

Piano for Adults

Level Three Method

by Wesley Schaum

Teacher Consultants: Alfred Cahn, Joan Cupp, Sue Pennington

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Changing Fingers on the Same Note

In measures 7 and 15 you will find double finger numbers 3-5, above the treble staff. This means to play the note at first with the 3rd finger, then while holding the key down, change to the 5th finger. There is to be no interruption of the rhythm while making this finger change.

Theme from Overture to "The Marriage of Figaro" (Mozart)

Directions: The notes in the last 8 Measures are the same as the first 8 measures, except they are played one octave higher and the left hand is written in treble clef. Only the final three notes of the accompaniment are different.

Presto ♩ = 160-176

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, key of D major (two sharps). It consists of four systems of two staves each. The first system starts with a forte (f) dynamic. The second system has a forte (f) dynamic in the bass. The third system starts with a piano (p) dynamic. The fourth system includes dynamics of crescendo (cresc.), forte (f), and ritardando (rit.). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. Some notes have double fingerings (e.g., 3-5) indicating a finger change while the note is held. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (MOE-tsart) • 1756-1791 • Austria

Mozart is one of the world's most famous and beloved composers. "Amadeus," the popular academy-award-winning movie about his life, greatly expanded the public appreciation of Mozart's music and his genius. Excerpts from "The Marriage of Figaro" appear in the movie.

An **overture** (OH-ver-tshoor) is a musical introduction to a larger work such as an opera, operetta, musical play, oratorio or drama. It usually establishes the mood for the opening scene. An overture is often performed as a separate unit on a concert program. The overture to "The Marriage of Figaro" is unusual in that it does not use any themes which appear in the opera itself.

"The Marriage of Figaro" is a comedy involving the secret romances of several couples of different social classes. Jealousy spawns a plot involving disguises and trickery. All couples are happily reconciled at the end. It was first performed in 1786.

Chord Inversions – Flat Keys

A triad is a 3-note chord made up of a **root** (lowest note) and notes at the interval of a 3rd and a 5th above the root. The chord is named after the root. The chord symbol (letter above the upper staff) indicates the root name of each chord. When the root is the lowest note of the chord, the chord is said to be in root position.

An **inversion** of a triad is made by moving the lowest note up one octave (putting it above the remaining two notes). This can be done twice to form two different inversions. Where printed between the staves:

Root = Root Position; 1st = 1st Inversion; 2nd = 2nd inversion.

Flat Key Inversion Etude (Schaum)

Directions: Watch the clef signs; this exercise starts with both hands in the bass clef, then has two clef changes and ends with both hands in the treble clef.

The right hand fingering is the same for all root position chords, for all the 1st inversion chords, and for all the 2nd inversion chords. The left hand fingering follows a pattern which is repeated with each new chord.

The new leger note E, above the treble staff, is used near the end. If necessary, check the front reference page for its keyboard location.

The broken chords in the left hand follow a pattern. A root position broken chord is repeated three times and followed by a 1st inversion broken chord. This pattern occurs with each chord: C, F, B-flat, E-flat, and A-flat. The left hand fingering is similar for each of these chords.

The musical score is divided into four systems, each containing two staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

- System 1:** Bass clef. Chords: C (Root, 1st, 2nd), F (Root, 1st). Left hand fingering: 5, 3, 1 for root position; 5, 3, 1 for 1st inversion.
- System 2:** Treble clef. Chords: B-flat (2nd, Root, 1st), E-flat (2nd). Left hand fingering: 5, 3, 1 for root position; 5, 3, 1 for 1st inversion.
- System 3:** Treble clef. Chords: A-flat (Root, 1st), C (Root, 1st). Left hand fingering: 5, 3, 1 for root position; 5, 3, 1 for 1st inversion.
- System 4:** Treble clef. Chords: C (2nd, 1st, 2nd, 1st). Left hand fingering: 5, 3, 1 for root position; 5, 3, 1 for 1st inversion. A new leger note E is indicated above the treble staff in the second measure of this system.