

PIANO QUEST CHRISTMAS

25 EASY CAROLS FOR KIDS

Note Names, Finger Numbers & Teacher Duets: a
Beginner Piano Songbook for Ages 7-10



Glen Soans



Piano Quest Christmas: 25 Easy Carols for Kids

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Music engraved with MuseScore.

Welcome to Piano Quest Christmas!

Twenty-five carols are waiting for you. Here is how to play each one.

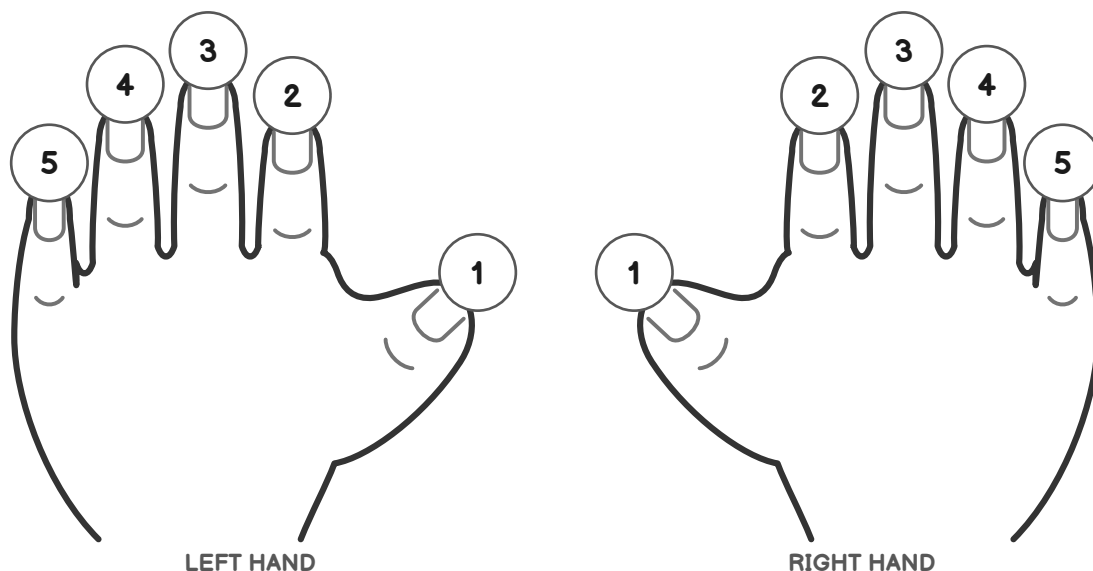
- 1 Find your place**
The keyboard picture above each carol shows where your fingers start. R means right hand. L means left hand. The number is the finger.
- 2 Read the letters**
Each note has its letter name printed inside it. Say the letter, then play it.
- 3 Use the finger numbers**
Thumbs are 1 and little fingers are 5, on both hands. Play each note with the finger shown. Later carols show fewer numbers.
- 4 Sing along**
The words sit under the notes. Sing them quietly as you play.
- 5 Color a star**
Color one practice star each time you play a carol all the way through.

For teachers and parents

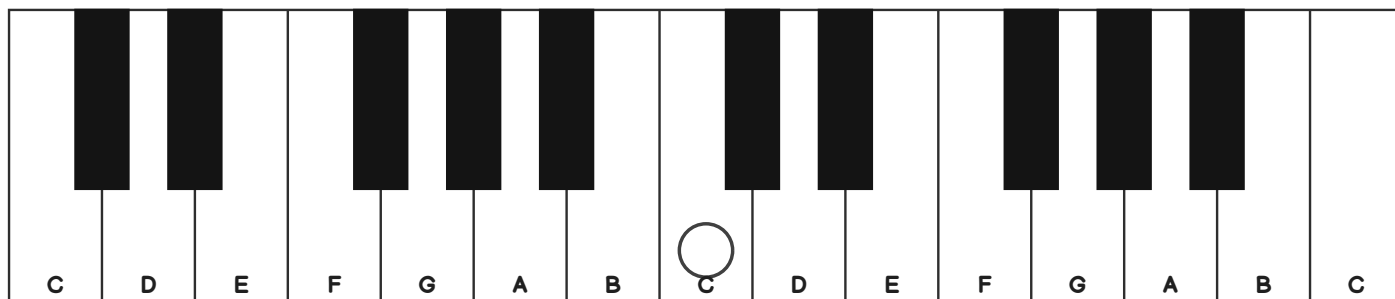
- The carols are grouped into five levels that grow step by step, from one-hand melodies shared between the hands to hands-together pieces with moving positions.
- Every carol has a teacher duet: the smaller grand staff printed under each line. In the duet, the student plays one octave higher than written and the teacher sits to the left.
- The student part is complete on its own. The duet adds harmony and a steady beat.
- Letter names are printed inside the note heads to build confidence. As the child progresses, cover the letters with a finger and ask them to name each note first.
- In Levels 1 to 3 every note has a finger number. From Level 4, finger numbers appear only where a hand starts or moves to a new position.
- Most carols print the first verse. Jingle Bells and Coventry Carol print the refrain, Go Tell It on the Mountain prints the refrain and a verse, and I Saw Three Ships prints two verses. Carol of the Bells has no words.

Fingers, Keys and Notes

Your fingers have numbers. Thumbs are 1 and little fingers are 5, on both hands.



Every white key has a letter name. The pattern C D E F G A B repeats all along the keyboard. Middle C (circled) is near the middle of the piano.



In this book every note shows its letter name inside the note head. A small number above or below the note is the finger to use.

Your 25 Carols

LEVEL 1 • HANDS TAKE TURNS

1. Jingle Bells	8
2. Carol of the Bells	10
3. Joy to the World	12
4. We Wish You a Merry Christmas	14
5. Good King Wenceslas	16

LEVEL 2 • LEFT HAND JOINS IN

6. Away in a Manger	20
7. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	22
8. Silent Night	24
9. We Three Kings	26
10. O Christmas Tree	28

LEVEL 3 • BUSY HANDS

11. The Holly and the Ivy	32
12. Deck the Halls	34
13. God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen	36
14. Angels We Have Heard on High	38
15. Go Tell It on the Mountain	40

LEVEL 4 • MOVING HANDS

16. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	44
17. O Come, All Ye Faithful	46
18. I Saw Three Ships	48
19. O Little Town of Bethlehem	50
20. Once in Royal David's City	52

LEVEL 5 • GRAND FINALE

21. Coventry Carol	56
22. In the Bleak Midwinter	58
23. It Came Upon the Midnight Clear	60
24. What Child Is This?	62
25. Ding Dong Merrily on High	64

Christmas Quest Map

When you can play a carol all the way through, color its star.

LEVEL 1 · HANDS TAKE TURNS



Jingle Bells



Carol of the Bells



Joy to the World



We Wish You a Merry Christmas



Good King Wenceslas

LEVEL 2 · LEFT HAND JOINS IN



Away in a Manger



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



Silent Night



We Three Kings



O Christmas Tree

LEVEL 3 · BUSY HANDS



The Holly and the Ivy



Deck the Halls



God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen



Angels We Have Heard on High



Go Tell It on the Mountain

LEVEL 4 · MOVING HANDS



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



O Come, All Ye Faithful



I Saw Three Ships



O Little Town of Bethlehem



Once in Royal David's City

LEVEL 5 · GRAND FINALE



Coventry Carol



In the Bleak Midwinter



It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



What Child Is This?



Ding Dong Merrily on High

Hands Take Turns

What's new

- ★ Only one hand plays at a time. The tune passes from one hand to the other.
- ★ Notes below middle C belong to the left hand. They are written in the bass staff (the lower staff with the bass clef).
- ★ Every note has its letter name inside the note head, and a finger number above or below it.
- ★ Rest your quiet hand on the keys, so it is ready when its turn comes.

Your carols

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Jingle Bells | page 8 |
| 2. Carol of the Bells | page 10 |
| 3. Joy to the World | page 12 |
| 4. We Wish You a Merry Christmas | page 14 |
| 5. Good King Wenceslas | page 16 |

How long is each note?

quarter note	half note	dotted half note	whole note	2 eighth notes	dotted quarter + eighth
					
1	1-2	1-2-3	1-2-3-4	1 &	1-2 &
1 count	2 counts	3 counts	4 counts	1 count for both	2 counts for both

Two eighth notes fit in one count. Say "1-and" as you play them. Under the notes, & means "and".

A dot after a note adds half of its length. A dotted half note lasts $2 + 1 = 3$ counts. A dotted quarter note lasts 1 and a half counts, so the eighth note after it is quick.

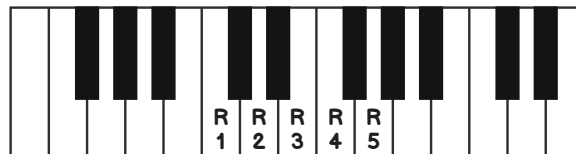


Jingle Bells

Words and Music: James Lord Pierpont (1857)

Teacher duet: the smaller staves under each line. In the duet the student plays one octave higher than written.

START HERE (R = right hand, L = left hand)



Your right hand stays in C position for the whole song: thumb on middle C, one finger on each white key up to G. Your left hand rests.

Merrily
mf

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 5 1 2 3

mp

5

4 4 4 4 4 3 3 3 3 3 2 2 3 2 5

9

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 5 1 2 3

Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way!

13

4 4 4 4 4 3 3 3 3 5 5 4 2 1

Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one - horse o - pen sleigh!

The image shows a piano score for two Christmas carols. The first system, starting at measure 9, is for 'Jingle Bells'. It features a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody with eighth notes and rests, with fingerings 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 5, 1, 2, 3 written above. The lyrics 'Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, jin - gle all the way!' are written below the treble staff. The bass staff has whole rests. The second system, starting at measure 13, is for 'One Horse Open Sleigh'. It also has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody with eighth notes and rests, with fingerings 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 3, 3, 3, 3, 5, 5, 4, 2, 1 written above. The lyrics 'Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one - horse o - pen sleigh!' are written below the treble staff. The bass staff has a simple accompaniment of eighth notes. Both systems end with a double bar line.

Left Hand Joins In

What's new

- ★ Now both hands play together. The right hand plays the tune.
- ★ The left hand plays one long note at a time, usually the first note of the chord.
- ★ Count the long notes out loud: a whole note lasts 4 counts, a dotted half note lasts 3.
- ★ Look at the keyboard picture above each carol. It shows where every finger starts.

Your carols

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| 6. Away in a Manger | page 20 |
| 7. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | page 22 |
| 8. Silent Night | page 24 |
| 9. We Three Kings | page 26 |
| 10. O Christmas Tree | page 28 |



Name That Carol

These are the first notes of six carols (the notes only, not the rhythm). Write the letter under each note, play or hum it, then circle the carol.

1

2

3

4

5

6

Silent Night

Jingle Bells

Deck the Halls

Silent Night

Joy to the World

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Jingle Bells

Deck the Halls

Joy to the World

Deck the Halls

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

Silent Night

Joy to the World

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Jingle Bells

Deck the Halls

Silent Night

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

SCORE _____ / 6

Silent Night

Music: Franz Gruber (1818) · Words: Joseph Mohr, tr. John F. Young

Teacher duet: the smaller staves under each line. In the duet the student plays one octave higher than written.

START HERE (R = right hand, L = left hand)



Your right hand moves to a new place a few times. When a finger number jumps, that is your signal to move the hand.

Gently
p

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is

calm, all is bright round yon Vir - gin Moth -

11

-er and Child. Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and

16

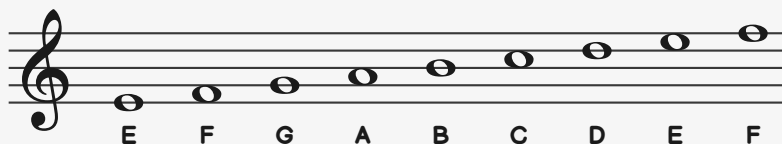
mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace,

21

sleep in heav - en - ly peace.

Color-by-Note Christmas Tree

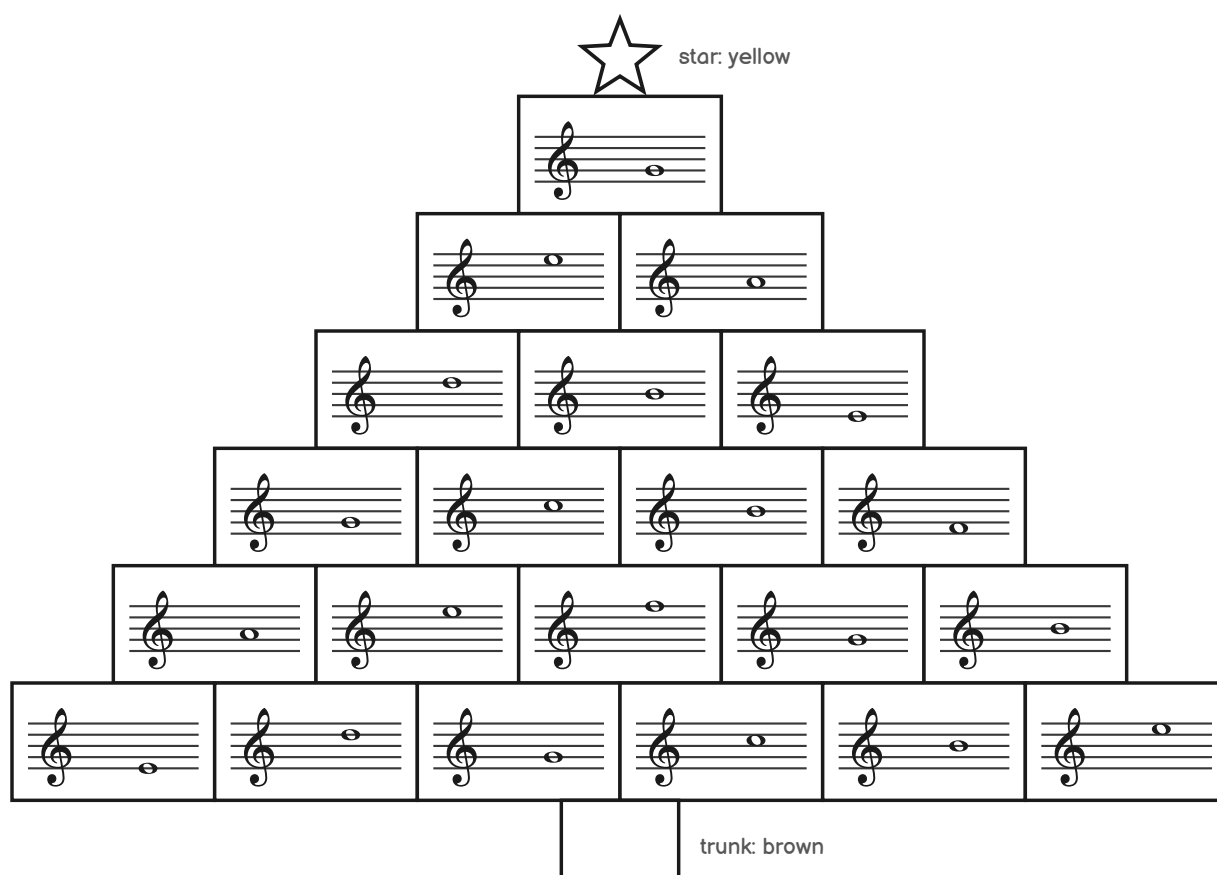
REMEMBER



Treble: lines E G B D F, spaces F A C E.

Name the note first, then look up its color.

Work out the treble note in each box. Then color the box using the key.



COLOR KEY



G B E = green



A C = red



D F = yellow

SCORE _____ / 21

Quest Break Answers

Quest Break 1: Name That Carol (page 19)

Tune 1: Jingle Bells. Letters: B B B B B B D G A B

Tune 2: Silent Night. Letters: G A G E G A G E

Tune 3: Joy to the World. Letters: C B A G F E

Tune 4: Deck the Halls. Letters: D C B A G A B G

Tune 5: We Wish You a Merry Christmas. Letters: G C C D C B A A

Tune 6: Jolly Old Saint Nicholas. Letters: B B B B A A A G G G G B

Quest Break 2: Color-by-Note Christmas Tree (page 31)

Row 1 (top): green

Row 2: green, red

Row 3: yellow, green, green

Row 4: green, red, green, yellow

Row 5: red, green, yellow, green, green

Row 6 (bottom): green, yellow, green, red, green, green

Star yellow, trunk brown.

Quest Break 3: Carol Bar Lines (page 43)

Good King Wenceslas: bar lines after notes 4, 7 and 11

Jolly Old Saint Nicholas: bar lines after notes 4, 7 and 11

We Three Kings: bar lines after notes 2, 4 and 7

Sleigh Bell Rhythm (made up): bar lines after notes 2, 3, 5, 7 and 9

Quest Break 4: Sleigh Bell Keys (page 55)

1. D 2. G 3. C 4. A 5. F 6. B 7. E 8. C 9. G 10. D 11. A 12. F

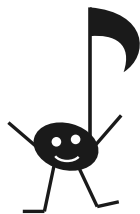
Quest Break 5: Christmas Crossword (page 66)

Across: 3 TIE, 4 WHOLE, 6 STAFF, 10 CAROL, 11 QUARTER, 12 BASS

Down: 1 BELLS, 2 REST, 3 TREBLE, 5 HALF, 7 FERMATA, 8 FLAT, 9 SHARP

Quest Break 6: Write Your Own Carol (page 67)

Every carol that follows the checklist is correct. Play it for someone and ask them to sing along!



CERTIFICATE

Christmas Carol Champion

This certificate is proudly given to

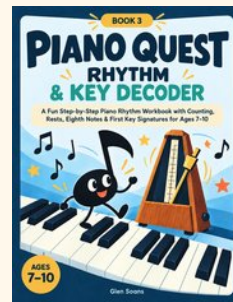
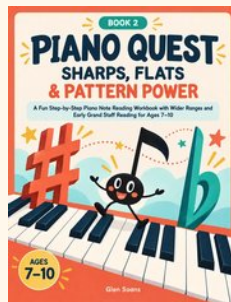
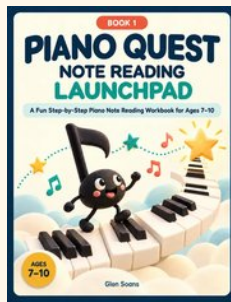
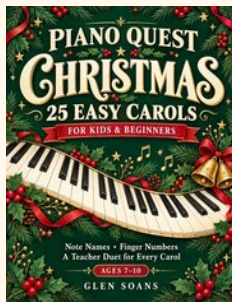
for learning the carols of Piano Quest Christmas and sharing
the joy of music with family and friends.

Date

Teacher

That's the end of the free sample

You have just played Jingle Bells and Silent Night, each with its teacher duet. The full book has 25 carols in five levels, six Christmas puzzles and a Carol Champion certificate.



Get the whole book

The paperback, and where to buy it:

pianoquest.clefira.app/#christmas

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