

# Music Moves for Piano

Improvisation Keyboard Skills Ensemble Playing Movement Creativity

# Book

By Marilyn Lowe In cooperation with

Edwin E. Gordon

BOOK 1

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By Marilyn Lowe In Cooperation With Edwin E. Gordon

A Piano Series Based on the Music Learning Theory of Edwin E. Gordon Designed to Develop Audiation and Keyboard Performance Skills

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# Symbols Used for Beginning Performance Pieces

#### **Fingers/Hands**

S<sup>1</sup> – Starting finger (starts the piece)



 $S^2$  – Starting finger of the other hand



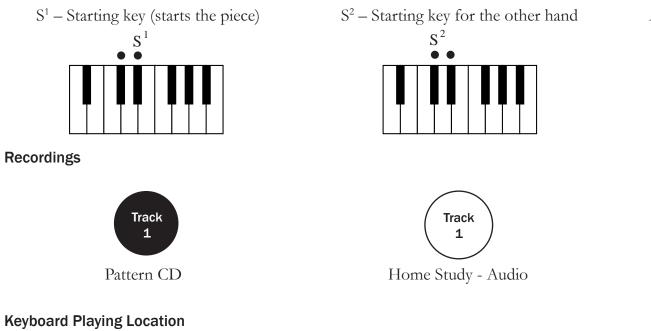
A square means that the hand does not move



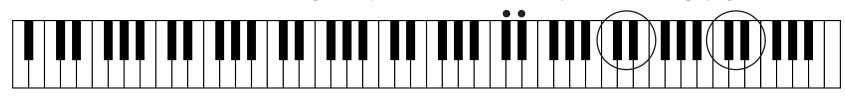
A circle means that the hand moves

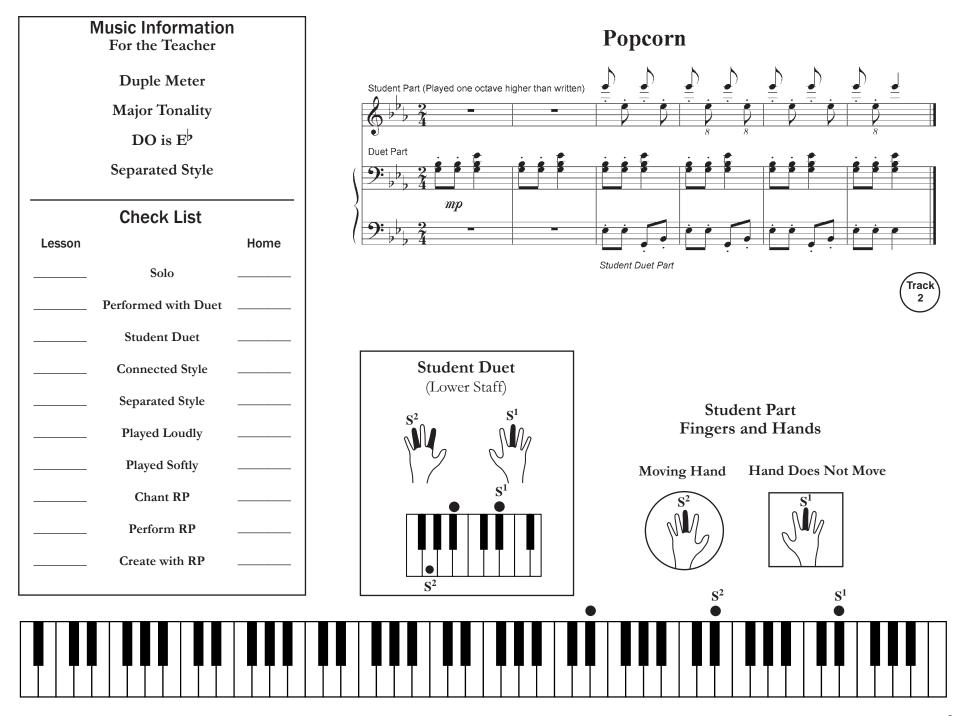


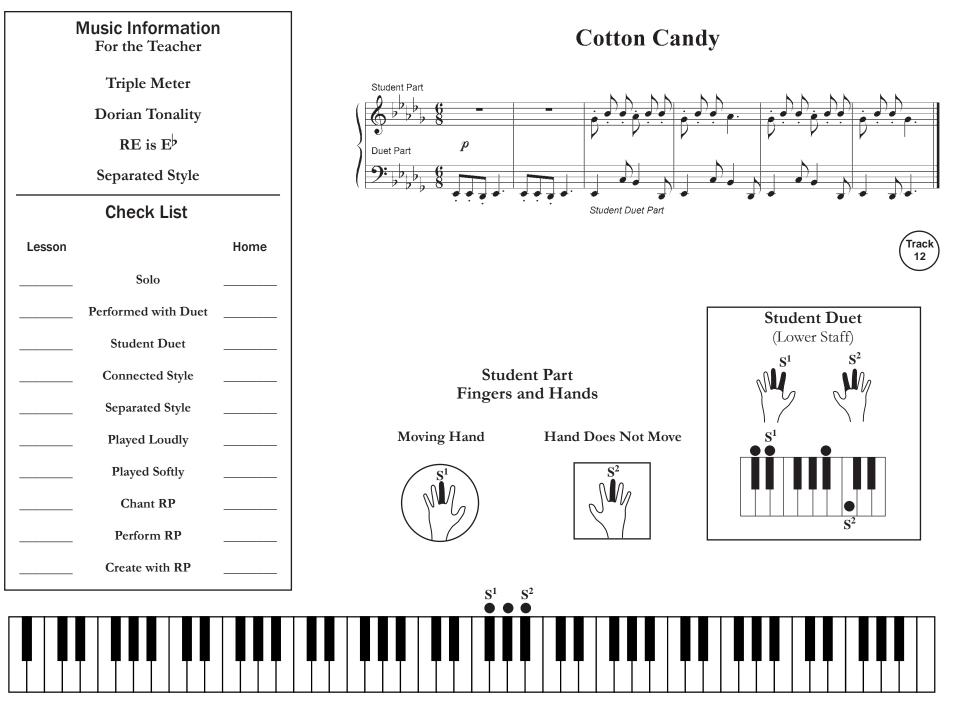
#### Piano Keys



Count the sets of two or three black piano keys from either side of the keyboard to find the playing location



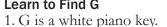




### When DO is G

#### For the Student

#### Learn to Find G



- 2. Look at a set of three black piano keys to find G.
- 3. Practice finding G in different places.

#### Sing the Tonic-Dominant-Tonic Cadence

- 1. Sing the syllables for the tonic Major triad.
- 2. Sing the syllables for the two different dominant Major patterns.
- 3. Sing the ending tonic pattern.

#### Play the Tonic-Dominant-Tonic Cadence

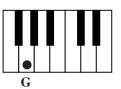
- 1. Play the cadence with one finger. Keep all the fingers together. Do not isolate one finger.
- 2. Play the cadence with a separated touch. Use the fingers shown in the pictures.
- 3. Sing the cadence.



# Major Tonality - When DO is G

Student Activities

Find G on the Keyboard

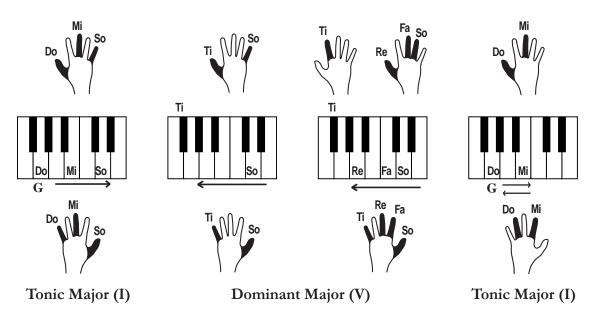


#### G Major Tonic-Dominant-Tonic Melodic Cadence

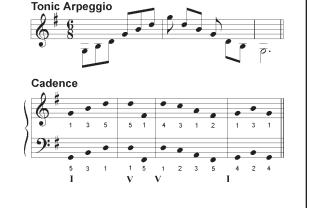
First, play with one finger.

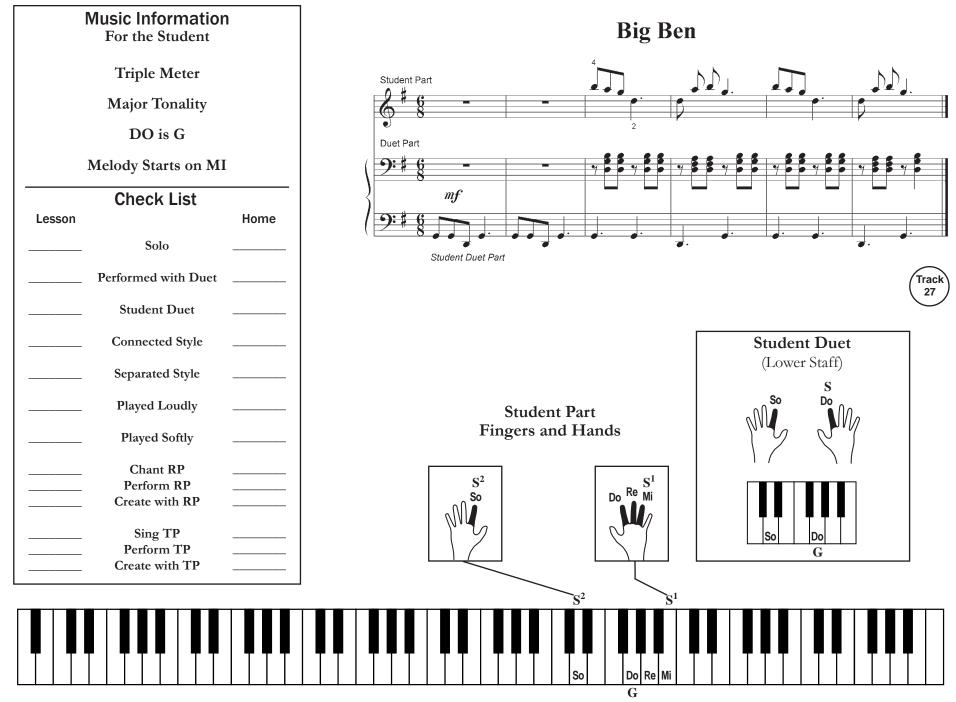


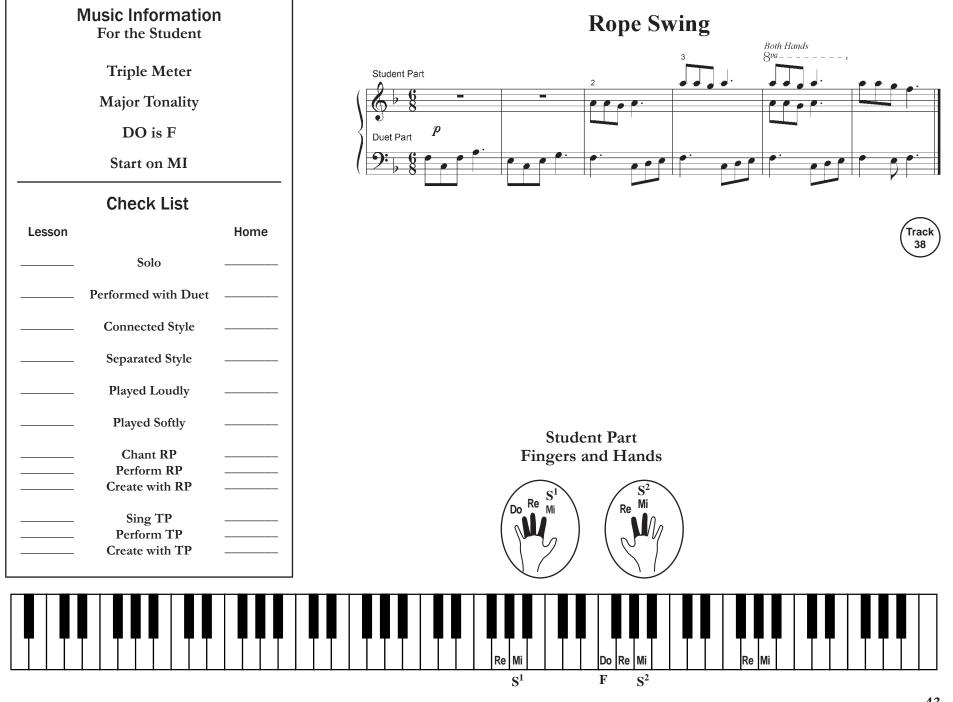
Second, play with these fingers. Follow the arrow movement, and play as sung in class.

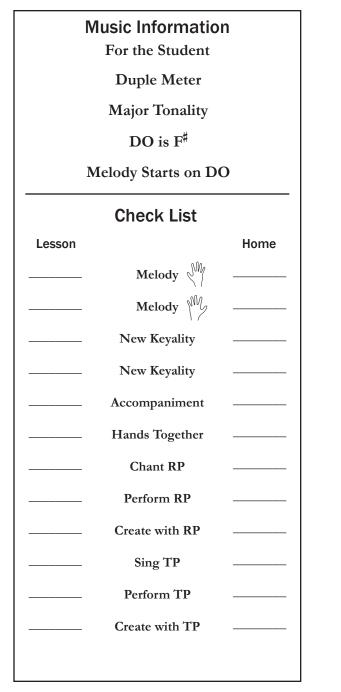


**Teacher Reference** 

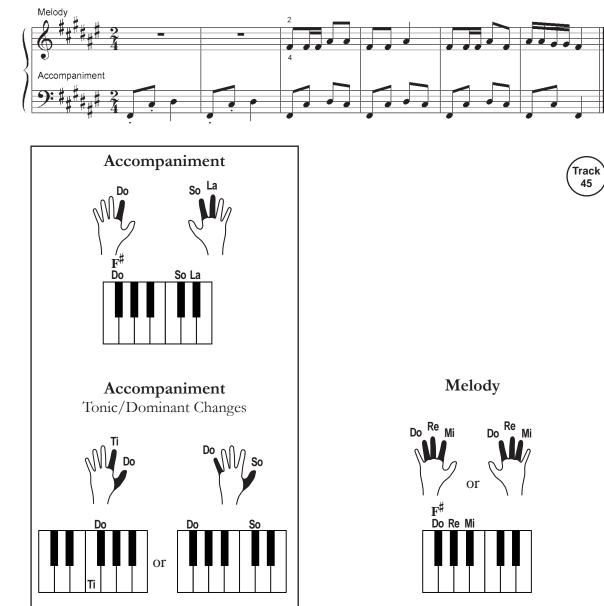


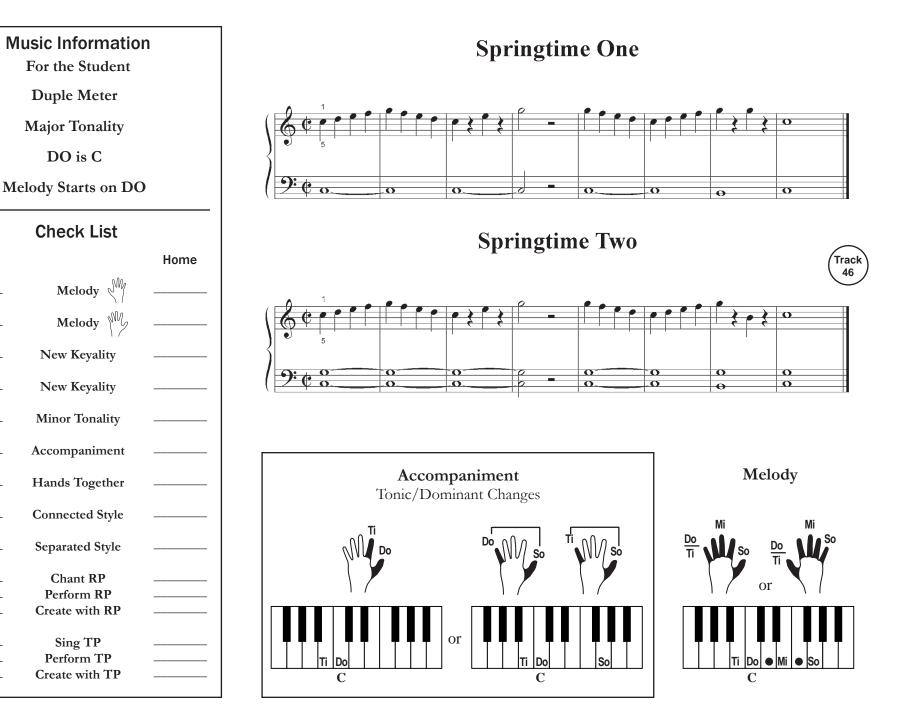






## Down Came a Lady





Lesson

**Music Moves for Piano** is the first piano method of its kind. It applies Edwin E. Gordon's Music Learning Theory to the teaching of piano. When music is taught as an aural art, lessons build a foundation for lifelong musical enjoyment and understanding. With guidance, "sound to notation" leads to fluent music performance, reading, and writing. Following are some of the major concepts of this approach:

- Rhythm is based on body movement: Feel the pulse and meter then chant rhythm patterns. Move in both a continuous fluid way and a rounded, pulsating way.
- Tonal audiation is developed by singing. Singing songs and tonal patterns develops pitch sensitivity, singing in tune, and a "listening" ear.
- Music pattern vocabularies are acquired and applied to listening and performing
- Various elements of music, such as rhythm, meter, pulse, tonality, harmony, style, and form, are studied.
- Creativity is fostered by using different elements of music, such as rhythm, pitch, harmony, and form to create something new.
- Improvisation activities apply everything a student learns. Use familiar patterns from folk songs, transpose, change tonality and meter, create variations and medleys, and create melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic variations.
- Perform with technical freedom. Students learn how to use the playing apparatus from the beginning of lessons.

**Marilyn Lowe**, who has taught piano for more than 40 years, has used her experiences and knowledge to create a non-traditional piano method based on Edwin E. Gordon's theories of audiation. Other influences include the techniques and theories of Carl Orff, Shinichi Suzuki, Emile Jaques-Dalcroze, Zoltan Kodaly, and Dorothy Taubman. Lowe has been using this approach successfully with her students for more than 20 years. Her academic credits include degrees in liberal arts and piano from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, and a master's degree in piano from Indiana University in Bloomington. Lowe completed additional graduate study in organ and music theory at Indiana University. She would like to express appreciation to her former music teachers: Nadia Boulanger, Murray Baylor, Walter Robert, and Menahem Pressler.

**Edwin E. Gordon** is known throughout the world as a preeminent researcher, teacher, author, editor, and lecturer in the field of music education. In addition to advising doctoral candidates in music education, Gordon has devoted many years to teaching music to preschool-aged children. Through extensive research, Gordon has made major contributions to the field of music education in such areas as the study of music aptitudes, stages and types of audiation, music learning theory, and rhythm in movement and music.

# Credits

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Engineer: John H. Morton