**TOP SHOW MUSIC** 



# "MY VERY FIRST CONCERT AND BEYOND" 2025

## BASSOON



# A Band development album of tunes using three, four or five notes and; beyond.

Inspired by the "Bayside Beginners' Music Camp", this collection of very easy tunes for a "first" concert performance, is playable by any size group with any combination of instruments.

Fingering diagrams, lyrics for songs and explanations of signs and terminology are included.

### SOME ELEMENTARY TERMS AND SIGNS

STAVE - The five lines and four spaces in between which and upon which our music is written.

BAR LINES - the vertical lines which divide the stave into segments END BAR LINE - The very last one has an extra and thicker bar line. BAR - a segment of the stave between two bar lines. DOUBLE BAR LINE - to draw our attention to something extra special, two bar lines are drawn at the end of that bar. G (or Treble ) Clef - It is an old way of writting the letter "G". Can you see the similarity to today's "*G*" or "g" Because it is drawn by starting around the 2nd. bottom line, this line is thus called G All other lines and spaces are named in alphabetical order using only the first seven letters - thus after G, we start again at A The names of the spaces For line names, remember the sentence spell the word FACE <u>Every Good Boy D</u>eserves <u>F</u>avour. CAN YOU MAKE UP SOME OTHERS? You can use your hand to help remember these names -Just like the stave has five lines, your hand has five fingers (including the thumb). Between these fingers there are four spaces - call them FA C E Therefore you have a "face" in your hand to help you remember the names of the lines and spaces TIME SIGNATURE - The two numbers, one above the other, at the beginning of the stave and after the Clef. The top number tells us the number of beats (or counts) in a bar and the bottom number tells us the value of each beat This is the most common time signature (four four). The top number 4 means that there are four beats (or counts) to a bar. The bottom number 4 refers to crotchets (because there are 4 crotchets in a semibreve) thus the value of each "beat" or "count" is one crotchet. When the bottom number is 4, the following shapes (notes) have the values shown -Semibreve (4 beats/counts), Minim (2 beats counts) Crotchet (1 beat/count) 
Crotchet. Quaver (1/2 beat/count) Quaver. It make no difference whether the stem is up or down The tail of a quaver

starting on a beat is joined to the next quaver.

#### Notes for Bassoon

Correct posture:

Sit on the front of the chair, feet flat on the floor, back and neck straight, face forward and, shoulders level.



Because the body of a bassoon is made from natural wood, the instrument is very susceptible to sudden changes in temperature or humidity. Damage or warping of the instrument can prevent the sections from joining together smoothly.

Please note the following points:

- Before assembling a bassoon, apply cork grease all the way around the joint cork as well as the bocal (mouthpiece) joint cork. When assembling the instrument, take care not to apply unreasonable force to any of the keys. (Where a joint is wound with thread, it is not necessary to apply cork grease)
- When playing in warm or cold places, before you start playing, wait for the whole instrument to adjust to the temperature of the air which surrounds you. (Sudden changes to the temperature of the instrument can cause keys to jam, joints between sections to align poorly, and other defects.)
- Dry any moisture around the surfaces of the joints.
- Where possible, use a cleaning swab to dry any moisture inside the instrument in breaks during performances.
- Take care to thoroughly dry any moisture inside the instrument after playing.
- Do not leave the moist cleaning swap in the bassoon case. Dry it outside the case first.



Basson fingers must engage the instrument at right angles to the instrument. The reed must be very wet to play properly, Bassoon players should have a small, sealable container in which to keep the reed moist.

Best embouchure is relaxed round with just a slight roll-in of the lips or pucker, and relaxed. Think of how the lips would be if using a drinking straw, or, whistling. Thin, wide, lips around teeth, biting embouchure is never correct. If your bassoon has both a leg rest and, a neck strap, make sure that they are properly adjusted to still allow for comfortable movement when breathing.





#### STAGE ONE

Learning and using the note Concert "B<sup>b</sup>" (pronounced B Flat), the note shape Semi-Breve • and its value of four counts,

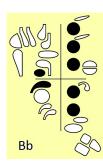
the Semi-breve rest shape, - and its value of four counts (rest means silence) , || End barline (the end of the music)

When most of our music ideas were being formalised, the main instrument was the Concert Piano. In addition, instrument makers had little commonality with the size of the instruments they made and, little commonality with the sounds made and, the names given to those notes. Some notes with the same name did not sound the same. All players had to know which note on the "Concert Piano", sounded the same as "C" on their own instrument. In this lesson, we will learn the note that sounds the same as B<sub>b</sub> on the piano i.e. ConcertB<sub>b</sub>.

The term "Concert" means that even though your note may have a different name, the sound you make is the same as the note if played on a "Concert Piano". Some students' note is called "B<sup>J</sup>" but some may have a note called C or G or F. They make the same sound as Concert B<sup>J</sup>.

### NO. 1.1- FIRST NOTE - B<sup>b</sup> (Concert B<sup>b</sup>)





Why is the second bottom line being called "B" instead of "G"? For this instrument, an "F" clef is being used instead of the usual "G" clef. Note its similarity to today's written capital F. This clef indicates the position of the F line by putting two dots around the line that is going to be called F. In this case it is the second top line which makes the 2nd bottom line a "B". Because the semi-breve has been drawn with the "B" line going through it, it is asking us to play the note "B". Put a flat sign in front of it and it becomes "B<sup>b</sup>". For the time being, the semi-breve is played for four full counts.

LEDGER LINE - (Not yet used on all instruments.) When we want to use notes that are higher or lower than the five lines in the stave, we draw just the part of the next line or lines that are needed. This additional part of a line is called a "ledger line".

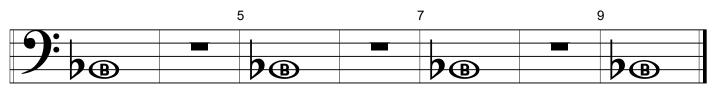
### NO. 1.2 - SEMI-BREVE REST



3

Note that the semi-breve rest shape is hanging (slung) below a Line. Note - "S" for Semi-breve, "S" for Slung. It has a value of four full counts of silence

### NO. 1.3 - COMBINING NOTE AND REST



Rest Bar: When you play the above exercise, keep your fingers etc. in the playing position and, do not lower the instrument when playing the rest bar. You are going to have to bring it back up again and there is not enough time to re-position the instrument to the correct position.

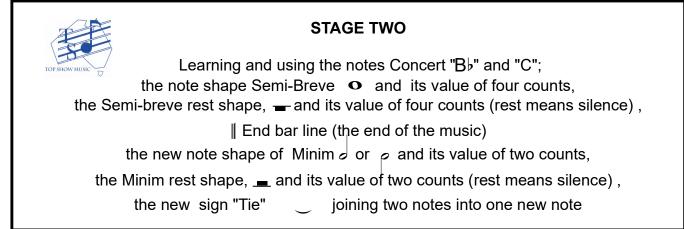
Posture: remember to maintain your correct posture -

- . Sit on the front of the chair with your feet on the floor and your back straight, face forward
- . Keep your shoulders level and, without twisting to the left or right
- . Keep your instrument level, vertical or, at the angle shown to you by your teacher
- . Maintain correct arm, hand and finger positions.

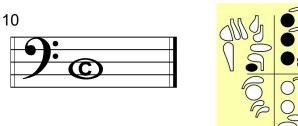
#### PRACTICE HINT 1 - 2

1- To play a note for four counts, don't forget to play the full value of the fourth count. If you stop at "four" you have only played three and a bit counts. To play four full counts, stop just as you are about to start number five.

2 - (For wind players) To develop your best playing sound, as well as playing the note for four counts, also play it as long as you can. Use a clock's second hand to time yourself.



### NO. 2.1 - SECOND NOTE - C (Concert C)

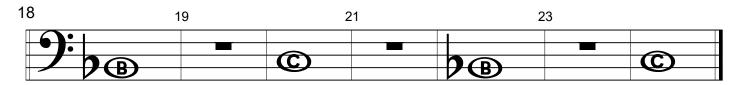


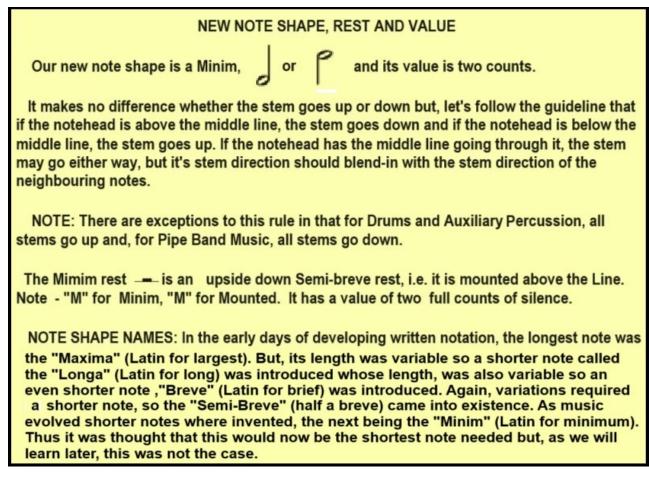
С

### NO. 2.2 - NEW NOTE AND REST.



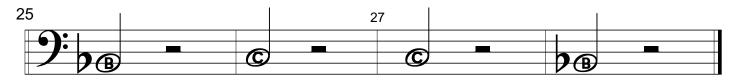
### NO. 2.3 - PUT THEM TOGETHER



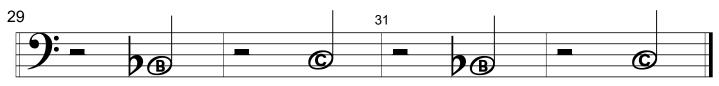


### NO. 2.4 - PLAYING MINIMS -

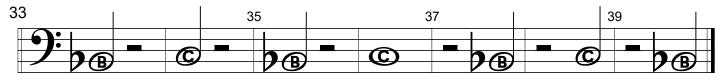
Play for two counts, rest for two counts



### NO. 2.5 - PLAYING MINIMS - Play the rest first.



NO. 2.6 - PALINDROME. (Why do you think that this has the name "Palindrome?)



#### TIE

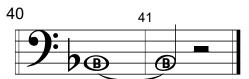
A tie is a musical plus sign which is used to add two notes together to make one new note.

A tie is a way of making new notes of different lengths than the single notes we know. It also allows us to make notes that start in one bar and finish in another bar. The sign for a tie is just a curved line \_\_\_\_ which joins the two notes together.

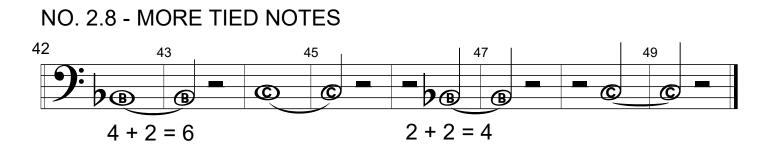
Before you play this exercise, write the new count value of the tied notes.

NB: If you have accidentals (sharps or flats) on the first note of a tied pair, the accidental applies to the second note also. Remember, the tie creates one new note therefore, the accidental does not need to show on the second of the tied notes.

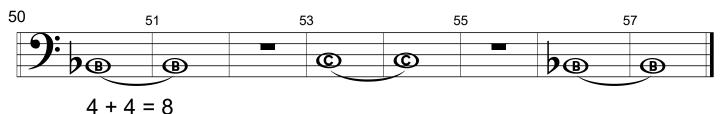
NO. 2.7 - TWO NOTES TIED



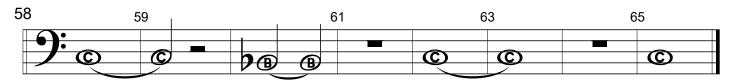




### NO. 2.9 - EIGHT COUNT TIES



### NO. 2.10 - MIXING TIES



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#### STAGE THREE

Using the notes Concert  $B_{\flat}$ , C and the new note D

the values Semi-Breve (• = four counts), its equivalent rest shape, ( - ) Minim ( = two counts) and its equivalent rest ( - )

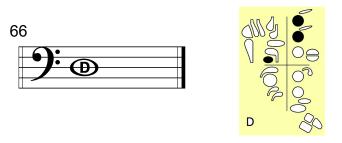
the new shape and value of Crotchet ( $\bullet$  or  $\bullet$  = one count), and its rest shape  $\clubsuit$ 

Breath mark (breathe only where this mark is), and the word "phrase" - a musical thought.

Ties, the new technique -Slurs and, the new terms Tutti (whole band or group), Soli (a smaller section of the Band or group), Solo (by yourself) and Tacet (don't play)

Double Barline - something is changing Lyrics (words) - sing, as well as play the tunes that have words.

### NO. 3.1 - NEXT NOTE - D (Concert D)

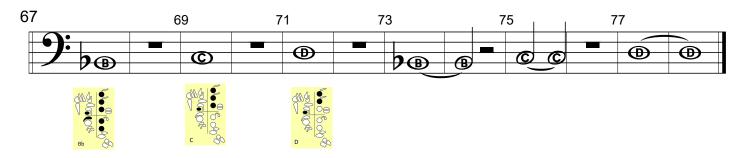


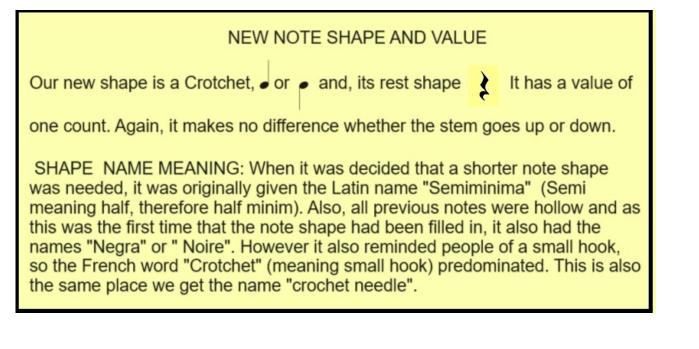
#### **PRACTICE HINT 3 - WARM-UP**

A warm up to a musician is just as important as a warm-up is to an athlete. Before you start any playing session, you need to give your body, your mind and, your instrument, a warm-up session to get all things operating better. A good, life long skill is that every playing session should now commence by playing the note at lesson 1, slow and gentle. Then more notes maybe included, stonger and faster.

Warm-ups in this book not only help to prepare for the coming lesson or practice session, but also revise the teaching points we have already learnt.

### NO. 3.2 - WARM-UP 1 and, REVISION

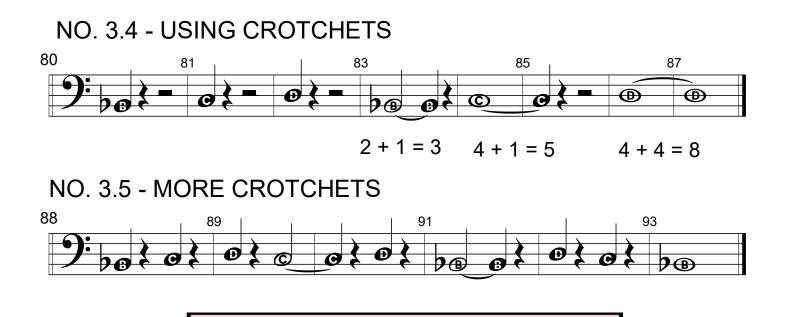




NO. 3.3 - ONE COUNT NOTE AND ONE COUNT REST.



Remember that to play a one count note properly, you must play up to the next count i.e. two.



#### **PRACTICE HINT 4** Always have a pencil and rubber with you. You will need to write little messages on your music which, may later want to rub out

F CLEF READERS

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#### SLURS

We have learnt that a Tie joins two notes of the same pitch (same name) together to make one new note.

A Slur is a special tie which joins two or more, different notes. A slur still forms one new note whose length is equal to the sum of the lengths of the notes that are slured, except that the note changes sound at the joining point.

The sign for a slur is just a curved line, the same as for a tie — It makes no difference if the curved line goes under or over.

In number **3.6** below, the first two minums are played as one note of four counts but change the fingering after the first two counts have been played.

The next slur, two crotchets and a minim add up to four counts, but the fingers/postion change after the first count and then, after the second count.

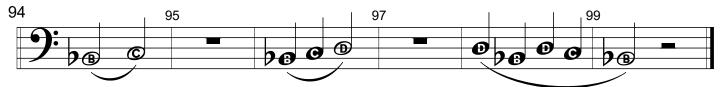
For the last slur, the total of the notes is six counts with four finger/position changes.

FOR PIANO/KEYBOARD: The way to acheive a slur as best as possible is to make sure that when the second note is played, the first note is not released until the second note has sounded.

FOR PERCUSSION, the slur has no effect but is shown for education purposes.

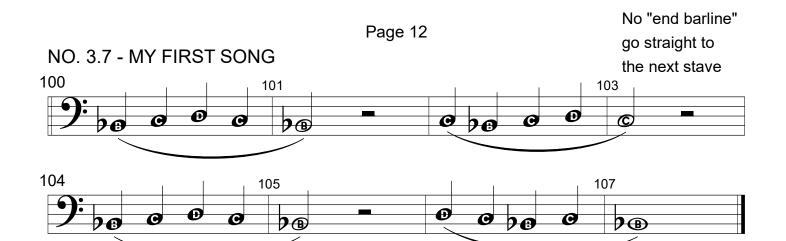
FOR STRING BASS: Change the left hand but do not pluck the slurred to note. This however, only works when the notes to be slurred are on the same string.

### NO. 3.6 - SLURRING



#### EXTRA STAVE

Just like the words in books, music doesn't always fit on the one stave (line) and we have to use extra staves below the first stave. When music is continued on the next stave, there is no "end barline" which therefore means go straight on to the next stave.



#### BREATH MARK and PHRASE

A phrase in music is the same as in normal speaking, singing, reading and poetry. When we speak or sing, we often can't fit all the words into one breath and have to find a place in the music or words to take a breath.

The group of words or the notes between breaths is called a "PHRASE". Putting the breath in the right place is called "PHRASING".

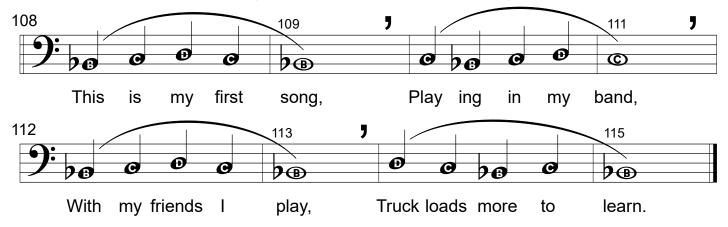
In music we indicate a place to breathe by placing a comma ( ) above and just after the note we play before breathing.

Notice that the end of each phrase in No. 3.7seems ugly and short. To fix this, the last note needs to be a four count note, but now 32 beats without a breath is too long. Lets take a breath after each two bars

#### LYRICS

To be able to play music as best as possible, it is most important to know the story that goes with that music. Although, some music does not have a story, most music with a story has lyrics. So if music does have lyrics, it is important to learn the lyrics and, be able to sing them as well. Doing this will empower you to play the music with greater passion and, accuracy.

NO. 3.8 - MY FIRST SONG (With breath marks and, words)



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Stage 3 - P4

F CLEF READERS

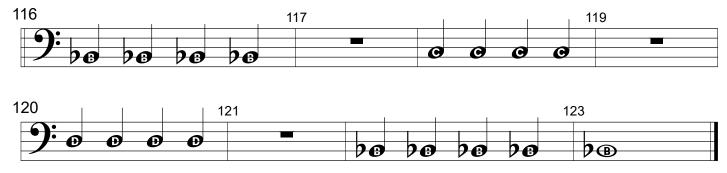
#### TONGUING

On many occasions, the next note is the same as the note we just played. If we slur the second note, it just makes the first note longer, therefore, we must re-start the next note. We do this by "tapping" the back of the lips (or reed) with the tongue. Doing this is called "Tonguing", even though for percussion, you just restrike the note.

It is very important to make sure that you do not stop the airflow while doing this and, NEVER take a breath at the same time. If we do this we are breaking the phrase.

Always wait for the breath mark to take the breath. When tonguing, think of the word "toe" which will help keep the throat open and the air flowing. The next exercise has four crotchets in a row so therefore think "Toe Toe Toe Toe".

NO. 3.9 - FOUR IN A ROW



#### TONGUING AND CHANGING NOTES

One of the great uses of slurring is to show singers that the next note is part of the word of syllable already being sung. Therefore, if there is a new word of syllable, the note should not be slurred but tongued instead. It is also common to change the note at the same time.

In the next song, all notes have a new word of syllable, therfore every note is to be tongued.

NB: for practice purposes, we will still have some slurs that cover word or syllable changes

REMEMBER, do not stop the air flow or breathe until you get to the breath mark - TOE TOE TOE TOE

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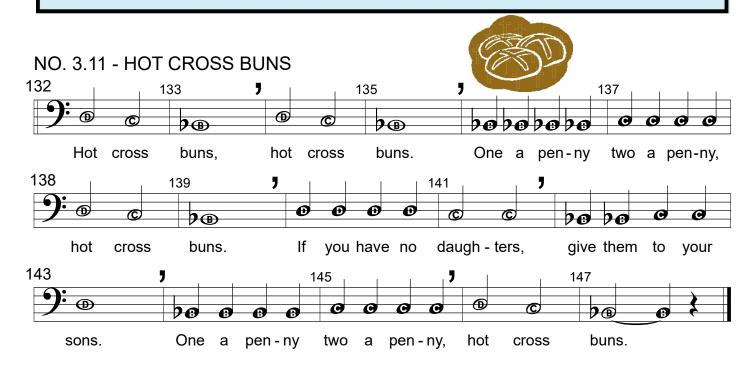
#### ACCIDENTAL RULE:

NOTE - some instruments are not yet using flats.

For those players using flats, In bar 144, the flat sign has been placed in front of only the first of the "B"s. From now on we will have a rule that for each bar, the flat sign is only placed in front of the first of the notes that are the same.

ACCIDENTAL RULE 1: Once a flat sign has been placed in a bar, it refers to all subsequent notes on the same line or space and, is cancelled by the next Bar Line.

ALSO Rule 2 (Look back at EX 3.2 & 3.4) When a note with an accidental is "tied" to the next note, the Accidental does not have to be rewritten, even if there is a barline between them, because, they are joined to make one new note.



#### PRACTICE HINTS 5 to 8

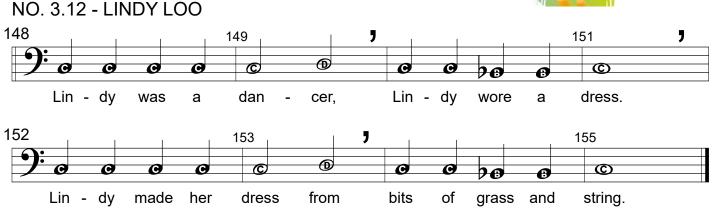
5. (For Wind Instruments) - Remember to think of saying "toe toe" when you play consecutive tongued notes. By doing this, the tongue, the throat and the air flow should all work correctly. Remember that when there is nothing on the music to indicate that there is a gap between these notes, we should not hear one. Remember also, that to hear all of the word attached to any note, we must play all of the note not just the start of the note

6. Before playing any tune, have a quick look for the elements used. e.g. which notes, which note value, changing notes with or without a rest and with or without ties and slurs.

7. Just like has been done in "Rain is Falling Down", when playing music that has words, always place a breath mark at the same place as there is a comma, or full stop, in the words.

8. When taking a breath, try to make the gap that you must have, as small a possible and, always start the next note at the right place.





#### TUTTI, SOLI, SOLO and TACET

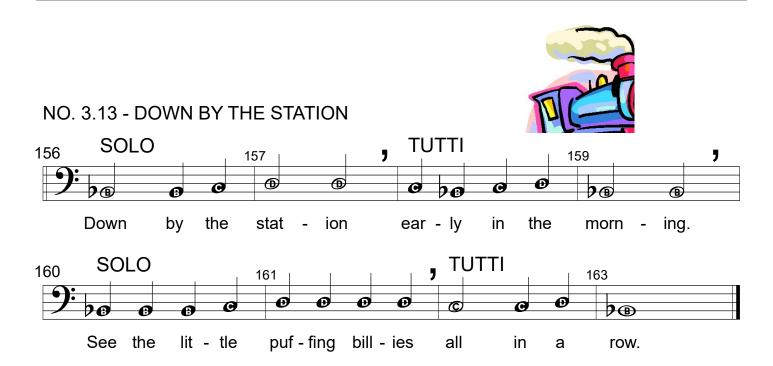
Sometimes we can make the music sound better or more interesting by changing who is playing.

Sometimes we could ask a player, or a section, to not play at all, this is called "Tacet".

Maybe only a section or small group should play, this is called "Soli".

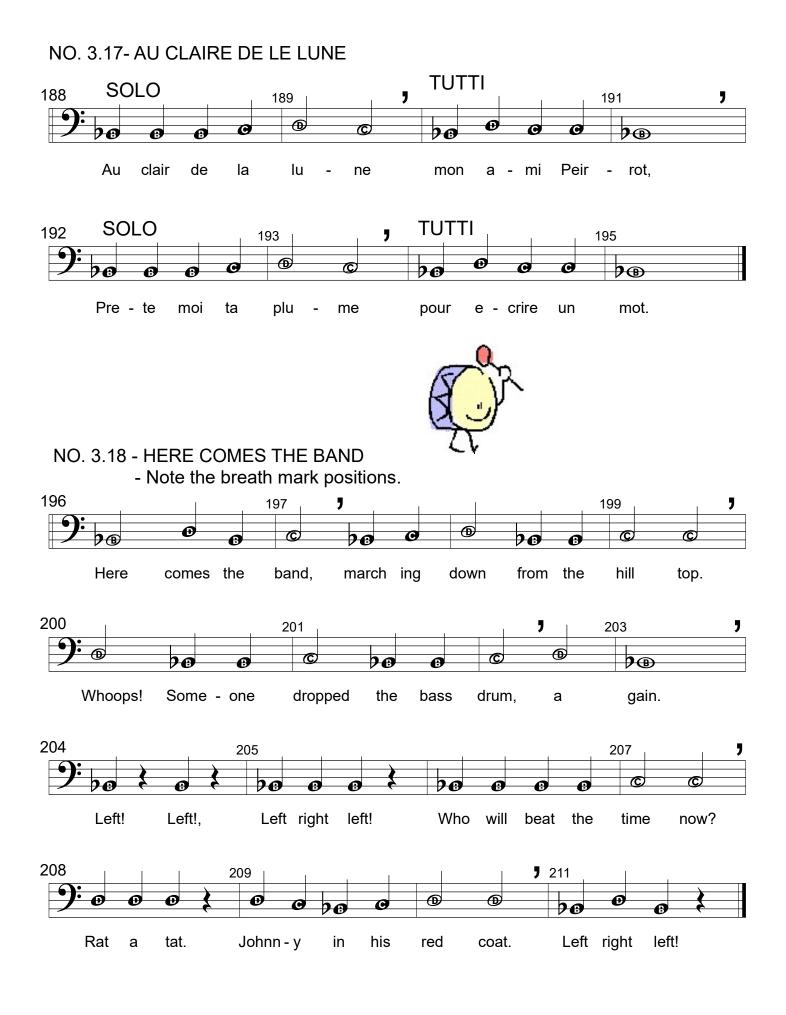
Maybe only one person is asked to play, this is called "Solo".

When we want every one to play again, it is called "Tutti".





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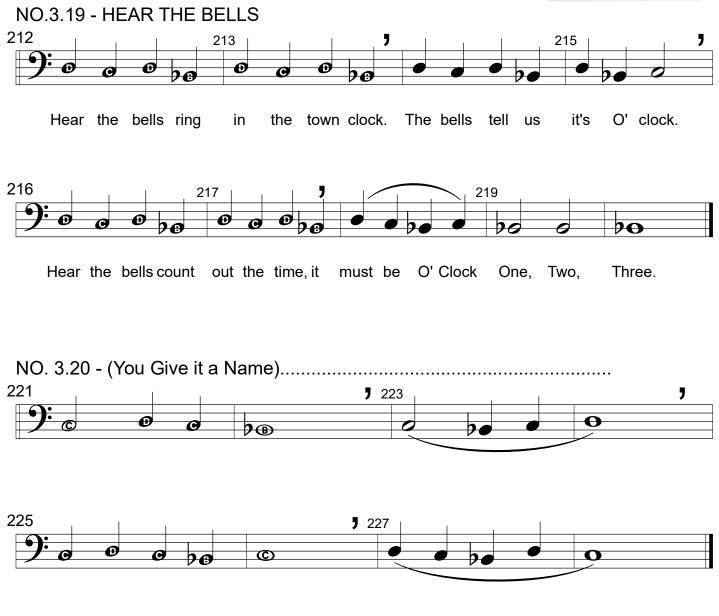


#### ALPHA NOTES

So far we have been able to see the name of a note which is written inside the note. This has been useful but, it is not the usual way of writing music. We should all be able to recognise each note by its position on the stave.

From here onwards, we will start to delete the Alpha Notes and, replace them with standard notes



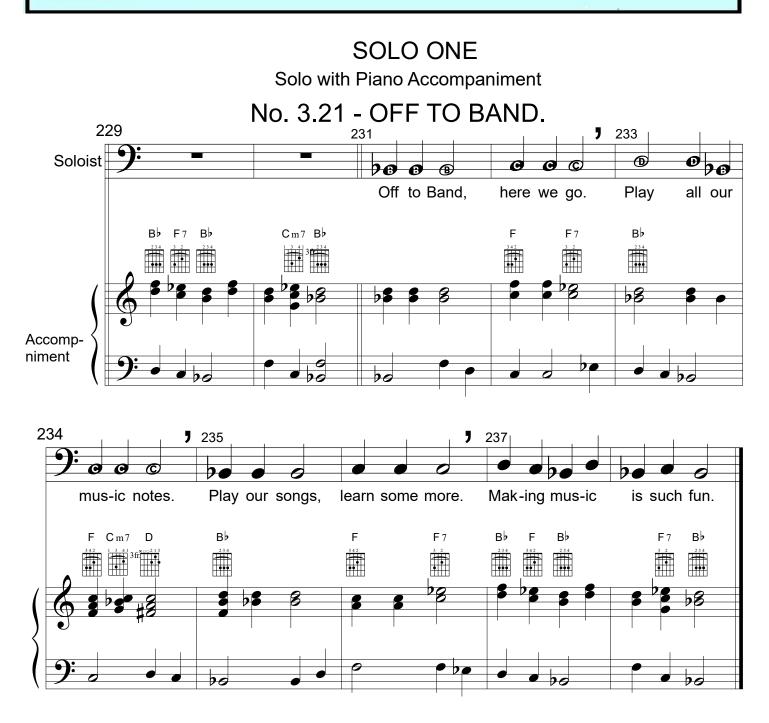


#### PIANO ACCOMPANIED SOLOS

A common method of performing a whole piece as a solo is to have a backing part which is played as an accompaniment part to the solo part. The most common method is to have a piano player (pianist) play the backing part. The pianist is said to accompany the soloist.

It is also becoming common for the accompaniment to be played digitally as e.g. a CD, lpad or MP3 file. The accompaniment may also be played by a guitarist which is why Guitar Chords are also shown on the piano part.

It is also common for the solo part and accompaniment to be shown on the one part so that both players can see what the other player is doing. It is also common for the accompaniment to play a short passage before the soloist starts playing. This is called an Introduction and has been done for the the piano accompanied solos at Numbers 3.21, 3.23 and 3.25.

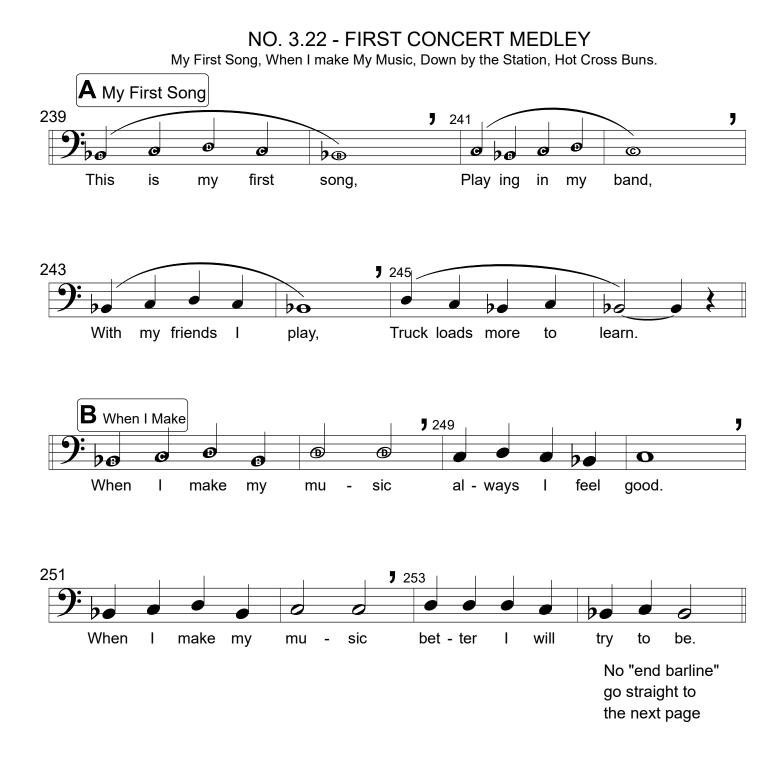


#### MEDLEY

A Medley is a group of tunes or songs, played one after the other, to form one larger piece of music.

#### **REHEARSAL MARKS**

You will in this medley, see some alpha characters in boxes, These are called "Rehearsal Marks". Bar numbers show exactely which bar we may be discussing, but as our tunes get longer, it is sometimes quicker to identify a section of the music by using these alpha reference boxes.





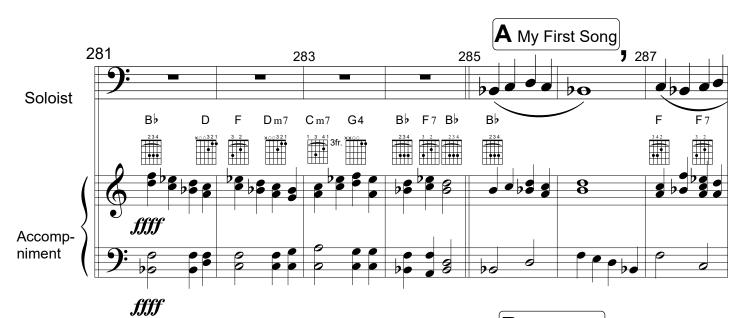
#### DOUBLE BARLINE

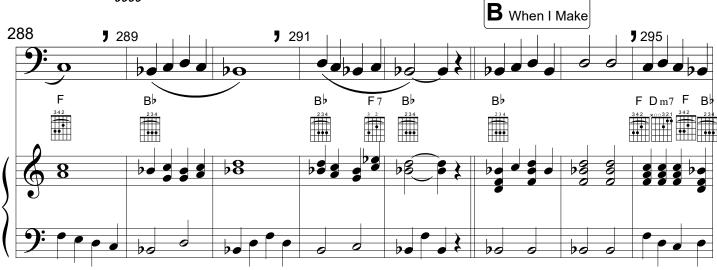
You may have noticed that at the begining of each tune or song, there are two barlines. This is called a double barline and is different to an end barline. The double barline indicates that something is changing. In number 3.21, you should have noticed the double barline where you start to play. In numbers 3.22 & 3.23, there are several double barlines which, in this case indicate the end of one song and the start of another.

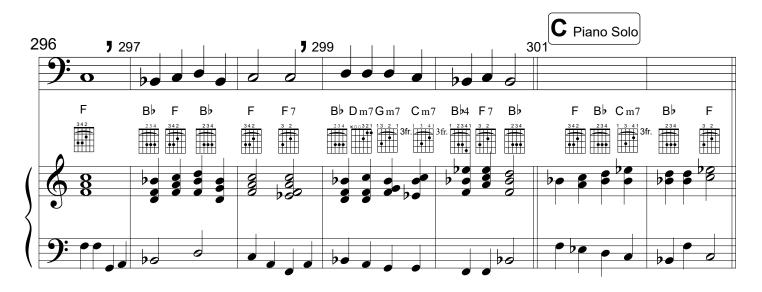
### SOLO TWO

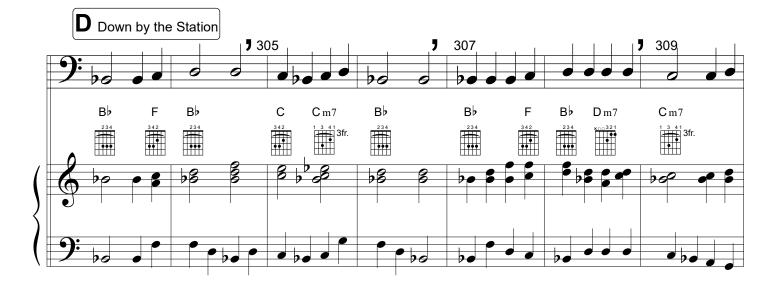
NO. 3.23 - Solo Medley with Piano Accompaniment

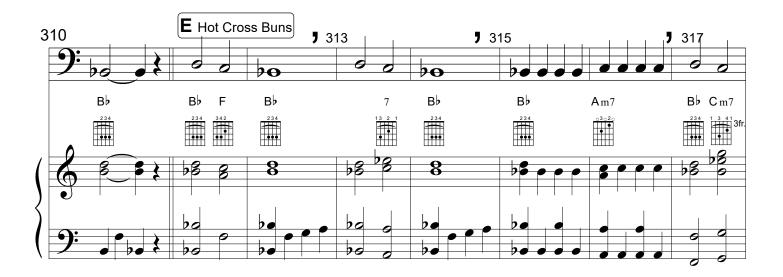
My First Song, When I Make My Music, Down by the Station, Hot Cross Buns.

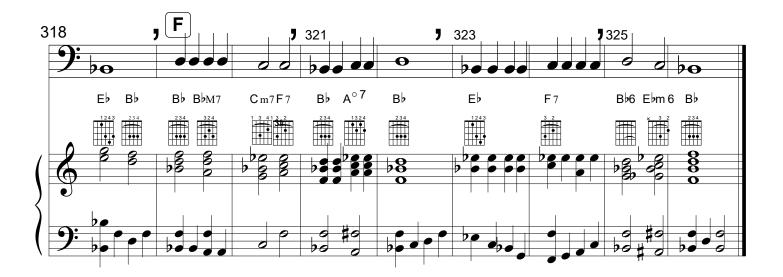


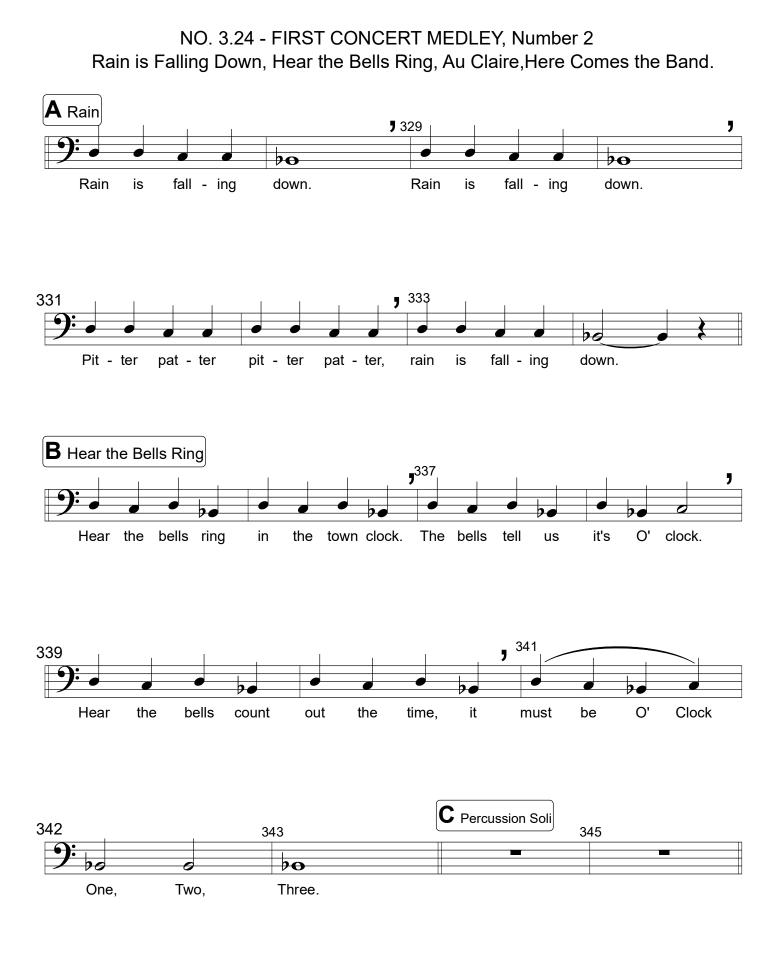


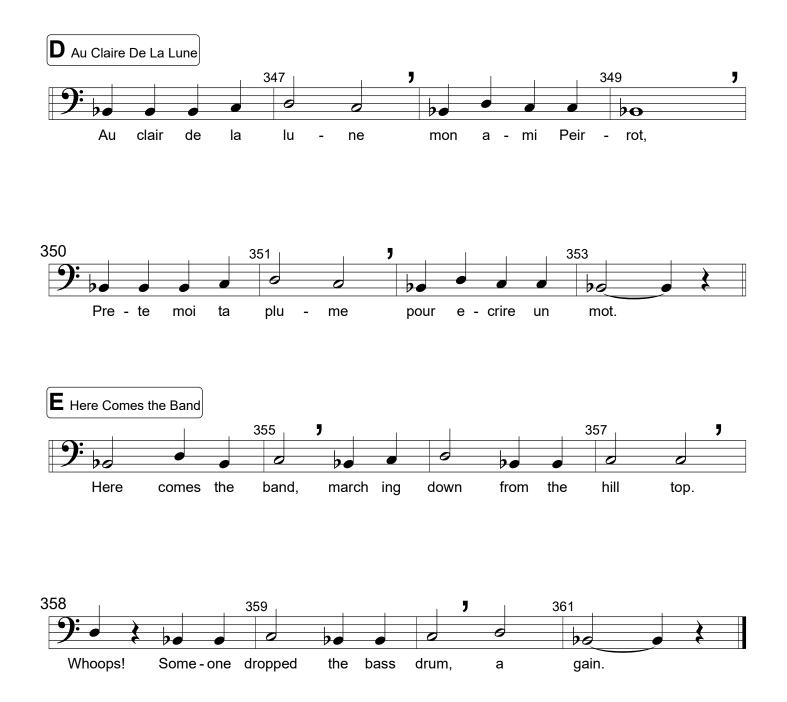


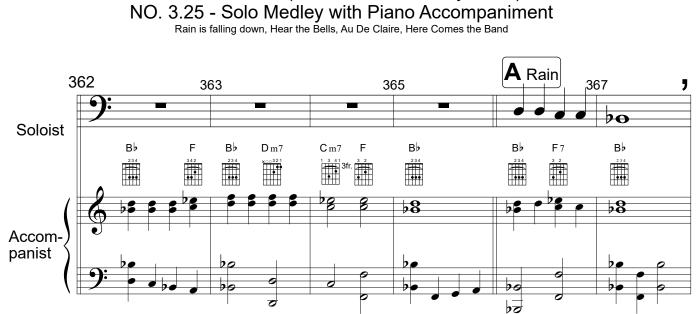


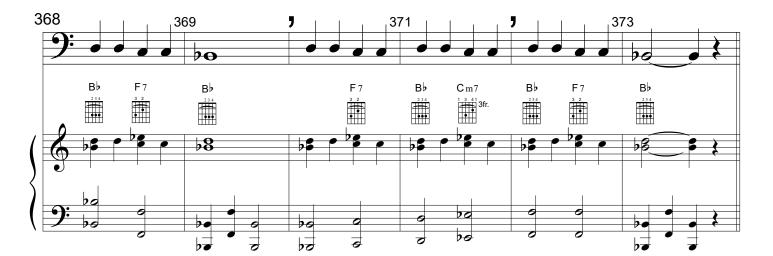


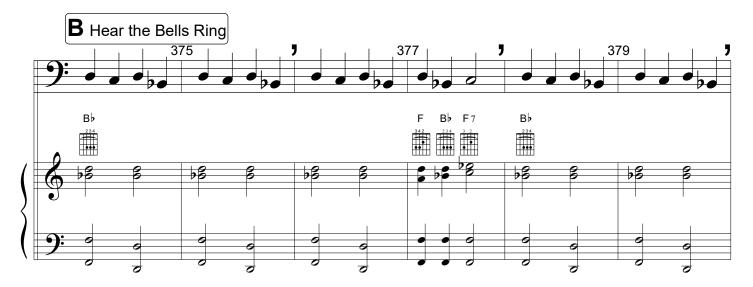






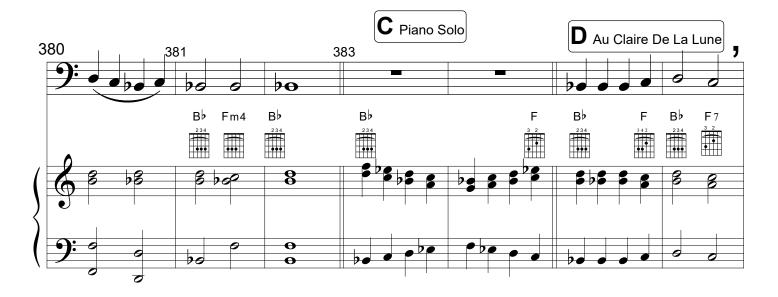


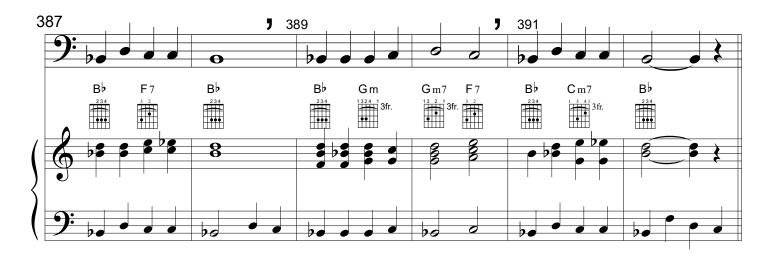


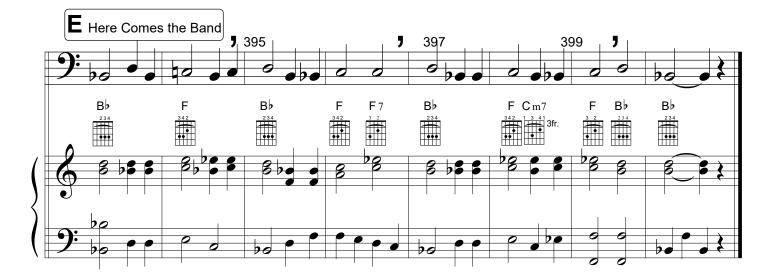


SOLO THREE (First Concert Medley No. 2) NO. 3.25 - Solo Medley with Piano Accompaniment







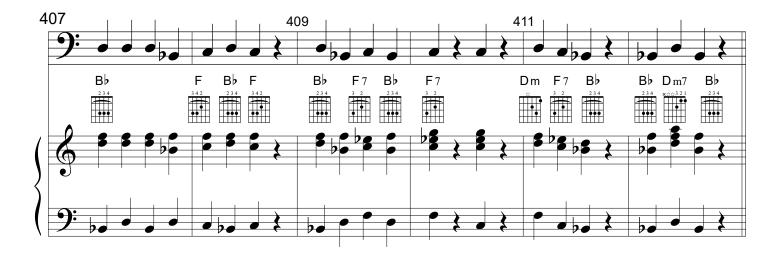


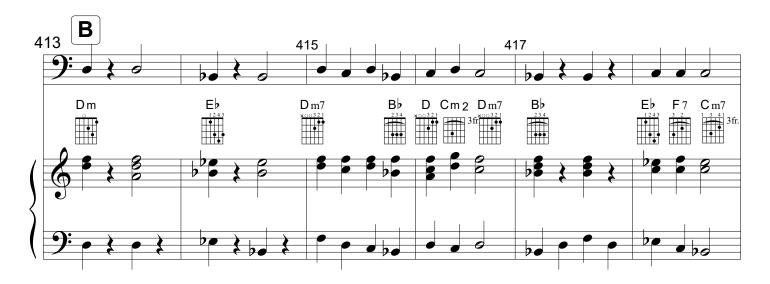
MFC&B, 2025 Pg 27 Stage 3 - P19

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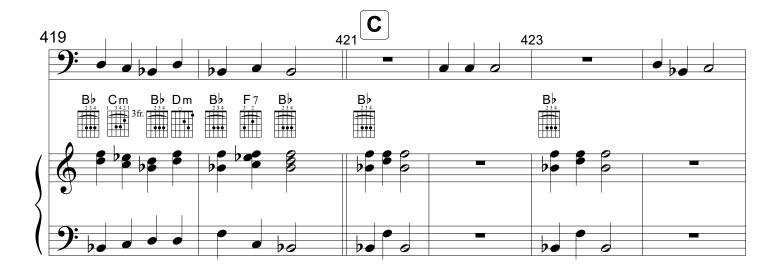
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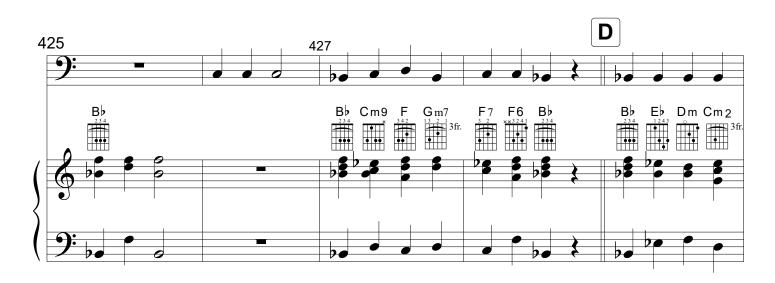
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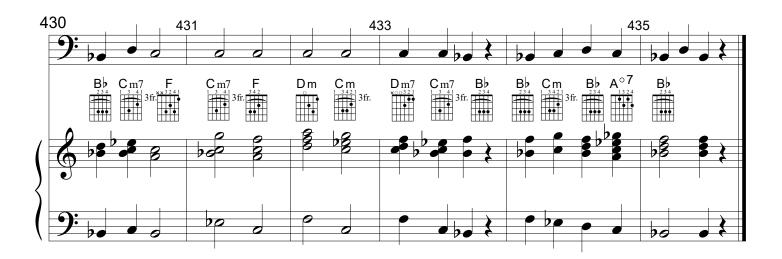
 Stage 3 - P20

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#### WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT?

#### NO. 3.27 - ..... (you give it a title)

Using the notes you know, create your own composition - remember, exactly 4 counts to a bar.

43	6	43	37	43	39
П	0				
	• ]•				
	-				

#### KNOWLEDGE CHECK.

	ame th	e followin	g snapes					
(i)					. (ii)	0		
(iii)	.				(iv)	,		
(v)	•				(vi)			
(vii)					(viii)	Tacet		
(ix)	Soli				(x)			
(xi)	Tutti				(xii)	0		
<sub>(</sub> xiii) S	Solo .		w the fello		(xiv)	<u> </u>		
						a and its	a no of ocupto	
440				the first note			s no of counts. ble.	
440 <b>9</b> :	0			the first note				
<b>9</b> : Min		The	e answers to	the first note	are given as a		ble.	
Min		The	e answers to	the first note	are given as a		ble.	
Min 	D 2 PERF	The	e answers to	the first note	are given as a	an examı	ole.	
(C) (i)	<sup>D2</sup> PERF As a s	FORMAN soloist, pe	Answers to		are given as a	econds	ole.	
(C) (i) (ii)	D 2 PERF As a s As a s	FORMAN soloist, pe	ACE & CON erform a sr	MPOSITION nooth stable	are given as a	econds	ole.	
(C) (i) (ii) (iii)	D 2 PERF As a s As a s Postu	FORMAN soloist, po ure, arm a	e answers to answers to and hand p	MPOSITION nooth stable 0.3.23, 3.25 opositions .	are given as a	econds	ole.	
(C) (i) (ii) (iii)	D 2 PERF As a s As a s Postu	FORMAN soloist, po ure, arm a	e answers to answers to and hand p	MPOSITION nooth stable 0.3.23, 3.25 o positions . 7 above	are given as a	econds	Care of instrument	