

## Keynotes Piano Reading

The keynotes books are a supplement to any piano series available. They provide an organized set of practice 'reading' sheets centered on the concept of 'key' notes.

There are (9) keynotes that are used for reading notes, divided into three kinds of notes:

### The C's on the staff

- Middle C between the two staves
- Treble Clef C – Three spaces up
- Bass Clef C – Three spaces down
- High C – Two ledger lines up
- Low C – Two ledger lines down

### Treble G's on the staff

- Treble clef G – Two lines up
- High G – Right above the top line of the staff

### Bass F's on the staff

- Bass clef F – Two lines down
- Low F – Right below the bottom line of the staff

Once these notes are mastered and memorized, a student can find **any** note on the staff by reading either a 'step' or a 'skip' from these keynotes.

The practice sheets work with finding the keynotes and moving up and down by steps or skips. They also work with changing finger numbers. Regular playing through these exercises develops a stronger sense of note movement, steps or skips, and confidence in reading piano music.

I'll use these with elementary students, assigning one or two pieces a week. Admittedly, they are not the most exciting pieces to play (I tell my students that as well), but they **do** develop the reading skills!

I have found them useful for a number of my students and these are free to download and use for your own students. I hope you find them to be helpful in your own students growth.

George Klos