

Christmas Arrangement

Yoke Wong



DVD - Course
www.YokeWong.net

Christmas Arrangements

By Yoke Wong

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How It All Began:

I started arranging Christmas music back in the late nineties. During that time, I was often asked to play prelude music at our church Christmas service.

Soon I became a new mom. My family took precedent over my business career, so I quit my 9 to 5 and stayed home to raise my children. However, music was a God-given and inspiring part of my life, so I began compiling a series of DVD improvisation courses. The response has been fantastic, but ...

I realized something was missing: **How to improvise Christmas Music!**

Of course...since if there's ever a time to sit down and play for friends and family, it's the joyous Christmas season. And so, I made it a priority to create these special lessons:

The Christmas Arrangement DVD Course!

It's interesting: Every year I perform Christmas arrangements, it always sounds different than the year before. I know this is partly due to my improved piano-playing skills, but most of all it comes from a deepening understanding of the meaning of Christmas and Our Lord's birth.

It's my sincere hope these special arrangements will not only help improve your piano improvising and arrangement abilities, but increase the joy and promise of peace that only this special time of the year seems to create. There's no doubt in my mind that once you start playing these wonderful tunes, Christmas will have a wonderful new meaning in your life as well.

Even though this Christmas DVD set comes with sheet music, my goal is for you to start improvising and infusing these holiday pieces with your own unique, personal style. Think of the sheet music provided with this binder as a guide, encouraging you to understand and analyze the meaning behind the music.

Then play as the Lord intended – free, joy filled and soul inspired.

I truly wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cordially,
Yoke Wong

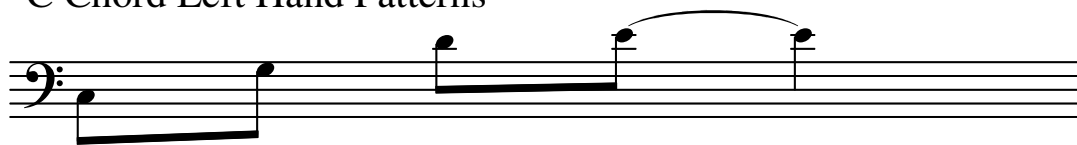
P.S. I still remember the night I asked God to prepare me to be a better pianist in order to serve Him well. These arrangements are results of my prayers.

Away In A Manger



Away In A Manger Left Hand Patterns

C Chord Left Hand Patterns



Away In A Manger - Right Hand Patterns

Harmonize the melody with thirds



Harmonize the melody with sixths



Harmonize the melody with fifths



Harmonize the melody with fourths



Away In A Manger

Arranged By Yoke Wong

<http://www.yokewong.net>

♩ = 98

Piano

Measures 1-4 of the piano arrangement. The music is in 3/4 time. The right hand plays chords and single notes, while the left hand plays a continuous eighth-note accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

5

Measures 5-8 of the piano arrangement. The right hand features a melodic line with a grace note in measure 5. The left hand continues the eighth-note accompaniment.

9

Measures 9-13 of the piano arrangement. The right hand plays a series of eighth notes. The left hand continues the eighth-note accompaniment.

14

Measures 14-18 of the piano arrangement. The right hand plays chords. The left hand continues the eighth-note accompaniment.

Away In A Manger

19

Musical score for "Away In A Manger" starting at measure 19. The score is in G major, 4/4 time. The treble staff features a series of chords: G4-B4 (quarter), G4-B4-A4 (quarter), G4-B4-A4 (quarter), and G4-B4-A4 (quarter). The bass staff features a series of eighth notes: G3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), B3 (quarter), C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), and G4 (quarter). The piece ends with a double bar line.

Silent Night

The musical score for "Silent Night" is presented in 3/4 time, spanning four staves. The melody is written in treble clef. Chords are indicated by letters C, F, and G above the staff lines.

Staff 1: Measures 1-5. Chords: C (measures 1-2), C (measures 3-4), G (measure 5).

Staff 2: Measures 6-11. Chords: C (measures 6-7), F (measures 8-9), C (measures 10-11).

Staff 3: Measures 12-17. Chords: C (measures 12-13), F (measures 14-15), C (measures 16-17).

Staff 4: Measures 18-23. Chords: C (measures 18-19), G (measures 20-21), C (measures 22-23).

Silent Night

Arranged By Yoke Wong

Calm and Expressively

The musical score for 'Piano' is written in 3/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The piece begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains a series of notes and rests, with a dynamic marking of 'Piano' (p) at the beginning. The second staff contains a series of notes and rests, with a dynamic marking of 'Piano' (p) at the beginning. The piece concludes with a final note and a double bar line.

6

Musical score for 'The Rose Tree' in G major, 2/4 time. The score is written for piano (p) and features a treble and bass staff. The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The score consists of 6 measures. The first measure has a treble staff with a whole note chord (G4, B4, D5) and a bass staff with a whole note chord (G2, B1, D2). The second measure has a treble staff with a whole note chord (A4, C5, E5) and a bass staff with a whole note chord (A2, C3, E3). The third measure has a treble staff with a whole note chord (B4, D5, F#5) and a bass staff with a whole note chord (B2, D3, F#3). The fourth measure has a treble staff with a whole note chord (C5, E5, G5) and a bass staff with a whole note chord (C3, E3, G3). The fifth measure has a treble staff with a whole note chord (D5, F#5, A5) and a bass staff with a whole note chord (D3, F#3, A3). The sixth measure has a treble staff with a whole note chord (E5, G5, B5) and a bass staff with a whole note chord (E3, G3, B3). The score ends with a double bar line.

Example 16 shows measures 1 through 5 of a musical piece. The notation is in treble and bass clefs. The melody in the treble clef consists of chords and single notes, while the bass clef features a more active line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

Silent Night pg. 2

21

Musical notation for measures 21-25. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains chords in measures 21-22, followed by a whole note chord in measure 23, and eighth notes in measures 24-25. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains eighth notes in measures 21-22, followed by a whole note chord in measure 23, and eighth notes in measures 24-25. A key signature change to one sharp (F#) occurs at the beginning of measure 23.

26

Musical notation for measures 26-28. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a half note in measure 26, followed by eighth notes in measure 27, and a whole note in measure 28. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains eighth notes in measure 26, followed by a whole rest in measure 27, and a whole rest in measure 28. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 28.

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

19th Century English Carol

Am F

5 E Am F

9 E Dm C Am

13 Dm Am F Am

17 Dm F C Am

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Arranged By Yoke Wong

Piano

The first system of the piano arrangement. The right hand (treble clef) features a continuous eighth-note melody. The left hand (bass clef) provides a harmonic accompaniment with sustained chords, indicated by a long horizontal line across the first two measures.

4

The second system of the piano arrangement, starting at measure 4. The right hand continues the eighth-note melody. The left hand accompaniment consists of sustained chords, with a long horizontal line spanning the first two measures.

7

The third system of the piano arrangement, starting at measure 7. The right hand continues the eighth-note melody. The left hand accompaniment consists of sustained chords, with a long horizontal line spanning the first two measures.

10

The fourth system of the piano arrangement, starting at measure 10. The right hand continues the eighth-note melody. The left hand accompaniment consists of sustained chords, with a long horizontal line spanning the first two measures.

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen, page 2

13

Musical notation for measures 13-15. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 13: Treble has a half note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4. Bass has a half note E3, quarter note F3, quarter note G3. Measure 14: Treble has a half note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Bass has a half note F3, quarter note G3, quarter note A3. Measure 15: Treble has a half note B4, quarter note C5, quarter note B4. Bass has a half note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3. A repeat sign is at the end of the system.

16

Musical notation for measures 16-19. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 16: Treble has a half note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4. Bass has a half note E3, quarter note F3, quarter note G3. Measure 17: Treble has a half note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Bass has a half note F3, quarter note G3, quarter note A3. Measure 18: Treble has a half note B4, quarter note C5, quarter note B4. Bass has a half note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3. Measure 19: Treble has a half note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Bass has a half note F3, quarter note G3, quarter note A3. A repeat sign is at the end of the system.

20

Musical notation for measures 20-22. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 20: Treble has a half note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4. Bass has a half note E3, quarter note F3, quarter note G3. Measure 21: Treble has a half note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Bass has a half note F3, quarter note G3, quarter note A3. Measure 22: Treble has a half note B4, quarter note C5, quarter note B4. Bass has a half note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3. A repeat sign is at the end of the system.

Go Tell It On The Mountain

<http://www.playpianotips.com>

5 9 13

F Bb F C F

Bb F Dm Bb C F *Fine*

C Dm C F

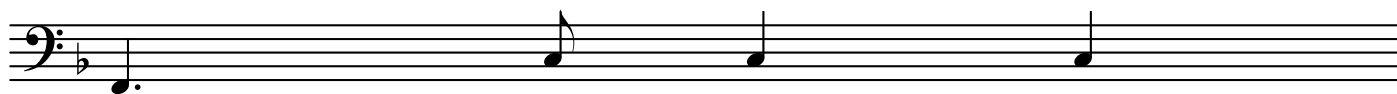
G7 C *D.C. al Fine* C7

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere; Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night. Be hold throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light.
2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo a bove the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
3. Down in a lowly manger. Our humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.

Go Tell It On The Mountain Left Hand Patterns

F major chord and patterns



Consider coming up with your own left hand patterns!

Go Tell It On The Mountain

Arranged By Yoke Wong

Piano

Measures 1-3 of the piano arrangement. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 1 has a treble clef with a half note F4 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 2 has a treble clef with a half note G4 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 3 has a treble clef with a half note A4 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Chord symbols F, F, and C are written above the treble staff in measures 1, 2, and 3 respectively.

Measures 4-6 of the piano arrangement. Measure 4 has a treble clef with a half note B4 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 5 has a treble clef with a half note C5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 6 has a treble clef with a half note D5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Chord symbols F and F are written above the treble staff in measures 4 and 6 respectively.

Measures 7-10 of the piano arrangement. Measure 7 has a treble clef with a half note E5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 8 has a treble clef with a half note F5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 9 has a treble clef with a half note G5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 10 has a treble clef with a half note A5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Chord symbols C and F are written above the treble staff in measures 7 and 8 respectively.

Measures 11-14 of the piano arrangement. Measure 11 has a treble clef with a half note B4 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 12 has a treble clef with a half note C5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 13 has a treble clef with a half note D5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Measure 14 has a treble clef with a half note E5 and a bass clef with a dotted half note F2. Chord symbols C and F are written above the treble staff in measures 11 and 12 respectively.

Go Tell It On The Mountain pg. 2

D.C. al Fine

15 G7 C

The musical score is written for piano in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of two measures. Measure 15 begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (F major), and a common time signature. The melody in the treble staff starts on G4, moves to A4, then B4, and ends on C5. The bass staff starts on G3, moves to A3, then B3, and ends on C4. Measure 16 continues the melody in the treble staff with a half note C5, followed by a whole rest. The bass staff continues with a half note G3, followed by a whole rest. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Ding Dong! Merrily On High!

French Carol

4 Bb 5 Eb Bb

5

9 4 Dm 3 Cm 4 Bb 4 F

13 3 Gm F 3 2 Gm Bb

Ding Dong! Merrily On High!

Arranged By Yoke Wong

Lively

Piano

8^{va}

6

4

5

12

(8^{va})

18

rit.

Carol Of The Bells

Musical score for "Carol Of The Bells" in 3/4 time. The score consists of seven staves of music, each containing a single melodic line with chords indicated above the notes. The chords are: Am, F, Dm, Am (measures 1-4); F, Dm (measures 5-8); (measures 9-12); (measures 13-16); Am, Fm, Dm, Am (measures 17-20); E (measures 21-24); and (measures 25-28). The melody is written in treble clef and features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing beamed eighth notes. Measure numbers 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, and 25 are marked at the beginning of their respective staves.

Am F Dm Am

5 F Dm

9

13

17 Am Fm Dm Am

21 E

25

Carol Of The Bells pg. 2



Carol Of The Bells

arranged by Yoke Wong

Piano

Measures 1-5 of the piano arrangement. The treble clef staff contains whole rests. The bass clef staff begins with a 3/4 time signature. Measure 1: quarter note C2, eighth note G1, quarter note F1. Measure 2: quarter note E1, eighth note D1, quarter note C1. Measure 3: quarter note B0, eighth note A0, quarter note G0. Measure 4: quarter note F#0, eighth note E#0, quarter note D#0. Measure 5: quarter note C#0, eighth note B#0, quarter note A#0.

6

Measures 6-10. Measure 6: quarter note G1, eighth note F1, quarter note E1. Measure 7: quarter note D1, eighth note C1, quarter note B0. Measure 8: quarter note A0, eighth note G0, quarter note F#0. Measure 9: quarter note E#0, eighth note D#0, quarter note C#0. Measure 10: quarter note B#0, eighth note A#0, quarter note G#0.

11

Measures 11-15. Measure 11: quarter note F#0, eighth note E#0, quarter note D#0. Measure 12: quarter note C#0, eighth note B#0, quarter note A#0. Measure 13: quarter note G#0, eighth note F#0, quarter note E#0. Measure 14: quarter note D#0, eighth note C#0, quarter note B#0. Measure 15: quarter note A#0, eighth note G#0, quarter note F#0.

16

Measures 16-20. Measure 16: quarter note E#0, eighth note D#0, quarter note C#0. Measure 17: quarter note B#0, eighth note A#0, quarter note G#0. Measure 18: quarter note F#0, eighth note E#0, quarter note D#0. Measure 19: quarter note C#0, eighth note B#0, quarter note A#0. Measure 20: quarter note G#0, eighth note F#0, quarter note E#0.

21

carol of the bells, pg2

Measures 21-25 of the piano accompaniment for 'Carol of the Bells'. The music is in G major and 3/4 time. The right hand features a melody of eighth notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

26

Measures 26-30 of the piano accompaniment. The right hand continues the melodic line, and the left hand maintains the harmonic support with chords and eighth-note patterns.

31

8^{va} - - - - -

Measures 31-35 of the piano accompaniment. The right hand melody is marked with an 8va (octave up) instruction. The left hand continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

36

8^{va} - - - - -

Measures 36-40 of the piano accompaniment. The right hand melody is marked with an 8va instruction. The left hand continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

40

8^{va} - - - - -

Measures 41-45 of the piano accompaniment. The right hand melody is marked with an 8va instruction. The left hand continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

Carol Of The Bells pg. 3

45

Musical score for "Carol Of The Bells pg. 3" starting at measure 45. The score is in 3/4 time and features a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains whole rests for the first three measures and a whole note chord (F#4, C#5) in the fourth measure. The bass staff contains a descending eighth-note line (G3, F#3, E3, D3) with a dotted half note (F#3) in the fourth measure. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4.

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

Chord symbols for the first staff: F, C, F, C, F, C7

Chord symbols for the second staff: Dm/F, Bb, C, C

Chord symbols for the third staff: F, Gm, F, C, Bb, C

Chord symbols for the fourth staff: F

Chord symbols for the fifth staff: Bb, C, C/F, F, C7, F

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

Arranged By Yoke Wong

Piano

4

7

11

fff rit.

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL pg. 2

15

15 16 17 18

19

19 20 21 22 *p*

23

23 24 25 26 *mp*

27

27 28 29 30 *accel.* *fff*

Bonus Section

Country Rag

Yoke Wong

<http://www.playpianotips.com>

Lively

Piano

Measures 1-3 of the piano score. The treble clef staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter rest, then a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a half note E4. The bass clef staff has a whole rest in measure 1, then a half note C3, a quarter note D3, and a half note E3 in measure 2. In measure 3, the bass clef has a half note C3, a quarter note D3, and a half note E3, followed by a half note F3 and a quarter note G3.

4

Measures 4-7 of the piano score. The treble clef staff continues the melody from measure 3, ending with a half note G4. The bass clef staff has a half note C3, a quarter note D3, and a half note E3 in measure 4, followed by a half note F3 and a quarter note G3 in measure 5. In measure 6, the bass clef has a half note C3, a quarter note D3, and a half note E3, followed by a half note F3 and a quarter note G3. In measure 7, the bass clef has a half note C3, a quarter note D3, and a half note E3, followed by a half note F3 and a quarter note G3.

8

Measures 8-11 of the piano score. The treble clef staff has a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a half note E4 in measure 8, followed by a half note D4 and a quarter note C4 in measure 9. In measure 10, the treble clef has a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a half note E4, followed by a half note D4 and a quarter note C4. In measure 11, the treble clef has a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a half note E4, followed by a half note D4 and a quarter note C4.

12

Measures 12-15 of the piano score. The treble clef staff has a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a half note E4 in measure 12, followed by a half note D4 and a quarter note C4 in measure 13. In measure 14, the treble clef has a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a half note E4, followed by a half note D4 and a quarter note C4. In measure 15, the treble clef has a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a half note E4, followed by a half note D4 and a quarter note C4.

16

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in a two-staff format. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in a simple, folk-like style, featuring eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a common time signature (C). The accompaniment is written in a simple, folk-like style, featuring eighth and quarter notes. The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines. The first measure contains a treble staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The second measure contains a treble staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The third measure contains a treble staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The fourth measure contains a treble staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C).

Seashore Collection 2

Yoke Wong

Piano

$\bullet = 90$

Moderato *mp*

Ad.

4

7

f

10

13

Measures 13-16. Treble clef: Measure 13 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 14 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 15 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 16 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Bass clef: Measure 13 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 14 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 15 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 16 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it.

17

Measures 17-19. Treble clef: Measure 17 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 18 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 19 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Bass clef: Measure 17 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 18 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 19 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it.

20

Measures 20-22. Treble clef: Measure 20 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 21 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 22 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Bass clef: Measure 20 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 21 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 22 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it.

23 coda

Measures 23-25. Treble clef: Measure 23 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 24 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Measure 25 has a half-note chord (F4, A4) with an eighth-note chord (F4, A4) tied to it. Bass clef: Measure 23 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 24 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it. Measure 25 has a half-note chord (F2, A2) with an eighth-note chord (F2, A2) tied to it.

8^{va}

Celtic Dance

Yoke Wong

<http://www.playpianotips.com>

Piano

The first system of the piano score for 'Celtic Dance' consists of four measures. The treble clef staff is in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It begins with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, then a quarter note C5, and ends with a quarter note B4. The bass clef staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords: G2-B2 (quarter), D3-F#3 (quarter), G2-B2 (quarter), and D3-F#3 (quarter). The first measure contains a dotted quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2 and B2, then a quarter note C3, and ends with a quarter note B2.

5

The second system of the piano score for 'Celtic Dance' consists of four measures. The treble clef staff continues the melody from measure 5: quarter note C5, eighth notes D5 and E5, then a quarter note F#5, and ends with a quarter note E5. The bass clef staff continues the harmonic accompaniment with chords: G2-B2 (quarter), D3-F#3 (quarter), G2-B2 (quarter), and D3-F#3 (quarter). The first measure contains a dotted quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2 and B2, then a quarter note C3, and ends with a quarter note B2.

9

The third system of the piano score for 'Celtic Dance' consists of four measures. The treble clef staff continues the melody from measure 9: quarter note F#5, eighth notes G5 and A5, then a quarter note B5, and ends with a quarter note A5. The bass clef staff continues the harmonic accompaniment with chords: G2-B2 (quarter), D3-F#3 (quarter), G2-B2 (quarter), and D3-F#3 (quarter). The first measure contains a dotted quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2 and B2, then a quarter note C3, and ends with a quarter note B2.

13

The fourth system of the piano score for 'Celtic Dance' consists of four measures. The treble clef staff continues the melody from measure 13: quarter note G5, eighth notes A5 and B5, then a quarter note C6, and ends with a quarter note B5. The bass clef staff continues the harmonic accompaniment with chords: G2-B2 (quarter), D3-F#3 (quarter), G2-B2 (quarter), and D3-F#3 (quarter). The first measure contains a dotted quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2 and B2, then a quarter note C3, and ends with a quarter note B2.

Celtic Dance

17

Musical notation for measures 17-21. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The melody in the treble clef consists of eighth and quarter notes. The bass line consists of dotted half notes and quarter notes with eighth rests.

22

Musical notation for measures 22-26. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The melody in the treble clef consists of quarter and eighth notes. The bass line consists of dotted half notes and quarter notes with eighth rests. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 26.

How to Practice Piano

I used to practice piano for hours on any given day. Only recently did I realize my time and efforts were not being put to good use. Now I would like to share some of the important information that redirected me. These suggestions will help you or your children make better use of your practice time.

1. Practice only one portion at a time. Have you heard the saying: "How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time. This is true for any task. Do not practice the whole piece in one day. Take the piano piece you are going to learn and break it up into smaller, more manageable portions. You will need time to digest each part. Fingers need to become familiar with the location and touch of the notes.

2. Analyze the piece by observing repeated segments. Very often a music piece has these repeating segments. Sometimes these segments might vary slightly. By doing this analysis, you may be practicing only a small segment, but you are actually covering the repeated portions that appear later on in the same piece.
Also analyze the forms of the piece. A common music form is ABA, AABA, AABB, ABCA, etc.

3. Chord/Cadence Analysis. The same chord may appear for a few measures. This is true for music in any musical period (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Modern, etc.). If you notice the same chord repeating for many measures, the notes within those measures belong to the same chord and scale. Doing this analysis will help your sight reading abilities and help you predict the chord and notes ahead of time.

4. Warm up your fingers by playing the key of the piece. If the music piece is in the key of A major, you may want to warm up your A major scale by playing it numerous times to acquire a feel of the A major tone and fingering.

5. Write down the three most important chords of the key. If the piece is in the key of A major, you may write down the tonic, dominant, and subdominant chord respectively. They are A chord, D chord, and E chord. You will soon discover the left hand part of the music is comprised mostly of these three chords. This is true for any type of music. These three chords are the ones mostly used and harmonized.

6. Practice each hand separately at first. This method is most useful if you are playing pieces from the Baroque period. Music composed by Bach has many themes. Very often each hand is playing a different subject. Practice slowly in the beginning and speed up once you have a good understanding of the piece. This is important when you have a music piece that varies in rhythm (going from a quarter note to a half note, dotted quarter note, etc.).

7. Do not lose your sanity! Some music can be frustrating to learn. Keep a positive attitude. Even though you are practicing a small portion at a time, you are still making progress. Some advanced repertoires take 4-6 months or even longer to master.

I hope the above suggestions help make your practice more productive.

Month of: _____ Name: _____	End of month totals: 1. Total days instrument played: _____ 2. Total minutes practiced: _____ 3. Total new songs learned: _____
Directions: 1. Print this sheet out and fill in the your name, instrument, and the month below. 2. Each day you practice your instrument, initial or sign in the box below. 3. Fill in your "end of month totals" above.	

Practice Log

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

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