

# Piano **suite** Classroom

**Forward: Note to Instructors**

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The following lesson plans have been written as a guide, which will assist students as they learn the music concepts and skills that are required for playing the piano using the music education software Piano Suite Premier.

The student will be required to participate in the activities outlined in each lesson 30 to 60 minutes each day. The time required to complete this set of lesson plans will vary depending on the age of the student, as well as on the time that is dedicated each day to achieve the outlined goals for the lessons. Each lesson is designed to be approximately one week in length, with the entire set of lessons taking one school year to complete.

These lessons introduce the student to the treble and bass staff, the grand staff, the lengths of notes and rests, the bar line, proper posture and hand positioning, as well as the names of the notes on the piano keyboard. The student will learn to sight read notes on the grand staff as these notes are played on the piano keyboard. The student will also be introduced to a number of composers in the History Happens section, and will have the opportunity to view and listen to a number of their compositions. Also included in this set of lessons are six tests and a final exam.

The following piano exercises are not included in the Piano Suite library but are required for the Piano Suite Classroom Lesson Plans. When loading the files into the Piano Suite Composer, you must determine whether the notation will be displayed on the bass staff (left hand) or treble staff (right hand).

- Lesson 5 - exercises 1 to 4 ( choose left hand )
- Lesson 18 - Exercises 1 and 2 ( choose right hand )
- Lesson 19 - Exercises 1 and 2 ( choose right hand )
- Lesson 20 - Exercises 1, 2 and 3 ( choose right hand )
- Lesson 21 - Exercises 1, 2 and 3 ( choose right hand )
- Lesson 29 - Exercises 1 and 2 ( choose left hand )
- Lesson 30 - Exercises 1 and 2 ( choose left hand )
- Lesson 31 - Exercises 1, 2 ( choose left hand )
- Lesson 32 - Exercises 1, 2 ( choose left hand )
- Lesson 33 - Exercises 1 and 2 ( choose left hand )

You can download the above MIDI files from the Adventus Web site: <http://www.adventus.com>. Once you have downloaded the MIDI files, open Piano Suite's Composer's Corner and load each file in the following manner:

1. Click on the menu at the top of the composer form labelled "File" and select "Load from MIDI".
2. Find the location of the downloaded MIDI file, click on the file and then click on the "Open" button.
3. Click on the second button from the top, that is located in the middle of the MIDI load form ">>". If the files are to appear on the Treble Staff, click on the "OK" button. If, however, the files are to appear on the Bass Staff, click on the top button located in the middle of the form to place the file in the "Left" hand track position. You will now click on the "OK" button to proceed.

If you wish to add fingerings to the exercise follow the procedures numbered 4 to 5. If you do not want to add fingerings, proceed to step 6.

4. Once the music is displayed, click on the edit tool button which has a picture of a pencil on it.
5. Now click on the third button from the left located near the bottom of the form. This button will allow you to add fingerings to the exercise. Once you have clicked on the button, click on the first note of the song. You will see a small box appear above the note you have selected. Decide which finger is to play this note and type the corresponding number on your computer keyboard. You will see this number appear in the box above the selected note. To proceed to the next note, press the right arrow key on your computer keyboard. You will now see the box appear above the next note of the song. Follow the above procedure until you have typed in all of the fingerings for the exercise.
6. Click on the "X" located at the top right of your screen to close the music display form.
7. Type in a name for the exercise in the "Song Name" box. I would suggest using the name that is used for each of the MIDI files so that they can be easily located for the appropriate lesson. (For example: Lesson 5, Exercise 1)
8. Click on the menu at the top of the composer form labelled "File" and select "Save As" and select "Library (Public)".

You may now exit the Composer's Corner and open the Piano Player. Select "Custom" in the drop down box located at the top of the "Song Setup" form. Click on the name of the exercise that you loaded and saved previously in Composer's Corner, and then click on the "Continue" button. You can now practice this exercise using all of the learning methods available in Piano Suite's Piano Player.