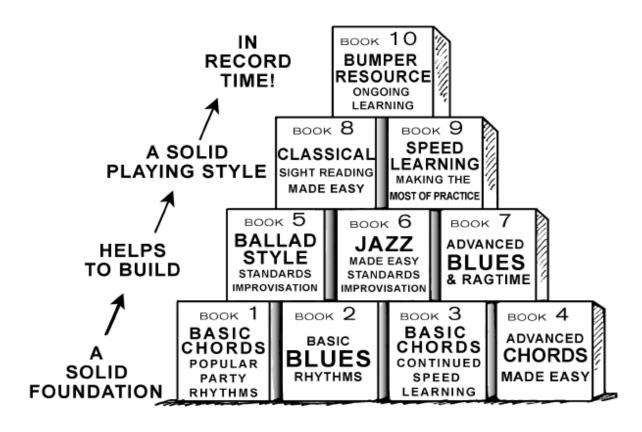
It is important that you know WHY you are playing each exercise or tune and where each step is leading you to...

#### The Pianoforall Process

Traditional piano instruction generally begins with Sight Reading (being taught to memorize other peoples musical compositions using musical notation) Unfortunately, this is an extremely laborious process and many accomplished 'sight readers' have no idea about how to play by ear or how the music they can sight read is constructed in the first place.

To do this they have to learn about chords and harmony.

Pianoforall works the other way round. You build a solid foundation using chords, 'real' sounding rhythms and grooves and then you BUILD on top of that and learn to play by ear and sight read along the way.



#### **BOOKS 1 TO 4 - LAY THE FOUNDATION**

The secret to learning piano in the shortest time possible is to start with CHORDS.

Even if you don't like to 'sing-a-long' with chords or you already have some knowledge of chords I still urge you to work through books 1 to 4.

There are some TERRIFIC party rhythms and the knowledge you gain will be invaluable. Pianoforall uses lots of memory tricks and formulas to speed up the learning process.

#### **BOOKS 5 to 10 - BUILD ON THAT FOUNDATION**

With the foundation laid the sky is the limit. Ballads, Jazz, Blues, Ragtime, Improvisation, composing melodies, Classical sight reading ALL become SO much easier when you have a solid foundation in chords, rhythm and basic harmony.

## You have to learn to walk before you can run..

The 10 Classic Rhythms you are about to learn are REAL rhythms

But because this is book 1 they are in their most BASIC form so that complete beginners can play them.

As you progress you will learn how to embellish these rhythms with extra little touches that will make them far more 'musical'

As your 'ear' develops you will also be able to add melody lines TO these rhythms.

But - you have to start somewhere.

Your mission in book one is to make even these BASIC chords and rhythms sing and swing!

If a rhythm sounds bland - figure out how to spice it up..
alter the beat slightly - vary the loudness put more of an accent on certain beats add in your own touches if you can - experiment

But above all - make SURE you know these chords and rhythms BEFORE you move on.

The 10 Rhythms in this book are the basic underlying rhythms used in nearly EVERY popular tune ever written

LEARN them well and they will serve you well..

#### NOTE!

#### Song Examples & Chord Progressions

In books 1 to 4 I have used various short chord progressions in the style of popular tunes as practice for the various Chords and Rhythms you are learning.

This helps you learn your Chords, Rhythms and Patterns in as interesting a way as possible

#### Keeping Pianoforall AFFORDABLE

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#### Downloading the FULL songs

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OR - type in "Download Sheet Music" into Google alon with the name of the song you are looking for

### OK, LET'S GET STARTED



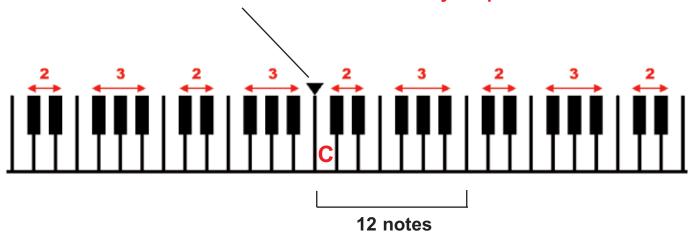
#### STEP 1

#### GETTING TO KNOW THE KEYBOARD

#### Notice how the pattern of the keys repeats itself.

See how there are two black keys then three black keys - then two again - then three and so on

**IMPORTANT!** The tiny black arrow in the keyboard diagrams always indicates MIDDLE C the C nearest the centre of your piano.



Each pattern contains the **SAME 12 notes** but at higher or lower pitches.

Think of Mickey Mouse singing a high C note and Pavarotti singing a low C note – same note but at different pitches.

#### THE WHITE KEYS

These notes are represented by the first seven letters of the alphabet ....

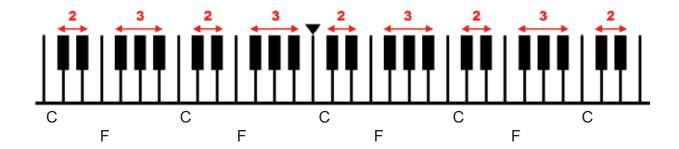
A, B, C, D, E, F and G repeated at different pitches.



It is important that you are able (eventually) to name ALL the white notes.

Use the pattern of the BLACK keys to help you.

For instance, notice that the C keys are the keys to the left of the '2' black keys or that the F keys are one key to left of the '3' black keys.



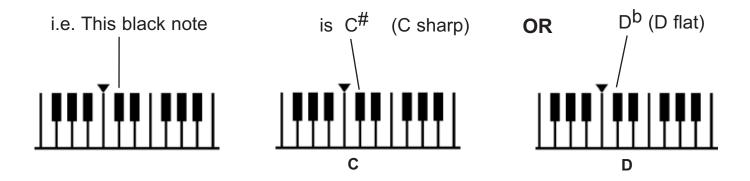
Using the black keys to guide you see if you can find the following notes and where they are repeated.

(G, B, A, D, C, E)

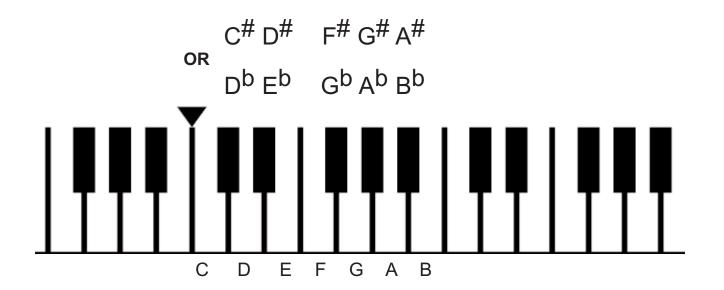
#### THE BLACK KEYS

The black keys are known as either SHARPS (#) or FLATS (b) (don't worry about WHY - just memorize it all for now)

They are named using the white key NEAREST to them on their left or right.



Can you see how the other black keys are named



**REMEMBER - DON'T ASK WHY - JUST ACCEPT IT FOR NOW** 

## The key to playing piano INSTANTLY CHORDS

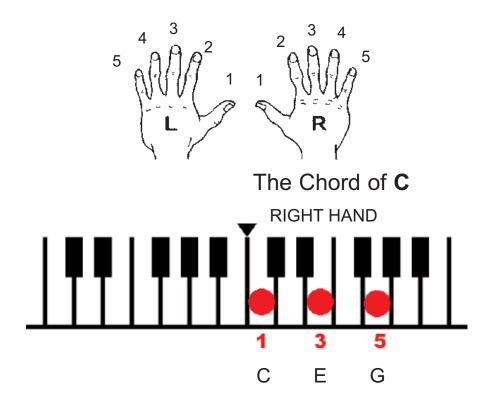
A chord is simply 3 or more (particular) notes that when played together make a 'FULL' sound.

If this full sound is played rhythmically and various chords are used in a certain sequence, a nice background sound can be created for melodies or lyrics (vocals).

Let's play a very basic chord - the chord of C

Use your right hand - **THUMB - MIDDLE FINGER - SMALL FINGER**This isn't easy to start with but TRY TRY TRY to use these fingers
It won't take long to get used to it

For all future fingering purposes number your fingers like this.



REMEMBER play all three notes **TOGETHER** - **AT THE SAME TIME**Play it over and over until your fingers get used to the shape.

#### A familiar tune using four VERY simple chords

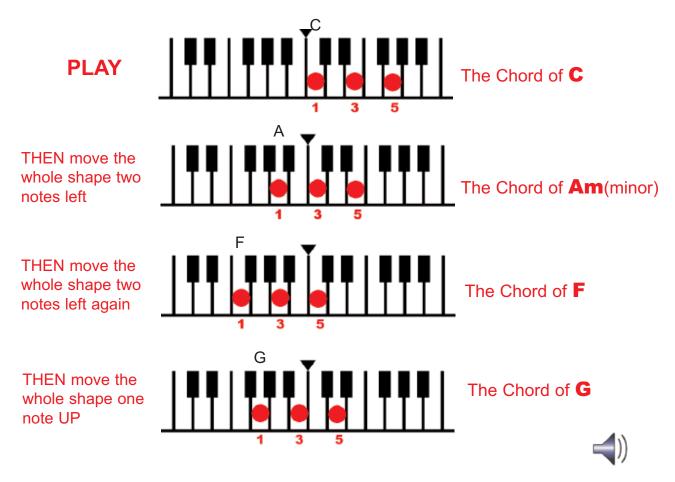
We're going to play a very familiar chord sequence using 4 simple chords.

(Don't worry about WHY a chord is the shape it is or why it is a 'major' or a 'minor' chord – just PLAY!.)

PLAY FIRST - ASK QUESTIONS LATER

The 4 chords are **C**, **A minor** (written Am), **F and G**.

(Remember play the three notes of each chord together - at the same time with your RIGHT HAND).



Play them over and over in a repeat pattern SLOWLY.

C, Am, F, G, C, Am, F, G etc . . . (you may recognize the sequence)

These chords are in what is known as 'ROOT' position, with the THUMB on the note that gives the chord its name – the ROOT note.

Don't give up if playing these chords hurts your hands. That's normal for a beginner and won't last forever.

And make sure you USE your 1st, 3rd and 5th fingers.

## LET'S MAKE IT MORE INTERESTING BY ADDING SOME NOTES IN THE LEFT HAND

### RHYTHM # 1 LEFT NOTE / RIGHT CHORD



#### RHYTHM 1 - Left note / Right chord

The left hand notes are the SAME note as the first note of the 'matching' right hand chord but played an octave LOWER (8 notes to the left)

Use ANY left hand finger (for now). **PLAY** LEFT HAND Then **RIGHT HAND** Then **LEFT HAND** Then **RIGHT HAND** Then **LEFT HAND** Then **RIGHT HAND** Then **LEFT HAND** Then **RIGHT HAND REPEAT** 

If you keep repeating this pattern you should recognize the sequence.

LOTS of songs use this exact rhythm and chord sequence

Play the sequence and see if you can sing along with the following songs

- BLUE MOON
- RED RED WINE
- ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF YOUR LIFE
- ALL I HAVE TO DO IS DREAM



### Remember

If you have NEVER played piano before even basic chords can be quite difficult.

Go easy on yourself

It takes a while for your mind to get used to the pattern of the keys

and it takes a while for your fingers to get used to the strange shapes you are putting them in

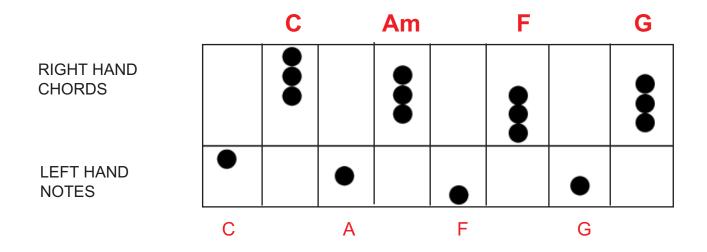
It will get easier the more you practice.

#### AN EASIER WAY TO WRITE IT ALL DOWN

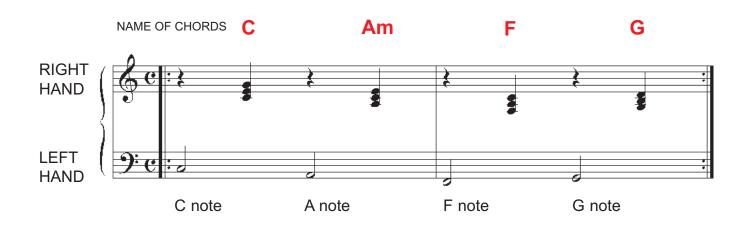
If I had to describe everything using keyboard diagrams this book would end up about 800 pages long! Let's look at an easier way ...

Imagine that the Left Hand single notes were represented by single dots and the Right Hand three-note Chords were represented by three vertical dots

The pattern you just played could be written in the following way...



This is very similar to how proper music notation works. Can you see the similarities?



**Notice the SHAPES & PATTERNS** 

Can you see how clever music notation is?

PROPER music notation is actually the EASIEST and most CONCISE way to describe musical ideas

So Ism going to teach you some very BASIC music notation

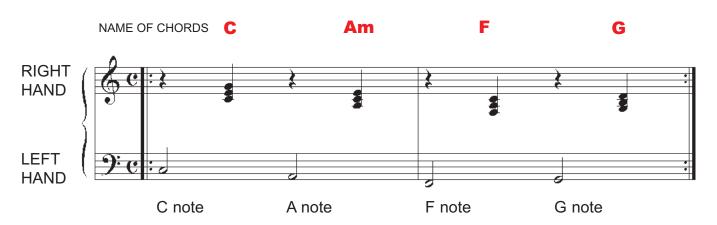
#### **BUT DON'T PANIC!**

#### At this stage

ALL you need to do is to see the music notation in terms of **SHAPES and PATTERNS** 

I will name the Left Hand notes and the Right Hand chords for you

#### Look at it again



# So... A little bit more BASIC music notation

Just FOUR pages

and then you'll be ready to start playing

#### **Basic Musical Notation**

So what do all the lines and symbols MEAN?

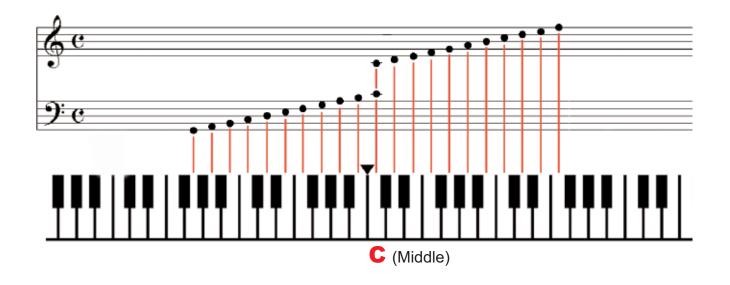


It's simple...

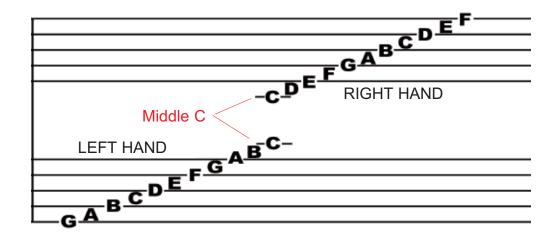
The **TOP** set of lines (and the spaces between them) represent keys to the RIGHT of middle C on your piano that are often played with the **RIGHT** HAND. (The symbol & )

The **BOTTOM** set of lines (and the spaces between them) represent keys to the LEFT of middle C that are often played with your **LEFT** HAND. (The symbol **9**: )

The two sets of lines are 'split' at MIDDLE C - which is indicated by a separate small line **either** below the Right Hand lines **or** above the Left Hand lines



Or look at it this way

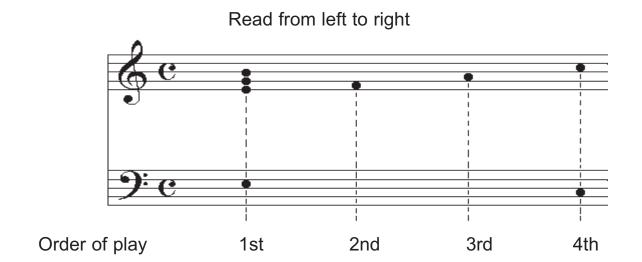


#### JUST LIKE READING A BOOK

We read music in the same way that we read the sentences of a novel – from the left of the page to the right.

Getting back to our 'dots' on the Lines and Spaces. As we scan from left to right we play those keys (notes) that the dots on the Lines and Spaces represent.

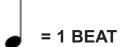
Should there be SEVERAL dots (notes) in the SAME VERTICAL PLANE we must play these keys SIMULTANEOUSLY.

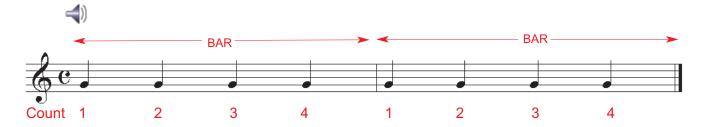


#### **BARS & BEATS**

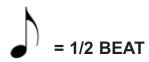
To make music easier to follow it is divided into segments called BARS. BARS are divided into BEATS.

The most commonly used rhythm is 4 BEATS in EACH BAR.





A beat with a 'hook' on it is a HALF BEAT. You could play up to 8 half beats in each bar.



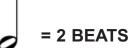
To make half beats easier to write out, if there are two, three or four in a row they are grouped together by joining the hooks of their tails.

So 8 HALF beats are written:



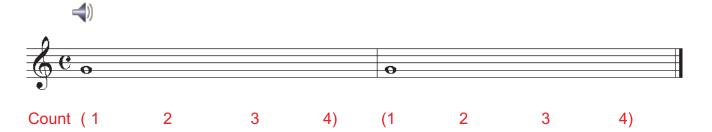
Notice that half beats are counted with the use of the word 'and' (or the symbol + ). This means we don't have to start counting out too many numbers.







Notes can be HELD for 4 beats (hold each note DOWN for 4 beats) **O** = 4 BEATS



Periods of silence are shown by symbols called RESTS.



#### MEMORISING THE LINES AND SPACES

I'm sure everyone has heard the phrase "Every Good Boy Deserves Football" and of course this is used to help memorise the lines of the Right Hand staff in musical notation.

This really IS the best way to do it. There is a special 'Note Finder' on the next page which you can print out but it is still best to use your memory.

Here are the usual tricks.. Check this on your NOTE FINDER on the next page

RIGHT HAND LINES Every Good Boy Deserves Football

RIGHT HAND SPACES FACE

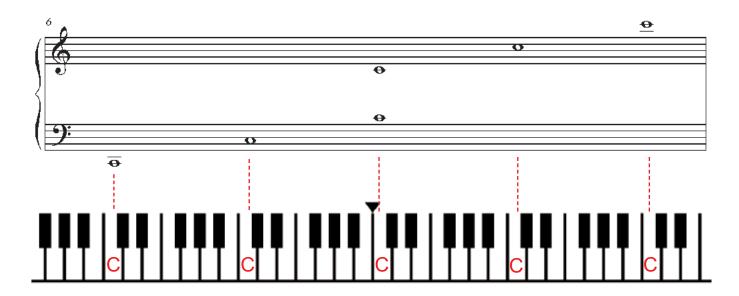
LEFT HAND LINES Good Boys Don't Frighten Animals

LEFT HAND SPACES A C E Garage

Then notice that the Lines and Spaces above and below the Right Hand lines have the same pattern. This is the same for the Left Hand.

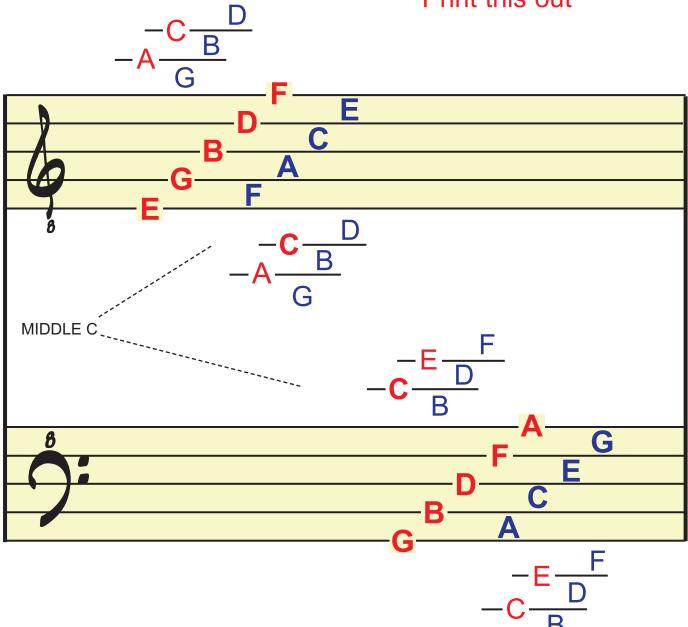
#### USE ALL THE C NOTES AS ROUGH GUIDES

To begin with, I will write in the names of the notes for you but you STILL have to know WHERE each note is. If you memorise the position of the C notes. this will help you 'get your bearings'.

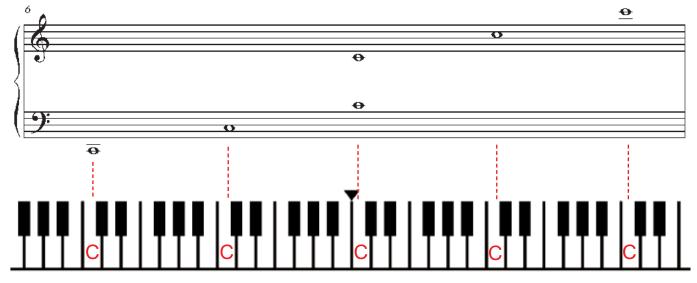


#### **NOTE FINDER**

#### Print this out







## Congratulations

You survived Basic Musical Notation

It wasn't THAT bad was it...

Now let's learn some more chords and start playing some PIANO!

#### LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO THE

## EASY-TO-PLAY ALL WHITE KEYS C FAMILY CHORDS



#### The Easy 'All White Keys' C Family Chords

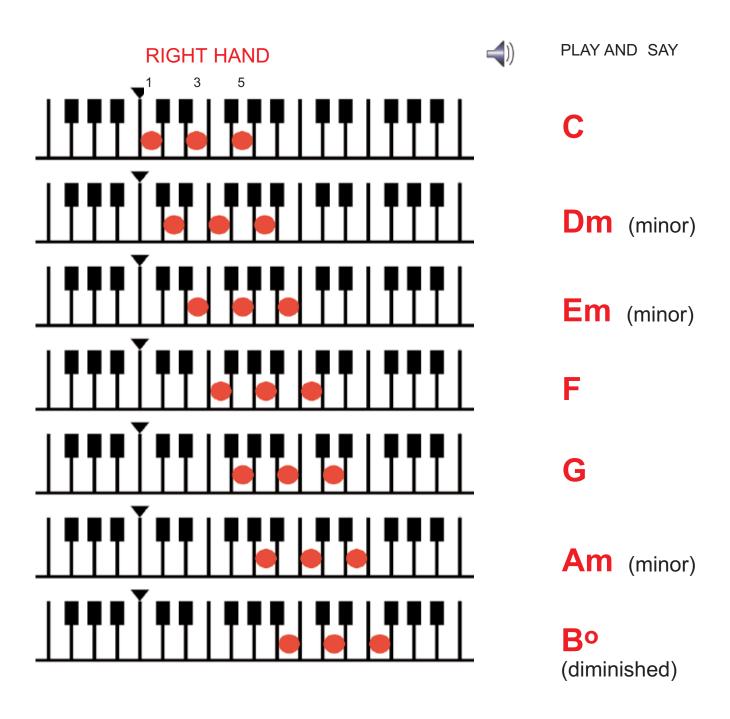
If you play the white notes from one C note to another (from LEFT to RIGHT) you will have played the scale of C (major)... C D E F G A B C

A chord can be built on each of these notes, giving you seven chords. Three are called major chords, three are minor chords and one is a 'diminished' chord.

#### DON'T WORRY WHY - JUST MEMORIZE!

Here are the chords.

(The major chords don't use any symbol for major, i.e. C Major is written simply as C)

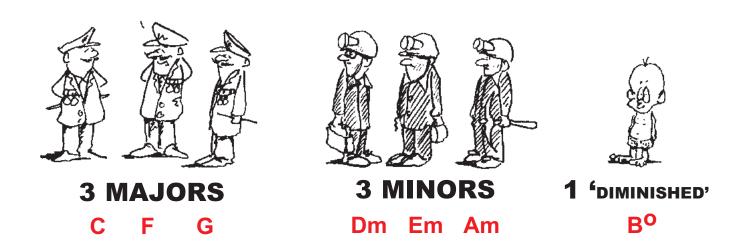


#### How to memorize the C Family Chords

It is really helpful to **memorize** all the chords you learn so that you can play them the instant you see them written in a song

The 7 chords in the C Family are really easy to remember

There are 3 MAJORS, 3 MINORS, and 1 'DIMINISHED'

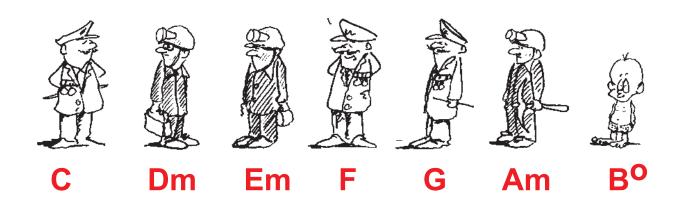


Use the word 'DEAD' to help you remember the 3 MINOR chords

Then remember that the **DIMINISHED** chord is the LAST one in the scale (the last born - the **baby** of the family)

Then the three that are left are the MAJORS (And the first chord - the HEAD of the Family is of course a MAJOR)

#### PLAY THEM AND SAY THEM...



## C FAMILY CHORDS TO USE



## RHYTHM # 2 STRAIGHT BEAT



#### **RHYTHM NUMBER 2**

#### Straight Beat Gospel Style



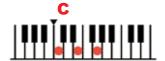
Remember the first chord sequence you played? C Am F G

First of all you played each chord once in the right hand (page 6). Then you played a left hand note followed by the right hand chord (page 8).

OK now let's try it another way

Play each chord TWICE - SLOWLY with your RIGHT hand So TWO beats for EACH chord C C Am Am F F G G

Along with the FIRST of the two beats play the ROOT note of the chord (the note that gives the chord its name) one or two octaves lower down the keyboard with the LEFT hand.

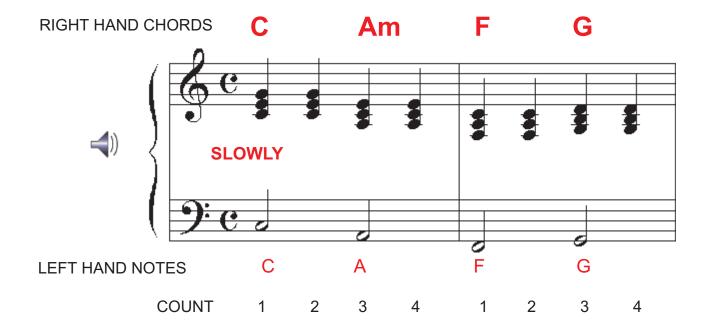








(note - these 3 chords are played below middle C)



Remember - this chord sequence is used in songs like

BLUE MOON, RED RED WINE, OH WON'T YOU STAY,

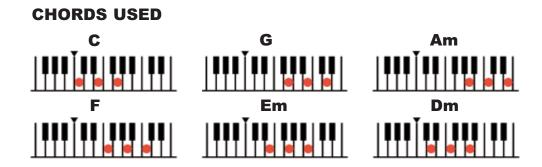
ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE and many more

#### Straight Beat Gospel Style

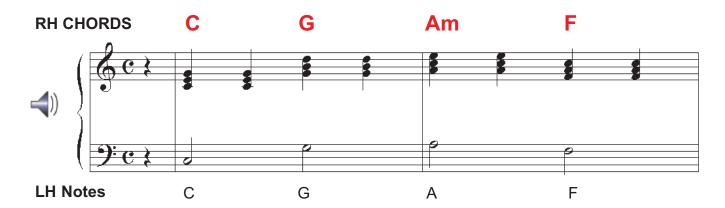


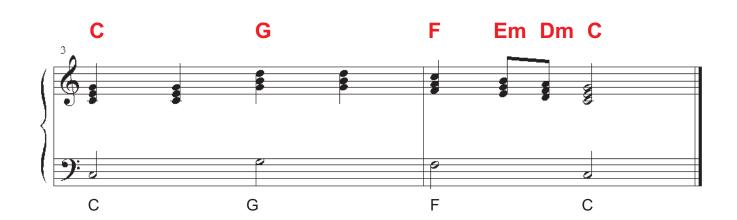


The following chord sequence is another very common progression used in many Gospel songs and in slow songs such as **Let it Be** 



#### **VERY VERY SLOWLY**





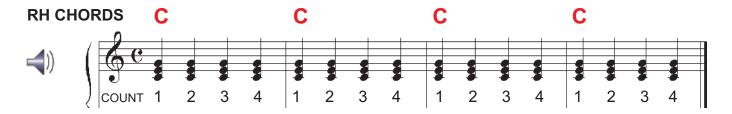
## RHYTHM # 3 OOM PAH



#### **RHYTHM NUMBER 3**

#### 'Oom Pah'

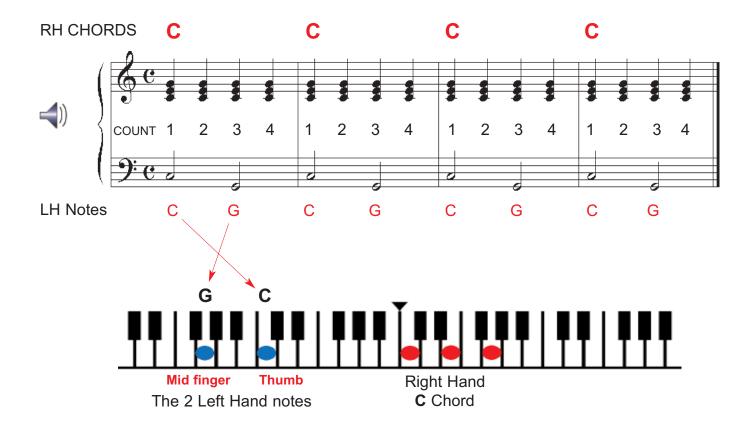
practice playing a right hand C chord (at Middle C) at a steady 4 BEATS per bar.



Now see if you can add in a two note pattern in the left hand

Notice that the left hand pattern uses two notes that are in the Right Hand chord ie The 3 notes in the Right Hand chord are **C E G** The Left Hand pattern uses the notes **C** and **G** as well but in 'reverse'

Be careful NOT to play too many beats in the left hand! EACH left hand note is HELD for two right hand beats



Now see if you can transpose this rhythmic pattern to the chords you played for BLUE MOON C, Am, F and G

#### **Oom Pah Rhythm**

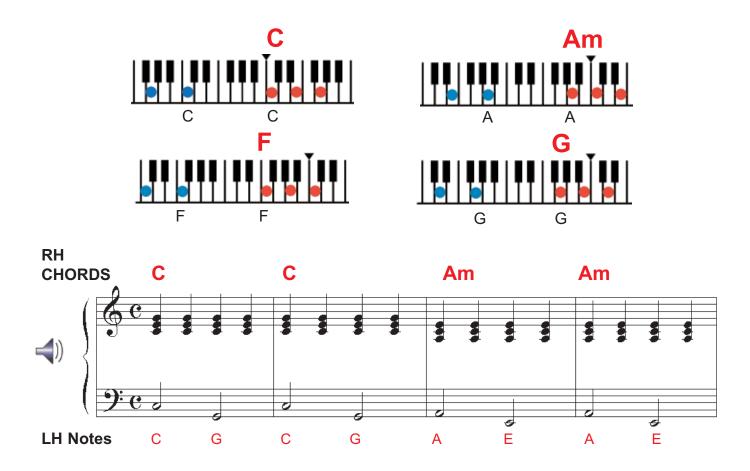
#### **Practice Progression**

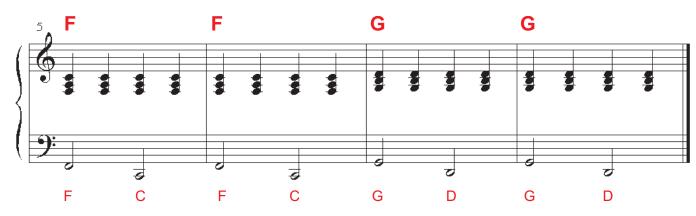


All you need to do is transpose the Oom-Pah Rhythm you just learned for the chord of C to the other chords in the sequence C, Am, F, G

Each pattern will **FEEL** the same... Note that Am, F and G are all played BELOW middle C

This common progression is used in dozens of upbeat songs such as **Octopus's Garden** 





# MORE 'OOM PAH' PRACTICE USING THE C FAMILY CHORDS



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OR - type in "Download Sheet Music" into Google alon with the name of the song you are looking for

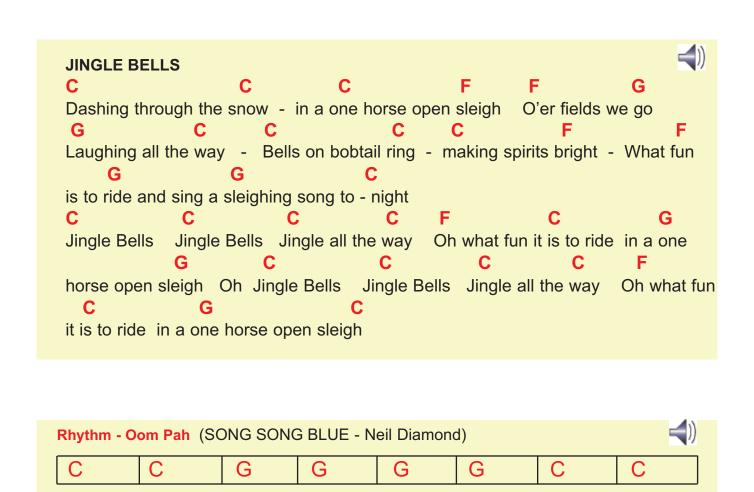
#### **OOM PAH RHYTHM** PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS

OH WHEN T	HE SAINTS	;						<b>(</b> ))
	C	C	C	C		C	G	G
Oh When the	e Saints - 🤉	go marchin in	Oh	when the Sain	ts go	mar - chin	in	
С	С	F F		C		G	С	
I wanna be	- in that	num - ber	Oh w	hen the saints	go	marc - hin	in	

С	C	Am	Am		
s I was going	over the K	ilmagenny	mountain		
F	F	C		C	
met with capta	ain Farrell	and his mo	ney he was	counting.	
C	C	Am		Am	
first produced	my pistol,	and then p	roduced my	rapier.	
F	F	С	C	_	
Said stand and	deliver, fo	r I am a bo	ld deceiver,		
G		G			
nusha ring dur	nma do da	mma da			
	F				
	daddy 'ol				
whack for the	•				
whack for the	F				
	F daddy 'ol				
	F daddy 'ol G C				

C	C	С	C		
Froggie went	a courtin' he did rid	de uh huh			
C	C	G	G		
Froggie went	a courtin' he did rid	de uh huh			
C	С	F		F	
Froggie went	a courtin' he did rid	de - with a sw	ord and a	pistol by his side	
C	G	С			
Froggie went	a courtin' he did rid	de uh huh			

#### **OOM PAH RHYTHM** PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS



Rhythm - Oom Pah (KING O' THE ROAD)									
С	F	G	С	С	F	G	G		
Repeat									

Rhythm - Oom Pah (IN THE SUMMERTIME - Mungo Jerry / 12 bar blues)								
С	С	С	С	F	F			
С	С	G	F	С	С			
	•	<u>'</u>	•	•	•			

e above progressions are for improvisational purposes only. You can purchase sheetmusic (and view the first page for free) at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com or www.musicroom.com

# AN IMPRESSIVE 'BROKEN CHORD' BALLAD THAT USES ALL THE BASIC

#### C FAMILY CHORDS



#### The amazing BROKEN CHORD BALLAD

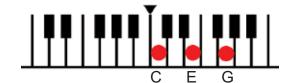
#### Part 1



This tune is SO easy yet it sounds really fancy and complicated! Everyone will be VERY impressed!

Once you learn the sequence using ONE chord it's really easy to play the rest of the tune.

Think FIRST of all about the **chord of C** In your **RIGHT HAND** 



Now instead of playing the three notes at the SAME time play them **ONE AT A TIME** starting with C

So play the **C** note with your **THUMB**Then play the **E** note with your **MIDDLE** finger then play the **G** note with your **WEE** finger

This is called a 'BROKEN CHORD' and here's how it looks in Music Notation



OK...so far so good!

Now try playing the SAME thing but with your LEFT HAND

So play the **C** note with your **WEE** finger (Left Hand)
Then play the **E** note with your **MIDDLE** finger (Left Hand)
then play the **G** note with your **THUMB** (Left Hand)



Great - now go to Part 2

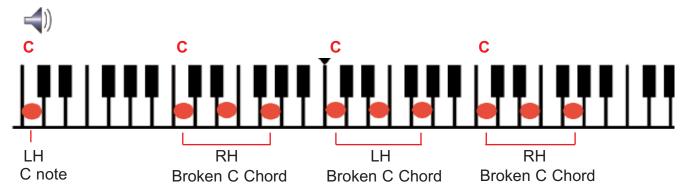
#### Part 2

Hopefully you can now play the chord of C as a BROKEN CHORD in both hands

Now for the exciting part

You're going to make a SWEEPING 'melody line' using broken chords

- Play a SINGLE C note two octaves (16 keys) to the left of middle C in your LEFT HAND (any finger)
- 2. Then play a broken C chord one octave (8 keys) up from that note in your RIGHT HAND
- **3.** Then lift your LEFT HAND **over** your right and play a broken C chord another octave up in your LEFT HAND
- **4.** Finally sweep your right hand **under** the left and play a broken C chord another octave up in your RIGHT HAND



Keep the SUSTAIN pedal down throughout

Now see if you can play the same pattern but THIS time use the chord of F Start off with an F note (LEFT HAND) low down the keyboard

**GET THE IDEA?** 

To play the entire tune use the pattern with the following chord sequence

O, F, BO, Em, Am, Dm, G, C

(End the tune on an 'extra' single C note)

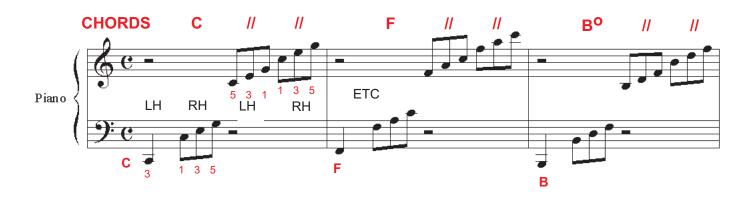
The next page will show you what it looks like in Music Notation

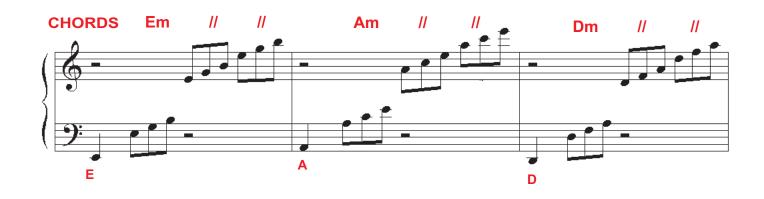
### The amazing BROKEN CHORD BALLAD

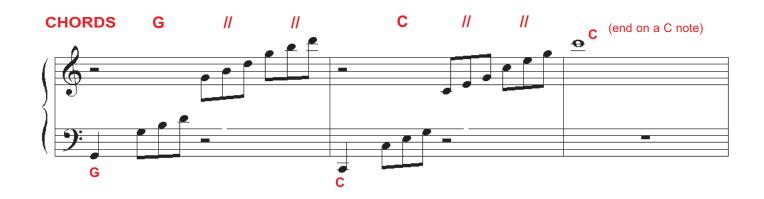
#### In Musical Notation



Keep the sustain pedal down throughout **EACH** bar







# MORE CHORDS MORE SONGS



#### **MORE CHORDS - MORE SONGS**

The C family chords may be very easy to play but unfortunately there aren't an awful lot of songs that JUST use these chords.

Eventually you'll need to know all the chords so that you will be able to play ANY tune.

But don't panic...

You can learn them in easy stages

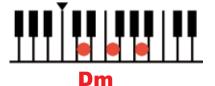
Let's learn another four chords

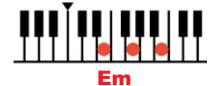
D, E, A and B<sup>b</sup>

### D, E, A

You can easily form the four new chords using four chords you ALREADY know

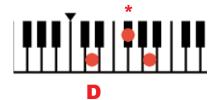
FIRST play the 3 minor chords you know - Dm, Em and Am







Then, transform each of these chords into D, E and A by simply moving your **MIDDLE** finger **up** onto the black notes as follows







The 3 new chords D, E, and A are 'major' chords Notice the difference between the SOUNDS of the minor and the major

MINOR is SAD - MAJOR is BRIGHTER, happier



#### **CHORD TRICK**

Notice that to turn the MINOR chords to MAJOR chords you raised the middle note (the 3rd) up one note

Obviously this also works in reverse - you could turn a MAJOR chord to a MINOR by simply lowering the middle note (the 3rd) by one note

Try this with the chords of C, F and G

MINOR is DOWN (3rd to the left) - MAJOR is UP (3rd to the right)

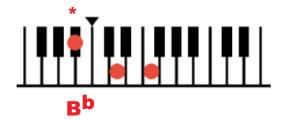


Now it's time to make the new chord of B<sup>b</sup> (B flat)

First play the chord you already know - B<sup>O</sup> (B diminished) Remember it's the last in the C Family (play it BELOW middle C)



Then, transform this chord into  $\mathsf{B}^b$  by simply moving your **THUMB** down onto the black note ( $\mathsf{B}^b$  key) as follows



 $\mathsf{B}^\mathsf{b}$  is used MUCH more frequently than  $\mathsf{B}^\mathsf{o}$ 

#### You now know 11 chords!

#### PLAY them and SAY them

The all WHITE KEYS C Family chords

"C, Dm, Em, F, G, Am, Bo"

and the four new chords

D, E, A and B

black key in middle Thumb on black key

# LET'S PUT THE CHORDS D, E, A & Bb TO USE



#### PROGRESSIONS that use D, E, A and Bb

#### Rhythm - Left note / Right chord (HIT THE ROAD JACK)



Dm	С	Bb	Α		
----	---	----	---	--	--

All chords near to middle C - keep repeating the sequence.

#### Rhythm - Oom Pah (BYE BYE LOVE - Simon & Garfunkel)



D	D	Α	Α	D	D	Α	Α
D	D	G	G	Α	Α	Α	Α
D	D						

#### Rhythm - Oom Pah (SHOW ME THE WAY TO GO HOME)



D D G D D E A
---------------

#### Rhythm - Straight Beats (YOUR MOTHER SHOULD KNOW - Beatles)



Am	F	Α	Dm	G	С
Α	D	G	С	Е	

#### Rhythm - Oom Pah (DOE, A DEER - Sound of Music)



С	С	G	G	С	С	F	F
С	F	D	G	Е	Am	F G	С

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#### PROGRESSIONS that use D, E, A and Bb

Rhythm - Oom Pah (IN THE SUMMERTIME - Mungo Jerry / 12 BAR BLUES ) A A Α D D A A D A Α Rhythm - Oom Pah (YELLOW SUBMARINE - Beatles) Keep repeating D Am D Rhythm - Oom Pah (BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS OF VIRGINIA -Laurel & Hardy) G G A D Rhythm - Left note / Right chord (FEELING GROOVY - Simon & Garfunkel) Keep repeating D Em D

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## 7EVENTH HEAVEN



#### **7EVENTH HEAVEN**

If you look at most song books you will see a LOT of chords with the number 7,

i.e. Cmaj7 (C major 7), C7, G7, Dm7, etc.

It is IMPORTANT to know how to form seventh chords because they help make rhythm piano sound much more interesting.



There are TWO types of seventh chords: maj7 and 7

**maj7** is pronounced "major 7" (and is also written as M7)

7 is pronounced "seven"

These two sevenths – maj7 and 7 – can be added to ALL chords.

i.e. C could become Cmaj7 or C7

F could become Fmaj7 or F7

Dm could become Dm7

Am could become Am7

Let's look at a REALLY easy way to make

ALL the seventh chords using

just 2 easy formulas!

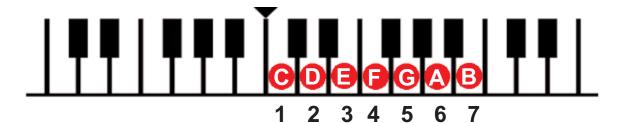
#### FIRST - WHAT ON EARTH IS A 'SEVENTH' ANYWAY?

You don't really need to know the reasoning behind sevenths in order to use them but for all you information junkies out there, here's a quick explanation.

Chords are built on SCALES

Chord NOTE NUMBERS (ie '1', '3', '5', '7') are derived FROM these scales

For instance - this is a C MAJOR scale



The chord of C

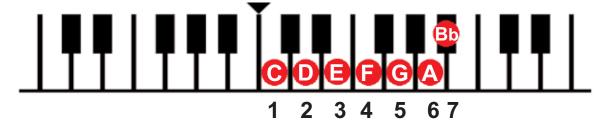
uses 1 3 5 - C E G

The chord of Cmaj7

uses 1 3 5 7

CEGB

This is a C7 scale



The chord of C7

uses 1 3 5 7 - C E G Bb

#### DON'T PANIC

I have a really EASY way to form sevenths as you'll see on the next page

Instead of adding the seventh on TOP of the chord you are going to add it BELOW the chord. This is MUCH easier to do to begin with.

#### SEVENTH CHORDS MADE EASY

#### just 2 easy formulas!

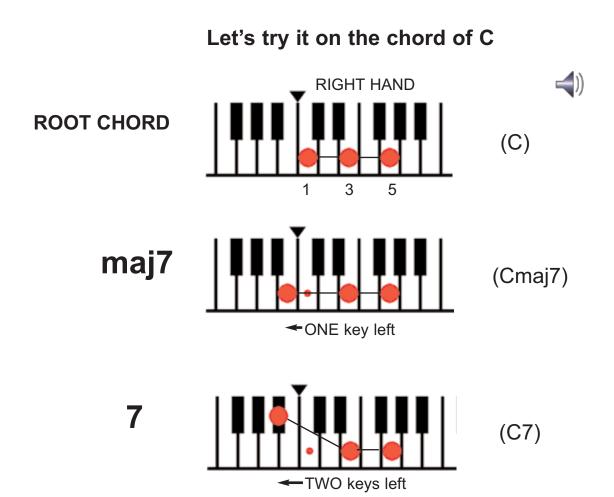
maj7

To make a M7 chord, play a 'root position' chord (with your right hand) then move the root note – your **THUMB** – **ONE** key to the left (count the black keys).

7

To make a 7 chord, play a 'root position' chord (with your right hand) then move the root note – your **THUMB** - **TWO** keys to the left (count the black keys).

NB. Don't alter LEFT HAND notes or patterns!



Practise using these two formulas on all the other chords you've learned

# LET'S PUT SEVENTH CHORDS TO USE WITH A NEW RHYTHM

### RHYTHM # 4 SPLIT CHORD



#### SPLIT CHORD RHYTHM

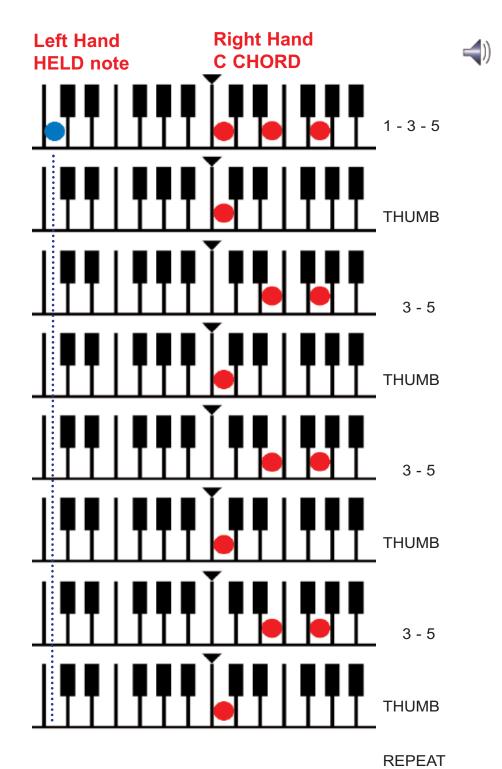


This rhythm is created by SPLITTING the **RIGHT** hand chord up between your THUMB and (3rd and 5th fingers)

Play the WHOLE chord first - then the THUMB only then the 3rd & 5th fingers TOGETHER - then the thumb again - and so on

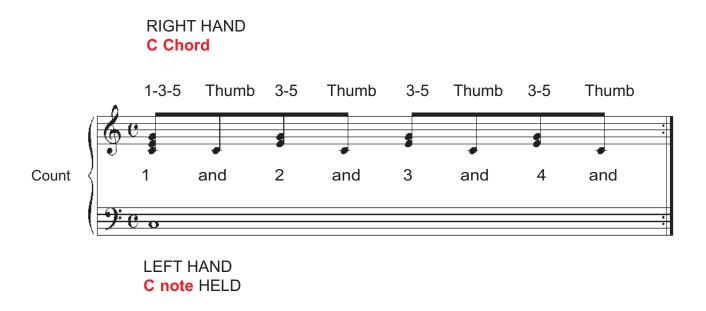
Your LEFT hand plays the single chord note (one octave left) and holds it

Try it with a **C** chord



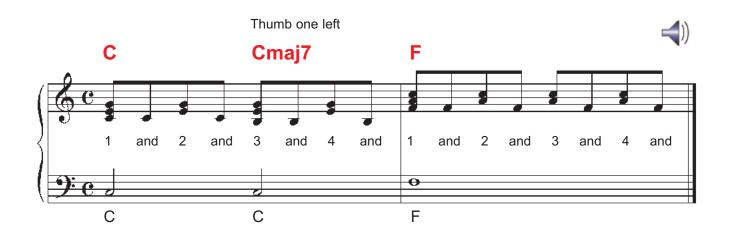
#### Here's what it looks like in MUSICAL NOTATION

#### Remember - look at the SHAPES and PATTERNS



## Now we can add in some sevenths and create some great sounds

Try the following 2 bar changes that has been used at the start of countless songs like **IMAGINE** by John Lennon



#### SPLIT CHORD & SEVENTHS PRACTICE

Rhythm - S	plit Chord	(AMAZING	GRACE)					(
G	G7	С	G	G	G7	D	D7	
G	G7	С	G	G	D7	Am	G	
Rhythm - (1	fast) Split Ch	ord (WE\	WISH YOU A	A MERRY CH	HRISTMAS)			(
С	F	D	G	Е	Am	F G	С	
Am	G	D	G	С	G	F G	С	
Rhythm - Split Chord (SOMETHING - Beatles)								(1)
G		Gmaj7	Gmaj7 G7 C					
								40
Rhythm -	Split Chord	(STREE	rs of Lon	IDON - Ralp	oh McTell)			= 1)
С	G	Am	Em					
				•				
								4.5
Rhythm -	Split Chord	(IMAGIN	E - Beatles	)				(
С	Cmaj7	F		Repeat				
	Split Chord	(ALL I HA	VE TO DO	IS DREAM -	- Everly Bro	thers)		<b>(</b> )

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# RHYTHM # 5 HALF BEAT BOUNCE



#### HALF BEAT BOUNCE RHYTHM

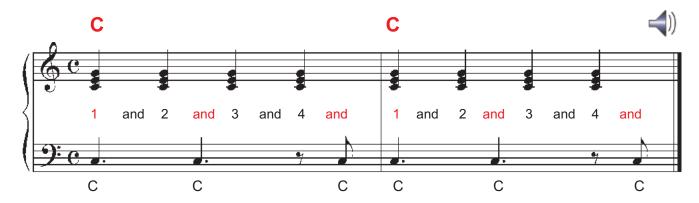


This rhythm is mostly used for SLOW songs

The RIGHT hand plays a steady 4 beats per bar

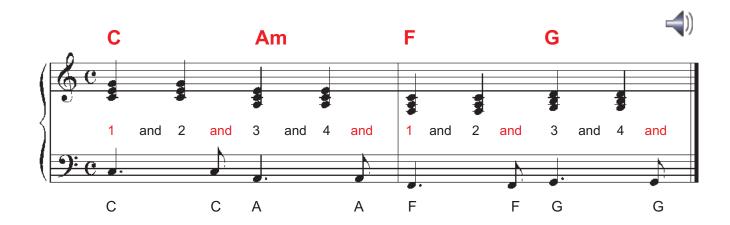
The **LEFT** hand is played on the FIRST beat of EACH bar (OR chord change) AND on a 'half beat' which is played AFTER every 2nd and 4th beats

Try it first with just a C chord - keep repeating it until you get the rhythm



Now try it with the chord changes for 'Blue Moon' etc

Remember to play the LEFT hand on the FIRST beat of each chord change



#### HALF BEAT BOUNCE practice PROGRESSIONS

#### **Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce** (AULD LANG SANG) F G C **C7** C C Am Dm Am Dm F F C C Dm C **C7** G G Am Ε C F C G Am Dm

Rhythn	n - Half	Beat E	Bounce	(SWIN	NG LOW	SWEE	ET CHAR	IOT)			((
G	G7	С	G	G	G7	D	D7	G	G7	С	G
Em	D7	G									

Rhythm - Half	Beat Bounce	(RAINDROPS KEEP FALLIN' ON MY HEAD)						
С	Cmaj7	C7	F	Em	Α	Em	Α	
Dm	Dm7	G						

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (DON'T IT MAKE MY BROWN EYES BLUE)											((
С	Am	Dm	G	С	Am	Bdim	Е	Am	С	D	D
F	Em	F	G								
											_

Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (TUPELO HONEY - Van Morrison)											<b>(</b> )	
	F	Am	Bb	F	F	Am	Bb	С	F	Am	Bb	F
	F	Am	Bb	F								

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#### HALF BEAT BOUNCE practice PROGRESSIONS



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### RHYTHM # 6 TWIST

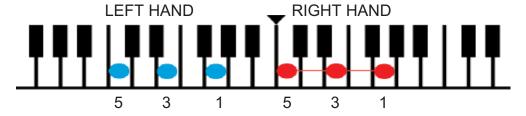


#### TWIST RHYTHM

This rhythm uses a 3-note pattern in the LEFT hand, but DON'T PANIC, the 3 LEFT hand notes always MATCH the 3 notes of the RIGHT hand

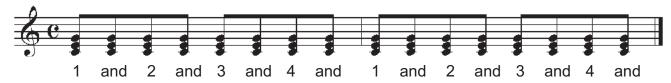
Locate these LEFT and RIGHT hand C CHORDS





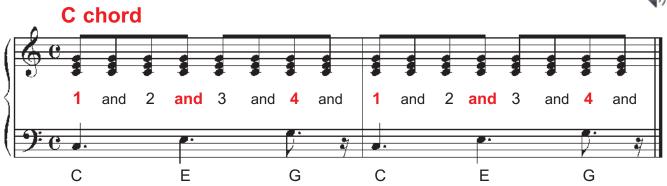
Now beat out a FAST - EIGHT 1/2 BEATS per bar with the RIGHT hand





Now add the LEFT hand notes on these beats





To help you know when to bring in the LEFT hand notes 'say' the BEATS out loud where the left hand notes come in.

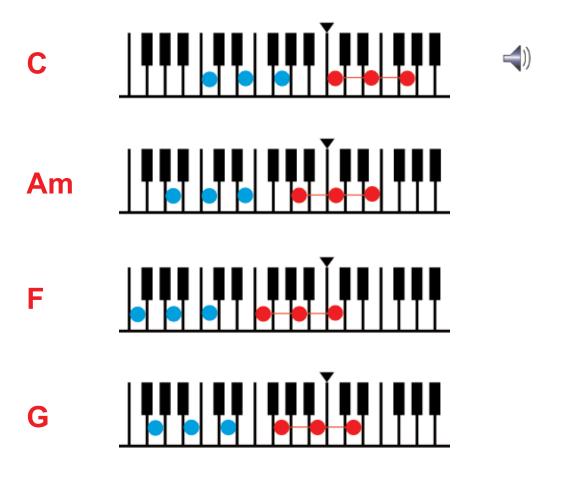
ie "ONE and two AND three and FOUR and ONE and two AND three and FOUR and"

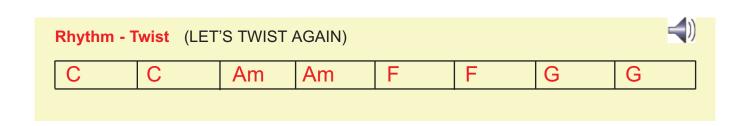
It is also good practise to tap this rhythm out with both hands on the table - this way you'll get used to is as PURE rhythm and the notes won't distract you

Now let's play some tunes using this rhythm

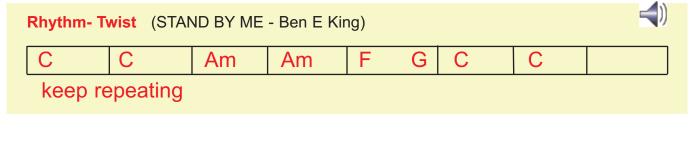
#### A TYPICAL PROGRESSION

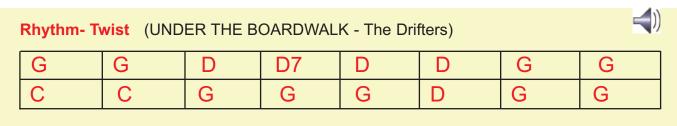
Transpose the rhythm you just learned using the chord of C to the chords of Am, F and G and then play the progression in the style of LET'S TWIST AGAIN (see how many songs use this chord progression!)

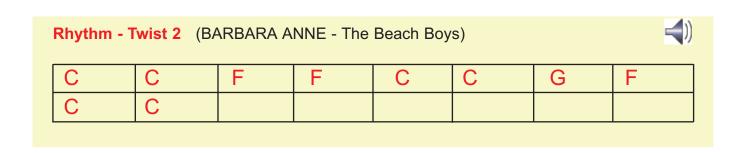




#### TWIST RHYTHM PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS







Rhythm- Twist (ONLY THE LONELY - Roy Orbison)										
G	G	G	Am	Am	D	D	D7			
G	G									
		•								

C7
С

<sup>\*</sup>The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
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## Bringing some life to your LEFT hand!



'SLASH' chords and BASS RUNS

#### **SLASH CHORDS**



Very often you will see chord symbols written like this

Both these indicate that you are to play (in THIS case) an F CHORD in the RIGHT hand and a G NOTE in the left hand (at the SAME time)

OR 
$$F = RH CHORD$$
G LH NOTE

It helps if you say what it means out loud

For instance, if you see F/G say..."F OVER G" (Right Hand being Top of piano and Left Hand the bottom)

#### So what are they all about?

Very often slash chords indicate that the left hand is going to play a BASS RUN which will lead to the next chord. Imagine you are playing the part of the BASS player

Try it out and you'll see for yourself how much interest slash chords and bass runs ADD to your piano playing.

#### **SLASH CHORD PRACTICE**

Try the following chord sequence which uses a 'SLASH CHORD' bass line

CHORDS USED F G



Α

С

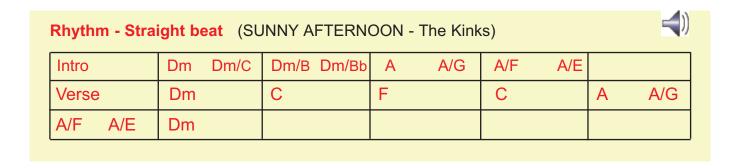
В

G

#### SLASH CHORDS PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS

## Rhythm - Split Chord (FREEBIRD - Lynyrd Skynyrd) G D/F# Em Em/D F C D D7 Repeat

Rhythm - Split Chord (WHITER SHADE OF PALE - Procul Harum)												
C C/B C/A C/G F F/E F/D F/C G G/F G/E G/D								G/D				
	etc											



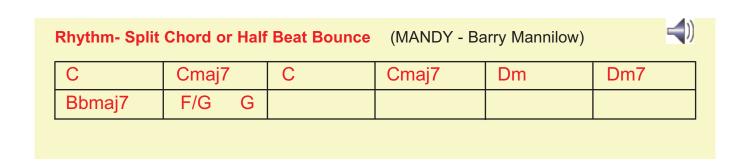


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#### SLASH CHORDS PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS

# Rhythm - Half Beat Bounce (DON'T LOOK BACK IN ANGER - Oasis) Verse C G/B Am C/G F G C

Rhythm - Half	Beat	Bounce	(MINI	O GAME	S - Jol	nn Lenno	nn)	<b>(</b> )
verse	С	G/B	Am	C/G	F	С	D	



Rhythm - Half	Beat Bounce	(HELLO - Lior	nel Richie)		<b>(</b> ))
Em	Em/D	Em/C	Em/D	Repeat	
	•				

<sup>\*</sup>The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
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## RHYTHM # 7 3 BEAT BOUNCE



#### **3 BEAT BOUNCE RHYTHM**

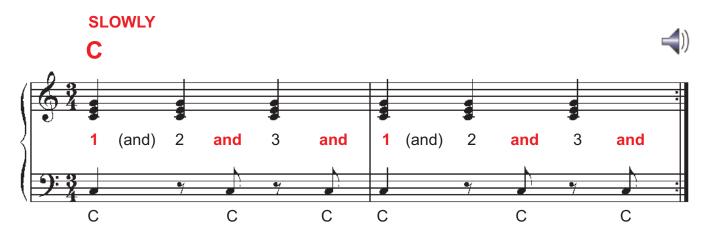
This rhythm is used for songs that were written in 3/4 time (3 beats per bar)

The **RIGHT** hand plays a steady 3 beats per bar Think of a Waltz - "**one**, two, three, **one**, two, three......"

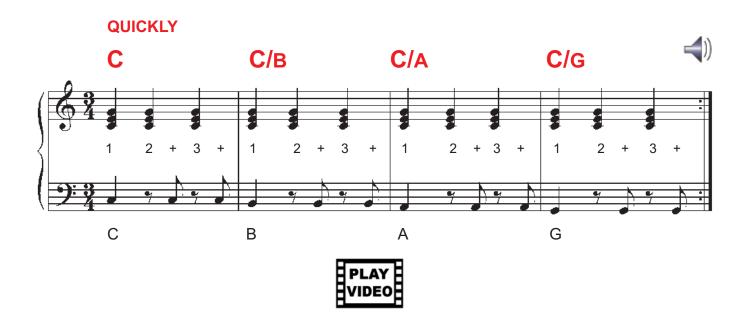
The **LEFT** hand is played on the FIRST beat of EACH bar (OR chord change) AND on a 'half beat' which is played AFTER every 2nd and 3rd beats

Try it with the chord of C

Keep repeating it until you get it.



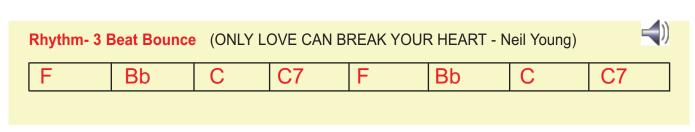
Now try this 3 beat SLASH CHORD sequence. Keep repeating it.

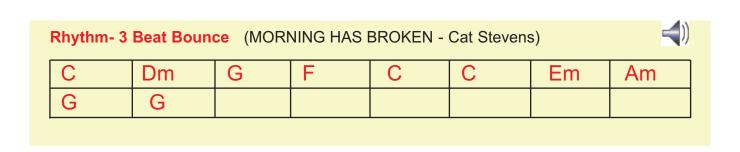


#### 3 BEAT BOUNCE PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS

# Rhythm - 3 beat Bounce (PIANO MAN - Billy Joel) C C/B C/A C/G F C/E D G

Rhythm- 3 beat Bounce (MR BOJANGLES - Neil Diamond)								
D D/C# D/B D/A G G A A7								





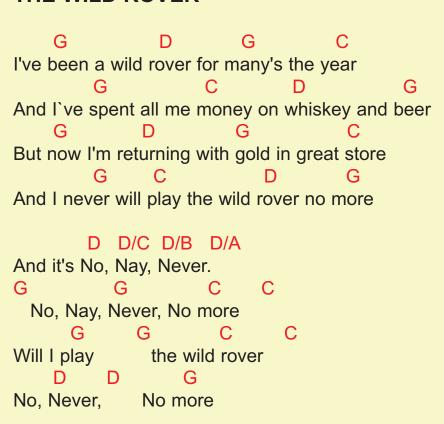
Rhythm - 3 Beat Bounce (TRY TO REMEMBER)							
G	Em	Am	D7	Repeat			

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#### 3 BEAT BOUNCE PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS



#### THE WILD ROVER



I went into an alehouse I used to frequent And I told the landlady my money was spent I asked her for credit, she answered me 'Nay Such custom as yours I could have every day

And it's No, Nay, Never. No, Nay, Never, No more Will I play the wild rover No, Never, No more

I brought up from my pockets ten sovereigns bright And the landlady's eyes opened wide with delight She said 'I have whiskeys and wines of the best And the words that I told you were only in jest

And it's No, Nay, Never. No, Nay, Never, No more Will I play the wild rover No, Never, No more

I'll go home to my parents, confess what I've done And I'll ask them to pardon their prodical son And when they've caressed me as oft times before I never will play the wild rover no more

And it's No, Nay, Never. No, Nay, Never, No more Will I play the wild rover No, Never, No more

## RHYTHM # 8 12/8 COUNTRY SHUFFLE



#### 12/8 COUNTRY SHUFFLE RHYTHM

This rhythm is a cross between a SPLIT CHORD rhythm (RIGHT hand) and an UM-PAH rhythm (LEFT hand)

Tap out the rhythm you played for the 12/8 Boogie (page )

Remember, there are 12 beats per bar but you only tap out the 1st and 3rd beats of each group of 3 beats



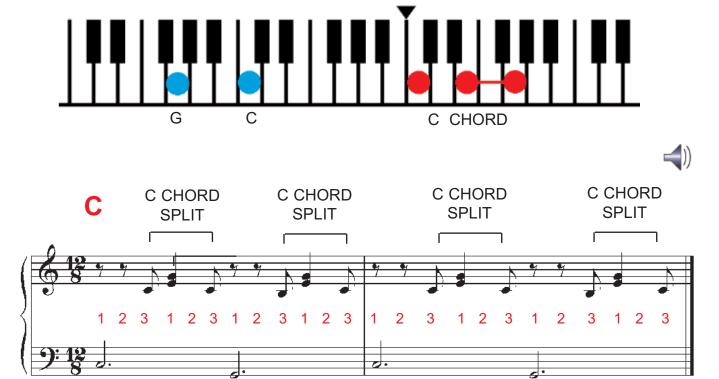
TAP	•		•	•		•	•		•	•		•
COUNT	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3

Notice again how it 'SHUFFLES' along.

What you are going to do is play this SAME shuffle rhythm using a combination of two left hand notes and a right hand chord split between thumb and (3rd and 5th fingers)

Find the notes for the pattern in C

C



TRANSPOSE the rhythm to the chords of F and G and you have the makings of a million country songs. I'll show you how to make it sound much more colourful later on.

C

G

G

# RHYTHM # 9 BOSSA NOVA BOUNCE



#### **BOSSA NOVA BOUNCE**



This rhythm is easier to explain diagrammatically than verbally.

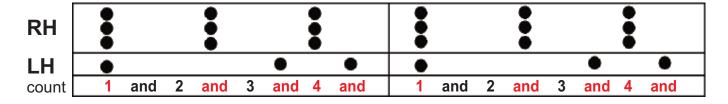
Try tapping the following rhythm out.

Count out loud and accentuate the numbers where the beats come in.

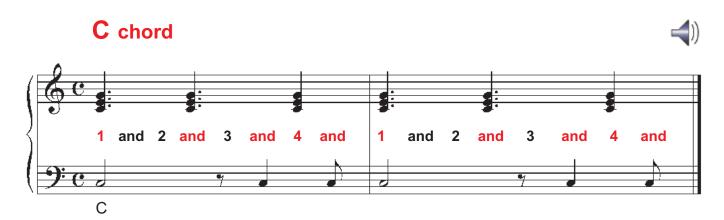
ie "ONE and two AND three AND FOUR AND ONE and two AND three AND FOUR AND"

Notice the RIGHT hand chord beat between beats 2 and 3

#### Try it VERY slowly at first



Now try it with a C Chord right hand and a C note left hand. Keep repeating it.



Try the rhythm with the following songs

#### **BOSSA NOVA BOUNCE PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS**

Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (ISN'T SHE LOVELY - Stevie Wonder)											
Em7	Α	C/D G Keep repeating			eating						
					<u></u>						
Rhythm - Bossa Nova Bounce (UP ON THE ROOF - The Drifters)											
G	Em	С	D	G	C/D						
Rhythm - Bo	ssa Nova Bou	nce (WITH A	LITTLE LUC	K - Paul McCartne	y) =(1)						
С	C/	E	F	F/G							
		/INLTHE	ALD TONIOLIS		<b>_</b> 0						
Rhythm - Bo	ssa Nova Bou	nce (IN THE A	AIR TONIGHT		7/						
Dm	C/D	Bb/D	C/D	Keep repe	eating						
Rhythm - Bo	ssa Nova Bou	nce (THE RIV	'ER - Bruce S	Springstein)	<b>(</b> 1)						
	G D	C	Em	GC	G						
LIII	G D		LIII	G C	G						
					_1)						
Rhythm - Bo	ssa Nova Bou	nce (ALWAYS	SOMETHING	G THERE TO REI	MIND ME)						
С	Cmaj7	C7	F	Fm	С						
		/			<b>(4</b> ))						
Rhythm - Bo	ssa Nova Bour	nce (IT'S STIL	L ROCK AND	ROLL TO ME - B	. Joel)						
C	Em Bb	F	С	Em Bb	F						

<sup>\*</sup>The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.

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## RHYTHM # 10 TWIST 2



#### TWIST RHYTHM 2



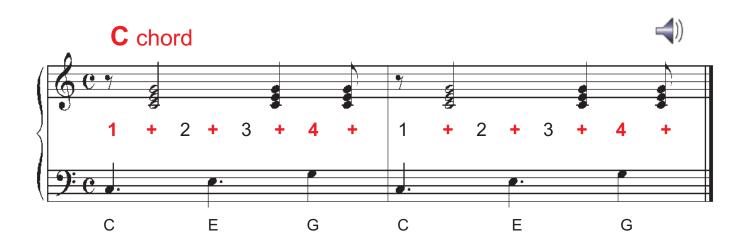
TWIST (1) may seem difficult at first but once you 'discover' the rhythm it's actually quite easy.

The only drawback with TWIST (1) is that there are SO many RIGHT hand beats. It can sound overly 'fussy' and just won't work in certain songs.

We can fix this problem by using the SAME left hand rhythm but cutting out a lot of the right hand beats.

It isn't as easy as TWIST (1) but it gives a nice slow 'funky' laid-back sound that you might prefer in certain tunes.

Only try TWIST 2 once you have mastered TWIST 1



Try out the new rhythm with the LET'S TWIST AGAIN chords

C (2 bars) Am (2 bars) F (2 bars) G (2 bars) repeat



Try the sequence again but this time when you play the FIRST right hand chord of each bar play it with a fast 'sweeping movement' one note at a time from the thumb up to the wee finger. This is called a 'Glissando'. Listen carefully to the recording. This adds a lot of 'colour' to the Twist rhythm.

C (2 bars) Am (2 bars) F (2 bars) G (2 bars) repeat



#### TWIST 2 PRACTICE PROGRESSIONS

#### Rhythm- Twist 2 (ONLY THE LONELY - Roy Orbison)



G	G	G	Am	Am	D	D7	D7
G	G						

#### Rhythm - Twist 2 (LET'S STICK TOGETHER / 12 bar blues - Bryan Ferry)



G	G	G	G	С	С
G	G	D	С	G	D

#### Rhythm- Twist 2 (SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME - The Drifters)



F	F	F	С	С	C7	C7	C7
F	F	Bb	Bb	F	F	С	С
F	F						

### Rhythm - Twist 2 (WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD THIS COULD BE) "Don't know much about.." - Sam Cooke



G	Em	Am	D	G	Em	Am	D
G	С	G	С	D	G	G	

#### Rhythm - Twist 2 (BARBARA ANNE - The Beach Boys)



С	С	F	F	С	С	G	F
С	С						

<sup>\*</sup>The above progressions are for improvisational purposes only.
You can purchase sheetmusic (and view the first page for free)
at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com or www.musicroom.com

#### **Extra Song Examples**

If you **ALREADY** know most Piano chords
you might want to try the Rhthms in Book 1
on some of the following songs

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## If you DON'T know all Piano chords then move on to Book 2

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Remember,
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(and view the first page for free)

at www.sheetmusicdirect.com or www.musicnotes.com or www.musicroom.com

See book 10 for more information..

#### STRAIGHT BEAT

The Logical Song - Supertramp

Watching The Detectives - Elvis Costello

Daydream Believer - The Monkeys - Straight Beat / Oom Pah

For Your Love - Yardbirds - Em - fast marching rhythm

Killer Queen

Sunny Afternoon - Kinks

#### LEFT BEAT / RIGHT CHORD

Is She Really Goin' Out With Him - Joe Jackson

Is You Is Or Is You Ain't my Baby - Louis Jordan

Peggy Day - Bob Dylan

**Tuxedo Junction** 

Feeling Groovy - Simon & Garfunkle

#### OOM PAH

In The Summertime - Mungo Jerry

Heigh Ho - (Disney)

Sing - (Carpenters)

Song Song Blue - Neil Diamond

Gypsies, Tramp and Thieves - Cher

Can't Smile Without You - Barry Mannilow

Those Were The Days My Friend

Chanson D'Amour - Manhatten Transfer

Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round The Old Oak Tree

Save Your Kisses For Me

Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life - Python

How About You - Showtune

Bye Bye Love - Simon & Garfunkle

King Of The Road

I'd Do Anything - Oliver

Wouldn't It Be Loverly - Oliver

Show Me The Way To Go Home

In The Blue Ridge Mountains Of Virginia - Laurel & Hardy

The Bear Necessities - (Disney)

I Wanna Be Like You - (Disney)

#### SPLIT CHORD

Our House - Graham Nash

Crying - Roy Orbison

Carolina In My Mind - James Taylor

**Feelings** 

I Won't Last A Day Without You

Vincent - Don Mclean

Without You - Nillson

She - Charles Aznavour

What A Wonderful World - Nat Kind Cole

Imagine - John Lennon

Love (is Real) - John Lennon

All I Have To Do Is Dream

Freebird - Lynard Skynard

Whiter Shade Of Pale - Procal Harum

#### HALF BEAT BOUNCE

Drive - The Cars

Sweet Home Alabama - Lynard Skynard

**Desperado** - Eagles

Nobody Does It Better - Carol Bayer Sager

Knocking On Heavens Door - Bob Dylan

Like A Rolling Stone - Bob Dylan

Positively Fourth Street - Bob Dylan

Mr Tambourine Man - Bob Dylan

Helpless - Neil Young

After The Goldrush - Neil Young

Heart Of Gold - Neil Young

A Man Needs A Maid - Neil Young - Half Beat Bounce or Bossa Bounce

**Try A Little Tenderness** 

All By Myself - (sung by Celine Dion)

Are You Lonesome Tonight - Elvis Presley - Half Beat Bounce / Ballad

You Were Always On My Mind - Elvis Presley

New York State Of Mind - Billy Joel

Moon Over Bourbon Street - Sting

How Deep is Your Love - Bee Gees

Streets Of London - Ralph McTell

We've Got Tonight - Bob Seger

Weekend In New England - Barry Mannilow

Lonely Together - Barry Mannilow

I Made It Through The Rain - Barry Mannilow

Mandy - Barry Mannilow

Even Now - Barry Mannilow

Meet Me On The Other Side - David Gray

Trouble - Coldplay

**Everybody Hurts - REM** 

**Unchained Melody - Alex North** 

Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye - Cole Porter

Can't Help Lovin Dat Man Of Mine - Kern

Smoke Gets In Your Eye - (Bryan Ferry)

In The Air Tonight - Phil Collins

It Must Be Love - Labi Siffre (Madness)

Meet Me On The Corner - Lindisfarne

Wouldn't It Be Nice - Beach Boys

From A Distance

My Way - (Sinatra)

He Ain't Heavy He's My Brother - Hollies

Easy Like Sunday Morning - Lionel Ritchie

Let It Grow - Eric Clapton

For All We Know - Carpenters

Close To You - Carpenters

Jealous Guy - John Lennon

Instant Karma - John Lennon

Woman - John Lennon

Mind Games - John Lennon

Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue

Tupelo Honey - Van Morrison

Still Crazy After All These Years - Paul Simon

Angels - Robbie Williams

My Way - Sinatra

Over The Rainbow - (Eva Cassidy)

Dream A Little Dream Of Me - Mamas & Papas

Summertime

Bring Him Home - Les Mis'

Ol' Man River - Hamerstein / Kern

How Sweet It Is - James Taylor

Can't Stand Losing You - Police

Nothing Compares To You - Prince

Wild Wood - Paul Weller

Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head

Don't Look Back In Anger - Oasis

This Years Love - David Gray - Half Beat Bounce

#### TWIST RHYTHM

Raining In My Heart - Buddy Holly

I'm A Believer - (The Monkeys)

Poetry In Motion - Kaufman

Uptown Girl - Billy Joel

Peggy Sue - Buddy Holly

Stand By Me - Ben E. King

Stuck In The Middle With You - Steelers Wheels

Oh Boy - Buddy Holly

Cecilia - Paul Simon

Ain't That A Shame - Fats Domino

**Under The Boardwalk** 

Only The Lonely - Roy Orbison

Pretty Woman - Roy Orbison

Act Naturally - (Beatles)

Let's Stick Together - Bryan ferry

Barbara Anne - Beach Boys

#### 3 BEAT BOUNCE

Mr Bojangles - sung by Neil Diamond

Try To Remember - words by Tom Jones

Morning Has Broken - Cay Stevens

If You Don't Know Me By Now - Simply Red

The Times They Are A Changin' - Bob Dylan

Only Love Can Break Your Heart

America - Paul Simon

Perfect Day - Lou Reed

She's Always A Woman To Me - Billy Joel - A slash chords/bass runs

Piano Man - Billy Joel

#### **BOSSA NOVA BOUNCE**

**House Of The Rising Sun** 

Easy Like Sunday Morning - Lionel Ritchie

In The Air Tonight - Phil Collins

Just The Two Of Us - Bill Withers

I Can See Clearly Now - Johnny Nash

The Whole Of The Moon - Waterboys

Don't Bang The Drum - Waterboys

This Guy's In Love With You - Hal David

California Dreaming - Mama's & Papa's

Behind Closed Doors - Bossa N. Bounce or Country

Something's Gotten Hold Of My Heart - Gene Pitney

Alison - Elvis Costello

Band On The Run - Wings

Maggie May - Rod Stewart

Hotel California - Eagles

Lyin Eyes - Eagles

Tequila Sunrise - Eagles

Reeling In The Years - Steely Dan

Candle In The Wind - Elton John

This Masquarade - George Benson

Holding Back The Years - Simply Red

You've Got A Friend - Carol King

Daniel - Elton John

With A Little Luck - Wings

Arthur's Theme - Bacharach (Christopher Cross)

This Years Love - David Gray

You Are The Sunshine Of My Life - Stevie Wonder

My Cherie Amour - Stevie Wonder

Isn't She Lovely - Stevie Wonder

If You Really Love Me - Stevie Wonder

You're my Best Friend - Queen

Bright Side Of The Road - Van Morrison

Brown Eyed Girl - Van Morrison

Blue Hotel - Chris Isaak

Don't Know Why - Norah Jones

As Long As He Needs Me - Lionel Bart (Oliver)

Fairytale Of New York - Pogues (Christmas song)

Everybody's Talkin' At Me - sung by Beautiful South

Baker Street - Gerry Rafferty

I'll Never Fall In Love Again - Bacharach & David

Somethin' Stupid - (Sinatra)

Lady In Red - Chris De Burgh

Only Love Can Break Your Heart - Neil Young

After The Goldrush - Neil Young

In My Mind I'm Going To Carolina - James Taylor

Don't Know Why - Norah Jones

Streets Of London - Ralph McTell

It's Different For Girls - Joe Jackson

Alone Again Naturally - Gilbert O'Sullivan

BEATLES SONGS (See Book 4)

## You can now try Book 2

