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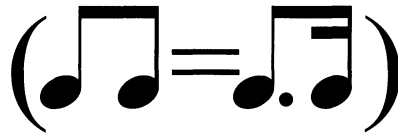
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*Works are arranged in order of approximate difficulty*

# EDITOR'S NOTE

*A First Book of Jazz* is specially designed to bring the joys of America's premier art form to beginning pianists. These carefully selected and arranged works are designed to develop both fingers and ears, as well as introduce the most memorable hits of the genre. Many of the works focus on specific skills: e.g. extended melodies in *Indiana*, and waltz syncopations in *Bethena*. Fingerings have been provided as suggestions and should not be taken too literally, as each individual will understand what works best for them. Phrasings and pedals have been left open to keep the works less daunting. These can be applied as personal progress is achieved.

When playing jazz, the element of interpretation is key. What is often written on the page rhythmically is not what is performed. One of the basic rules is to add "swing" to melodies: this means that a series of eighth notes are not played straight and even. Rather, they're paired into groups of two, with a delay on the attack of the second note. It's simplest to think of two eighth notes as a dotted eighth plus a sixteenth:



In more advanced performance, the eighths are performed as triplets with the first note lasting  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a beat, and the second note filling the remaining  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

# FRANKIE AND JOHNNY

*Traditional*

This traditional jazz standard tells the story of a love gone sour between two sweethearts. There are over 250 recordings, with artists ranging from Duke Ellington to Benny Goodman, Elvis Presley, Stevie Wonder, and Lindsay Lohan. Keep the melody playful, and once the right-hand is comfortable add some swing to the eighth notes.

**Slow Blues Tempo**

The first system of musical notation for 'Frankie and Johnny' is in 4/4 time. The right hand (treble clef) starts with a quarter note G4 (finger 1), followed by a dotted quarter note A4 (finger 5), and an eighth note B4. The second measure contains a quarter note C#5 (finger 2), a quarter note B4 (finger 1), and a quarter note A4 (finger 1). The third measure contains a quarter note G4 (finger 1), a quarter note F#4 (finger 3), and a half note G4 (finger 3). The left hand (bass clef) has a whole rest in the first measure, followed by a half note G2 (finger 1) and a half note F#2 (finger 2) in the second measure, and a half note G2 (finger 3) and a half note F#2 (finger 3) in the third measure. The dynamic marking *f* is placed below the first measure.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The right hand (treble clef) starts with a triplet of eighth notes G4, A4, B4 (finger 1), followed by a quarter note C5 (finger 5), and a quarter note B4. The second measure contains a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The third measure contains a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4. The fourth measure contains a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note G3. The left hand (bass clef) has a whole note G2 in the first measure, a half note G2 and a half note F#2 in the second measure, a whole note G2 in the third measure, and a whole note F#2 in the fourth measure. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed below the first measure.

The third system of musical notation continues the piece. The right hand (treble clef) starts with a triplet of eighth notes G4, A4, B4 (finger 1), followed by a quarter note C5 (finger 2), a quarter note B4 (finger 1), and a quarter note A4 (finger 3). The second measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. The third measure contains a quarter note D4 (finger 1), a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3. The fourth measure contains a quarter note A3 (finger 5), a quarter note G3, and a quarter note F#3. The left hand (bass clef) has a whole note G2 in the first measure, a half note G2 and a half note F#2 in the second measure, and a whole note G2 in the third measure, and a whole note F#2 in the fourth measure.

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the piece. The right hand (treble clef) starts with a quarter note G4 (finger 1), a quarter note A4 (finger 2), and a quarter note B4 (finger 1). The second measure contains a quarter note C5 (finger 2), a quarter note B4 (finger 1), and a quarter note A4 (finger 1). The third measure contains a quarter note G4 (finger 4), a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. The fourth measure contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3. The left hand (bass clef) has a whole rest in the first measure, a whole note G2 (finger 8) in the second measure, a whole rest in the third measure, and a whole note G2 (finger 8) in the fourth measure. The dynamic marking *f* is placed below the first measure.