EARLY INTERMEDIATE



CAROL OF THE BELLS

(Ukrainian Bell Carol)
Arranged by Carol Matz





CAROL OF THE BELLS(Ukrainian Bell Carol)

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For inquiries, contact us at: info@carolmatzpiano.com

In addition to printing, this PDF may be loaded to a tablet (such as an iPad®) for use with apps that allow you to write on the music with a stylus or finger. For more information on this, refer to "Using PDFs on Tablets" in the FAQ section at carolmatzpiano.com

<u>Click here</u> for tips on sharing the materials with your students!



Download the mp3s to a computer, import to iTunes®, then sync your device! See page 3 for more info about the mp3 backing tracks and model performance recording.

Adjusting MP3 Tempos (Speed)

To control the track tempos, import the MP3s to a device (mobile phone or tablet), and use an app that lets you vary the speed while keeping the same pitches. Click below for more information!



STUDENT Resources





TRACK LISTING: CAROL OF THE BELLS (Ukrainian Bell Carol) Early Intermediate

- 1. Carol of the Bells ORCH Performance
- 2. Carol of the Bells ORCH Practice
- 3. Carol of the Bells PIANO

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MULTIMEDIA Carol of the Bells (Ukrainian Bell Carol)

Carol of the Bells (or "Ukrainian Bell Carol") is based on a Ukrainian New Year's song called **Shchedryk**, meaning "The Little Swallow," which tells a story about a swallow (bird) flying inside a house to sing about the good fortune to come in the upcoming spring.

In 1916, Ukrainian teacher and composer **Mykola Leontovych** arranged the song for a chorus singing **a cappella** (without accompaniment, like in the movie "Pitch Perfect." **CLICK BELOW** to listen to singers from Odesa, Ukraine.





"Shchedryk" (Carol of the Bells), by Mykola Leontovych. Performed by the ensemble "Kalyna," Odesa, Ukraine. Click the photo of Mykola Leontovych to learn more about the story behind the music!



WHAT IS AN OSTINATO

Carol of the Bells ("Ukrainian Bell Carol") is a composition based around an **ostinato**— a musical idea that repeats over and over:

The repeated musical idea itself is called a **motif** (mo-TEEF). It can be a rhythm pattern, a phrase, or even a handful of notes.



CLICK BELOW to hear ostinatos used in pop and rock music excerpts:

"Bittersweet Symphony" by The Verve

"Baba O'Riley" by The Who

About the Student EXPLORATION PAGES



The **Student Exploration Pages** are designed for students to dig deeper into their assigned piece, discover, and create!

With younger students, I recommend that teachers go through the activities with the student **during the lesson**.

The activities on these pages are designed to familiarize the student with various musical concepts, rhythmic figures, and/or patterns highlighted in each piece. To get the most out of the activities, I recommend having the student do them **before** learning the piece.

Activities INCLUDE:



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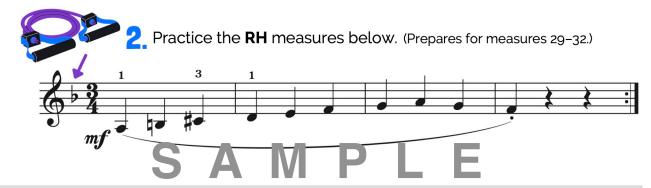
CAROL OF THE BELLS (UKRAINIAN BELL CAROL)

Student EXPLORATION Page



WARN-UP Practice the RH measures below. (Prepares for measures 25-28.)





DISCOVER



In **measures 1–25**, circle the dynamics.

The music in this section gets:

(louder or softer)

In measures 33 to the end, circle the dynamics.

The music in this section gets: _

(louder or softer)

- What does "ped. simile" mean? (Explain to your teacher.)
- Play the **LH** in **measures 14–16**.

 What interval is played in each measure?



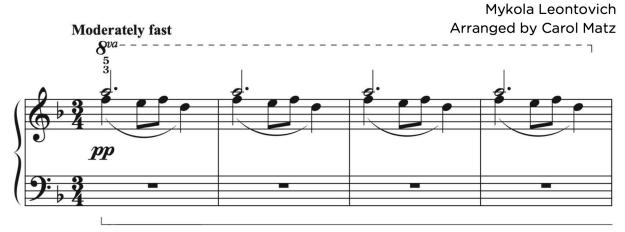


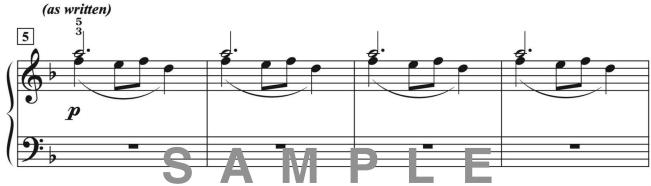
Turn the page for the piece itself!

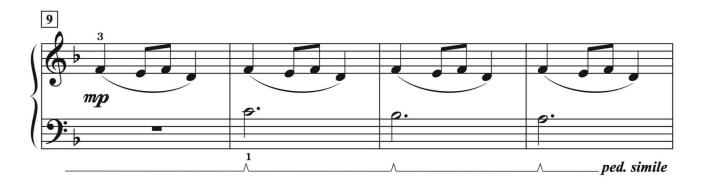
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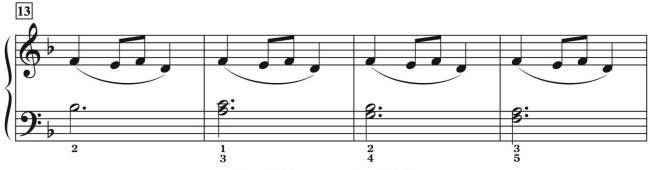
Carol of the Bells

(Ukrainian Bell Carol)









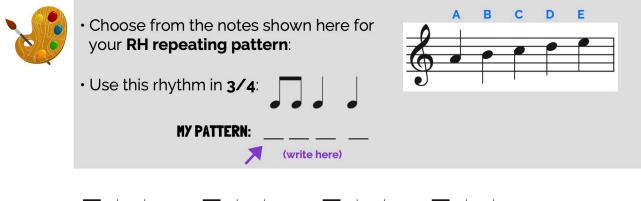
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BONUS ACTIVITY After Learning the Piece

LH:

CREATE Create an improvisation based on musical ideas from "Carol of the Bells."



- 1. Hold the **pedal** and play your RH pattern **4 times** high on the keyboard. (Try starting 2 octaves higher than the notes written above.)
- 2. Play the same thing one octave lower, still holding the pedal.

SAMPLE

- 3. Move down another octave and continue your RH pattern.
 This time, change the pedal on each repeat of the RH pattern.
- 4. Continue the RH pattern and pedaling.

 For each repeat of the pattern, play a LH note in this order: A, G, F, E

 REPEAT!
- 5. Play just the RH pattern **twice** while holding the pedal.

 Move the RH pattern **up an octave** and play twice, still holding the pedal. Get softer!

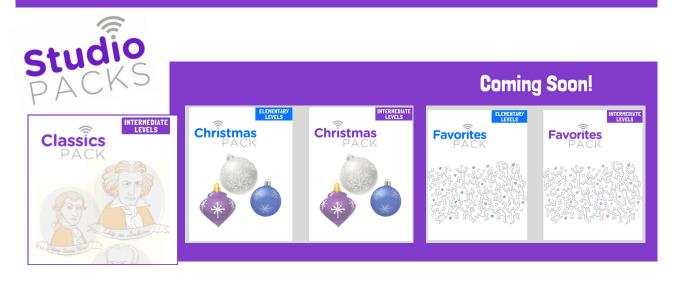
 Move **up another octave** and do the same. Get even softer!

E

6. End with a **LH A, very low** on the piano. Play very softly!

G

Click below to discover more from Carol Matz!













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