



Technique Tool 5

Finger Weights

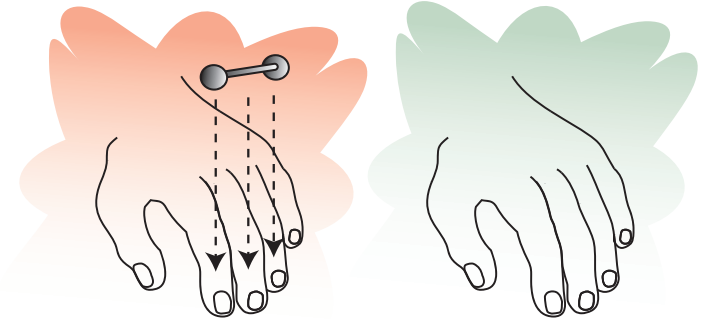
- Place your LH in a rounded hand position on the closed keyboard cover.
- Imagine that each finger has a weight on its fingertip. Using fingers 2, 3 and 4, tap each LH finger *firmly* (*f*) four times. Start with finger 2.
- Now imagine that the weight is no longer on each fingertip. Using fingers 2, 3 and 4, tap each LH finger *lightly* (*p*) four times. Start with finger 2.
- Repeat with RH fingers 2, 3 and 4.

Repeat 3 times each day with LH, then RH.



Technique Tip: In “Balancing Weights,” use *finger weights* and *arm weight* to create dynamics and a good tone at the piano.

f = weights on *p* = weights off



Balancing Weights

5

f

LH 4 3 2

RH 2 3 4

RH 2 3 4

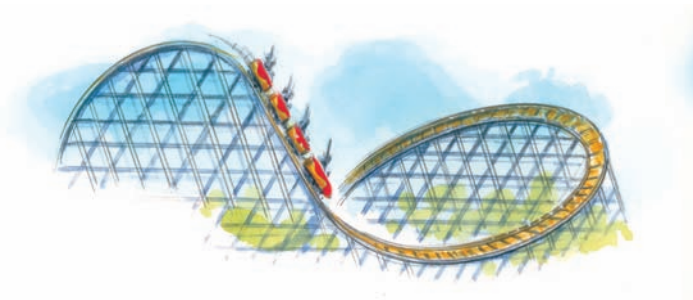
5

p

LH 2 3 4

RH 4 3 2

RH 4 3 2



Technique Tip: Memorize the pattern in measures 1 and 2, then play “Down and Around” from memory until the pattern changes in measure 15. Use *strong fingertips* and *finger independence*.

Down and Around

Pattern

RH 4 **3** 4 *f* G F E F

Move 4 3 2 3

Move

5 E D C D D C B C C B A B

11 B A G A A G F G F E D C

Pattern changes

Technique Quiz: How many times does the pattern shown in measures 1–2 appear in “Down and Around?” _____



Technique Tip: Finger weights should be **on** when playing forte (*f*) and **off** when playing piano (*p*).

Keeping Fit (RH)

Moderately



Play “Keeping Fit (RH)” in the following ways:

- Begin on A and play only white keys.
- Begin on D and play only white keys.



Technique Challenge: Play “Keeping Fit” hands together with the LH an octave lower beginning on finger 1.

5-Finger Fitness (RH)

Moderately



Play “5-Fitness (RH)” in the following ways:

- Begin on D and play only white keys.
- Begin on G and play only white keys.



Technique Challenge: Play “5-Finger Fitness” hands together with the LH an octave lower beginning on finger 5.

Artistic Etude 5
Good Mood



Moods in Music

- Music can express many moods such as sad, happy, thoughtful or excited.
- Paint a sound picture of the mood as you play “Good Mood” by changing dynamics as indicated in the music.

Flowing

f Bright, sun - ny day, clouds far a - way— noth - ing can damp - en the mood that I'm

Duet: Student plays one octave higher.

Flowing

RH LH *mf*

pp *mp* *mf*