5 THINGS TO HELP YOU START LEARNING PIANO

DENNIS MICLAU



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Hey there! Thanks for downloading this guide.

I take it that you're interested in learning how to play the piano and you're trying to figure out the best path and direction to begin this journey.

If so, I'm glad that you've made it here and hope that what I get to share with you today through this guide will help you jumpstart your learning with purpose and value, to enjoy every moment you get to play on the piano.

This guide will outline 5 specific points to help you get started in learning how to play the piano.

Let me put it this way for you.

If I were to start piano again from the very beginning, I would look at it from the lens of this guide. Sometimes, all it takes is a quick hand of guidance to get us on the right track. Whether you are learning for simple enjoyment, therapy, learning your favorite song, or even considering going pro with it.

The very thing I point out in this guide applies to all of the above.

Thanks for allowing me to share with you these 5 points. Now lets get into it!





#1 - ASK YOURSELF THE "WHY"

Most of us are eager to start learning something new, but how about asking yourself why you want to learn piano in the first place? Maybe learning piano was something you've always had on your bucket list, but never found the right moment to just start. Maybe you saw someone else play the piano and thought how awesome it would be to play piano just like them. Or, maybe the thought of learning piano for you, is an opportunity to unwind, and let the piano be a therapeutic moment, in bringing you relaxation and mindfulness.

The fact is, we all have a "why". The 'why' of learning new things, and how it's unique to each one of us. Knowing your "why" will help you understand better how you want to move forward in your journey of learning piano. It narrows it down to the very simple point of why you're doing it in the first place and where you actually want to see yourself in your progression of learning. Let your "WHY" motivate your learning!



#2 - BE INSPIRED & MOTIVATED

Get inspired by listening to your favorite artist(s) or music genre(s). Even though you don't know yet, you are exposing yourself to different sounds, melodies, and rhythms that can contribute to helping you learn and play your favorite song on the piano. A great way to enable your inspiration is to also seek out and watch other seasoned piano players. You may also be interested in knowing how they learned piano themselves. Take some time to invest in your inspirations and desires, which will enhance your motivation to move forward in your piano journey.



#3 - FIND THE RIGHT PIANO OR KEYBOARD

As a beginner in learning piano, you should consider having a piano or keyboard from where you will learn and practice. So, does that mean you have to go out and buy a brand new grand piano? Absolutely not; in fact you should consider finding a piano/keyboard that you enjoy to play from. If you consider getting a keyboard, a recommendation preferably is to get one that has 88 keys or at least 61. You don't have to buy the best acoustic piano or keyboard out there. There are a variety of options out there that can accommodate to fit your budget.

Along with finding the right piano or keyboard, is to also consider finding the right creative space in your home or place of practice. This will allow your learning to not only be a place of practice, but also a place where you can allow all your focus and attention to be on the one thing of creating a beautiful sound from your playing. Allow your space to become a tunnel of inspiration and the place that you enjoy every note you play.



#4 - LEARN AT YOUR OWN PACE

Create your own schedule of learning and practicing. A great way to do this, is by taking a piano course that will help guide you step by step without having to think if you have enough time to finish it. Online courses are a great way to learn at your own time and at your own pace.

You are constantly learning and constantly growing when learning any musical instrument. Allow yourself to have patience and make sure to enjoy the journey of learning.



#5 - LEARN WITH AN EXPERIENCED PIANO COACH / INSTRUCTOR

Learning piano can work in two ways. You can either go at it alone and try to find all the learning material that best fits your style of learning. Or, you can rely on an experienced coach, teacher, instructor and rely on their way of teaching. But there's another way to approach your learning to combine both ways into one. Try the hybrid learning way, where you take an online piano course and learn from an experienced coach / instructor.

This approach will allow you to go at your own pace and schedule, but at the same time learning through a method that helps you grow and progress in your piano playing. Some piano courses also offer one to one support when you need help and guidance. Not only will you be able to work at your own pace and schedule, you can also save on the cost of traditional piano lessons vs taking an online course if, budget is a concern.



LET'S GET STARTED ON YOUR PIANO JOURNEY

So, now that you've gone through the **5 Things To Help You Start Learning Piano**, how about we begin your piano journey with a quick mini-lesson on what to expect when you look at the piano for the first time you start learning.

If you have a piano or keyboard, that's great, but it's not required for what we will be learning in the next few pages.

You can follow the diagrams to give you an illustration, just as if you were in front of a piano.

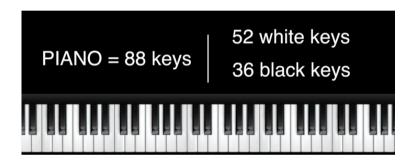
let's get started on your piano journey . . .



Mini-Lesson: Musical Alphabet & Names of Keys on the Piano

<u>88 keys on the piano:</u>

The piano consists of 88 keys. Some keys are white and some are black. Of the 88 keys, 52 of them are white and 36 of them are black. The simplest way to look at the piano, is by how the keys are grouped in a pattern.



Groups of keys on the piano:

First of all let's take in account one note that will help us as the foundation to how we visually see the keys on the piano.

If we go just about down the middle of the keyboard we find the middle "C".





If we count from "C" up 7 notes we get to the note "B".



What is significant about these two notes?

The range between these two notes on the piano make up a group of 12 notes, which includes the white & black keys together.



Within this group of 12 we can divide the notes up into another 2 groups that visually will show how simple it is to see how the keyboard is divided up on the piano.





The first group of notes consist of 3 white keys and 2 black keys.

The second group of notes consist of 4 white keys and 3 black keys.



What is significant about these two groups?

The two groups of keys/notes in the diagram above can be applied to any of the 88 keys on the piano.

This is very helpful to know that you really dont have to think about all 88 keys individually, but only have to think of their groupings which make up only *7 notes per range or 12 notes if you include the black keys.

*I mention 7 notes, because it's most common to find only 7 notes in a musical scale range. For example C major scale (C, D, E, F, G, A, B,)



Musical Alphabet

Each key on the piano represents a note and each note is identified with a letter from the alphabet.

The musical alphabet is simply: A B C D E F G (7 letters)

These letters repeat themselves after the letter "G". Which goes back to "A" and so on...



What is significant about the musical alphabet?

Just like we saw with the groupings of how they repeat themselves throughout all the keys on the piano; the same thing applies here with the names of the notes repeating themselves

Clearly we see that all the 7 notes repeat themselves in all the keys on the piano.





Well, I hope the mini-lesson was of help to you to give you an idea of what to expect when you first look at a piano or keyboard. The purpose of the mini-lesson was to give you a simplified foundation in what the language of music will look like and how you can use what I showed you as a reference to your understanding and learning. Hopefully, it was insightful for you to see what the relationships are between the keys and the names of each note on the piano. Along with how the groupings of each of the keys repeat themselves througout all the keys on the piano. Whether you are using 88 keys or 49 keys. This method of learning will apply to any keyboard you decide to learn and practice with.



TAKE ACTION ON YOUR NEXT STEP

As we've come to the conclusion of this guide, I want to leave you with an opportunity in helping you take the next step in this new journey of learning how to play the piano.

I would love to help you in your start of learning piano, and before I let you take your next step, would you consider having me as your virtual piano coach?

So, what does that mean? Well, I've got a waiting list for my next "Play Piano Now" course , and I would love to have you get on that list if you are interested. It won't be too long until it opens up again and you'll get the opportunity to learn more about what the course offers for you as a beginner in piano.

JOIN THE WAITLIST FOR "PLAY PIANO NOW" COURSE

However you decide to go about your journey in learning piano, I want to encourage you to enjoy every moment of learning and playing music. May it bring joy to your heart, mind, and soul and may you also spread the love of music to others too.

Wishing you the best in your piano journey, Dennis Miclau.

