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A compact disc is available for this book. This disc can make learning with the book easier and more enjoyable. The symbol shown to the left will appear next to every example that is on the CD. Use the CD to help ensure you are capturing the feel of the examples and interpreting the rhythms correctly. The track numbers below the symbols correspond directly to the example you want to hear.

Have fun!



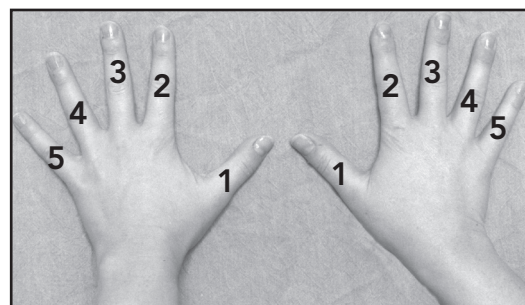
Hand Position

The last ingredient in correct posture is a proper hand position. You will be pressing the keys down with your fingertips. Curl your fingers lightly as if you were holding a grapefruit in each hand. Your fingers should not be pressed together, but comfortably spaced. Try each finger resting on a different key. This is the proper hand position.



Finger Numbers

Remember this catchy little phrase to help you remember the correct finger numbers: "One is thumb."



The Musical Alphabet and the Keyboard

The musical alphabet is made of only the first seven letters of the English alphabet, A through G. When G is reached the cycle begins again at A: A-B-C-D-E-F-G, A-B-C-D-E-F-G, A-B- and so on. Notice that the white keys are broken up by groups of black keys in groups of two and three in an alternating sequence; two, three, two, three, etc.



- The white key to the immediate left of each group of two black keys is the note C.
- The white key to the immediate left of each group of three black keys is the note F.

Learning these landmarks will be your biggest help in finding your way around the keyboard. Take a couple of minutes to find a few of these landmark keys.