

51 Exercises  
Johannes Brahms

1 a\*)

The music is for two staves: treble and bass. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The music consists of eight measures of sixteenth-note exercises. Measure 1 starts with a sixteenth-note figure in the treble staff, followed by a sixteenth-note figure in the bass staff. Measures 2-8 continue this pattern of sixteenth-note figures, alternating between the two staves.

<sup>a)</sup> These and similar exercises should also be practised in other keys — for example, No. 1b in A major, No. 1c in E major, etc. Variations in tempo and dynamics are left to the player's discretion.

1 b

The sheet music consists of eight staves of musical notation for piano, arranged in two systems of four measures each. The key signature is one sharp (F# major). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The first staff shows eighth-note patterns in the treble and bass clefs. The second staff continues with eighth-note patterns. The third staff introduces sixteenth-note patterns. The fourth staff returns to eighth-note patterns. The fifth staff features sixteenth-note patterns. The sixth staff returns to eighth-note patterns. The seventh staff features sixteenth-note patterns. The eighth staff concludes with eighth-note patterns.

1 c

The music is a continuous sequence of measures, starting with a sixteenth-note pattern in measure 1 and ending with an eighth-note pattern in measure 100. The patterns generally consist of eighth or sixteenth notes, often grouped in pairs or triplets, with occasional single notes or rests. Measure 100 concludes with a final eighth-note pattern.

Sheet music for piano exercises 1d, 1e, and 1f. The music is in common time (indicated by '3/4') and consists of two staves: treble and bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features various note patterns, including sixteenth-note exercises and rhythmic patterns marked with circled numbers (5, 6, 7, 8) and 'etc.'.

**1 d**

**1 e**

**1 f**

8.....

etc.

etc.

etc.

8.....

etc.

etc.

etc.

8.....

etc.

etc.

etc.

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**2 a**

**2 b**

\*) To be continued into further octaves *ad lib.*

6

\*) To be continued into further octaves *ad lib.*

**Andante*****molto legato***

4\*)

*f molto legato**moltissimo stacc.**molto stacc.**molto legato**simile**simile simile**simile*etc. *simile*

\*) Preparatory exercise for scales in sixths, in which (as with scales in thirds) the upper tones are connected in the ascent, and the lower tones in the descent.

5

\*) Brief repetitions within an exercise (||:) are *ad lib.*

5 a \*\*)

\*\*) Preparatory exercise for No. 5

6

8..... 8..... 8.....

8..... 8..... 8.....

6 a\*)

\* Preparatory exercise for No. 6

The image shows three staves of musical notation for piano, likely from Brahms' 51 Exercises. The top two staves are in common time (indicated by a 'C') and the bottom staff is in 6/8 time (indicated by a '6/8'). The key signature changes frequently, indicated by various sharps and flats. Fingerings are shown above the notes, such as '4 1 2 3 4 5 1' and '2 5 4 3 2 1 5'. Measure numbers '7', '8', and '9' are visible on the left side. The music consists of eighth-note patterns and some sixteenth-note patterns.

<sup>\*)</sup> Repetitions (||:) are to be played in different octaves (one and two higher or lower) than written.

7 a

7 b

8

8 a

8 b

The image shows six staves of musical notation for piano, arranged vertically. The top four staves are standard five-line staves, while the bottom two are bass staves. The notation consists primarily of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The first four staves are continuous, while the fifth staff begins with a measure number '9 a' and includes dynamic markings like 'legato'. The sixth staff continues the pattern from the fifth staff.

9 a

*legato*

9b

5 4 3 2 1      2 3 4

*leggiero*

2

3      4

5      6

7

7 6 5 4 3 2

10

3 4      3 4      3 4

*leggiero*

2.

3.

4.

5.

The image shows a page of sheet music for a piano, consisting of two staves. The top staff begins at measure 6, which consists of six eighth-note pairs. Measure 7 follows, also with six eighth-note pairs. The bottom staff begins at measure 11a, which is marked 'leggiero'. This is followed by measures 11b, 11c, and 11d. Measure 11b starts with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measures 11c and 11d continue the pattern of eighth-note pairs. Measure 11e begins at the top of the next page, continuing the eighth-note pattern.

11 b

*p leggiero*

2

3

4

5

6

7

Moderato  
*ben legato*

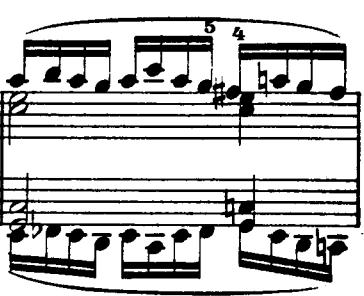
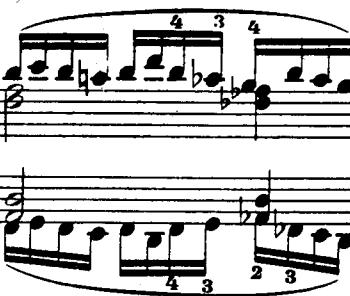
*poco f*

12

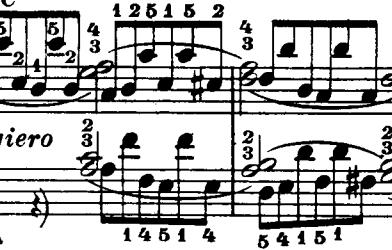
**Moderato**

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13

*ben legato***Vivace**

14

*leggiero*

15

*leggiero***Ossia**

\*Notes in parentheses are to be depressed silently and held throughout the exercise

16 a

*leggiero*

$\text{♩} = 4$

16 b

3 5 4 2 1 2 4

3 5 4

3 5 4

5 4

4

16

16 c

17

18

18a

*ben legato*

18 b

19

Moderato

*legato p*

20

*leggiero*

Sheet music for piano, Brahms' 51 Exercises, page 20. The page contains five staves of musical notation with fingerings and dynamic markings.

**Staff 1:** Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 5 4 2 5 4 4, 2 1 2 5 1 4, 4 5 4 1 5 2. Measure 5: 2 1 5. Measure 6: 4 5 1 2 1.

**Staff 2:** Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 5 4 3 5 1 2, 8 1 3 5 1 2, 2 5 2 1 5 3. Measure 5: 3. Measure 6: 8. Fingerings: 2 5 1 3.

**Staff 3:** Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 2 4, 4 3, 8 5, 5 2.

**Staff 4:** Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 5 1 2, 2, 4 4.

**Staff 5:** Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 5 1 8, 3 1 2, 2 5 3. Measure 8: (loco). Measures 9-10: etc., etc.

21 a

2 3 4  
leggiero  
5 6 7  
8  
9

21 b

10 11 12 13 14  
15 16 17 18

Sheet music for piano exercises by Brahms, pages 22 and 23a.

**Page 22:**

- Measures 1-10: Treble and bass staves. Key signature changes between measures. Measures 5-6 show grace notes above the main notes.
- Measure 11: Bass staff only, showing a sequence of eighth-note chords.
- Measures 12-15: Treble and bass staves. Measure 13 includes fingerings: 5, 2; 4, 3; 4. Measure 14 includes fingerings: 5, 2; 1. Measure 15 includes fingerings: 5, 2; 4.
- Measures 16-19: Treble and bass staves. Measure 17 includes fingerings: 3, 2; 4. Measure 18 includes fingerings: 3, 2; 4. Measure 19 includes fingerings: 5, 4; 2; 3, 2; 4.
- Measures 20-23: Treble and bass staves. Measure 21 includes fingerings: 5, 4; 3, 2; 4. Measure 22 includes fingerings: 5, 4; 3, 2; 4.

**Page 23a:**

- Measures 1-4: Treble and bass staves. Key signature changes between measures. Measures 2-3 show grace notes above the main notes. Fingerings: 5, 3; 5, 3.
- Measures 5-8: Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 6, 5; 6, 5; 6, 5; 6, 5.
- Measures 9-12: Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 7, 6; 7, 6; 7, 6; 7, 6.
- Measures 13-16: Treble and bass staves. Fingerings: 8, 7; 8, 7; 8, 7; 8, 7.

23 b

This section contains two staves of piano music. The top staff uses a treble clef and a key signature of four sharps. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The music consists of eighth-note patterns. Measure 1 starts with a forte dynamic. Measures 2 and 3 show a transition with different rhythms. Measure 4 concludes with a forte dynamic.

This section continues the piano music from exercise 23b. The top staff maintains a treble clef and four sharps. The bottom staff maintains a bass clef and one sharp. The music consists of eighth-note patterns, continuing the rhythmic patterns established in the previous measures.

23 c

This section continues the piano music from exercise 23b. The top staff maintains a treble clef and four sharps. The bottom staff maintains a bass clef and one sharp. The music consists of eighth-note patterns, continuing the rhythmic patterns established in the previous measures.

This section continues the piano music from exercise 23c. The top staff maintains a treble clef and four sharps. The bottom staff maintains a bass clef and one sharp. The music consists of eighth-note patterns, continuing the rhythmic patterns established in the previous measures.

24 a

This section contains three staves of piano music. The top staff uses a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The middle staff uses a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The music consists of sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 1 starts with a forte dynamic. Measures 2 and 3 show a transition with different rhythms. Measure 4 concludes with a forte dynamic. The instruction "ben legato" is written above the middle staff.

This section continues the piano music from exercise 24a. The top staff maintains a treble clef and one sharp. The middle staff maintains a bass clef and one sharp. The bottom staff maintains a bass clef and one sharp. The music consists of sixteenth-note patterns, continuing the rhythmic patterns established in the previous measures.

This section continues the piano music from exercise 24a. The top staff maintains a treble clef and one sharp. The middle staff maintains a bass clef and one sharp. The bottom staff maintains a bass clef and one sharp. The music consists of sixteenth-note patterns, continuing the rhythmic patterns established in the previous measures.

Sheet music for piano, Brahms' 51 Exercises, page 24b. The music is in 2/4 time, key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The score consists of two staves: treble clef on top, bass clef on bottom. The music features continuous eighth-note patterns with various dynamics and articulations. Measure 24b is explicitly labeled with the instruction *legato*. The page contains ten measures of music.

**Non troppo allegro**

25a

*f legato*  
(egualmente)

25b

*f legato*

25c

*f legato*

*simile*

**f**

*simile*

**f**

26a

26 b



27

5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2  
*leggiero*

5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2

5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2

5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2

5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2

5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2      5 4 3 2 1 2

28

2 3 5 4 3 5 4 5 4 5 3      5 4 5 4 5 4 5 4 3  
*legato*

1 5 4 5 4 5 4 3 5 4 3 2      5 4 5 4 5 4 5 4 3 2

5 5 3 4 3      5 4 5 4 3 5 4 3 2  
*legg.*

29

Presto  $\frac{3}{8}$

*leggiero*

$\frac{8}{8}$

*più presto*  $\frac{8}{8}$

30

*legato*

$\frac{4}{8}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{7}{8}$

7 6 5 4 3 2

**Non troppo Allegro**

31a

Sheet music for Exercise 31a, featuring two staves of sixteenth-note exercises. The top staff is in common time (C) and the bottom staff is in common time (C). The music is marked "legato". Fingerings are indicated above the first measure: 3 2, 5 4, 3 2, 5 4. Measures 2 through 6 show various sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 7 begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. Fingerings 5 3, 2, 1 are shown above the first note of this measure. Measures 8 through 12 show more sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 13 begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measures 14 through 18 show sixteenth-note patterns.

31b

Sheet music for Exercise 31b, featuring two staves of sixteenth-note exercises. The top staff is in common time (C) and the bottom staff is in common time (C). Measures 1 through 5 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 6 through 10 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 11 through 15 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 16 through 20 show sixteenth-note patterns.

Sheet music for piano, Brahms' 51 Exercises, page 32. The music is arranged in two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. The key signature changes frequently, indicated by various sharps and flats. The music consists of six measures per line, with measure numbers 1 and 2 provided at the end of each line.



33a

33 a

legato

3 2 1 4 5 1

5 1

1 2 3 5 4

leggiero

etc. come sopra.

33 b

The music is divided into four sections of three measures each, separated by vertical bar lines. The first section starts with a treble clef and common time. The second section starts with a bass clef and common time. The third section starts with a treble clef and common time. The fourth section starts with a bass clef and common time.

Fingerings are indicated above the notes in the first section:

- Measure 1: 3, 2, 5, 4, 2, 3, 4, 2, 5
- Measure 2: 8
- Measure 3: 8

A dynamic marking 'legato' is placed below the first measure of the first section.

Fingerings are also indicated below the notes in the first section:

- Measure 1: 1, 2, 3, 2, 1, 2, 3
- Measure 2: 5, 4
- Measure 3: 4, 5, 4

*ben legato*

34a

etc.come sopra

5 4 3  
1 2 3  
4

4 5 4 3 2 2  
2 1 2 3 4 3 2  
4 5 4  
2 1 3 4 3 2  
4 5 4 3 2  
4 5 4  
4 5 4  
4 5 4  
4 5 4

*ben legato*

34 b

34 c

*ben legato*

The image shows five staves of musical notation for piano, arranged vertically. The top two staves begin with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps, and common time. The bass clef begins on the third staff. Measure numbers 35 and 36 are indicated above the first two staves. Measure 35 starts with a dynamic of  $\frac{4}{4}$ , followed by  $\frac{5}{4}$  with the instruction *legato*. Measure 36 starts with  $\frac{4}{4}$  and continues with  $\frac{5}{4}$  with the instruction *leggiero*. The third staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The fourth staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The fifth staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measures 37 and 38 are indicated above the fourth and fifth staves respectively, with the instruction *etc.* at the end of the fifth staff.

36

*legato*

2                    3

4                    5                    6

7

37 a

*dolce legato*

4 5 1                2 3 5

4 5 1                2 3 5

1 2 3 5 4            1 2 3 5 4

1 2 3 5 4            1 2 3 5 4

1 2 3 5 4            1 2 3 5 4

1 2 3 5 4            1 2 3 5 4

*ben legato*

37 b

*piu f*

*etc.*  
*come*  
*sopra*

*Allegro*

38

*ben marcato*

*f*

A page of sheet music for piano, featuring four staves. The top two staves are treble clef, and the bottom two are bass clef. The music consists of six measures per staff, with measure numbers 1 through 6 above each staff. The notation includes various note heads, stems, and bar lines, with some measure 6 endings indicated by small numbers above the notes.

*ben legato*

*ben legato*

39

5 2 3 2 1 2 5 3 4 3 2 3 5 4 2 3 2 1 2 1 5 3 4 3 2 3 5 4 2 3 2 1 2 1

*mf*

2 4 3 4 5 4 .3 2 3 4 3 1 2 .4 3 4 5 4 .3 2 3 4 3 1 2 .4 3 4 5 4 .5

A musical score for piano, showing five measures of music. The top staff uses a treble clef and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. The music consists of eighth-note patterns primarily in the right hand, with occasional notes in the left hand. Measure 11: Right hand eighth-note pairs (A, B), left hand eighth-note pairs (C, D). Measure 12: Right hand eighth-note pairs (E, F), left hand eighth-note pairs (G, H). Measure 13: Right hand eighth-note pairs (I, J), left hand eighth-note pairs (K, L). Measure 14: Right hand eighth-note pairs (M, N), left hand eighth-note pairs (O, P). Measure 15: Right hand eighth-note pairs (Q, R), left hand eighth-note pairs (S, T).

A musical score for piano, showing two staves. The top staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The bottom staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. Both staves feature eighth-note patterns. Measure 41 starts with a half note in the bass staff followed by an eighth-note pattern. Measures 42-45 show a repeating eighth-note pattern across both staves. Measure 45 ends with a fermata over the eighth note in the bass staff.

Three staves of musical notation for Exercise 40a. The first staff uses a treble clef, the second a bass clef, and the third a bass clef. Each staff contains eight measures of music. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 2 4 5 1 3 8, 2 4 5 3, 2 4 5 1 3, 2 4 5 1 3, 2 4 5 1 3, 2 4 5 1 3, 2 4 5 1 3, 2 4 5 1 3. Dynamic markings include  $\text{f}$ ,  $\text{p}$ , and  $\text{bass dynamic}$ .

40a

A single staff of musical notation for Exercise 40a. It consists of eight measures. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 5 3 4 2 3 1, 4 2 3, 5 3 4 2 3 1, 4 2 3, 5 3 4 2 3 1, 4 2 3, 5 3 4 2 3 1, 4 2 3. The instruction *f legato (o p leggiero)* is written below the staff.

A single staff of musical notation for Exercise 40a, continuing from the previous staff. It consists of eight measures. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: b, b, b, b, b, b, b, b. The instruction *b* is written below the staff.

A single staff of musical notation for Exercise 40a, concluding with the instruction *etc.ad lib.*. It consists of eight measures. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: b, b, b, b, b, b, b, b. The instruction *b* is written below the staff.

40b

*leggiero o ben legato*

1 3 2 4      3 5 2 4

simile ad lib.

etc. ad lib.

41a

1 3 2 4      3 5 2 4

simile ad lib.

Piano sheet music showing two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). Both staves feature sixteenth-note patterns.

Piano sheet music showing two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). Both staves feature sixteenth-note patterns.

41b

Piano sheet music showing two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The measure begins with a 5/4 time signature, followed by a 3/4 time signature. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 5 3 4 2 3 1 4 2 3.

Piano sheet music showing two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). Both staves feature sixteenth-note patterns.

Piano sheet music showing two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). Both staves feature sixteenth-note patterns.

Piano sheet music showing two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#). Both staves feature sixteenth-note patterns.

42 a

etc. ad lib.

42 b

A musical score for piano, featuring two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of three sharps. It contains a melodic line consisting of eighth-note patterns. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and also has a key signature of three sharps. It provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords. The score ends with the instruction "etc. ad lib.".

## **Andante o Allegro**

43a

**Andante**

43 b

*sim.*

*f*

*etc. ad lib.*

44 a

*ben legato (o leggiero)*

44 b

45

*ben marcato*

3(8)

f

d.

Musical score for piano, showing measures 46a, 46b, and 47.

**Measure 46a:** Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), common time. Dynamics: *dolce*. Fingerings: 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2. Measures show eighth-note patterns with grace notes.

**Measure 46b:** Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), common time. Dynamics: *dolce leggiero*. Fingerings: 5, 2, 5, 2, 5, 2, 6. Measures show sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes.

**Measure 47:** Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), common time. Dynamics: *Allegro ben legato*, *leggiero*. Fingerings: 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 2; 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Measures show sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes.

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8.....

*ben*

*leggiero*

*legato*

II

I

*ben legato*

*leggiero*

8.....

*leggiero*

*ben legato*

I

II

*ben legato*

*leggiero*

*leggiero*

*ben legato*

48

*legato*

*ad lib.*  
*da capo*  
*in 8va*

49a

*legato*



Musical score for piano, page 50, measures 3-2-1-2. The score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef, common time, with a dynamic of *leggiero*. The lower staff is in bass clef, common time. The measure numbers 3, 2, 1, and 2 are written above the notes. The score shows a series of eighth-note patterns.

*ben legato*

5 4 3 4 5      5 4 3 4 5      5 4 3 4 5

5 4 3 4 5      5 4 3 4 5      5 4 3 4 5

*ben legato*

A musical score for piano, featuring three staves. The top staff uses a treble clef, the middle staff an alto clef, and the bottom staff a bass clef. Each staff contains a series of notes and rests, primarily eighth notes, with some sixteenth-note patterns. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines and separated into sections by double bar lines with repeat dots. The key signature changes from one section to the next, indicated by the placement of sharps and flats on the staff lines.

A musical score for piano, featuring two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. Both staves are in common time (indicated by a 'C'). The score consists of ten measures, numbered 5 through 15 above the staves. Measures 5-14 are identical, showing a repeating pattern of eighth-note chords. Measure 15 begins with a single eighth note followed by a repeat sign, indicating a return to the previous pattern.

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 11-12. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, B-flat major, and 2/4 time. It features a series of eighth-note patterns with various accidentals. Measure 11 ends with a dynamic marking '(dim.)'. Measure 12 begins with a forte dynamic. The bottom staff is in bass clef, A-flat major, and 2/4 time. It also contains eighth-note patterns. Measure 12 concludes with a forte dynamic. Measure numbers 11 and 12 are indicated above the staves.