

# HINTS & TIPS

## Always Waiting

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**Michael Kiwanuka** is a young British soul musician, who won the BBC Sound Of 2012 award. His 'Always Waiting' is a modern soul song that sounds like a classic. It should be played gently, with a relaxed feel.

- Keeping the left hand part steady throughout will give momentum to the song. Listen to the drum part on the backing track to help you stay in time.
- The right hand follows the vocal line for the majority of this song. Listen carefully to the singer on the CD when playing along to make sure you're together.
- There is a *crescendo* in bar 14. This means you should gradually get louder until you reach the next bar.

## Domino

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**Jessie J** is one of the UK's biggest pop stars (with six top ten singles under her belt) as well as a highly successful songwriter who has written for numerous artists. 'Domino' is one of her biggest hits, with platinum sales in the UK, US, Australia and New Zealand.

- The syncopated right hand rhythm from bar 5 may look tricky, but once mastered it's a great dance/pop style that you will be able to apply to plenty of other songs.
- The left hand should be solid – it follows the kick drum, so use that to keep the pulse throughout the song.
- The jump in the left hand from bar 4 to 5 is quite large, so make sure you're ready for it and practise it first.
- In bars 21 and 23 there is an accent in the first left-hand note: play this note louder each time.

## Green, Green Grass Of Home

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**Tom Jones** is an icon of British pop music. He secured his first number one single 'It's Not Unusual' in 1964. 'Green Green Grass Of Home' is a cover of an American country song, and was a number one hit for him the following year.

- The keyboard plays the melody throughout in this song. Read the lyrics as you play, it'll help you with the right-hand rhythms.
- The left hand is the pulse of the song. It should be played lightly and fairly softly, with even, clear rhythms.
- In order to play bar 26 smoothly you'll need to have your right hand ready and in the right position, so look carefully at the suggested fingering.

## Happiness

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**Goldfrapp** are made up of singer Alison Goldfrapp and synth player/arranger Will Gregory. They initially started out in electronica (along the lines of the Bristol Trip-Hop scene) but have since progressed through a number of musical styles from classic pop to a more acoustic down-tempo feel. This song has that down-tempo pop feel – it should be slightly understated and played lightly.

- Throughout the verse and chorus, the keyboard follows the vocal line, so listen carefully to the singer on the recording to keep in time.
- Check the fingering in bar 13 – you'll need to tuck your thumb under for the start of bar 14 to play the run smoothly.
- In bars 19-22, the semibreves (whole notes) need to be held for the full four beats as they support the melody line. The crotchet Cs underneath should be played lightly but exactly on the beat to keep the pulse going.

## It's In His Kiss (The Shoop Shoop Song)

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This song was originally famous when sung by Betty Everett in the 1960s, but it became a massive International hit when **Cher** released it in 1991 for her film *Mermaids*. It's an upbeat, classic pop song.

- Although the bass on the backing track plays the same notes as the left hand, the rhythm is slightly different, so don't be put off!
- The right hand has a lot of syncopation in the verse (where the rhythm is off the beat). Listen to the demo track to understand how it should sound. The left hand has a steady crotchet (quarter-note) beat, which will keep the pulse.
- The very last note in both hands has a dot above it – this is a staccato marking, and means the note should be played short and detached.

## Kokomo

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**The Beach Boys** have been around for a massive 50 years and they're still going! They write a unique style of pop music, commonly thought of as Surf Pop, as it evokes the summer, the beach and the sea... This song, a hit in the late 80s, is about a trip to the relaxing island of Kokomo in the Caribbean.

- Count carefully with the click at the start of the track. The keyboard comes in on the last beat of the count-in on its own.
- For the Intro, the right and left hands play exactly the same melody an octave apart. This is called playing in unison. Make sure both hands are completely together.

Demo   
BT 

# HAPPINESS

Words and Music by Alison Goldfrapp and William Gregory

$\text{♩} = 124$  **Lightly** 2 bars count-in

## Intro

G Dm/F

*mp*

## Verse

7 G

1. Join our group and you will find harm - on - y and peace of mind }  
2. We're all on a jour - ney to find - ing the real in - ner you, }

11 Dm/F

make it bet - ter, we're here to wel - come you.

Demo 19  
BT 20

# IT'S IN HIS KISS

(THE SHOOP SHOOP SONG)

Words and Music by Rudy Clark

♩ = 80 Pop 2 bars count-in

**Intro**

Chords: D7, C7, D7

*mf* Does he love me I want to know, how can I tell if he loves me so? (Is it

**Verses**

Chords: Am, D, Am, D, Am, D

in his eyes? No! You'll be de - ceived, (is it in his sighs?) No!  
 in his face? No! That's just his charms, (in his warm em - brace?) No!

Chords: Am, D, Bm, Em, Am, D

— He'll make be - lieve. — } If you want to know — if he loves you so — it's in his  
 — That's just his arms. — }

**1.**

**2.**

Chords: G, C, D, G, D

kiss. That's where it is. (Is it kiss. That's where it

**Outro**

Chords: G, D, G

is, — it's in his kiss, that's where it is, — it's in his kiss. —