

Piano

Composition Book

Level 1A

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This COMPOSITION BOOK is designed to be used with *Alfred's Basic Piano Library*, LESSON BOOK 1A. The book is coordinated page-by-page with the LESSON BOOK, and assignments are ideally made according to the instructions in the upper right corner of each page of the COMPOSITION BOOK.

This Composition Book reinforces concepts as they are presented in the Lesson Book, and specifically focuses on the development of creativity and compositional skills. In the beginning, students may need help notating their pieces correctly. Eventually students should be able to complete the assignments at home if the instructions for each exercise are reviewed at the lesson. Ask students to play directly from the music they have composed so they can see the correlation between what they have written and how the music actually sounds. This reinforces new concepts and strengthens reading skills.

It is possible to use this book even after a student has progressed to higher levels. This can solidify concepts already learned and can stimulate and develop creativity and compositional skills. The book can also be used with students in other methods.

Encourage students to use the limitations given in the book as a guide, but allow them to explore beyond those limitations. This will develop their natural curiosity and creativity.

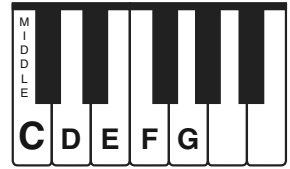
Examples for the teacher are given on page 24.

Valerie Cisler • Deanna Walker-Tipps

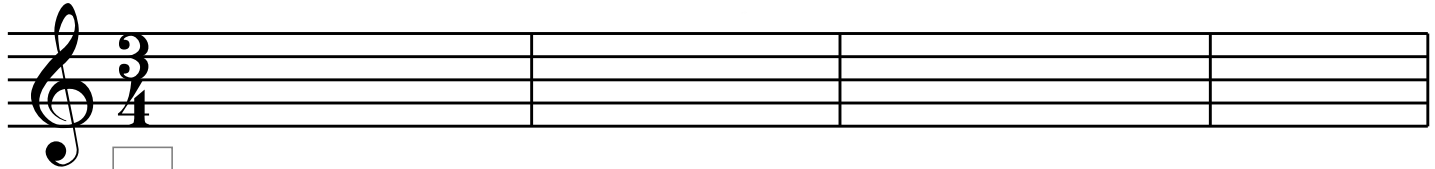
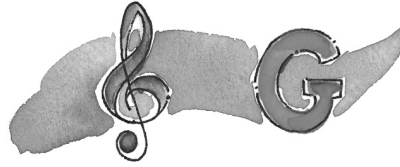
Treble Clef G

1. Clap and say the words to *My Favorite Key* with your teacher.
2. Using and write the matching rhythm on the lines below the words. How many beats will you need in each measure? _____
3. Using only **G**'s, write this rhythm on the staff.
4. Choose a DYNAMIC SIGN and write *f*, *mf* or *p* in the BLUE box.
5. Using RH C Position, play your piece!

RH C POSITION



My Favorite Key

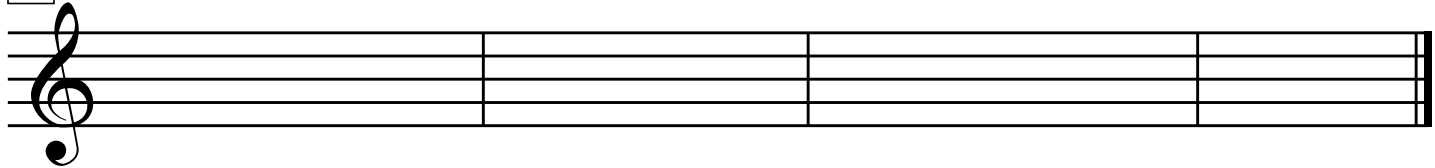


Tre - ble Clef G is my favor - ite key,

Rhythm

— — — — — — — — — —

5

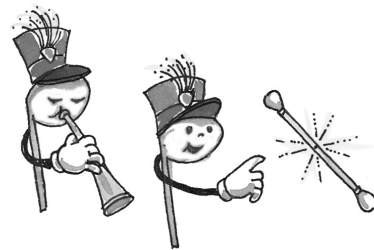


I love to play my Tre - ble Clef G!

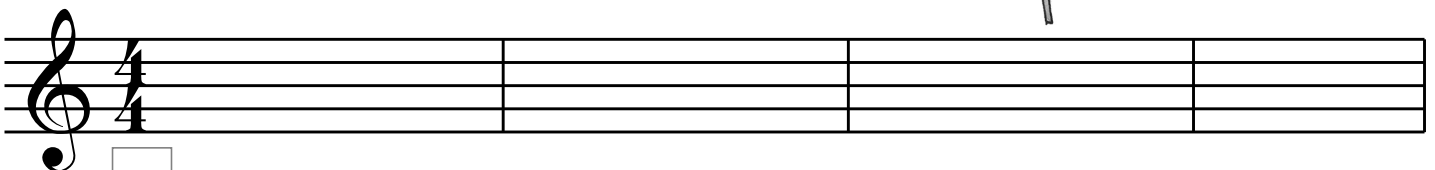
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Improvising in RH C Position

1. Using **RH C Position**, IMPROVISE several melodies to go with the given rhythm of *The Half Note Parade*. End with middle C.
2. Choose your favorite melody and write it on the staff.
3. Choose a DYNAMIC SIGN and write *f*, *mf* or *p* in the BLUE box.
4. Play your piece!



The Half Note Parade



Half Notes march - ing in a line,


5



Half Notes stead - y now they're dou - ble time!

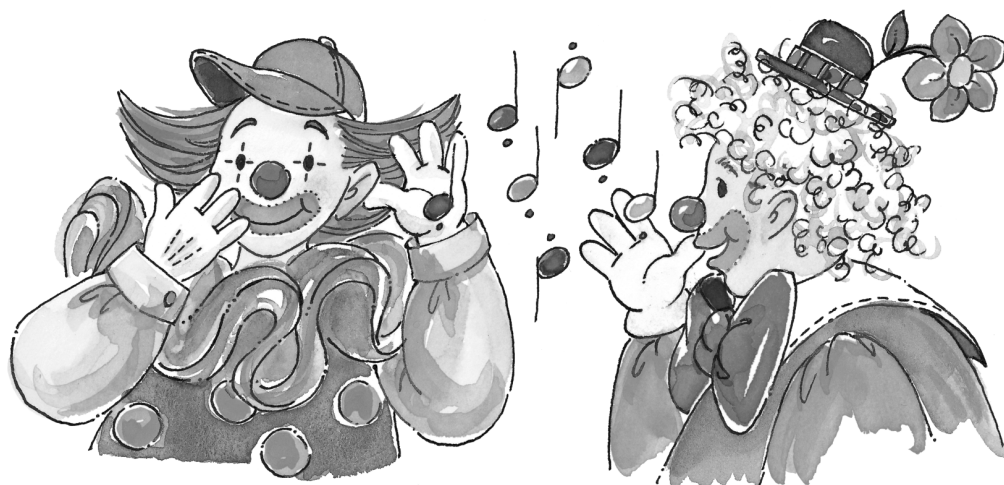
Question and Answer in G Position

1. Clap and say the words to *Secrets* with your teacher.
2. Using **G Position**, compose an ANSWER phrase for the LH to the QUESTION phrase given. End with the note G. All quarter notes should be STACCATO (add dots).
3. Add WHOLE RESTS (■) where necessary.
4. Play your piece! Notice the DYNAMIC SIGN that means first time *f*, second time *p*.
5. Add FLAT SIGNS (b) to the first B in each measure and play again.



A dot above or below a note indicates STACCATO (separated or detached).

Secrets



RH Question

1	1	1	1
<i>f-p</i> 1. I know some-thing,	some-thing se - cret,	would you like to	know? _____
2. I know some-thing,	some-thing spe - cial,	I know some - thing	fine. _____

5

I would like to	tell you, but it	can - not yet be	so. _____
If you tell me	all your se - crets	I will tell you	mine. _____

LH Answer

Special Note We refer to the sound created when you play this piece *without* flats as **major**, and the sound created when you play this piece *with* flats as **minor**.