



Level 2+ - Steps to Learning a Song

If you are unsure what a term or symbol means, check the top of the page, flick back through the book or look it up online.

Below is a list of steps you can use to help you work out new songs on your own. Work your way down the list and once you feel confident, start playing the song. Use a metronome throughout the whole process.

Steps to learning a song:

1. **Check the time signature** - is it 4/4 or 2/4 or 3/4?
2. **Check the tempo** (speed) - is it **Andante** (slow - at an easy walking pace), **Moderato** (moderate speed) or **Allegro** (fast and lively)? Or is it something else?
3. **Check the key signature** - what sharps and flats are there?
4. **Check for accidentals** - have any sharps, flats or naturals been added to the song that are **not** in the key signature?
5. **Work out the rhythm and the notes** (see the steps in the level 1 section above).
6. **Play through the song with a metronome** (see the "How to use a Metronome" page in the Welcome tab).
7. Start slow then work your way up to the correct speed.
8. **Check the expressive devices** - what dynamics are in this song? What types of articulations are their (e.g. slurs, staccatos, etc.)?
9. **Practice the song until it sound confident, fluent and musical.**
10. **Record yourself then listen back and give yourself feedback on how you played** - what was good about the performance? What can you improve on for next time?