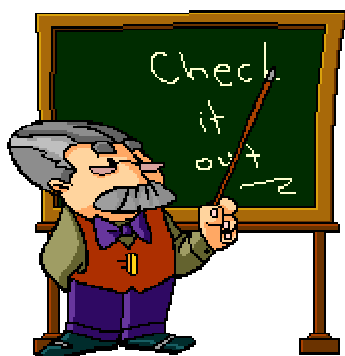


Master Class Sessions – Lesson 7

Play Piano By Ear – Audio Course



Hello, and welcome to Lesson 7 of my **PLAY PIANO BY EAR Master Class Sessions**. In this lesson we'll be working on a very simple 4-chord song titled, "Old Folks At Home".

This will be the second song in this course that you will actually learn from scratch. As in Master Class 6, I'm not going to give you the key of the song or the starting note or the time signature. You'll have to listen to the MP3 and determine those for yourself.

I will tell you that this is basically a 3-chord song, with the 4th chord only being used once in measure 3 and then again in measure 11. Of course, you'll have to determine the exact spot.

In this lesson I provide 4 additional MP3 audio files about a minute in length, containing each chord found in the song. Usually, in real life application, you'd have to figure out the chords from everything else going on in the recording, but I thought it would be good practice for you to be able to listen to each chord being played separately.

The Lesson

1. Download the MP3 audio file and the lyric sheet and start listening to the song. Listen to it as many times as necessary. As usual, your **first goal** is to determine the **starting note**.
2. Next, start filling in the letter names of the notes on the lyric sheet. By the way, you can do all this without knowing the time signature. As you write out the melody notes, you'll begin to get a feel for the rhythm, and should be able to figure out how many beats are in each measure by the time you're finish learning the entire melody line.
3. Normally, you would download the sheet music once you had the melody completed and you'd be ready to start filling in the chords, but since you are learning this song from scratch, you'll first need to draw in the measure lines on the lyric sheet so you know where to place the chords. **Hint:** I've provided short lines above each lyric where a chord is to be placed. However, throughout most of this song there are two chords per measure. The tricky part will be determining the measures that only contain one chord.
4. Next, determine the key of the song. I'll give you a hint, the first and last chords are the same, and remember, the last chord of the song is also the key of the song.
5. Once you know the key of the song, 3 out of the 4 chords should be obvious. Listen to the individual audio files containing each chord played separately. One of the chords is inverted and I play the notes of that chord separately to give you a little help.

Remember: Refer to the sheet music only when you are truly stuck and are unable to move forward. Some might think this is cheating, but it will keep the frustration levels to a minimum and you'll learn quite a bit by using this tactic only when necessary.