

1.

Here's an easy study to get started with. This is a very common chord sequence in pop music and can be found in many songs. It's a great starter piece for learning pop piano because your hands can stay in the same position throughout.

♩ = 80 **Pop**

C Am F G C Am F G

5 C Am F G C

2.

A simple vamping exercise designed to teach the basic structure of the 12-bar blues. Once you feel comfortable with this, experiment by adding a moving bass-line and solos in the right hand.

♩ = 112 **Swung blues**

C⁷

5 F⁷ C⁷

9 G⁷ F⁷ C⁷ G⁷ Repeat ad lib.

46.

Play this bass groove with strength, but keep the right hand rhythmic and light when it comes in. Make sure you follow the accent and staccato markings. For further listening check out Stevie Wonder and Michael Jackson.

$\text{♩} = 120$ 80s pop
Gm

mf

7 Cm7

12 Gm

47.

Playing a melody line in both hands can sound really powerful when harmonised. Here, the left-hand part is much more than a rhythmic accompaniment as it has the melody line (in unison with the right hand) whilst also holding the root pulse.

$\text{♩} = 60$ Slow and steady pop

mp

Em D Bm7 C⁶ D

Ped. Pedal cont. sim.

5 Em⁷ D Bm⁷ C Cmaj⁷ D D⁷ Em

mf

88.

On the more progressive/melodic side of metal, this final study is designed to practise a few keyboard equivalents of metal solo techniques. Look out for the sweep-picking/arpeggios at bar 5. If you're on a keyboard, try a hammond organ patch with a little distortion.

♩ = 138 Progressive metal

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time with a tempo of 138 BPM. It is in the key of B-flat major. The score is divided into five systems of music, each with a bar number and chord symbols above the staff.

- System 1 (Bars 1-2):** Chords Dm and Bb. The right hand plays chords in a rhythmic pattern, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *f* is present.
- System 2 (Bars 3-4):** Chords C and Am. The right hand features a sweep-picking/arpeggio pattern in bar 3, followed by a melodic line in bar 4. The left hand continues with eighth notes.
- System 3 (Bars 5-6):** Chords Bb, C, and A7/C#. The right hand has a complex sweep-picking/arpeggio pattern in bar 5, followed by a melodic line in bar 6. The left hand has a simple bass line.
- System 4 (Bars 7-8):** Chords Dm, Gm, and G#dim7. The right hand features a melodic line with triplets in bars 7 and 8. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.
- System 5 (Bars 9-10):** Chords A and N.C. (No Chord). The right hand has a melodic line with a trill in bar 9, followed by a melodic line in bar 10. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.