

The Kittatinny Mountains

The northwestern corner of New Jersey is a mountainous area known as The Appalachian Ridge and Valley Region. It is part of the Appalachian Mountains that run from New York to Alabama. In New Jersey, the Kittatinny Mountains are a part of this region. The highest point in the range, High Point, is also the highest point in the state. It rises 1,803 feet above sea level. An archeological site proves that humans have lived in this area since around 8000 B.C.

Maestoso (♩ = 76-80)

Dennis Alexander

Musical score for measures 1-3. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is Maestoso (♩ = 76-80). The music is written for piano with a forte (f) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a 4/2 fingering and a 5 2 1 fingering. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with a 1 2 5 fingering.

Musical score for measures 4-6. The music continues with a mezzo-piano (sub. p) dynamic. The right hand has a 4/2 fingering. The left hand has a 1 5 fingering.

Musical score for measures 7-10. The music is in 3/4 time. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf) in measure 7 and forte (f) in measure 8. The right hand has a 5 2 1 fingering. The left hand has a 1 2 5 fingering. The piece ends with a repeat sign and an 8va marking.

Moderato e nobilemente (♩ = 80-84)

Musical score for measures 11-14. The piece is in 3/4 time with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The right hand has a 4 2 1 fingering and a 5 2 1 fingering. The left hand has a 5 2 1 fingering and a 3 2 1 fingering. The piece ends with a repeat sign and an 8va marking.

Jazzy Jersey

In the early 1900s, jazz musicians from New Jersey often practiced their skills in night clubs like The Alcazar and The Piccadilly Club in Newark before going on to greater fame in New York City. Many famous jazz pianists were from Newark, including Willie "The Lion" Smith, Thomas "Fats" Waller and Donald "The Lamb" Lambert. William "Count" Basie, a native of Red Bank, is considered to be one of the most important figures in the history of jazz. Today, jazz is still an integral part of the music scene in New Jersey.

Dennis Alexander

Cool blues tempo (♩ = 100–102)

The musical score for "Jazzy Jersey" is written for piano and right hand. It consists of five systems of music, each with a measure number in a box at the beginning. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 7/8. The tempo is marked "Cool blues tempo (♩ = 100–102)".

- System 1 (Measures 1-4):** Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 1, 3, 4, 1, 4. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 2, 5, 1, 5, 2, 1, 4, 1, 2, 1, 2, 5. There are slurs over the right hand notes in measures 2 and 4.
- System 2 (Measures 5-8):** Starts with a *mp* dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 5. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 4, 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 5. There are slurs over the right hand notes in measures 6 and 8.
- System 3 (Measures 9-12):** Starts with a *f* dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 1, 1, 3, 1, 5, 4, 5, 3, 1. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 5, 5, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1. There are slurs over the right hand notes in measures 10 and 12.
- System 4 (Measures 13-16):** Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 5, 2. The left hand has a bass line with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 5, 2. There are slurs over the right hand notes in measures 14 and 16.

No Left Turn!

If you have never driven in New Jersey, you are in for a surprise—there are no left turns allowed in the state! For someone new to this situation, it can be a harrowing experience. This movement expresses the frenzy and frustration of a “newbie” beginning a road trip through the maze of concrete, steel, and other drivers—all intent on getting to their destination on time and as quickly as possible.

Dennis Alexander

Molto allegro (♩ = 116–126)
(Off and running)

The musical score is written for piano and consists of four systems of music. Each system contains two staves: a bass staff and a grand staff (treble and bass). The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked 'Molto allegro' with a quarter note equal to 116-126 beats per minute. The performance instruction is '(Off and running)'. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 5, 9, and 13 indicated in boxes. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Fingerings (1-5) and pedaling are indicated throughout the piece. The first system (measures 1-4) features a rhythmic pattern of chords and single notes with dynamics alternating between *mf* and *f*. The second system (measures 5-8) continues this pattern, with a *f* dynamic in measure 8. The third system (measures 9-12) repeats the *mf* and *f* dynamic pattern. The fourth system (measures 13-16) begins with a *mp* dynamic and includes a 'LH over' instruction in measure 14, indicating a left-hand over-the-right-hand technique. The piece concludes with a final chord in measure 16.