

LESSON 2-2 : Fingering Part 1

Pop Piano: Playing Melody Lines

What is Fingering?

- Practice of intelligently choosing which finger to play each particular key during a song
- Facilitates smooth and elegant playing of a piece of music
- Necessary when melodies get more complex (goes beyond a 5 note range)

Fingering Notation

- Numbers ranging from 1 to 5 found below note symbols on the staff
- Each number corresponds to a particular finger
 - 1 indicates thumb
 - 2 indicates 2nd finger
 - 3 indicates 3rd finger
 - 4 indicates 4th finger
 - 5 indicates 5th finger
- Applies to both left and right hand
- Example of 'Ode To Joy' with fingering notation



Turning

- Required when note range exceeds 5 notes
- Used when notes are close to each other
- Ensures melody is played without lifting the hand off the keyboard
- 2 techniques: Turning Upwards and Turning Downwards



Turning Upwards

- Used when we 'run out of fingers' while playing an ascending passage

Key Steps:

- **ALWAYS** **land** on the thumb
- You **MAY** **turn** on the 2nd, 3rd or 4th finger
- Try **NOT** to **turn** on the 5th finger

Turning Downwards

- Used when we 'run out of fingers' while playing a descending passage

Make sure you:

- **ALWAYS** **turn** on the thumb
- You **MAY** **land** on the 2nd, 3rd or 4th finger
- Try **NOT** to **land** on the 5th finger

Jumping

- Required when note range exceeds 5 notes
- Used when notes are far apart from each other
- Choose fingering to:
 - Minimise distance of jump
 - Facilitate playing of passage following the jump

