

Jackie Clark Music

Just Chords Piano

Jackie Clark ABRSM

Just Chords Piano

Playing Piano by Chords

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Just Chords Piano

Lecture 1

Workbook Details

This workbook combined with the video course material will take you from beginner level to advanced beginner in a few months in three major keys. You will be able to play a wide range of songs, both traditional and modern

Lessons are structured around this work book; print at least one copy for note taking and for your music stand, on your piano. Lessons will be delivered using this workbook

I would suggest you keep a notepad handy to write down questions as you progress. Some answers you will find within this workbook pages. Should you not find the answer you need, please email me through the course contact option, and I will do my best to answer your query. Please include the course name the page you are working on and a description of your problem.

First print your copy of this work book

This course is designed for duration of up to 12 weeks. Some people will learn quicker or have more available time. The course is not a race, if you take 12 or 16 weeks it does not matter. We all learn at different speeds. The important point is that you understand what you are learning so you can continue to progress after the course is complete.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 2

Introduction

The piano:

The piano is a stringed instrument with keys arranged horizontally which cause a hammer to strike a string when a key is pressed producing a sound.

Electronic keyboards produce the same sound as the piano but use switches or variable resistors or similar to produce the sound electronically.

Pressing the keys harder produces a louder sound. (Older or simple electronic keyboards only have one volume regardless of how hard the key is pressed; this does not alter their ability to be used to learn to play piano on.)

From now on when you see a reference to keyboard in this course it will mean the keyboard of the piano or the keyboard of the electronic keyboard.

Keys are arranged in sets of twelve, along the full length of the keyboard. Keys consist of white and black keys. For the most of this course you will primarily use the white keys, black keys will be used in some chords. You will need to know about the black keys as you will use them for navigation.

The names of the white keys are the same as the names of notes in music A,B,C,D,E,F,G these are repeated along the keyboard. To find the keys use the black keys as a reference point. Black keys are arranged in blocks of two's and three's. To the left of the block of the two black keys is a white key. That white key is C. This is true anywhere along the keyboard. The white key to the left of any black key pair will always be C. The two keys to the left of C will be B and A. The white keys to the right of C will be D, E, F and G. Where you select the keys on the keyboard will only affect the octave that the note is in. For now that is all you need to know about the keys of the piano or keyboard.

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Notes and Fingers



Fingers Names

Notes on the keyboard



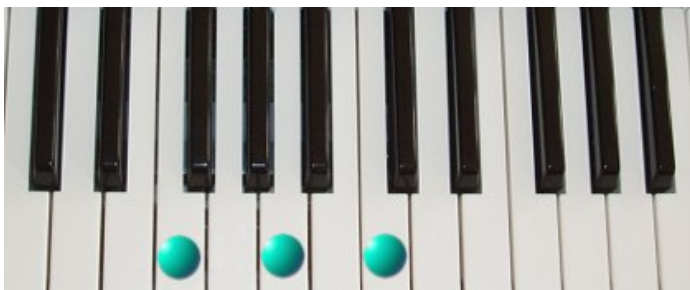
Names of the keys of the keyboard are the same as the names of the notes that they play. One octave is shown in black. The start of the next octave is shown in red. (Note the notes repeating.)

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Lecture 3



Chord of C use fingers 1 3 and 5



Chord of F use fingers 1 3 and 5



Chord of G use fingers 1 3 and 5

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Practice Schedule 1

Play each chord 5 times each

Play the following sequences

C F G REPEAT 10 TIMES

G C F REPEAT 10 TIMES

F C G REPEAT 10 TIMES

C C C F F C C C G G F F C C C C

C C C F F C C C G G F F C C C C

C C C F F C C C G G F F C C C C REPEAT 5

Repeat this whole exercise each day for 2 days.

Notes on practice:

- Do not try to play the chords fast. Accuracy is more important than speed. Speed will follow once the accuracy is there.
- You may find that some fingers will press keys you did not intend.

Continue to practice and your fingers will automatically stop this action in a short while.

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Lecture 4

Exercise 1

Playing Chord Sequences and counting:

Below is the chord sequence. The counts are four.

C	C	C	F/C	C	C	C/C	C	C	F/C	C	C	C/G	G	G	G/F	F	F	F/C	F	G	G/C	C	C	C
1	2	3	4/1	2	3	4/1	2	3	4/1	2	3	4/1	2	3	4/1	2	3	4/1	2	3	4/1	2	3	4

Play this sequence 6 times

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Chord representation

This resource will have various chord sequences for you to practice written down the following explains how they work.

First of all the counts of the chords which can be 1,2/ 1,2,3/1,2,3,4 Sometimes chords are missed out. The count is 1,2,3,4 but chords are only played on the 1st and 3rd count. Throughout this resource the chords and rests are shown as follows. Count is 1234 or 123 or 12 and the chords will be the letter of the chord to be played or an underscore_ to represent a space and a slash / to show the end of the count. The example here is a count of 4 with just C chords. It will be written like this C C C C/C C C C/C_C_/ This would mean play C, on count 1 play C, on count 2 play C, on count 3 play C, on count 4. Repeat same again then the last count of 4 would be play C, on count 1 remain silent, on count 2 play C, on count 3 and remain silent, on count 4.

In the following Sequence only a few counts miss a chord out. These will be shown as an underscore_ for clarity. The forward slash sign / is to help you count only.

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Lecture 5

Practice Schedule 2

Here are the chords for “Fun Chords” in the key of C

CCCC/CCG_/CCCC/CCG_/FFFF/CCG_/FFFF/GGG_/FFGG/CFC_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Practice “Fun Chords” each day for ten minutes until you feel confident. Make sure you have no missed notes or pressing two keys at a time. If you rush at this time it will affect your learning in future lessons. Then return for the next lesson.

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Lecture 6

Practice Schedule 3



Chord of D

Exercise 2.

G C D REPEAT 10 TIMES
C D G REPEAT 10 TIMES
D C G REPEAT 10 TIMES
C C C D D C C C G G D D C C C C
C C C D D C C C G G D D C C C C
C C C D D C C C G G D D C C C C REPEAT FIVE TIMES

Repeat this exercise each second day for a week. On the days you do not practice this exercise, practice the sequence you learned earlier: “Fun Chords” in C.

Here are the chords for “Fun Chords” in the key of C

CCCC/CCG_/CCCC/CCG_/FFFF/CCG_/FFFF/GGG_/FFGG/CFC_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Practice for ten minutes each day

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Practice Schedule 4

Play the following first 5 times

. GGGC/GGGG/GGGC/GGGG/DDDD/CCCC/GCDD/GGGG

Then Play the following for about ten minutes a day, pay attention to smooth chord changes and clean chords

Here are the chords for Fun Chords in the key of G

GGGG/GGD_/GGGG/GGD_/CCCC/GGD_/CCCC/DDD_/CCDD/GCG_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

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Lecture 7

Practice Schedule 5



Chord of B^b

Use the following chart to improve your chord changing.

Exercises.3

C B^b F REPEAT 10 TIMES

F C B^b REPEAT 10 TIMES

B^b C F REPEAT 10 TIMES

C C C B^b B^b C C C F F B^b B^b C C C C

C C C B^b B^b C C C F F B^b B^b C C C C

C C C B^b B^b C C C F F B^b B^b C C C C Repeat 5 times

Repeat this exercise each second day. On the days you do not practice this exercise practice the Sequences you learned earlier in the keys of C and G. "Fun Chords" in both C and G these can be found in practice schedules 3 and 4

Practice for five days before starting the next lesson or until you are comfortable moving between chords without mistakes.

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Lecture 8

Practice Schedule 6 (Left Hand)

Note the keys are the same. The thumb and little finger are changed over. Finger 3 stays as with right hand. This is common with all left hand chords.

Exercise.

C B^b F G D REPEAT 10 TIMES F C B^b REPEAT 10 TIMES
B^b C F D REPEAT 10 TIMES

C C C B^b B^b C C C F F B^b B^b C C C C G F D D

Repeat this exercise each second day for a week. On the days you do not practice this exercise practice the sequences you learned earlier in the keys of C and G. that is practice schedule 3 and 4, using your right hand.

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Lecture 9

Practice Schedule 7 (left hand)

Bass notes for "Fun Chords" in the key of C

CCCC/CCG_/CCCC/CCG_/FFFF/CCG_/FFFF/GGG_/FFGG/CFC_/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Practice these 5 times

Bass notes for "Fun Chords" in the key of G

GGGG/GGD_/GGGG/GGD_/CCCC/GGD_/CCC_/DDD_/CCDD/GCG_/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Practice these 5 times

Bass **notes for** "Fun Chords" in the key of F

FFFF/FFC_/FFFF/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/CCC_/B^bB^bCC/FB^bF_/1234/1234/1234/1234/1 2 3 4 /1234/1 2 3 4 /1234/1 2 3 4 /12 3 4

Practice these 5 times each then return for the next lecture tomorrow.

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Lecture 10

Practice Schedule 8 (left hand)

Bass chords for "Fun Chords" in the key of C

CCCC/CCG_/CCCC/CCG_/FFFF/CCG_/FFFF/GGG_/FFGG/CFC_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Bass Chords for "Fun Chords" in the key of G

GGGG/GGD_/GGGG/GGD_/CCCC/GGD_/CCCC/DDD_/CCDD/GCG_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Bass Chords for "Fun Chords" in the key of F

FFFF/FFC_/FFFF/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/CCC_/B^bB^bCC/FB^bF_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1 2 3 4 /1234/1 2 3 4 /1234/1 2 3 4/12 34

Practice these 5 times each then return for the next lecture tomorrow.

Blank for notes

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Lecture 11

Practice Schedule 9 (Left Hand)

Broken chords are the same as chords but played one note at a time as we have three notes but a count of four for the Sequence of "Fun Chords" they will be played one note for each note of the chord for the first three counts, the fourth count play the second note again.

Bass chords for "Fun Chords" in the key of C

CCCC/CCG_/CCCC/CCG_/FFFF/CCG_/FFFF/GGG_/FFGG/CFC_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Bass Chords for "Fun Chords" in the key of G

GGGG/GGD_/GGGG/GGD_/CCCC/GGD_/CCCC/DDD_/CCDD/GCG_/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234 /1234/1234/

Bass Chords for "Fun Chords" in the key of F

FFFF/FFC_/FFFF/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/CCC_/B^bB^bCC/FB^bF
/

1234/1234/1234/1234/1 23 4/1234 /12 3 4/1234/1 23 4/1234/

Practice these 5 times each then return for the next lecture tomorrow.

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Lecture 12

Practice Schedule 10

Playing with both hands will enrich the sound of songs you play. You have the choice of playing the whole chord with both hands or just the bass notes with the left hand or broken chords with the left hand. Playing with chords allows complete flexibility. Practice using all three methods to improve your dexterity.

Chords for “Fun Chords” in the key of C both hands

CCCC/CCG_/CCCC/CCG_/FFFF/CCG_/FFFF/GGG_/FFGG/CFC_/ **RH**

CCCC/CCG_/CCCC/CCG_/FFFF/CCG_/FFFF/GGG_/FFGG/CFC_/ **LH**

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Note the difference in the sound as you play.

Practice these 5 times each or until you feel comfortable then return for the next lecture tomorrow.

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Lecture 13

Practice Schedule 11

Chords for “Fun Chords” in the key of G both hands

GGGG/GGD_/GGGG/GGD_/CCCC/GGD_/CCCC/DDD_/CCDD/GCG_/ **RH**

GGGG/GGD_/GGGG/GGD_/CCCC/GGD_/CCCC/DDD_/CCDD/GCG_/ **LH**

1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/1234/

Note how full the sound is with two hands.

Practice these 5 times each or until you feel comfortable then return for the next lecture tomorrow.

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Lecture 14

Practice Schedule 12

Chords for “Fun Chords” in the key of F both hands

FFFF/FFC_/FFFF/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/CCC_/B^bB^bCC/FB^bF/ **RH**

FFFF/FFC_/FFFF/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/CCC_/B^bB^bCC/FB^bF/ **LH**

1234/1234/1234/1234/1 2 3 4/1234 /1 2 3 4 /1234/1 2 34/1234/

The sound is now complete using two hands.

Practice these 5 times each or until you feel comfortable then return for the next lecture when you can play with two hands using whole and broken chords with the left hand.

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Lecture 15

Practice Schedule 13

Now that you have mastered the three Major Keys of C, F and G and learned a sequence in all three keys it is time to learn some more.

Here are three more Sequences for you to learn in each key.

Practice each of them every day 3 times for each one in each key making 9 sequence plays a day. Do this for a week before starting the next lesson.

This chord progression is a 12 bar blues progression. This is used in hundreds of songs with slight variations by such people as The Beatles, Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix to name but a few. The chords always can be divided by four and form a pattern that repeats.

C C C C /C C C C /F F F F/C C C C/C C C C/C C C C/F F F F/C
C C C/G G G G/F F F F

C C C C / _ _ _ _ /C C C C/C C C C/F F F F/C C C C/F F F F/G
G G G/C C C C/C _ _ _

Another variation on 12 bar blues this time in the key of G

G G G G/C C C C/G G G G/G G G G/C C C C/C C C C/D D D D/D D
D D/ G G G G/C C C C/G G G G/G G G G/C C C C/D D D D/G G C
C/G _ _ _

Key of F 12 chord sequence

F F F F/F F F F/ B^b B^b B^b B^b /F F F F/C C C C/B^b B^b B^b B^b/F
F F F/F F F F/ F F F F/F F F F/ B^b B^b B^b B^b/F F F F/C C C
C/B^b B^b B^b B^b/F F B^b B^b/F

These Sequences are very simple and help you learn chord changes. There are thousands of songs available for you on the internet and in song books.

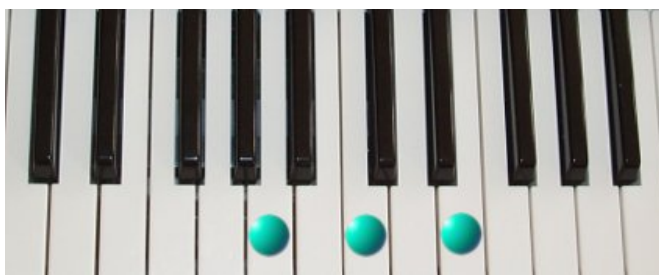
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Practice these 5 times each or until you feel comfortable then return for the next lecture tomorrow.

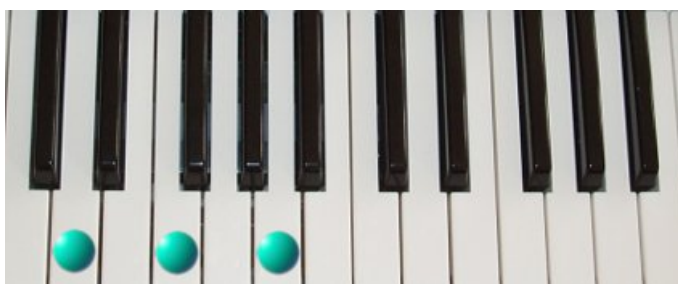
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Lecture 16

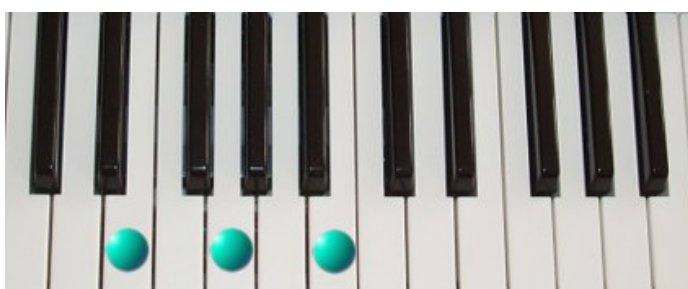
Minor Chords



A minor (Am)



D minor (Dm)



E minor (Em)

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Exercise 4

Practice the following sequences 10 times each.

C C Am Am/ F F G G /C C Am Am/ F F G G/ F F Am Am/ C C G G/ F F Am Am/

F F Dm Dm/ Bb Bb C C/F F Dm Dm/ Bb Bb C C/Bb Bb DmDm/ F F C C/ Bb Bb DmDm/

G G Em Em/ C C D D/ G G Em Em/C C D D/ C C Em Em/ G G D D/ C C Em Em/

Practice until you can do them all without errors.

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Lecture 17

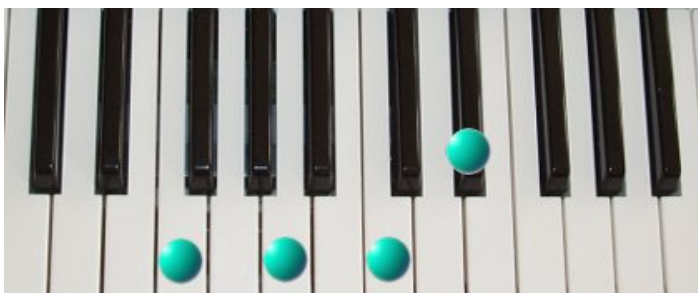
7th Chords



Chord of C7



Chord of G7



Chord of F7

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Practice Schedule 14

Practice playing the following sequences 5 times each. Play the same chord with both hands.

1 CCFF/CCGG7/FFFF/GGG7G7/FGFG7/CCCC/FFGG/CCFG/G7G7CC/FFGG7

2 FFB^bD/DDF7F7/DDDD/FFFF/DDDD/B^bB^bB^bF7/DDFF/FFDD/BB^bF7F7

3 GGGG/CCDD/DDCG7/GGG7G7/CCGG/CCG7G7/DDDD/CCCC/GGG7D/G7DDD

Here is an extra Sequence using all four chords with minors and all four chords using 7th chords. This is interesting as it has a wide range of chords with a lot of chord changes some of them quite quickly. It also covers most of the chords you have learned to date.

C C C C/G G G G/Am Am Am Am/Em Em Em Em/F F F F/C C C C/D D D

D/G7 G7 G7 G7/C C C C /G G G G/Am Am Am Am/Em Em Em Em/F F F F/C
C C C/G7 G7 G7 G7/C C C C/F F F F/Em Em Em Em/C C C C/Am Am Am
Am/D D D D/D D D D/G G G G /G7 G7 G7 G7/C C C C/G G G G/Am Am Am
Am/Em Em Em Em/F F F F/C C C C/G7 G7 G7 G7/C C C C

Practice this chord sequence and the three earlier ones once every day for 7 days.

Fun Chords in F both hands

Chords for "Fun Chords" in the key of F both hands

FFFF/FFC_/FFFF/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/CCC_/B^bB^bCC/FB^bF/ **RH**

FFFF/FFC_/FFFF/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/FFC_/B^bB^bB^bB^b/CCC_/B^bB^bCC/FB^bF/ **LH**

Blank for notes

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 18

Downloaded Songs

Normally you won't see chords for songs written as I have shown them in the last practice schedule, they will be written within the words (where they start to be played) or above the words. The counts and speed of counts are up to you to decide how to play them. This allows you a great deal of freedom in your playing.

Example 1: C These are the words F I want C you to hear F when you call my name F Let me here you say those words G so I can hear them in my sleep. C

Example 2: C These are the words F I want C you to hear F when you call my name Let me here G you say those words C so I can hear them in my sleep.

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Real songs

Downloading songs is a popular route to finding the chords. A quick search for “Words and chords for xyz song” will quickly provide a number of choices. The downloadable chords and words are generally for personal study use and are someone’s interpretation of the chords. They may be wrong, slightly wrong or perfect. Don’t be afraid to try different ones or to change chords if you feel they are inappropriate. Downloaded songs will consist of the words of the song and the chords. The chords are someone’s interpretation of the song and may need changing.

Look at the sequence below, it is someone’s interpretation of Bruno Mars – Talking to the moon.

The chords are in the key of F

F A₇ Dm C Bb F A₇ Dm C Bb

Chorus:

Gm C Gm C Bb C Dm Dm/E Dm/F Dm Bb C Dm Dm/E Dm/F Dm

Use these chords to play the song, sing it to yourself as you play. If you don’t know the song it will be on YouTube.

Usually the words will be written and chords either written above or within the words. You will need to practice with each type, then decide which ones you prefer.

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Lecture 19

Practice Schedule 15

Think of a song; let's take an easy one that uses chords we know. Blowing in the wind by Bob Dylan. This is a very old song that many of you will not know. If you don't that is better.

1. Go to You tube and find a video of the song so you can learn the tune.
2. Learn the song and work out the counts
3. Search the internet for Blowing in the wind Bob Dylan.
4. Ensure you find a copy in a key you know such as C,F or G.
5. Print the words and chords.
6. Now start to learn the chord sequence while singing and counting.

You should be able to do this in about an hour, maybe two hours. Take your time, enjoy your playing. If you can record yourself so much the better, by listening to your playing you will be able spot any errors.

Once you are satisfied you can play the song comfortably then come back for the next lecture.

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Lecture 20

Bob Dylan Follow up

The task set for you in the last lecture was to demonstrate how downloading songs or being given a set of chords from another source needs approaching in a logical way. It is not possible to play chords unless the song is known which includes, the speed, the rhythm, how chords are played and how they fit the words.

Listen to Lecture 20 for some ideas.

Choosing Songs to learn

The type of songs you choose to learn is a very individual choice. Use the simple formula in Practice Schedule 15 to learn songs. You are just starting off in your piano career and have years to learn hundreds of songs. Choose simple easy songs at first, and leave the complicated ones until you are comfortable with playing the very simple songs. You will need to learn a wider range of chords than you have learned so far. A chord book is included with this course to help you.

As you find songs you will find that new chords are needed. Learn them one at a time; practice them a few times before incorporating them into a song. Don't choose a song with a lot of new chords, Choose songs with only one or two new ones. Within a short period of time you will find you know dozens of new chords.

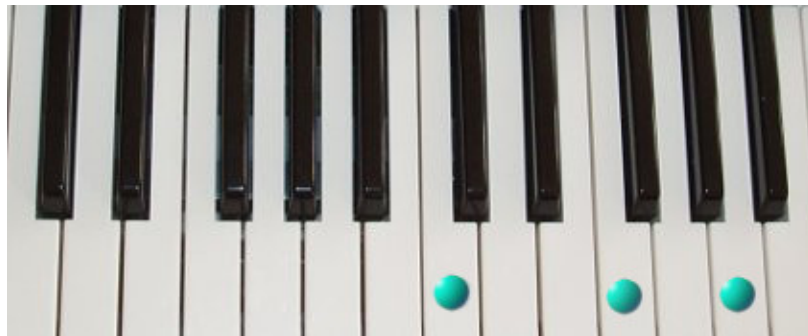
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Lecture 21

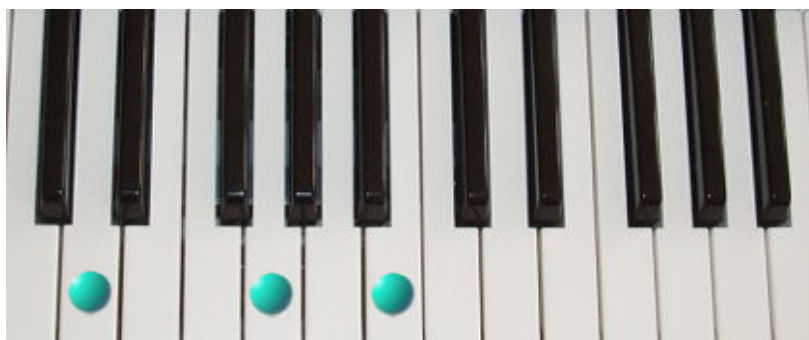
Advanced Chord Playing



C Major Inverted



F Major Inverted



G Major inverted

Blank for notes

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 22

Real Chord Sequences

Here are three chord sequences that fit real songs that you may know or not. Remember that when playing chords, you would normally be playing the accompaniment rather than the melody, although this is not always the case.

Practice Schedule 16

Play the following sequences in different ways to experience how the way the chords are played affects the mood of the music.

Chords similar to “The one that got away”

CCCC/CCCC/EmEmEmEm/ EmEmEmEm/AmAmAmAm/AmAmAmAm/FFFF/FFFF/CCCC/CCCC/
EmEmEmEm/ EmEmEmEm/AmAmAmAm/AmAmAmAm/FFFF/FFFF/CCCC/CCCC/ EmEmEmEm/
EmEmEmEm/AmAmAmAm/AmAmAmAm/FFFF/FFFF/CCCC/CCCC/ EmEmEmEm/
EmEmEmEm/AmAmAmAm/AmAmAmAm/FFFF/FFFF/CCCC/

Chords similar to “Believe”

FFFF/ AmAmAmAm/BbBbBbBb/CCCC/FFFF/ AmAmAmAm/ BbBbBbBb/CCCC/
FFCC/GGBbBb/
FFCC/GmGmBbBb/
FFCC/GmGmBbBb/
FFCC/GmGmBbBb/

Chords similar to “Amazing Grace”

DDD/DDD/GGG/DDD/DDD/DDD/AAA/AAA/DDD/DDD/GGG/DDD/DDD/AAA/DDD/DDD

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 23

Origin of chords

Key Charts for some of the chords learned in this course.

This is for general information only. A proper course in music is needed to fully understand chord origins. This simple guide will be sufficient for simple chords.

KEY OF	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
C	C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
F	F	G	A	B ^b	C	D	E	F
G	G	A	B	C	D	E	F [#]	G
CHORDS								
C	C 1		E 3		G 5			
F	F 1		A 3		C 5			
G	G 1		B 3		D 5			

The numbers in the lower three rows and finger numbers

Chords use the 1st the 3rd and the 5th notes in the key. E.G. chord of C taken from the row C. The 1st is C the 3rd is E the 5th is G. the three notes used for the chord of C is C E G. The chord of G would be the 1st G the 3rd B and the 5th D. the chord of G = G B D

For a minor chord look at the 6th note in the C row it is A so the minor chord that would be suitable for playing with the chords of C F and G would be A minor. To work out the notes needed for Am a further chart is required.

Key	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Am	A	B	C	D	E	F	G [#]	A

Again the 1st 3rd and 5th notes are used A minor would use A C and E
7th chords such as C7 would use the original three notes of C which are C E G plus the 7th note which is B on the chart. This note needs to go down one half note so the actual note would be B^b or B flat making the chord C E G B^b working out chords can be confusing for instance C major7 is a different chord to C7. C major 7 does use the B natural note i.e. the white key.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 24

Running Board

Running board is a series of chords making up a song (without words)
Running board incorporates most of the chords and playing techniques you have learned as you have taken this course.

This is the time to realize how much you have learned and how much you have practiced. Should you have chord changes you can't do smoothly or chords you can't remember, then go back a few lectures and make sure you can. Human nature makes us want to rush through practice schedules. Music is something you will be doing forever, a week or two longer is unimportant.

The next four lectures will teach you how to play this piece of music. Each lecture will teach a different part of the piece. You will need to practice each part for several days before attempting the next part. The fourth lecture will teach you the whole piece played together.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 25

Running Board - Part One

Note: five chords in one measure but the count of four.

Both Hands full chords

C C C C C/F F F F F/C C C C C/

1 2 & 3 4/1 2 & 3 4/1 2 & 3 4/

L R R R R/L R R R R/L R R R R

Both Hands Broken Chord OF G Broken - single notes

D B G B D _/

1 & 2 & 3 4 Right hand fingers 5 3 1 3 5 Left hand fingers 1 3 5 3 1

Both Hands

Left Hand Full chords, right hand notes

C C C C C/F F F F F/

1 2 & 3 4/1 2 & 3 4

L R R R R/L R R R R

Both Hands Broken Chord OF G

D B G B D D/

1 & 2 & 3 4 Right hand fingers 5 3 1 3 5 5 Left hand fingers 1 3 5 3
1 1

Both Hands

Both Hands full chords

F Em Dm C

1 2 3 4

Repeat from the beginning once.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 26

Running Board Part Two

Right Hand single notes last C is a chord both hands

C B A G F C/B A G F E B/A G F E D A/C

1 & 2 & 3 4/1 & 2 & 3 4/1 & 2 & 3 4/**1 2 3 4 played for 4 counts** both hands

Left Hand chords

F / Em / Dm / C chord (both hands)

Finger numbers for single note right hand playing 5 4 3 2 1

Repeat once

Practice each second day plus in between practice running board part one. Practice the separately, do not join them together yet.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 27

Running Board Part Three

Right Hand single notes /Play chords

E C A C E C/G B G B D B/C A F A C A/Em F G _ Last three RH chords

1 & 2 & 3 4/1 & 2 & 3 4/1 & 2 & 3 4/1 2 3 4

Am / G / F /Em F G _ left hand chords

Finger numbers right hand all chords 5 3 1 3 5 3

Left hand play full chords

Right hand

E C A C E C/D B G B D B/C A F A C A/G Last C is right hand chord

1 & 2 & 3 4/1 & 2 & 3 4/1 & 2 & 3 4/1 2 3 4

Am / G / F / G Left hand chords

Finger numbers right hand 5 3 1 3 5 3

Left hand play full chords last G both hands

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 28

Running Board the Whole Piece

Start with whole chords then single notes both hands in red

C CC C C/F FF F F/C CC C C/D BG B DD/C CC C C/F FF F F/D BG B DD/
F Em Dm C/

C CC C C/F FF F F/C CC C C/D BG B DD/C CC C C/F FF F F/D BG B DD/
F Em Dm C/

Right hand single notes left hand whole chords final C full chords both hands. The notes are from the chords below.

C BA G FC/B AG F EB/A GF E DA/C---/
C BA G FC/B AG F EB/A GF E DA/C---/
(F) / (Em) / (Dm) /C---/
E CA C EC/D BG B DB/C AF A CA/Em F G -/
E CA C EC/D BG B DB/C AF A CA/Em F G -/
(Am) / (Em) / (F) /Em F G -/

Start with full chords both hands, notes in red are single notes in both hands, note the chords below

C CC C C/F FF F/C CC C C/D BG B DD/C CC C C/F FF F F/D BG B DD/
F Em Dm C/

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 29

Added Extras

Songs can be played in a more interesting fashion by adding extras to them. Changing bass lines, adding turn a-rounds and other embellishments that create mood and interest to songs.

This section of the course concentrates on 12 bar blues as the majority of the songs you play, will be based loosely around this sequence. The chords used will be the three primary chords of the scale.

The primary chords from the scale of the key C major would be C F G the first is C the fourth is F and the fifth is G

The primary chords from the scale of F major scale of F would be F B \flat C and from the scale of G you would find G C and D being the first, the fourth, and the fifth notes of the scale.

Work them out from the chart below.

KEY OF	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
C	C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
F	F	G	A	B \flat	C	D	E	F
G	G	A	B	C	D	E	F \sharp	G

Extras are not used in every song and not all extras are used in a song. There are hundreds you could use, here you will learn a few that will show you how you can make your playing quite interesting.

When playing blues or rock you will often find that a nice bass run, is more appropriate than broken chords or single chords. This drives the song. Once you have learned them, you will find that you notice them in songs you hear playing. Examining songs for turn a-rounds, bass runs and other aspects of songs will become second nature to you.

Lecture 29 demonstrates some embellishments that will be taught in this course section.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 30

Bass 1

The count is 4 beats; each black note is played for half a count. Each red note is played for a whole count.

(These are notes not chords)

C E G E G / C E G E G / F A C A C / C E G E G / C E G E G / G B D B D / F A C A C / C E G E G / G G

Practice this for ten minutes.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 31

Bass 2

The count is 4 beats Each black note is played for half a count. Each red note is played for a whole count.

(These are notes not chords)

CC EE GG **E G**/ CC EE GG **E G**/FF AA CC **A C**/CC EE GG **E G**/CC EE GG **E G**/GG BB DD **B D**/FF AA CC **A C**/CC EE
GG **E G**/ GG **G**

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Lecture 32

Bass 3

Shadoogi is a common bass line that can be played whole or in parts and can also be modified.

The whole Notes (Count of 4)

C E G A/C A G.E/ C E G A/C A G.E/ F A C D/ F D C A/ C E G A/C A G.E/ G B D E/ G E D B/ C E G A/C A G.E/ C E G A/C A G.E/

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 33

Bass 4

Variation 1

C E G A / C A G E / C E G A / C A G E / F A C D / D # D C A / C E G A / C A G E / G B D E / G E D B / C E G A / C A G E / C E
G A / C A G E /

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Lecture 34

Bass 5

Variation 2

C E G A / C A G E / C E G A / C A G E / F A C D / E D C A / C E G A / C A G E / G B D E / G E D B / C E G A / C A G E / C E G A / C A # A G /

Practice all of these for ten minutes each.

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Lecture 35

Bass 6

A bass ending rather than a bass run. This can also be played with the right hand.

At the end of a set of chord progressions this can finish off a song nicely.

C E F# G A B C lowest C

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 36

Turn Around 1

This is a very simple turn around that can be used with a wide range of songs to good effect.

Changing from C to F use C, D, E, Use the inverted F chord

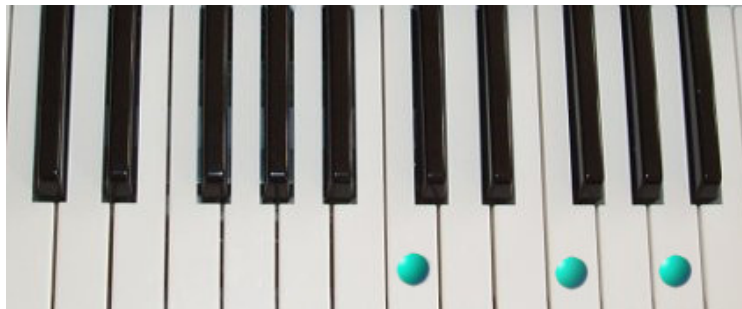
Changing from F to G use F, E, D, Use the inverted F Chord

Changing from G to C use G, A, B, Use the inverted C Chord

(If you know your inversions as numbers these are both second inversions.)



C Major Second Inversion



F Major Second Inversion

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 37

Turn Around 2

This is a very simple turn around, achieved, by simply by varying the timing of the playing the chord.
Easy to do and can be used in a wide range of songs.

The three chords C, F, and G are used in this lesson but the 1st 4th and 5th chords of any key can be used.
This is a timing turnaround rather than a note one.

C,C,C,C,/1 2&3 4

F, F, F, F/1 2&3 4

G, G, G, G,/1 2&3 4

Practice until you don't need to think about it.

When using it doesn't need to be used between every chord change.

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Lecture 38

Turn Around 3

A chord turn a-round always sounds good and is not hard to do. This one only uses two notes of a chord. The first note of the chord is not played. It could be played with the left hand for effect, before trying to do that practice with just the right hand.

Notes of Chords:

EG , D#F#, DF, CE, DF, D#F#, EG

The chords being played without the first note are

- C
- B
- Am inverted
- C inverted
- Am inverted
- B
- C

If you wish to play the notes with your left hand that are missing they would be

- C
- B
- A
- G
- A
- B
- C

This one is used to start a new sequence rather than between each chord change. Songs repeat in patterns. At the end of a pattern this is useful to join the ending of the pattern to the beginning of the start of the repeat pattern or the start of a new pattern.

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Lecture 39

Turn Around 4

A little more complicated but with a great sound.

Right Hand C+A#, C+A, C+G#, C+G, E, F, F#, G

This can be made to sound even better by adding the left hand later and then both hands together.

Left hand C, E, F, F#, G & hold two beats, G

Difficult at the start but well worth persevering with.

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Lecture 40

This video is a short demonstration of a bass run you learned earlier.

Note how the bass drives the music along, the same sequence is repeated in each chord place throughout. This is a very common type of song sequence.

The right hand is left free to do whatever is required. In the video a few chords are played but it could equally be chords and turn a-rounds.

As you listen to songs, listen for the bass line in the background, you will soon start to notice when bass sequences are used.

Lecture 41

Introduction to Dynamics

This lecture has nothing to practice, it is an introduction to dynamics, and it explains how dynamics affect the tone and nature of a song.

Notice how dynamics affect how songs are played.

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 42

Loud and Soft

Practice Schedule:

Count one has two hands with all chords played loud, hold the left hand chord down to sustain the sound while playing the right hand chords softly.

Be careful to ensure that the right hand chord volume is equal on each count.

C C C C / F F F F / C C C C / G G G G / C C C C

Now using the sustain pedal. (The left one on piano.)

Press and hold down the sustain pedal, starting with the first chord. Note it is the same as with the above sequence but the sustained chord is longer and brighter. The difference in the effect is used for different types of song depending on the mood.

C C C C / F F F F / C C C C / G G G G / C C C C

Although this is a simple exercise it is very easy to get wrong. Getting this wrong will result in the notes overwhelming each other and sound awful. Ensure that all right hand chords are the same volume.

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Lecture 43

Staccato & Legato

Practice schedule:

The count is two beats to the bar.

Left hand notes are in red.

Right hand notes are in black and are all the notes of the broken chords. The letters in brackets are the name of the chord.

Play this staccato

C (C) C E G / **A** (Am) A C E / **F** (F) F A C / **G** (G) G B D

Play this legato

C (C) C E G / **A** (Am) A C E / **F** (F) F A C / **G** (G) G B D

Practice until smooth and equal volume. Notice the difference in the two types of playing. Try changing the volume of some of the notes.

Practice with and without the use of the pedal, notice the difference in sound.

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Lecture 44

Putting dynamics into effect.

This is a demonstration lecture that demonstrates various dynamic sounds within a small piece of music. Note the different types of playing between singing sections for different effects. Especially notice the use of loud and soft.

Dynamics are one of the most important aspects of making your playing sound professional.

As you listen to songs, especially songs you are wishing to play.

- Notice the dynamics of the playing.
- Loud/Soft, sustained/not sustained,
- Sustained by use of the pedal.
- The use of different volume levels, for left and right hand playing.
- Notice when notes are played in staccato and when legato.
- Often the left hand is played legato and the right hand is played staccato.
- Notice the timing of the song, it is essential for putting in turn a-ounds or bass runs.

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Lecture 45

Wind beneath my wings

This is another demonstration lesson. To show how songs can be played using various dynamics. It is complete with awful singing, don't practice that!

By now you are in a position to be able to find the chords and music for a song. Listen to it and work out its dynamics. Then begin learning the song using various dynamics to bring out the best in the song.

Take time learning each one; do not try to introduce too many types of dynamics into a single song. Turn a-rounds also need to be used sparingly, sometimes only once in a song.

The level you are at now should allow you to play confidently and at a high standard. Concentrate on quality not quantity. Learn each song properly before moving on to the next song.

Contact me at anytime with problems. Send me videos or audios of your problems and I will do my best to advise you. Or if you think you are doing well, send me a recording of you playing well.

Questions are best asked through the Udemmy system, this allows other students to see the questions and answers, which helps them. Recordings will need to be sent direct to me at.

support@jackieclarkmusic.com

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Lecture 46

Section introduction, this section introduces finger exercises. Finger exercises improve dexterity with using the keyboard of the piano.

More importantly they enable the span between fingers to increase.

The hand has a ligament that ties the 3,4 & 5th fingers together. This reduces the amount of flexibility with the 4th finger. Exercising the fingers will stretch the ligament and provide more movement.

Exercises should be practised regularly. They can be practised as a warm up before playing every day or at the end of a session. Anytime to suit you is fine. As long as you practice regularly your fingers will be much more controllable for you.

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Lecture 47

Finger exercise 1 Left Hand

C	E	F	G	A	G	F	E	D	F	G	A	B	A	G	F	E	G	A	B	C	B	A	G
5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4

F	A	B	C	D	C	B	A	G	B	C	D	E	D	C	B	A	C	D	E	F	E	D	C
5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4

B	D	E	F	G	F	E	D	C
5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5

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Lecture 48

Finger Exercise 2 Right Hand

G	E	D	C	B	C	D	E	F	D	C	B	A	B	C	D	E	C	B	A	G	A	B	C
5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4

D	B	A	G	F	G	A	B	C	A	G	F	E	F	G	A	B	G	F	E	D	E	F	G
5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4

A	F	E	D	C
5	4	3	2	1

Finger Exercise 2 Left Hand

G	E	D	C	B	C	D	E	F	D	C	B	A	B	C	D	E	C	B	A	G	A	B	C
1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2

D	B	A	G	F	G	A	B	C	A	G	F	E	F	G	A	B	G	F	E	D	E	F	G
1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2

A	F	E	D	C
1	2	3	4	5

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 49

This exercise uses both hands. The left hand plays a chord while the right hand plays the single note exercises.

The first chord is C major. The next chord is exactly the same shape but one note higher. So, the first chords uses the notes of C E G the next is D F A the next chord is E G B. The same shape just moving up the keys one note at a time.

The right hand plays the notes in the chart.

The left hand plays a chord corresponding to the first note of each sequence.

The first note is C so the chord C is played at the start of the sequence. The right hand continues the sequence until it returns to the note D at this point the left hand plays a chord starting with D. It is the same C chord shape just moved up one note.

Right Hand Notes. Left Hand Chords

C	D	E	F	G	E	C	D	E	F	G	A	F	D	E	F	G	A	B	G	E	Notes
1	2	3	4	5	3	1	1	2	3	4	5	3	1	1	2	3	4	5	3	1	Fingers
C							D							E							R/H Note

F	G	A	B	C	A	F	G	A	B	C	D	B	G	A	B	C	D	E	C	A
1	2	3	4	5	3	1	1	2	3	4	5	3	1	1	2	3	4	5	3	1
F							G							A						

B	C	D	E	F	D	C	C	D	E	F	G	E	C
1	2	3	4	5	3	1	1	2	3	4	5	3	1
B							C						

Lower column indicates the first note of the chord shape to be played

C= CEG

D= DFA

E= EGB

F= FAC

G= GBD

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 50

Left Hand Notes. Right Hand Chords.

C	D	E	F	G	E	C	D	E	F	G	A	F	D	E	F	G	A	B	G	E	Notes
5	4	3	2	1	3	5	5	4	3	2	1	3	5	5	4	3	2	1	3	5	Fingers
C							D							E							L/H Note

F	G	A	B	C	A	F	G	A	B	C	D	B	G	A	B	C	D	E	C	A
5	4	3	2	1	3	5	5	4	3	2	1	3	5	5	4	3	2	1	3	5
F							G							A						

B	C	D	E	F	D	C	C	D	E	F	G	E	C
5	4	3	2	1	3	5	5	4	3	2	1	3	5
B							C						

Lower column indicates the first note of the chord shape to be played

C= CEG

D= DFA

E= EGB

F= FAC

G= GBD

Just Chords Piano

Lecture 51

Catching fingers

Many problems with piano playing are caused by tow issues.

1. Incorrect hand shape
2. Fingers that are not flexible or being controlled properly.

Demonstrations in the course are often done with fingers that are straighter than they should be. This done to ensure you the student can see where the fingers are pressing the notes of the piano.

Hands should always be in a shape as if holding a tennis ball. This allows more control and technique when playing, especially loud and soft. Fingers then hook over adjacent notes without catching notes on either side of the one needed.

Regular exercise fingers to:

1. Strengthen the finger muscles
2. Free up restraining ligaments and muscles
3. Provide control over each individual finger

Before every session practice an exercise to warm up the fingers and hands. Stiff fingers will never allow good results to be achieved.

Another method of exercise is to practice scale playing. This not only stretches fingers but reinforces scales in your mind. At this stage in your playing you will be able to play many songs with chords. This may be sufficient for your needs.

If you wish to go further then it is probably time to think about moving to a more music based approach. Scales are the ideal way to start to understand music.

Just Chords Piano

Blank for notes

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Appendix – A

Major and minor Keys

To work out the notes for any chord in any major or minor key shown below use the 1st 3rd and 5th notes of the scale.

For a 7th chord use 1st 3rd (optional 5th) and 7th notes of the scale, normally use 1st 3rd and the 7th flattened. Example C major 7 (CM7) would be C,E,B the normal chord to play with the chords learned so far would be C7 which is C,E,B^b

To find the minor chord for a key go to the 6th note of the key and play that note as a minor chord. Example; key of C the 6th note is A so the chord is Am

To find out the notes for the chord of Am go to the line that represents Am. The 1st 3rd and 5th notes are A,C and E.

Chart on next page:

Just Chords Piano

Key Chart

Keys	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
A	A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#	A
B	B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A#	B
C	C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
D	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C#	D
E	E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D#	E
F	F	G	A	Bb	C	D	E	F
G	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G
A#/Bb	Bb	C	D	Eb	F	G	A	Bb
C#/Db	Db	Eb	F	Gb	Ab	Bb	C	Db
D#/Eb	Eb	F	G	Ab	Bb	C	D	Eb
F#/Gb	F#	G#	A#	B	C#	D#	E#/F	F#
G#/Ab	Ab	Bb	C	Db	Eb	F	G	Ab
Am	A	B	C	D	E	F	G#	A
Dm	D	E	F	G	A	Bb	C#	D
Em	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D#	E

Just Chords Piano

Appendix B

The following song sheet can be used in a computer to record songs or by printing and manually writing the song in.

The text verse 1 chorus verse 2 etc. is for guidance purposes and can be deleted if not required. They will have to be deleted if printing.

Use the sheets at all times to ensure you follow the formula. You will soon find the process automatic. Your speed of learning and degree of retention will improve as you learn more songs.

If you learn a song a week you will have 50 songs known and perfected by this time next year, 100 songs in two years time. More than the average rock band has on its gig play list.

To use the sheet listen to a song and write out the chords on the sheet (there is a word copy for you to print and write on or type if you prefer)

Once the whole song is on the sheet, listen to the song and work out the timing. Loud, when soft, when normal volume etc.

Use the letters to describe these. (Hand writing may be better than typing) L is for playing loud, MF would be used to return to normal volume. P would indicate playing soft until the next MF or L. Staccato playing use S and for Legato playing use L (In music these two are not done with letters S and L but the normal methods in music will not either fit or be recognisable.)

Once you have your description written for your song you have the basics to make it sound really great.

The word version of the song sheet is fully editable to suit your requirements.

Just Chords Piano

Song Name

Artist.....

Date.....

Chord order

Count of the song.....

Include dynamics in the song.

F=loud

P=soft

MF normal volume

S=staccato

L=legato

Verse 1

Verse 2

Chorus

Verse 3

Chorus

Just Chords Piano

Verse 1 or 3 or 4 etc

Notes on any special ending etc.