

BASE PATTERNS

by Piano with Juliet

A lot of music is written with repetitive patterns in the base, just changing key.

For some fun, you can make up any pattern and use the keys to help you shift. A popular example is provided below.

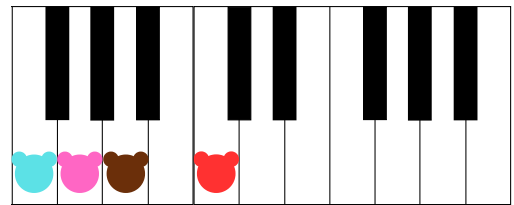
HEART & SOUL

A classic on the piano is the Heart and Soul tune, particularly the base as it's so easy to play. If you put your pinky (5th finger) on C, with one finger per note (the 5 finger position), this base uses the finger pattern:

5 5 3 1

You can swing it (long, short, long, short) or play it evenly.

Place the stickers on the piano like so:



Place your 5th finger on the  and play the pattern.

Then move it to  and play the pattern.

Then  and play the pattern.

Then  and play the pattern. Start again at the red sticker and you've just played the base for Heart and Soul!

In summary, you are playing that finger pattern - 5 5 3 1 - then moving your 5th finger to each of these notes in this order, and repeating that pattern:    

YOUR TURN!

There are many other pieces of music that have the same repeating pattern, just changing position on the piano (or changing key). You can:

1. Find some popular pieces and copy the rhythm, using the stickers to help you shift your hand position.
2. Come up with your own pattern, place the stickers at various notes, and experiment with pattern changes. These are changing keys, but you may be accidentally discovering some chord progressions!