

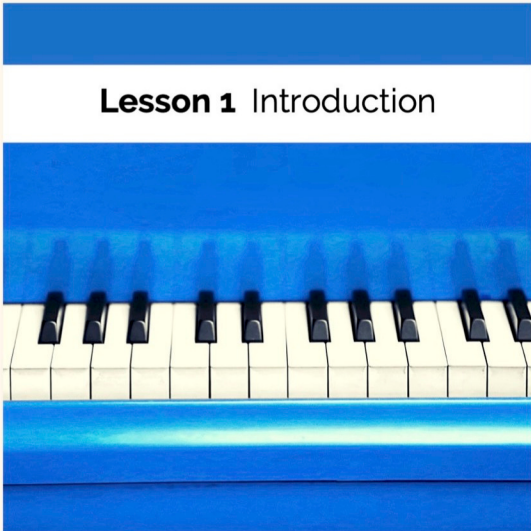
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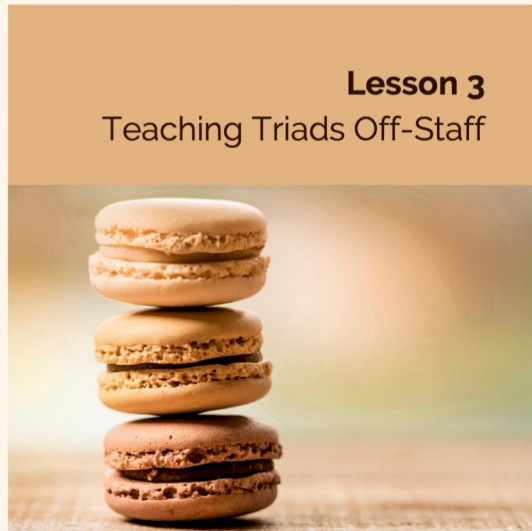
Lesson 1 Introduction



Lesson 2 What Is Comping?



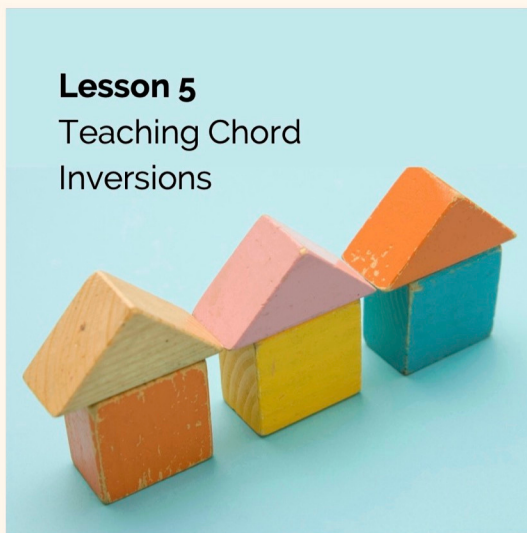
Lesson 3 Teaching Triads Off-Staff



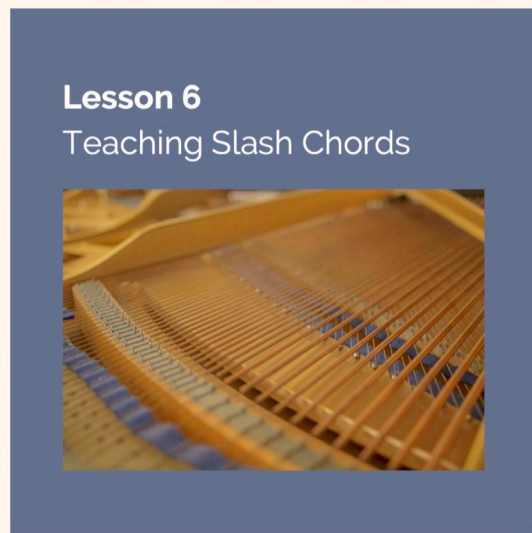
Lesson 4 Writing Chords for Students



Lesson 5 Teaching Chord Inversions



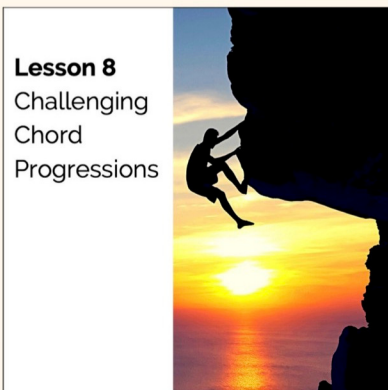
Lesson 6 Teaching Slash Chords



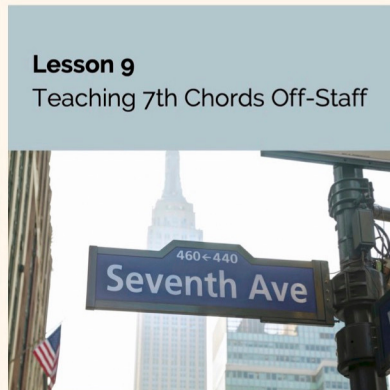
Lesson 7 More Chord Types



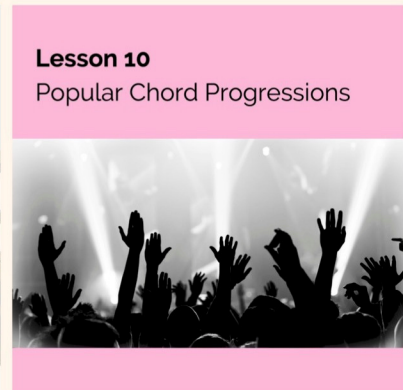
Lesson 8 Challenging Chord Progressions



Lesson 9 Teaching 7th Chords Off-Staff



Lesson 10 Popular Chord Progressions



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Teacher PDF Exercises & Chord Charts

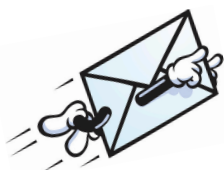


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[Click here](#) for tips on sharing the materials with your students!



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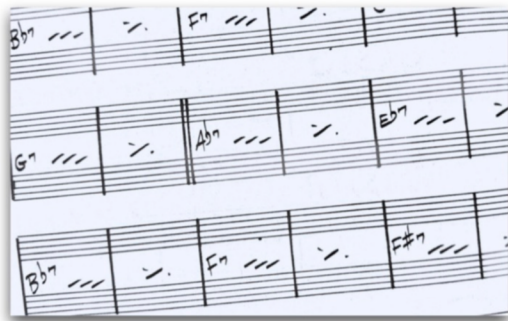
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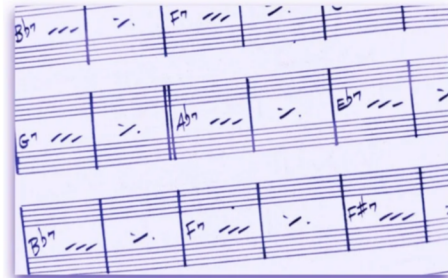
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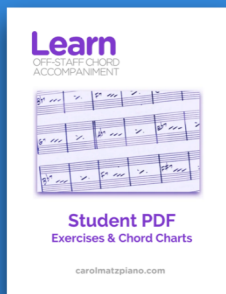


Student PDF

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For you...



Which students can I teach? (Student Requirements)

- **Recommend ages ~ 10 yrs and up**
(ability to physically play chords and reach pedal)
- **Note-reading ability: none! It's all OFF-STAFF**
- **Minimal rhythmic reading (easily taught)**
- **Can identify the keys on the piano/keyboard**

COMPING

PLAYING EXERCISES

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What Is Comping?

Comping is playing chords using different comp rhythms.

Think of comping as the piano version of strumming a guitar!

The chord is played with the right hand (RH), and the left hand (LH) plays a single low note (the same letter name as the chord).

Play chords with RH fingers **1, 3, and 5**. (Thumb, middle finger, pinky.)

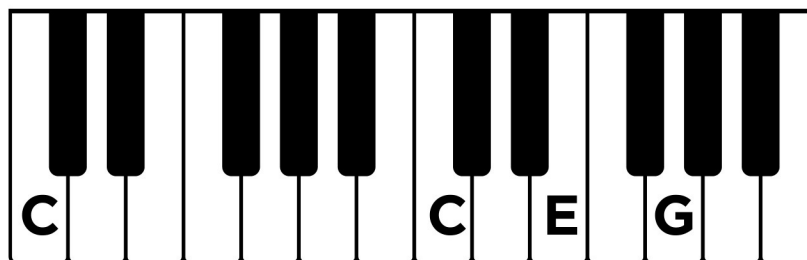


COMP RHYTHM:



T = HANDS TOGETHER / R = RH / L = LH

- First, **tap the comp rhythm** (using both hands) on the closed keyboard lid. Repeat several times without stopping.
- Next, play a **C chord** in your RH, and a lower C with your LH pointer finger.
- Add the comp rhythm and repeat as many times as you can without stopping. Don't stop at the end of beat 4; keep going smoothly!



LH = C NOTE

RH = C CHORD

CHORD CHART

COMP RHYTHM:

T R L

- TAP rhythm several times
- BLOCK RH chords with LH single low note
- PLAY with rhythm

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RH Chords

C = C E G

F = F A C

G = G B D

Auld Lang Syne

C **G**

4/4 / / / / | / / / / | **G** / / / / | / / / / |

(Should old ac - quain - tance be for - got and

C **F**

/ / / / | / / / / | / / / / | / / / / |

nev - er brought to mind? Should

C **G**

/ / / / | / / / / | / / / / | / / / / |

old ac - quain - tance be for - got and the

F **C**

/ / / / | / / / / | / / / / | ◊ ||

days of auld lang syne?

Play the chord hands together and hold for four beats.

TRIADS

PLAYING EXERCISES

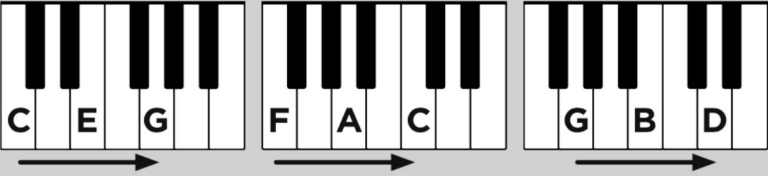
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WHITE-KEY MAJOR TRIADS

Group 1 **All White Keys**

C, F, and G major triads have *all white keys*. On the keyboard, each chord forms a **straight line**.

C Major **F Major** **G Major**

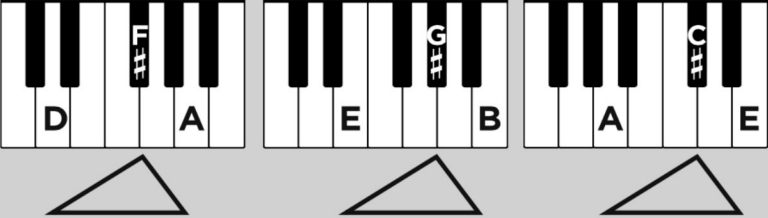


Play these all-white-key triads with your right hand.

Group 2 **Black Key in the Middle**

D, E, and A major triads have a *black key in the middle*. On the keyboard, each chord forms a **triangle shape**.

D Major **E Major** **A Major**

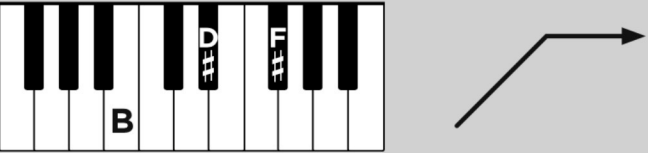


Play these triangle-shaped triads.

B Major **B Major is the Oddball!**

B major has **2 black keys**. Play this triad.

B Major



PLAYING EXERCISES



WHITE-KEY MAJOR TRIADS

1. Play all of the white-key major triads in a row with your right hand:

C D E F G A B C

Now go back down! (C, B, A, G, etc.)

2. Repeat the exercise, adding a low root note in your left hand (or octave if you can reach it).

Major Triad Cheat Sheet

C = C E G

D = D F# A

E = E G# B

F = F A C

G = G B D

A = A C# E

B = B D# F#

3. Play the following major triads with your right hand. Use the **Major Triad Cheat Sheet** if you need help.

D F A C E G B

D G C F B E A

Lesson 3, page 5

PLAYING EXERCISES

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COMP RHYTHM:

T R L T R L




from "Born This Way" (Lady Gaga)

G F C G



COMP RHYTHM:

L R R R



from "The Lion Sleeps Tonight"

D G D A



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PLAYING EXERCISES

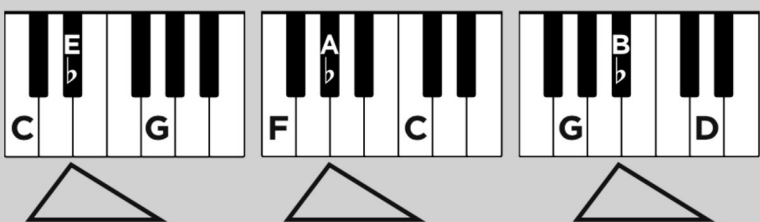
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WHITE-KEY MINOR TRIADS

Group 1 **Black Key in the Middle**

Cm, Fm, and Gm triads have a *black key in the middle*. On the keyboard, each chord forms a **triangle shape**.

C Minor **F Minor** **G Minor**

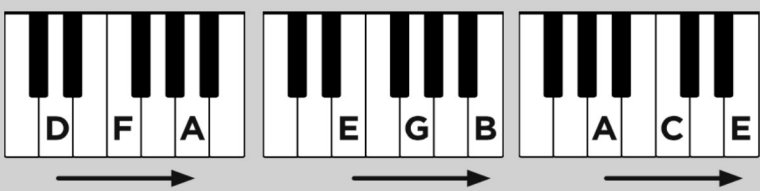


Play these triangle-shaped triads. (Use either hand.)

Group 2 **All White Keys**

Dm, Em, and Am triads have *all white keys*. On the keyboard, each chord forms a **straight line**.

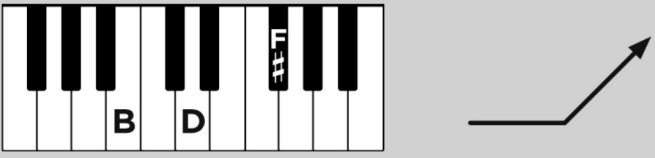
D Minor **E Minor** **A Minor**



Play these all-white-key triads.

B Minor **B Minor is the Oddball!**

Bm has **1 black key on the right**. Play this triad.



Lesson 3, page 7

PLAYING EXERCISES



WHITE-KEY MINOR TRIADS

1. Play all of the white-key minor triads in a row with your right hand:

Cm Dm Em Fm Gm Am Bm Cm

Now go back down! (Cm, Bm, Am, Gm, etc.)

2. Repeat the exercise, adding a low root note in your left hand (or octave if you can reach it).

3. Play the following minor triads with your right hand. Use the **Minor Triad Cheat Sheet** if you need help.

Dm Fm Am Cm Em Gm Bm

Dm Gm Cm Fm Bm Em Am

Minor Triad Cheat Sheet

Cm = C E \flat G

Dm = D F A

Em = E G B

Fm = F A \flat C

Gm = G B \flat D

Am = A C E

Bm = B D F \sharp

Lesson 3, page 10

PLAYING EXERCISES

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COMP RHYTHM:

T R L



from "Wrecking Ball" (Miley Cyrus)

C G Am F



COMP RHYTHM:

T R L T R L



from "Kill Bill" (SZA)

Dm G C A



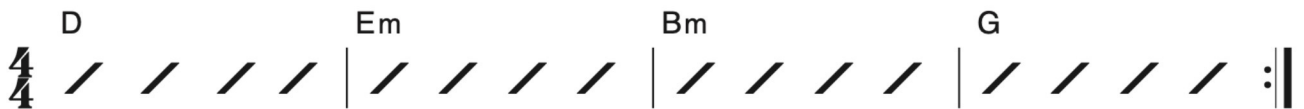
COMP RHYTHM:

T RL LR



from "Firework" (Katy Perry)

D Em Bm G



Lesson 3, page 11

PLAYING EXERCISES

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COMP RHYTHM:

T R L T R L



from "Save Your Tears" (The Weeknd)

C Am Em G




T R L T R L



from "Bodyguard" (Beyoncé)

(Start RH low)

Em Bm A Em Bm A




T R L L R




from "As It Was" (Harry Styles)

D Bm



E A



CHORD CHART

COMP RHYTHM



Moderately fast (120 bpm)

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“DAISIES FOR MILEY”

Inversions

Dm² = A D F

C² = G C E

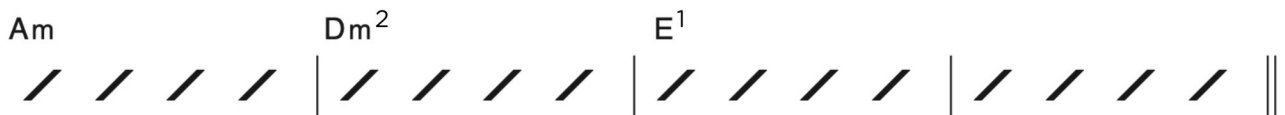
E¹ = G# B E

F¹ = A C F

VERSES:



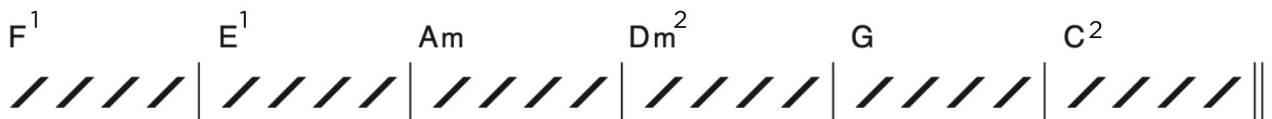
PRE-CHORUS:



CHORUS:



(Play 3 times)



MORE CHORD TYPES

PLAYING EXERCISES

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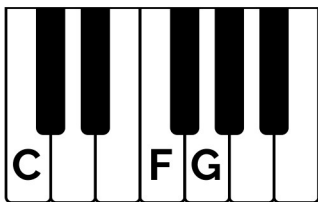
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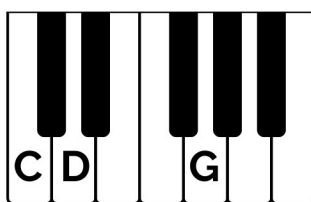
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SUS CHORDS

There are two types of **sus chords**:



C sus 4
or just 'sus'



C sus 2

The "3" (middle note) is "suspended" **up** for **sus 4**, and **down** for **sus 2**.

C major = C **E** G

C sus 4 = C **F** G

C sus 2 = C **D** G

Use these RH fingers:

1 4 5
C sus 4 = C **F** G

1 2 5
C sus 2 = C **D** G

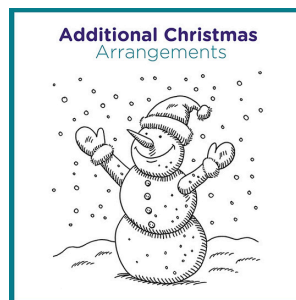
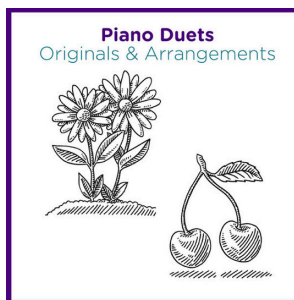
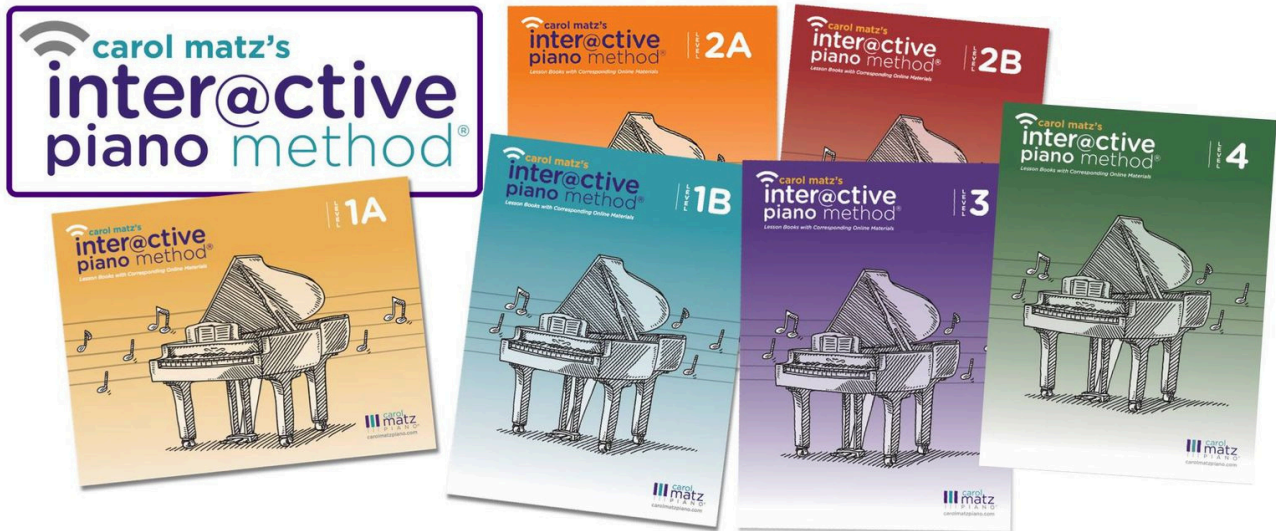
Play these **sus 4** chords with your RH:

D sus 4 **A sus 4** **C sus 4** **E sus 4** **G sus 4**

Play these **sus 2** chords with your RH:

C sus 2 **F sus 2** **B^b sus 2** **D sus 2** **A sus 2**

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