

Fingerpower®

Primer Level

Effective Technic for All Piano Methods

By John W. Schaum

Edited by Wesley Schaum

FOREWORD

Strong fingers are an important requirement for all pianists, amateur and professional. Schaum Fingerpower® exercises are designed to strengthen all five fingers of both hands. Equal hand development is assured by the performance of the same patterns in each hand.

The exercises are short and easily memorized. This enables the student to focus his/her efforts on technical benefits, listening attentively and playing with a steady beat.

A measure number (enclosed in a small box) is included at the beginning of each system of music. This makes it easier to locate measures during the lesson and for written practice assignments.

The exercises are progressively more difficult as the student moves through the book. This makes the exercises an ideal companion to a method book at the same level.

The Primer Level of Fingerpower® may be started after only six to eight weeks of study. The series consists of seven books, Primer Level through Level 6.

Practice CD's and MIDI diskettes with orchestrated accompaniments are available for this book. They promote accurate playing with a steady rhythm, while making practice more enjoyable. MIDI diskettes have separate tracks for right hand, left hand, harmony, bass and rhythm.

Practice CD (catalog No. 04-20cd) – **MIDI Diskette** (catalog No. 04-20md)

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www.schaumpiano.net

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PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS

To derive the full benefit from these exercises, they should be played with a firm, solid finger action. Try to play each finger equally loud. Each hand should also play equally loud. Listen carefully while practicing. It is also important to be aware of the feeling in your fingers and hands during practice.

Each exercise should be practiced four or five times daily, starting at a slow tempo and gradually increasing the speed as proficiency improves. Several previously learned exercises should be reviewed each week as part of regular practice.

Schaum Companion Books for Primer Level:

METHOD BOOKS:

Making Music Method, Primer
Piano For Adults, Beginner

WORKBOOKS:

Keynote Speller, Primer
Rhythm Workbook, Primer
Theory Workbook, Primer

CHRISTMAS:

Christmas Favorites
Christmas Primer
Christmas Solos, Primer

CLASSICS:

Great Ballets
Great Composers
Great Operas
Great Symphonies
Easy Master Themes, Primer

FOLK SONGS:

Folk Song Primer
Folk Song Solos, Primer
Folk Songs and Dances

PATRIOTIC:

Patriotic Primer
Patriotic Solos, Primer

REPERTOIRE:

Little Animal Tunes
Piano Play Tunes, Primer
Schaum Repertoire, Primer

SACRED:

Hymn Primer
Sacred Solos, Primer
Sunday School Hymns

Descriptions and Complete Contents at www.schaumpiano.net

1. Two-Finger Legato (2/4)

CD 1/2 MIDI 1

$\text{♩} = 108-126$

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2. Two-Finger Legato (3/4)

CD 3/4 MIDI 2

$\text{♩} = 108-126$

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Teacher's Note: Phrase marks are intended to show groups of notes that form patterns. Some of these patterns recur. The student should be shown how to recognize patterns which are the same.

It is recommended that all studies in this book be played *forte* with firm finger articulation. There is a well-known motto: "He who can do the most, can do the least." In other words, strong fingers can play softly, but weak fingers cannot perform with clarity.