

INTRODUCTION

One of the most FUN things to do on the piano is to play while other people are singing along! To do so often requires making up your own part, a skill which is called “improvisation.”

Improvisation, which some people call “playing by ear,” is not as hard as it may seem at first. All you need to know is several chords and few accompanimental patterns, and you’ll be on your way to a totally new and different way of making music!

This book is designed to help you learn to improvise in an accompanimental style. You won’t actually be playing the melodies of the songs as written. Instead, you will be playing the harmony – that is, chords and bass notes to accompany the melody as people sing along.

By the end of this volume, you will know 18 new songs – popular folk songs, spirituals, and patriotic songs. You’ll have fun as you gather friends and family around to sing along with you!

Happy music making!

David Winkler

P.S. - If you have any questions or comments regarding this book, I would love to hear from you. Just visit www.davidwinkler.com and go to the “Contact Us” section” to send me an email message.

SONGS TO SING AND PLAY

TABLE OF CONTENTS - PART ONE

TITLE	KEY	STYLE
SONGS USING ONLY TWO CHORDS		
1. He's Got the Whole World in His Hands	C	BLOCK CHORD 4/4
2. Clementine	C	BLOCK CHORD 3/4
3. London Bridge	C	BLOCK CHORD 2/2
4. Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?	C	WALTZ

SONGS USING THREE CHORDS

5. Marine's Hymn	C	MARCH
6. Kum Ba Yah	C	IRREGULAR
7. Amazing Grace	F	BLOCK CHORD 3/4
8. Home on the Range	F	WALTZ
9. Peace Like a River	F	BLOCK CHORD 2/2
10. Old MacDonald	F	TWO-BEAT
11. Good Morning to You	F	WALTZ

SONGS USING FOUR OR MORE DIFFERENT CHORDS

12. My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean	G	WALTZ
13. Dixie	A	TWO-BEAT
14. I've Been Working on the Railroad	F	MIXED STYLES

SONGS TO SING AND PLAY

TABLE OF CONTENTS - PART TWO

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>KEY</u>	<u>STYLE</u>
15. Glory, Glory	D	BLOCK CHORD WITH VARIATION IN THE BASS LINE
16. Silent Night	A	6/8 BLOCK CHORD WITH OPTIONAL VARIATIONS
17. My Old Kentucky Home	D	FOLK STYLE
18. She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain	G	TWO-BEAT WITH ALTERNATING BASS LINE
19. Amazing Grace	F	INCORPORATING THE MELODY