

# **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**

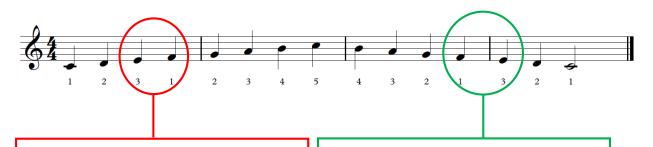
- Numbers ranging from 1 to 5 found below note symbols on the staff
- > Each number corresponds to a particular finger
  - o 1 indicates thumb
  - o 2 indicates 2<sup>nd</sup> finger
  - o 3 indicates 3<sup>rd</sup> finger
  - o 4 indicates 4<sup>th</sup> finger
  - o 5 indicates 5<sup>th</sup> finger
- > 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: <u>Turning Upwards</u> and <u>Turning Downwards</u>





#### **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:
  - o Minimise distance of jump
  - o Facilitate playing of passage following the jump

