

Large jellyfish jumps

Jellyfish jumps will help you play wider intervals *staccato*.

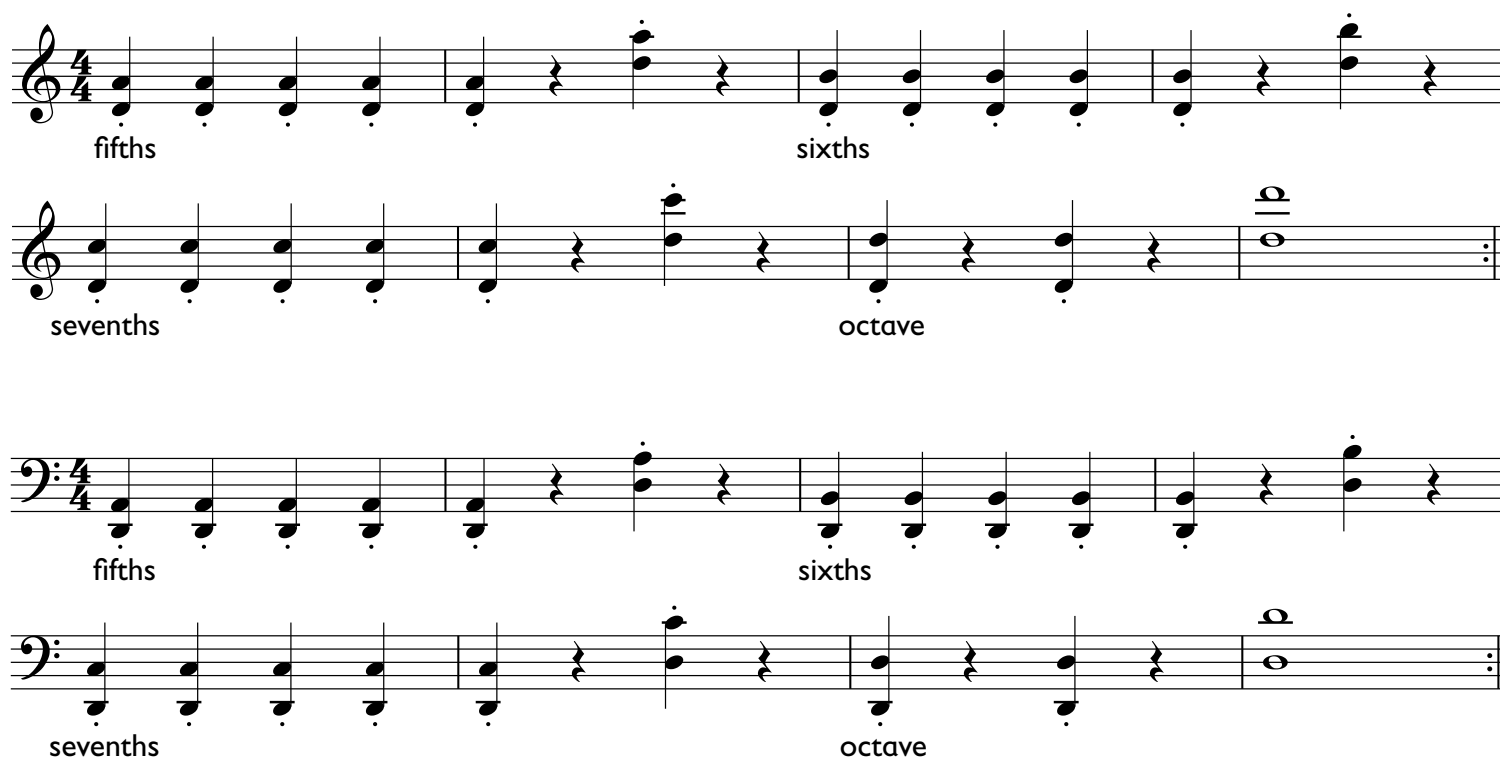
Swimming jellyfish

Move your hand around in the air like a small pulsating jellyfish swimming in the ocean. Feel your hand relax like jelly each time it floats upwards. Now imagine your hand is a bigger jellyfish – open it a little further as you swim down, then close your hand as it floats up.



Large jellyfish jumps

Play some *staccato* fifths on the piano, feeling your hand relax between each interval. Then extend your hand to play a sixth, a seventh and, if your hand is big enough, an octave.



Now practise these hands together.



Technique Tips

- ✓ Practise slowly at first, lifting your hand quite high between the chords. Then play a little faster, keeping your hand closer to the keys.
- ✗ If you can't quite stretch the whole octave in the final bars, just play the top D!



Also use **Jellyfish jumps** to play the seventh chords on page 12 *staccato*.

Repeated chords



Here you'll learn a simple bouncing movement to help you repeat chords easily.



Bouncy ball

Compare dropping your hand onto your leg first like a floppy beanbag, then like a bouncy ball.

Keep bouncing your hand on your leg in a steady rhythm like a bouncy ball. Bounce slowly at first, then more quickly.

Light bouncing

Now at the piano bounce lightly onto each fifth, then keep repeating the fifth with a light bounce.



Throwing your hand

Pretend you are throwing a ball in front of you. Then throw your hand onto your leg.

Throw your hand onto a fifth on the keyboard as in the first bar (measure) of the exercise below. This throwing action will give the required accent.

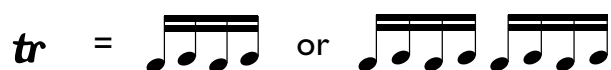
Now throw your hand again and let the fifth repeat. Imagine that your hand is a ball that just keeps on bouncing by itself after being thrown.



Trills



When you add more notes to a mordent, it becomes a trill.



You don't need to press heavily into the piano keyboard when you play trills.

Laptop warm-up

Try tapping on a laptop as lightly as you can. Don't waste energy by pressing heavily. Twiddle your fingers lightly in the air, then on a flat surface.



Short trills

First practise playing short trills with these different fingerings:



Now try adding a few more notes for a longer trill:



The Trickster

Allegro moderato

Aaron Burrows

