

Alfred's Basic Piano Library

Chord Approach

A PIANO METHOD FOR THE LATER BEGINNER

Technic Book

LEVEL 1

FOREWORD

The Technic Books of Alfred's Basic CHORD APPROACH for piano are precisely coordinated with the LESSON BOOKS, THEORY BOOKS and SOLO BOOKS. The exercises in this book offer much more than the development of technical skill. They reinforce every principle introduced in the Lesson Books. They give additional drill in reading and playing melodic and harmonic intervals and chords. They improve musicianship, provide rhythm drills, and develop skill in coordination between the hands.

After a considerable amount of testing, new drills have been introduced at strategic places that give the student the opportunity to move up and down the keyboard, changing hand positions on each pattern or chord. This is helpful in overcoming the problem that often results when students become "locked" into a single hand position for a prolonged period. Students using these exercises have shown a better grasp of reading by intervals.

There are 14 groups of exercises in this book, plus one additional set for use away from the piano. Each group has just 4 exercises (A, B, C, D). The instructions at the beginning of each group of exercises show exactly where each group is to be introduced as the student moves through the corresponding Lesson Book.

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GROUP 1: Use with page 16 of Lesson Book 1	2
GROUP 2: Use with page 19	4
GROUP 3: Use with page 21	6
GROUP 4: Use A & B with page 22, C & D with 23	8
GROUP 5: Use with page 24	10
GROUP 6: Use with page 26	12
GROUP 7: Use with page 30	14
GROUP 8: Use with page 36	16
GROUP 9: Use with page 38	18
GROUP 10: Use A, B, & C with page 44, D with 45	20
GROUP 11: Use with page 48	22
GROUP 12: Use A & B with page 50, C with 52, D with 53	24
GROUP 13: Use A with page 56, B & C with 57, and D with 58	26
GROUP 14: Use at the end of Lesson Book 1	28
TABLE-TOP TRICKS: Use A & B anytime, C after 23, D after 24	30

NOTE TO TEACHERS: For students to play the piano comfortably and correctly it is necessary that they develop good control of the fingers, hand, and arm. This involves constant attention to rounded fingers, relaxed wrists and arms, good posture at the keyboard, and all the vital elements with which you, as a professional piano instructor, are so abundantly familiar. Cautions and admonitions about these details are omitted from the music in this book, since they only clutter the page, and cannot, in any event, enforce themselves. Their absence should in no way indicate that the authors do not wish them properly emphasized. The amount of emphasis necessary will vary from student to student, and in this respect no book can replace the judgment and sensibilities of a fine teacher.

Group 7

Begin GROUP 7 EXERCISES with page 30.

A. BUILDING C MAJOR & G⁷ CHORDS

Moderately slow

mf-p

B. CLIMBING CHORDS

Moderately slow to Moderately fast

mf

Both hands 1 octave higher - - - - -

p

Both hands 1 octave higher - - - - -

Group 13

Assign A from GROUP 13 with page 56, B & C with page 57, and D with page 58.

A. SKILL DRILL IN MIDDLE C & C POSITIONS

Moderately slow to Moderately fast

MIDDLE C POSITION C POSITION

MIDDLE C POSITION C POSITION

B. BLUE ETUDE IN G POSITION

(Add with page 57.)

Moderately slow