

Music Basics

Lesson 11

Song 2/How to Start a "New" Song



Most of time you will be playing a song that you already know, or one that you've heard and would like to play.

How do you use a lead sheet when playing a "new" song?

What the first thing to look at when you see this music?

Go Tell Aunt Rhody

The musical notation shows the melody and bass line for 'Go Tell Aunt Rhody'. The melody is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The chords are C, G, and C. The bass line is on a bass clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The chords are G and C.

What key is this song in? _____

How many chords does this song have? _____

The method for approaching this "new" song:

1. Play the chord at the beginning of the measure, on the first beat of every bar. Counting to yourself as you play the chords.
2. Play the same chord until a different chord is indicated.
3. Play through the melody with the right hand.
4. Play with both hands. Melody in RH, chords in LH
5. Experiment with ways to avoid your hands "crashing" into each other, when playing the chords as you have originally learned them.

What is the main rule for this style of playing? _____

Experiment with different ways of playing this song.