

HOW TO PLAY LEGATO

5



Legato means 'joined up'. When you play legato, your playing sounds smooth and connected.

To get this smooth and connected effect, as each new note is played you release the preceding note. In other words: one finger exactly replaces another. The result is a continuous, unbroken flow of sound. This is true legato playing.

Always play legato unless the music is marked otherwise.

In your efforts to play legato, never let one sound overlap the next. If you do, you may get an ugly sound mixture. Your ear will tell you when you are playing legato. Remember:

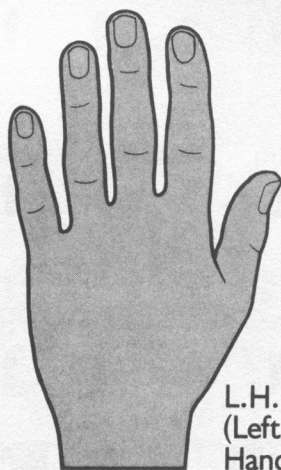
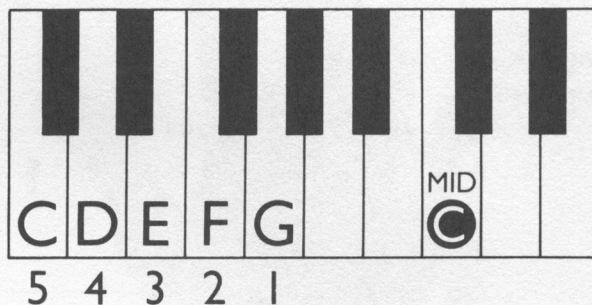
- No gaps.
- No overlaps.

Now play *When The Saints Go Marching In* again. Are you playing smoothly? Do all the notes join up? If so, you are playing legato.

LEFT HAND FINGER NUMBERS

You are now going to learn the left hand finger numbers by playing the traditional tune: *Banks Of The Ohio*.

Before you start to play, cover the five notes from C below Middle C to G with the five fingers of your left hand:



L.H.
(Left
Hand)

Now, play each note according to the finger numbers given.

Tap your foot to keep time, as before...

Remember: play legato

BANKS OF THE OHIO

Traditional

finger

number:

5 5 3 3
l asked my love _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

5 5 4 4
to take a walk _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

4 4 3 2
to take a walk _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

2 1 4 3
a lit - tle walk _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

3 3 1 1
Right down be - side _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

3 2 1 2
where wa - ters flow _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

5 5 4 3
down by the banks _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

3 4 4 5
of the O - hi - o _____
! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

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You now know the finger numbers of the left hand.