Hoffman ACADEMY

Getting Started with **Online Piano Lessons**

Bringing Music Into Your Homeschool Curriculum

Providing a child with the gift of a musical education starts them out on a path that will enrich their lives in so many ways!

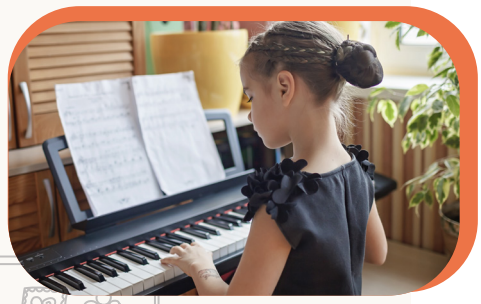
Kids love the fun of Hoffman Academy online piano lessons, but there's so much more! Hoffman Academy's curriculum offers a complete musical education that empowers students to excel at piano and grow in their musical knowledge. Every lesson has been carefully designed with early child development and learning theory in mind. Mr. Hoffman's engaging, multi-sensory teaching method taps into natural curiosity and creativity to inspire musical exploration. In every lesson, Mr. Hoffman connects the music your child is learning to broader concepts like music history and music theory.

Through Hoffman Academy, students develop an understanding of music at a deep level, as classes incorporate skills like sight reading, ear training, and rhythm alongside improvisation and composition. Say goodbye to boring, say hello to "Can I do another piano lesson please?"

Music plays an important role in any educational program by encouraging creativity alongside more practical skills, like fine motor skills, time management, and forming excellent practice habits. In the Hoffman Method, kids start by playing music by ear, learning the language of music in the same manner they learn to speak. Building on this foundation, kids quickly progress to reading sheet music, learning music theory, and



> "Our six-year old is excitedly showing everyone that she can play Hot Cross Buns. I appreciate that the lesson included history, theory, recognizing patterns, and actually playing!"
>
> **– MaryAnn**







improvising and composing. Hoffman Academy's music curriculum develops students' technical skills at the piano while expanding their educational horizons with music history and theory.

To help you and your family get the most out of Hoffman Academy's online curriculum, here are a few resources for getting started, plus our Lesson 1 materials at the end of this PDF:

- **How to Choose a Piano or Keyboard**
- **What Is the Best Age to Begin Lessons?**
- **How Long Does It Take to Learn Piano?**

Ready to get started? Meet your new piano teacher, Mr. Hoffman, and watch your child smile as they learn to play their first song in Lesson 1. All of our Hoffman Academy songs are selected to be fun to play and music to your ears. Time-tested folk tunes and children's songs build fundamental music skills while filling your home with enjoyable music from the very beginning.

Does your child already have some piano experience? Take a look at our Lessons page and find the perfect place to jump in. Create your Free Hoffman Academy Account and we'll keep track of what lesson you're on for you so you don't have to!

Our entire library of 300+ video lessons and popular songs are free for anyone to view, always. Our mission is to give all kids, all around the world a chance to learn music, and we do this by making our lessons available to everyone. Additionally, we offer Premium tools that enhance student learning and complement a homeschool music curriculum. These include practice plans for each lesson, which guide your student through the best ways to practice, along with access to printable materials like music theory worksheets and activity pages. Premium members also have access to interactive games to help students practice skills like rhythm and sightreading.



Incorporating Music into Your Homeschool Curriculum

Here at Hoffman Academy, we think music should be a part of every child's educational program! Learning music empowers students to do far more than play songs on the piano. Studies have shown that children involved in music have significantly higher average grades across all school subjects. Traditionally, music education has been missing from most homeschool experiences, but with Hoffman Academy, you can make music appreciation, music theory, and the joy of learning piano a part of your homeschool curriculum without leaving home!

Incorporating piano lessons into a child's educational plan inspires their curiosity. Music lessons connect to the science of how we experience sound in a way students can touch and create through the process of building chords and harmonics. Learning to play an instrument like piano strengthens the development of fine motor skills in young students. The study of music also builds character by uniting the creativity of playing with the discipline of practicing.

Incorporating music into your homeschool curriculum is easy with Hoffman Academy! Here are some examples:

Music in Math:
Many people remember fractions as dry and frustrating–but not when they are explored as part of music! When Mr. Hoffman teaches rhythm for a new song, students experience concepts like division and duration.

Music in Social Studies:
When your students learn piano, they become a participant in a tradition that spans hundreds of years! Check out some of our blog posts about musicians from history!



With Hoffman Academy, you can make music part of your homeschool curriculum with 30 minutes of study each day. Each video lesson takes around 10 to 20 minutes, and then we recommend that students spend two to three days of at least 15 minutes of practice before progressing to the next video lesson. As students progress to more advanced units, the amount of time they need to practice outside of the video lessons will increase. With the customized practice sessions included in Hoffman Academy's Premium memberships, your homeschool student has a clear understanding of what to practice to move on to the next level. With extra music theory workbooks, assignment pages, and games, you can assign your student additional practice that is both fun and educational.

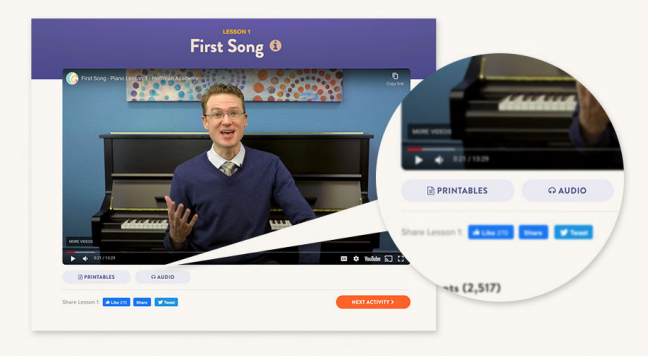
Welcome to Lesson 1

Along with all of our video lessons, our complete materials for Lesson 1 are free. That includes:

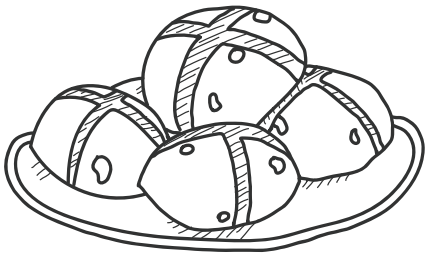
- **Sheet Music**
- **Activity Pages**
- **Audio Tracks**

If you plan to watch the lessons using a tablet or smartphone, just set it up on your piano's music stand. If you're using a notebook or desktop computer, try to put it near your piano so you can see the screen while sitting at the bench.

Once you have your account, you can navigate to your next lesson easily from your personal Hoffman Academy "Home" page, or browse all of our lessons by clicking "Lessons" on the navigation bar at the top of any page on our website. Premium members will be able to view or print sheet music and activity pages, and also stream audio files for each lesson directly from the lesson page by clicking a button at the lower left corner of the screen. You'll find the lesson materials just below in this PDF or below the video on the lesson page. Happy playing!

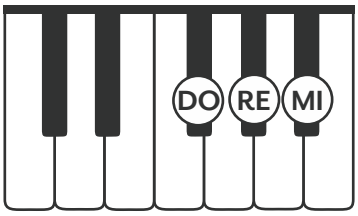


Hot Cross Buns



MI RE DO — Hot cross buns! — MI RE DO — Hot cross buns!

RE RE RE RE MI RE — DO DO DO DO — One a pen - ny, two a pen - ny, Hot cross buns!





Super Challenge

Play “Hot Cross Buns” with your eyes closed.

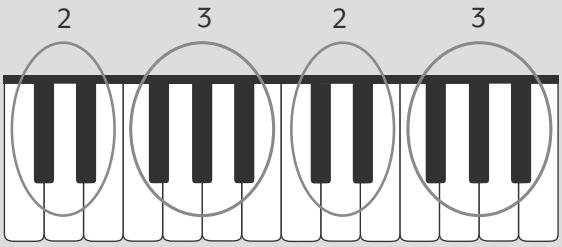
PARENTS

Remember, don't use this page to teach this song! The first songs in the Hoffman Method should be learned "by ear.” To learn it, simply watch Lesson 1 with Mr. Hoffman on the Hoffman Academy website. If you haven’t already, create your free account on our website to keep learning!

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Find sheet music, lessons, and interactive games at HoffmanAcademy.com.

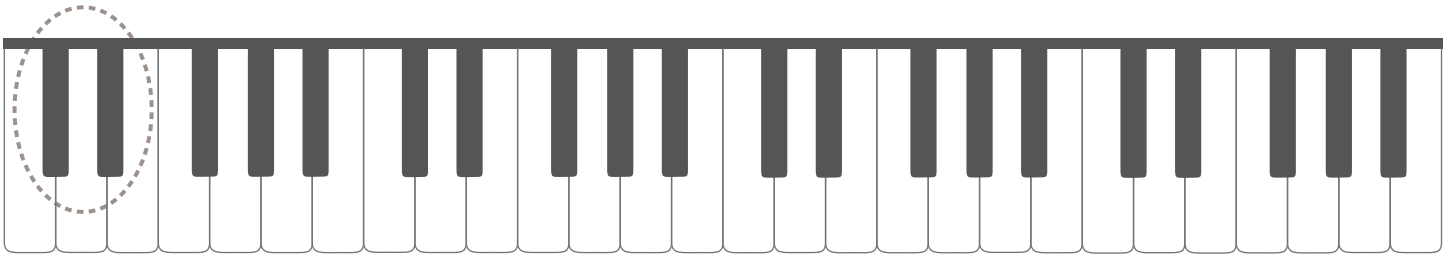
Black Keys on the Piano

The black keys are organized in groups of TWO and THREE on the piano.



GROUPS OF TWO

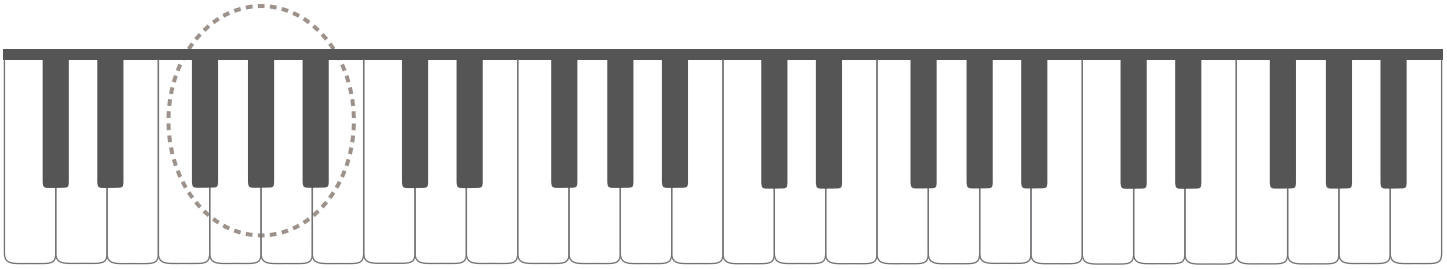
① Draw a circle around each group of TWO black keys on the keyboard below.
② Play each group of TWO black keys on your own piano, starting from the LOWEST (on the left) and going to the HIGHEST (on the right).
③ How many groups of TWO black keys did you find on your piano? _____



LOW HIGH

GROUPS OF THREE

① Draw a circle around each group of THREE black keys on the keyboard below.
② Play each group of THREE black keys on your own piano, starting from the HIGHEST and going to the LOWEST.
③ How many groups of THREE did you find on your piano? _____



LOW HIGH

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Find sheet music, lessons, and interactive games at HoffmanAcademy.com.