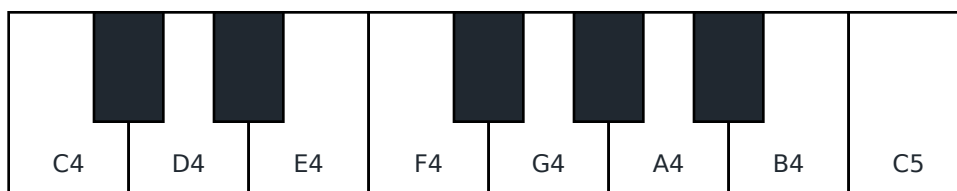


Start Reading at the Piano

Pitch names include octave numbers. Middle C is C4 in scientific pitch notation.

1. Find C, D and E

C is the white key immediately left of a two-black-key group. On an 88-key piano, middle C is the fourth C from the left.



2. Read a clef before naming a note

Treble clef



Bass clef



Treble spaces, bottom to top: F4 A4 C5 E5 (FACE). Bass spaces: A2 C3 E3 G3.

The second ledger line below treble is A3. The second ledger line below bass is C2. The clef changes the answer.

3. Try one bar

Play C4 on count 1, D4 on count 2, and hold E4 through counts 3-4. Then find the same pattern on page 2.

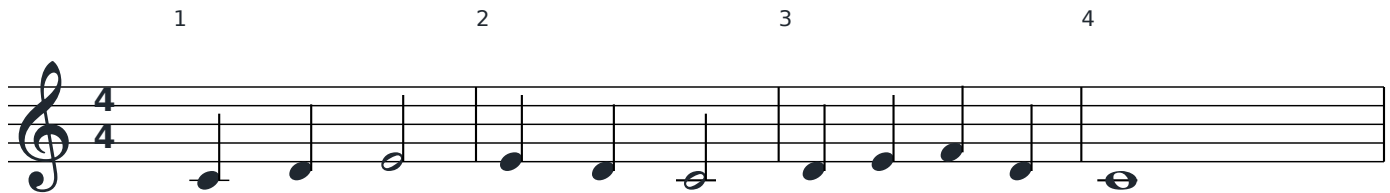
Sources: Open Music Theory (clefs); Musicca (notes); Puget Sound Music Theory (registers). Original diagrams; no fingering is inferred.

Two Short Reading Lines

Preview the clef, first note, highest and lowest notes, and durations. Count one bar before starting.

A. Steps around middle C

Treble clef • C4-F4 • quarter, half and whole notes • one hand



After one continuous attempt, check the pitches:

Bar 1: C4 D4 E4 | Bar 2: E4 D4 C4 | Bar 3: D4 E4 F4 D4 | Bar 4: C4

B. Read the bass staff

Bass clef • G2-F3 • includes leaps • play separately from line A



Answer pitches:

Bar 1: C3 G2 | Bar 2: C3 D3 E3 | Bar 3: F3 E3 D3 C3 | Bar 4: G2 C3

Review one thing

Which bar interrupted the pulse? _____ What will I inspect before trying a new line? _____

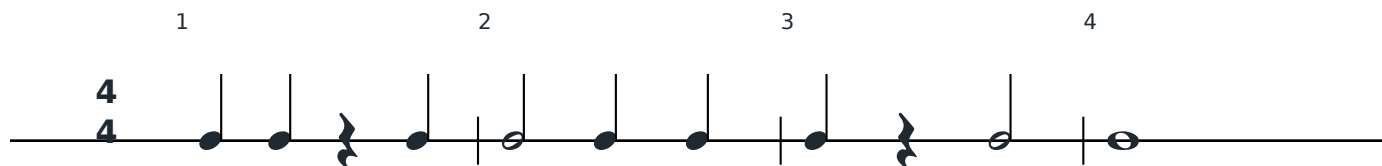
Original exercises. Difficulty labels describe the material, not an examination grade. No finger numbers prescribed.

Read the Rhythm

These exercises use 4/4: four quarter-note beats in each bar. Pitch is not part of this task.

A. Clap and leave a beat silent

Say 1 2 3 4 throughout. A rest takes time even when you do not clap.



Attack counts: bar 1 = 1, 2, 4 | bar 2 = 1, 3, 4 | bar 3 = 1, 3 | bar 4 = 1

B. Count eighth-note pairs

Keep saying 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &. A dot adds half the original note value.



Attack counts: bar 1 = 1, & of 1, 2, 3 | bar 2 = 1, & of 2, 3, 4

Bar 3 = 1, & of 1, 3 (rest on 2) | bar 4 = 1

Duration reference (quarter-note units)



Whole = 4



Half = 2



Quarter = 1



Eighth = 0.5



Sixteenth = 0.25

Notes and corresponding rests have matching durations. In 6/8 the six eighth-note units are normally grouped into two dotted-quarter beats: ONE-and-a TWO-and-a.

Sources: Puget Sound Music Theory, sections 4.2-4.4; musictheory.net. Original exercise lines. Music glyphs: Bravura, SIL OFL.

Make a Sketch, Then Plan Practice

Use the example as a starting point for your own music. Change one element at a time.

Four-bar sketch

Melody with chord symbols. Optional lower chord notes are listed below.



Optional accompaniment: C3 E3 G3 | F2 A2 C3 | G2 B2 D3 | C3 E3 G3

Hold each chord for one bar. Fingering is not prescribed. Try the melody alone first.

Variation: change only bar 2 to A4 F4 A4, keeping durations 1, 1, 2.

Ten-minute sample practice checklist

- ☐ 2 min Locate the starting notes.
- ☐ 3 min Clap and read one phrase.
- ☐ 3 min Play and join two short sections.
- ☐ 2 min Make one continuous attempt and write the next task.

Today's goal: _____

What changed: _____

Next small task: _____

The timings are an editable planning example. Teaching suitability and movement should be reviewed with a piano educator; these pages do not certify a level.