



Lesson Twenty

Gigajam Keyboard School Lesson 20 IKS PAS02

Performing A Song-The Buzz

Lesson Objectives

- Introduce a piece of music to be played on the Keyboard.
- Follow a **Keyboard Chart**.
- Apply the learning points developed in lessons 11-19 focusing on;
 1. Fluency of performance.
 2. Use of inversions.
 3. Playing power chords
 4. Time Keeping.
 5. Use of simple melody.
 6. Playing in time with a Band.
 7. Use of two hand co-ordination.
 8. Application of a reading skills that recognise pitch and increasingly more sophisticated rhythms which

Following a Keyboard Chart

You have learned so much in these 9 lessons, it is time to start putting it all into practice by playing a song.

This lesson focuses on playing a song, whilst following the music from a **Keyboard Chart**. A Keyboard Chart, or **Keyboard Guide**, is the music **Session players** are given to follow when they are asked to perform a tune, be it **live**, or in a **recording session**.

To do this though we need to prepare ourselves.

Understanding the Chart

Lets go through the chart together step by step looking at each bit and understanding what the chart is asking us to do.

Step One

The first thing you will see is the name of the tune 'The Buzz' and the name of the **Composer**.

Step Two

At the top left hand side before the tune starts you will see the note, 4 **Clicks**. This means that you will hear four clicks before the tune starts. This will help count you into the song.

Step Three

Next is the **Key Signature**, 1 flat which means that the tune is written in the **Key** of F Major. Immediately after is the **Time Signature** C which is the sign for **Common Time** and means there are 4 beats in each bar. This is all familiar territory for you.

Step Four

The first thing to note is that after the 4 clicks into the song, there is a bar where you are **Tacet**. This means that you do not play anything. This is denoted by a whole note rest. When you hear the track you will notice that there is a two bar drum fill and that picks up into the beginning of the song. This is called a **pick up**.

Step Five

Once you are into the song we need to have a look at the structure of the song and what we have to play.

Introducing Ties

Ties are used in music notation to extend the length of a note to tie two notes together. This piece of music gives you an opportunity to develop this new skill with the use of a very common rhythm.

Take a look at the first bar and you will see that we have dotted quarter notes on beat 1. These last for 1 and a 1/2 beats and therefore the next note is on the + of 2. The eighth note has to last for the rest of the bar, as the next note is to be played on beat one of the next bar. We do not have a note that lasts for 2 and a half beats, so the best way to write this simply is to attach the eighth note to a half note, extending our eighth note to last for 2 and a half beats. This will complete the bar.

The rhythm is the same for the next two bars and therefore gives us a good example of using Ties, and a great opportunity to practise Ties. Accordingly, to practise introducing Ties into your playing, read and then play each bar developing your ability to understand how Ties create rhythm by extending the value of notes.

We have focused on the rhythm but I am sure that you have spotted that the notes that you are playing are power chords in the left hand with a repeated note as the top line.

Remember to cycle the Xtractor around the bars of the chorus so that you can practise around and around.

Introduction/Chorus

This first section is quite a difficult rhythm for you to read and play as it uses both dots and ties. This is really quite a sophisticated rhythm, but it is also a commonly used rhythm so well worth investing some time into becoming familiar with its feel and sound. One of the challenges is that there are only two notes to play in the two bar pattern, so you will need to use all your counting skills to ensure you play in time.

As far as the structure of the song goes this introductory chorus is a 4 bar pattern repeated.

Step Six

After you have played the first introductory chorus, then you are into the verse. The verse chords follow a similar rhythm to the chorus, but you will see that we have written triads. A big difference here is that we have some independent melody, so work out the chords and then become comfortable with melody and fingering and then put it all together.

The verse has Ties in the rhythm as well. This time the ties are extended with the half note tied to the whole note in the next bar. Effectively, we are making the eighth note on the + of 2 in bar one worth 6 and a half beats. Ties are extremely useful in being able to create rhythms that cannot be written with note values.

One of the biggest problems you will encounter when playing Ties, is the fact that you spend a lot of time simply holding notes and this is much harder than punctuating time with more notes. Accordingly, this is a great and important skill to develop. You will need to be very good at counting accurately.

Again practise these bars as so that you become comfortable with the playing of these rhythms.

Make a note that the verse is an 8 bar phrase repeated making the verse a 16 bar section.

Step Seven

Next is the first chorus and this is identical to the first introductory section.

Step Eight

The middle eight section is a sixteen bar section which we have divided into 2 four bar repeated sections. There is only a right hand part as the Middle eight is quite dramatic and space needs to be given to the arrangement.

Step Nine

After the middle eight then we just have the final section to complete which is the chorus played twice.

This is a very testing piece at this level. We incorporate melody for the first time, more sophisticated use of rhythm and power chords together with all the triad and chord knowledge developed in part 1.



The Buzz

4 Clicks

Introduction/Chorus

9 *Verse 1*

13

17

21

2
25 *Chorus 1*

Musical notation for Chorus 1, measures 25-32. The piece is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The right hand plays a steady eighth-note melody, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

33 *Verse 2*

Musical notation for Verse 2, measures 33-36. The right hand has a melodic line with eighth notes, and the left hand features a bass line with chords and a moving eighth-note accompaniment.

37

Musical notation for Verse 2, measures 37-40. The right hand continues the melodic line, and the left hand maintains the accompaniment pattern.

41

Musical notation for Verse 2, measures 41-44. The right hand continues the melodic line, and the left hand maintains the accompaniment pattern.

45

Musical notation for Verse 2, measures 45-48. The right hand continues the melodic line, and the left hand maintains the accompaniment pattern.

49 *Middle 8*

57

Musical notation for Middle 8, measures 49-56. The right hand plays a series of chords, and the left hand provides a simple accompaniment.

End Chorus

65

Musical notation for measures 65-72. Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Bass clef: quarter notes G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. Repeat sign at the end.

73

Musical notation for measures 73-80. Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Bass clef: quarter notes G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. Repeat sign at the end.

76

Musical notation for measures 76-80. Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Bass clef: quarter notes G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2. Repeat sign at the end.

Fine