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Children's Songs for Beginning Piano

The 24 Best Children's Songs
Arranged for the Absolute Beginner
Recordings of all 24 songs are available online



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**Instructions / Preview pdf files
and Audio Links are available at:**

www.RobertAnthonyPublishing.com

Instructional Videos will be posted as they are created. If you have questions or concerns, there is a link on the website to email the author directly. If you feel this book deserves a 'Five-Star' review on Amazon, please take a moment and leave such a review. If you feel that it deserves less than five stars, please use the email link to let me know how you believe it could be improved.

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Instructions

1. Break the binding in so that the book will lay flat on a music stand: Open the book to page 70 (mid-point of book) and bend the binding back so that a crease forms down the spine, then do the same at pages 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, and then 80, 90, 100, 100.

2. Read the foreword carefully.

3. Open to page 5: “Middle C Position” and find several C notes on your piano or keyboard. If you are playing a real piano, it will be the center-most C. An 88-key digital piano will generally have a transpose function which, if in use, may make the note that *looks* like middle C actually sound a different octave or even an entirely different pitch class. Next, while a keyboard with less than 88 keys will share the same potential issues as the digital piano, it may be even trickier to find middle C. There is a video called “Major Scales Lesson” linked on www.robertanthonypublishing.com immediately below the instructions for this book. The very first scale covered is a C Major scale, starting on middle C. You can use that to compare your C notes to find the one that is middle C.

4. Use the diagrams on page 5 to understand how your fingers are numbered, and where they will be placed on

the keyboard:

5. Place your right hand's thumb on middle C, and the remaining fingers on each white key to the right of the key your thumb is on — one finger per key without skipping any white keys.

6. Place your left hand's thumb *also* on middle C, and the remaining fingers on each white key to the left of the key your thumb is on — one finger per key without skipping any white keys.

7. Your hands are now placed in Middle C Position. All of the music in this book up to and including page 69 is in Middle C Position. There are two versions of each song and their construction is covered in the books foreword.

8. You are ready to start playing: When you turn to page 6, both hands will be required to play the pieces. The right hand almost always plays the upper staff, while the left hand almost always plays the lower staff. With your hands placed in Middle C position per the diagrams on page 5, play the numbers. For now, use the spacing between notes / numbers to imply the timing — at this stage of learning, the goal is to establish the finger numbers. While counting rhythm is incredibly important (and briefly covered in the

appendix (pg. 155), trying to deal with counting rhythms while also trying to establish finger numbers is usually overwhelming for beginning pianists. When I am training beginning piano students, I am not too concerned with rhythmic counting so long as their playing sounds musical.

9. Surely, you will notice that page 8 has the same exact song as page 6, but without the note names embedded into the note-heads, and without all of the finger numbers written in. All of the music in this book has both arrangements. The goal is to switch to the second arrangements of each piece as soon as you are able. That said, you might not be comfortable with the second arrangements for quite some time. It is perfectly fine to work substantially through the book with the 'easy' arrangements, and then go back and play the ones without all the answers written in later. There is not one 'right' answer — do what makes sense to you.

10. I plan on doing several video lessons to support this book. I will post the links on my website below these instructions as they are created.

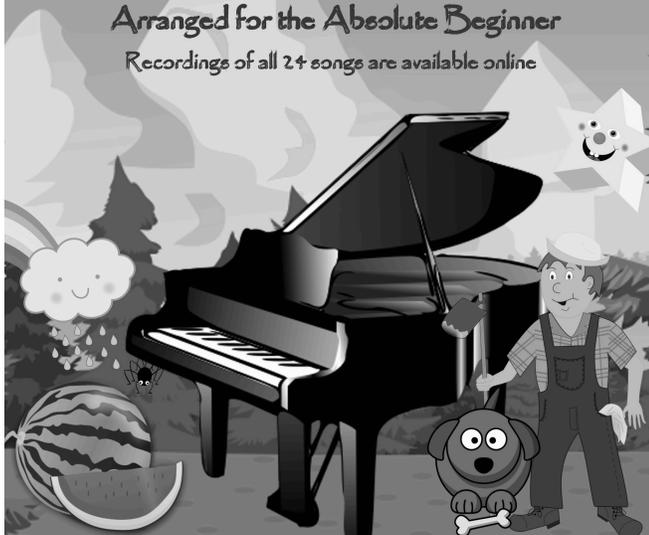
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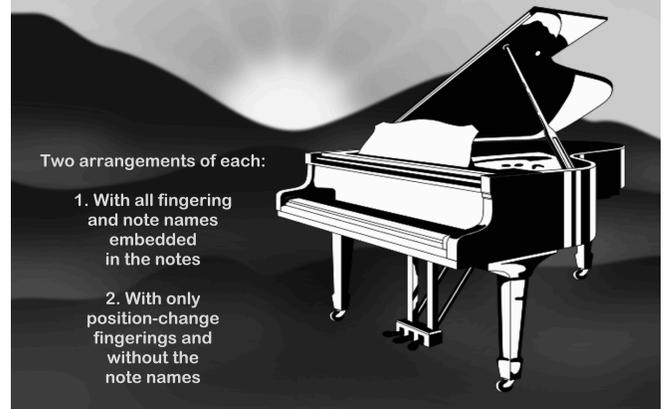
Children's Songs for the Later Beginning Piano Player

The 24 Best Children's Songs!

Audio Recordings of All Arrangements
are Available Online

Two arrangements of each:

1. With all fingering and note names embedded in the notes
2. With only position-change fingerings and without the note names



Children's Piano Method

C Position, Major Scales, Sight Reading, Repertoire, Hanon, and more!

Two Versions of each piece of repertoire:

1. Note names embedded in the notes, and all fingerings.
2. No note names, and only position fingerings.

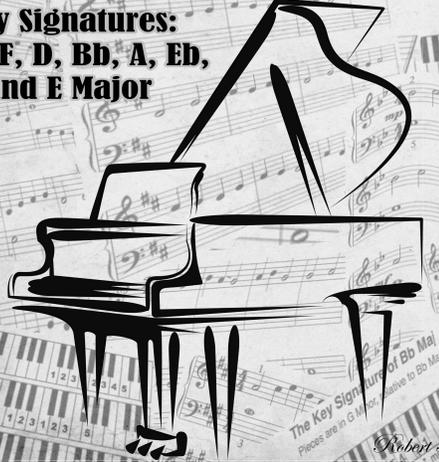
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200 Easy Sight Reading Studies for Piano

Key Signatures:
C, G, F, D, Bb, A, Eb,
and E Major



Robert Anthony

Foreword

The majority of this book is in Middle C Position, which is clearly defined in the pages preceding the first pieces of music. In the later sections of the book, the right hand moves one key to the right for eight songs, and the left hand moves one key to the left for the last song. Both of these position modifications have graphic pages like the page describing Middle C Position.

There are two arrangements of each song. The first has the letter names embedded into the note heads and includes every finger number for every note. The bold-black numbers are the initial finger numbers in the piece — or what you might expect to see in much piano music, while the grayscale numbers are the fingerings within the position established by the bold-black numbers. The second version does not have the letter names embedded into the note head, and has only the bold-black initial fingerings.

The goal of the student is to use the first versions as needed, and shift entirely to the second versions as soon as they are able. Since ability levels vary so greatly, that switch is likely to happen differently for each individual.

Finally, this book is designed to accommodate a variety of learning styles. There are a preview and instructions in pdf form that can be downloaded from: www.RobertAnthonyPublishing.com, as well as a video link for the corresponding audio.

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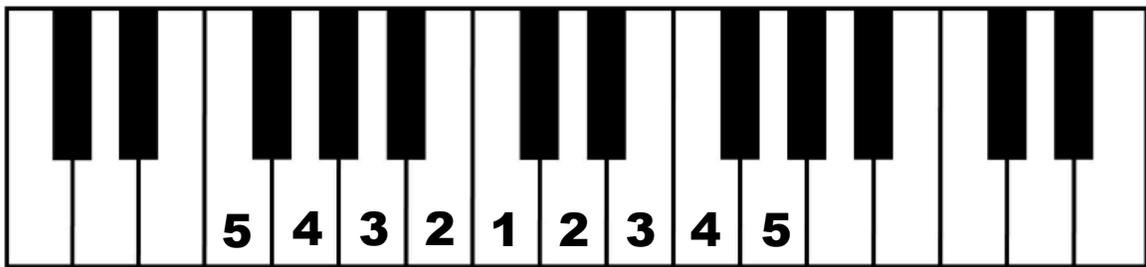
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Middle C Position

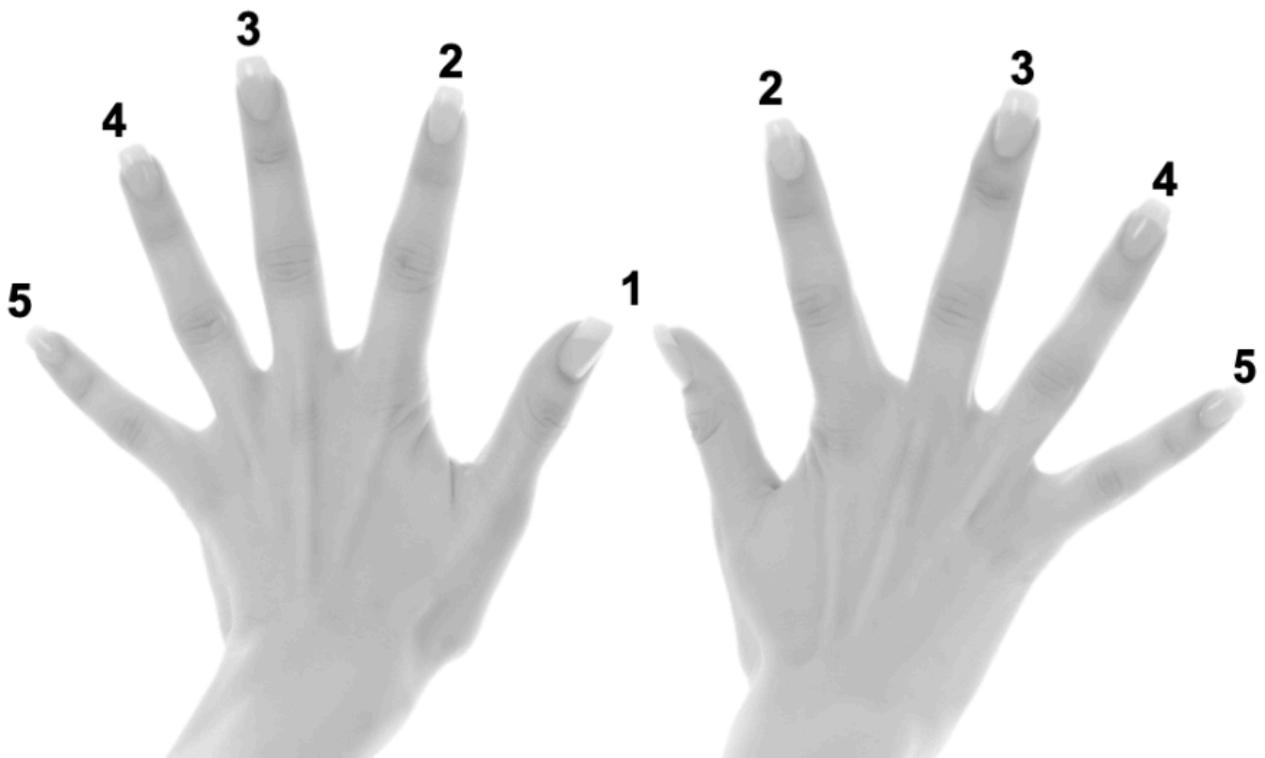
"Thumbs on C"

A grand staff with a treble clef on the top staff and a bass clef on the bottom staff. The notes and fingerings are as follows:

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



Middle C



Amazing Grace

1 3 1 3 2 1

A - maz - ing - grace, how sweet the

4 3

Detailed description: This system contains the first five measures of the song. The treble clef staff has a 3/4 time signature. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 1 for G4, 3 for E5, 1 for G5, 3 for E5, 2 for D5, and 1 for G4. The lyrics are 'A - maz - ing - grace, how sweet the'. The bass clef staff has a 4/4 time signature. The first measure has a G2 note with a '4' below it. The fifth measure has an A2 note with a '3' below it.

1 3 1 3 2

sound that saved a wretch like

4 4

Detailed description: This system contains the next five measures. The treble clef staff continues the melody with fingerings 1 for G4, 3 for E5, 1 for G5, 3 for E5, and 2 for D5. The lyrics are 'sound that saved a wretch like'. The bass clef staff has a G2 note in the first measure (labeled '4') and a G2 note in the second measure (labeled '4').

5 3 5 5 3

me. I once was

Detailed description: This system contains the final five measures. The treble clef staff has a G4 note with a '5' above it, followed by a G4 note, an E5 note with a '3' above it, a G4 note with a '5' above it, a G4 note with a '5' above it, and an E5 note with a '3' above it. The lyrics are 'me. I once was'. The bass clef staff is empty.

The Eency Weency Spider

1 1 1 2 3 3 3

The eency, weency spider went

This system contains the first seven measures of the song. The treble clef staff has a 3/4 time signature. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-3 above the notes. The lyrics are: 'The eency, weency spider went'. The notes are: G4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), B4 (quarter).

4 2 1 2 3 1

up the water spout.

This system contains the next five measures. The treble clef staff has a 3/4 time signature. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 2, 1, 2, 3, 1 above the notes. The lyrics are: 'up the water spout.'. The notes are: A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), G4 (quarter) with a slur over the last two notes.

3 3 4 5 5

Down came the rain and

This system contains the next five measures. The treble clef staff has a 3/4 time signature. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 3, 3, 4, 5, 5 above the notes. The lyrics are: 'Down came the rain and'. The notes are: B4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), D5 (quarter).

4 3 4 5 3

washed the spider out.

This system contains the final five measures. The treble clef staff has a 3/4 time signature. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 4, 3, 4, 5, 3 above the notes. The lyrics are: 'washed the spider out.'. The notes are: E5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), E5 (quarter) with a slur over the last two notes.

Home on the Range

1

Oh give me a home where the

4

Detailed description: This system contains the first two measures of the song. The music is in 3/4 time. The first measure has a treble clef and a bass clef. The lyrics 'Oh give me a home' are written below the notes. The second measure continues the melody with the lyrics 'where the'. A large number '4' is positioned below the bass clef of the first measure.

buf - fa - lo roam, where the

Detailed description: This system contains the next two measures. The melody continues with the lyrics 'buf - fa - lo roam,' in the first measure and 'where the' in the second measure. The bass line provides accompaniment.

deer and the an - tel - ope

Detailed description: This system contains the next two measures. The melody continues with the lyrics 'deer and the' in the first measure and 'an - tel - ope' in the second measure. The bass line continues with accompaniment.

play. Where

Detailed description: This system contains the final two measures. The first measure has the lyrics 'play.' and features a long, sweeping melisma line that extends across the first measure and into the second. The second measure has the lyrics 'Where' and a single note on the treble clef.

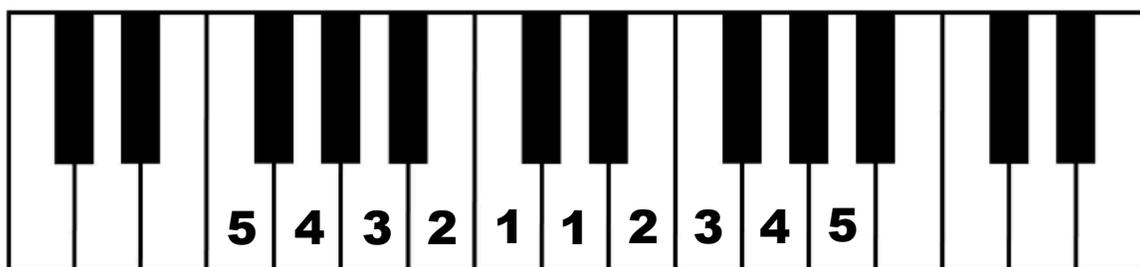
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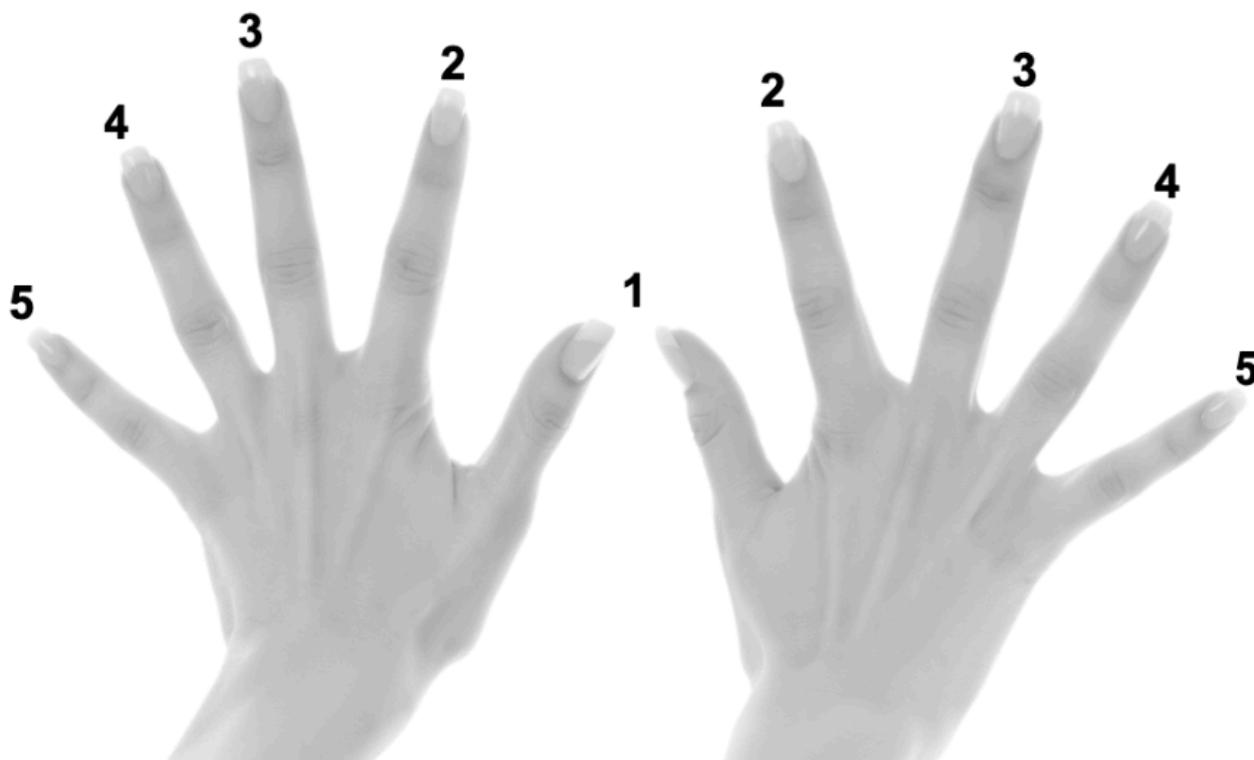
Right Hand Up to D Position

Left Hand Remains in 'Middle C Position'

Musical notation showing the right hand moving up to the D position and the left hand remaining in the middle C position. The right hand notes are D (1), E (2), F (3), G (4), and A (5). The left hand notes are F (5), G (4), A (3), B (2), and C (1).



Middle C



A Tisket, a Tasket

2

A tis - ket, a tas - ket, a

1

green and yel - low bas - ket, I

wrote a let - ter to my love and

on the way I dropped it. I

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Classical Music Themes for Easy Piano

Volume One



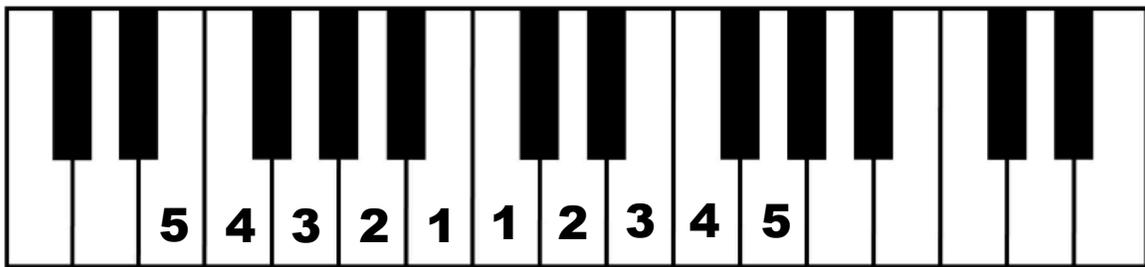
*J.S. Bach,¹ W.A. Mozart, Liszt, Chopin,
Vivaldi, Haydn, Beethoven, Clementi,
Schubert,⁴ Mendelssohn, Chopin, and many more.*

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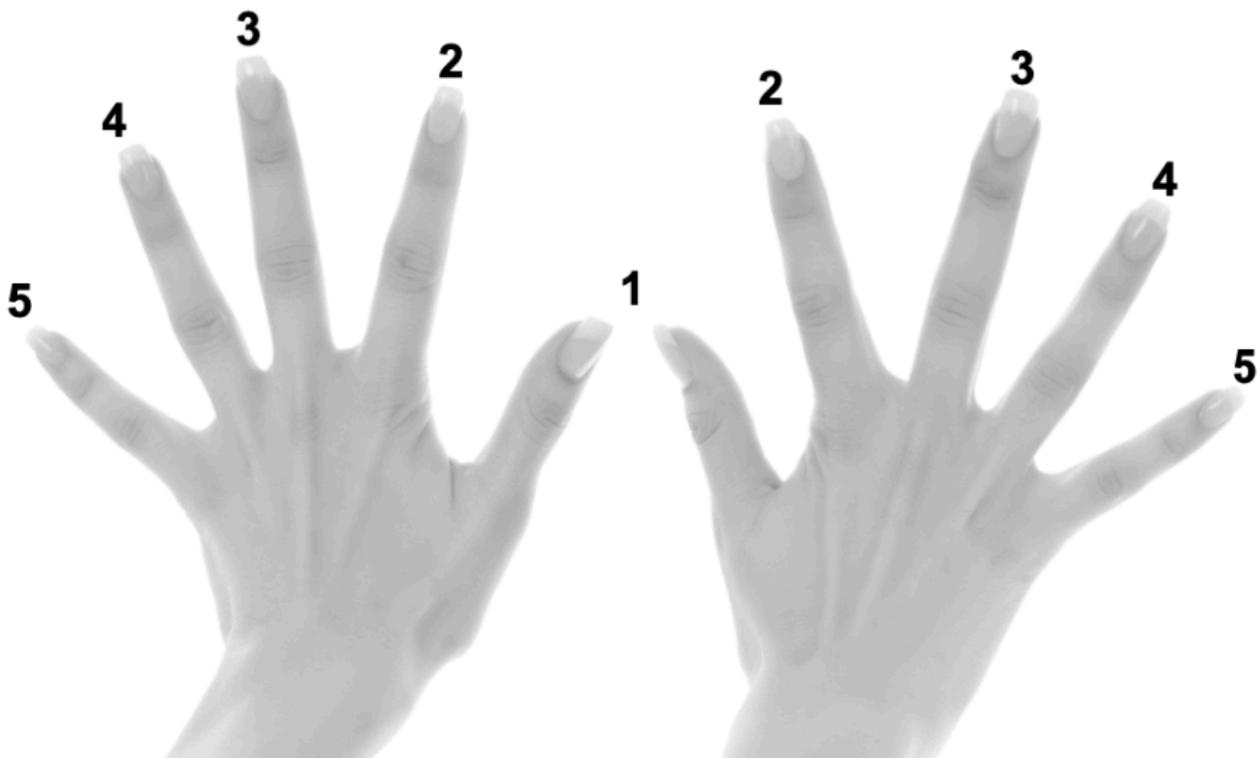
Left Hand Down to E Position

Left Hand's Thumb on B. Right Hand Remains in C Position.

Musical notation for the left hand in E position. The treble clef staff shows notes G, D, E, F, G with fingerings 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The bass clef staff shows notes E, F, G, A, B with fingerings 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.



Middle C



She'll be Comin' 'Round the Mountain

First system of musical notation in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody with lyrics: "She'll be com - in' 'round the moun-tain when she". The bass clef staff contains the accompaniment with lyrics: "She'll be com - in' 'round the moun-tain when she". Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. Chord symbols G and A are placed above notes in the bass staff.

Second system of musical notation in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody with lyrics: "comes. She'll be com - in' 'round the". The bass clef staff is empty. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-3 above notes. Chord symbols C, D, and E are placed above notes in the treble staff.

Third system of musical notation in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody with lyrics: "moun - tain when she comes. She'll be". The bass clef staff is empty. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above notes. Chord symbols D and E are placed above notes in the treble staff.

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