



LEARN KEYS BY BEN

**Student's
Handbook
Level Four:
ADVANCED
INTERMEDIATE**

GETTING STARTED



Welcome to the Student Handbook for the Level Four Sessions. This book is your support documentation to help you progress through your fourth level on **Learn Keys by Ben.**

LEVEL FOUR

I want to share with you three key things for success as you begin The Level Four Sessions.

1

Learning Piano Online

A reminder that learning to play the piano through online lessons will require you to set up some habits. There needs to be a level of accountability that helps you stay on task. Online lessons are a self-learning environment and it is you that keeps you staying on task. Make an appointment with yourself. Put it in your calendar and make it a recurring meeting, this way your sessions are on the same time every week. Then respect these appointments, go to the site and do your sessions with regularity. It won't take long before this becomes a habit.

2

Organize Your Program

Also a reminder to organize yourself. I suggest you buy a three-ring binder if you haven't yet. This will become an important resource for you. Put some regular lined paper in the binder and keep track of your session activity. Write notes to yourself. Download and print your sheet music and place those in the binder. Organize it as you like but use it. It will help you to see your own progress.

3

Print Sheet Music

When you print your sheet music, make notes on the sheet music that will help you in practicing. An example of this would be to use a highlighter and mark things like repeat signs, 1st and 2nd endings, and Codas. Also write down the key that the music is being played in.



Make a promise to yourself to practice.

Try for every day, but, do the best you can and don't quit even if you miss a few days. Pick back up where you left off or even do a quick review. Always play the long game, nothing is won or lost in a day.

HOW IT WORKS

The site has four skill levels, starting with the beginner to the advanced intermediate. There are specific sessions that teach a concept or skill. In most sessions you will find a video session with me (Ben) narrating the lessons to you and also showing you on the keyboard what to play. In addition, there will be audio loops to play along with to help you with timing and rhythm, and sheet music you can download and print.

The Session Title with the order number and description.

The Video Session. This best viewed in full screen mode.

The Video Controls for play, full screen, volume and play speed.



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Brown Eyed Girl / Van Morrison

LEVEL FOUR

This is an arrangement meant for an advanced intermediate skill level. For best results view in full screen mode.

VIDEO SESSION



Brown Eyed Girl is a song that is played on the guitar, but works really well on the keyboard also. Some songs you wish were like that, this one delivers! Speed control is in the gear on the lower right of the screen. Start with the video session, when comfortable move to the sheet music and song clip.

SHEET MUSIC



Click on the image to download a printable version.

PLAY-ALONG AUDIO CLIP



The Sheet Music. Just click on the image and it will open up the sheet music. Download and print for best use. I recommend placing the music in a binder.

The Audio Clip for playing along to practice timing and rhythm.

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LET'S BEGIN

Level Four Is Made Up Of Five Session Blocks

The main goal for Level 4 is to get you beyond becoming familiar with the keyboard and theory, and continuing to dive in to a deeper level of your instrument. I know there is a desire to move through this quickly and I applaud that, however, knowing this stuff, **really knowing this stuff** will make what you do in this level much easier and better. So take your time and go back over sessions as many times as you can to get the feeling of really mastering what the session is teaching you.

1

Practice Grooves

2

Riffs

3

Song Sessions

4

Solfege

5

Song Reading

Level Four is all about application of what you have learned so far.

1. PRACTICE GROOVES

The Practice Grooves Sessions will give examples of playing some of the Chords that have been shown with a variety of different Grooves.

SHUFFLE GROOVE 62 BPM

A ½ Time Feel, also known as Cut Time. I will be demonstrating Major 7, Tritones and Minor 7 Chords from Level Two, and 69 Chords from Level Three

BOSSA GROOVE 120 BPM

A Bossa Nova Style Groove, originating in Brazil. I will be demonstrating Minor 6, Major 7 and Minor 7 Chords from Level Two, and 69 Chords from Level Three.

JAZZ GROOVE 150 BPM

A Swing Style Groove. I will be demonstrating Major Triads from Level One, -7(b5) and 7sus4 Chords from Level Two, and 69 Chords from Level Three.

Bossa Groove

(all chords)

Chord Next Chord

Base Note

Base Note All Bass Note

Arpeggiated Chord

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2. RIFFS

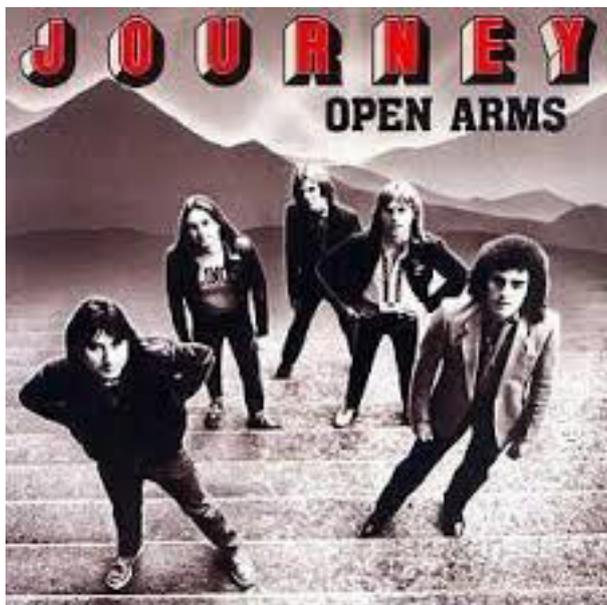
TRIAD RIFF/ UP

Here in Level Four I'm introducing the second part of the "Triad Riffs". The difference this time is that I will be going up two octaves, in Cycle 5. The fingering pattern is 1 2 5 1 3 2 1 2 3 on most of them, with a slight variation on a couple of them. Once you become comfortable with them, they can be used for improvising in many different styles of music. I have used them with great success while playing Rock, Jazz, Funk, R & B, and Indie, just to name a few.



3. SONG SESSIONS

This is a way to “play along” or accompany with some very popular songs, almost as though you are a “Band Member”. On Learn Keys by Ben we teach you how to read and use charts. Playing with the sessions and then the audio clips will be a close simulation to playing a song in its normal pace, rhythm and timing. So I encourage you to have some fun with this stage of learning, we are adding new songs all the time so you will have a good selection to choose from.



4. SOLFEGE

SOLFEGE 1 EXERCISES

Solfege is a system where every note of a scale is given its own unique syllable, which is used to sing that note every time it appears. It is used in many College Music Programs as the main approach to Ear Training, including my school. (Berklee College of Music)

DO RE MI FA SOL LA TI DO

DO MI RE FA MI SOL FA LA

DO LA TI SOL LA FA SOL MI

5. SONG READING

Feel free to play through any of the songs you find in any Level, using your Music Index pages in Sight Reading Level One to help with any new concepts. I suggest printing out the PDF's for the songs.





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The suggestions in this guide will get you going through the Level Four Sessions, but our website has been designed to be explored, as you might want to start playing through an area of study before it comes up. I think you will find that all of the sessions will support one another, in other words whatever you happen to be working on at the time will be a benefit to the other areas of study when you get there.

Have fun!