

Piano Play Tunes

Primer Level

Familiar Melodies with Optional Duet Accompaniments
Arranged by Wesley Schaum

FOREWORD

This series offers welcome versatility for student and teacher. Any of the pieces may be played alone as a solo or with the duet accompaniment. The pleasing variety of familiar melodies will complement any piano method.

Each piece is arranged with the **melody divided between hands**. The arrangements are designed so that left hand and right hand have approximately equal work. There is a **planned variety** of key signatures and time signatures appropriate for the primer level.

To aid in rhythm comprehension and counting, **quarter rests are used instead of half rests and whole rests** in some measures. Quarter rests are used where half note and whole notes occur in the melody. This helps the student to visualize the full value of these notes. Quarter rests are also found where 8th note pairs and dotted quarter/8th rhythm occurs. This shows how the 8th notes fit with the numbered beats.

The dotted quarter/8th note rhythm is normally not taught at primer level. However, because these pieces are very familiar, the dotted rhythm can easily be taught by rote instead of presenting the counting here.

Various hand positions are used as determined by the range of the melody and key signature. Pieces with **changes of hand position** are indicated with a double bar in the hand position diagrams.

The duets offer many possibilities for recitals and other performances. In addition, the duets help provide valuable **rhythmic training and ensemble experience**. The duets are recommended for use at home as well as at the lesson. The person playing the accompaniment is free to add pedal according to his/her own taste.

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Duet Accompaniment



Notes with *stems up* are to be played with the *right hand*. Notes with *stems down* are to be played with the *left hand*.

Skip to My Lou

L.H. Position



R.H. Position



Vivo

3

Lost my part - ner, what will I do?

f

1

Lost my part - ner, what will I do?

2

I'll find an - oth - er bet - ter than you,

2

Skip to my Lou, my dar - lin'.

Quarter rests are purposely used instead of half rests in measures with 8th notes or half notes in the melody. This helps to visualize the correct counting.