



A tutorial on how to PLAY:  
Jingle Bells



**D**o you ever wish you could play a tune whenever you come across a piano? Sigh no more! Follow this recipe book to learn the holiday classic, Jingle Bells and show off your piano skills this Christmas! Along with the steps, it unravels the theory behind this iconic number! It's not easy, but it's simple.

Lets get started!



**Queen – We Will Rock You**



**Michael Jackson – Billie Jean**

**BASICS** To get us started it is important that we familiarize ourselves to the ingredients we are going to use throughout this lesson.

*Metronome* While playing music it is crucial to stay on beat (maintain a tempo). A metronome is a device that generates an automated tone: beep, to assist us in maintain tempo. We can slow down the tempo of a song while practicing. This allows us to attain a better technique. \*You can download an app on your phone.

*Piano* This lesson requires you to have an instrument on which you would play the song. A piano is helpful because it lays out all the notes which can be easily transferred to other instruments.

*Music-Player* To play the song we have to listen to it carefully, it helps us to familiarize ourselves to the beat or rhythm of a song. \*A phone or a laptop.

*Rhythm* is a repeated pattern of sound. To get a better idea for rhythm we can listen to famous songs. The iconic rhythm of the Queen's song We Will Rock You "Boom Boom Clap" or Billie Jean by Michael Jackson "Boom – Clap, Boom – Clap". To practice keeping rhythm you could try snapping your finger or clapping along to any of your favorite songs or simply bop your head.



*Melody* This is the part of the song that you sing. We have all hummed a song trying to remember where is it from, right? That's the melody! The melody follows the pattern of the rhythm. Try humming Twinkle – Twinkle, the tone you're humming is the melody and the pattern is the rhythm.

*Notes* Music notes are letters assigned to a tone, each sound we make is an alphabet! Grab your piano and play the note illustrated in the image. That's "C". Music has 6 basic notes – C, D, E, F, G, A, B – this pattern loops throughout a piano. They all combine to make a "Scale". (For this lesson you don't need to worry about the black notes)

*Scale* is basically is a team of notes. It makes it easier to differentiate what notes to play and which ones you don't have to play. Think of it as a sports team, each player works well with each other; they just have different positions.

*Finger Placement* To play a song we need to play notes in a sequence. To make it easier a finger is assigned to a note on the piano. The thumb is "1" and usually placed on the note "C" and the pinky finger is "5" and is usually placed on "G".

# MEMORIZING the rhythm of the song.

## *Step 1*

Play the song and hum the melody.

## *Step 2*

Start your metronome at 40 bpm.

## *Step 3*

Set the note duration on your metronome to quarter notes. While referring to the notes chart snap your fingers on each red note.

## *Step 4*

Set the note duration to 1/8 notes. Now snap your fingers to the red and green dots. Slower the tempo if needed.

## *Step 5*

Set the note duration to 1/16 notes and snap your fingers to the red, green and blue dots. Slower the tempo if needed.



## NOTE CHART

part 1



*Jin-*



*gle*



*bells*



*Jin-*



*gle*



*bells*



*Jin-*



*gle*



*all*



*the*



*way,*





*Oh*



*what*



*fun*



*it*



*is*



*to*



*ride*



*on a*



*one*



*horse*



*slope*



*and*



*sleigh,*



*hey!*



*Jin-*



*gle*



*bells*



*Jin-*



*gle*



*bells*



*Jin-*



*gle*



*all*



*the*



*way,*





*Oh!*



*What*



*fun*



*it*



*is*



*to*



*ride*



*on a*



*one*



*horse*



*slope*



*and*



*sleigh.*





*fun*



*it*



*is*



*to*



*ride*



*and*



*sing*



*\_ a*



*sliegh*



*ing*



*song*



*tonight,*



*oh!*

part 2



*Da-*



*hing*



*through*



*the*



*snow,*



*on a*



*one*



*horse*



*slope*



*and*



*sleigh,*





*O-*



*ver the*



*fields*



*we*



*go*



*laugh-*



*ing*



*all*



*the*



*way,*





*Bells*



*on*



*bob*



*tails*



*ring,*



*mak-*



*ing*



*spir-*



*its*



*bright*



*what*





*fun*



*it*



*is*



*to*



*ride*



*and*



*sing*



*a*



*sliegh*



*ing*



*song*



*tonight,*



*oh!*

# PLAYING *the song on piano.*

## *Step 1*

Memorize note names or write them down on the piano. Refer to page 4.

## *Step 2*

Start your metronome at 40 bpm, quarter notes.

## *Step 3*

Play the keys while referring to the note chart.

## *Step 4*

Gradually increase the tempo. 40 — 45 — 50 — 55 — 60.

## *Step 5*

Practice with the music.

## NOTE CHART



**F** **F** **F** **F**  
*Ob what fun it*

**F** **F** **F** **E** **E**  
*is to ride on a*

**E** **D** **D** **C**  
*oneb orse slope and*

**D** **G**  
*sleigh, hey!*

E E E  
*jin- gle bells*

E E E  
*jin- gle bells*

E G D D  
*jin- gle all the*

E  
*way,*

**F** **FF** **F**  
*Oh! What fun it*

**F** **E** **E** **E** **E**  
*is to ride on a*

**G** **G** **F** **D**  
*oneh orse slope and*

**C**  
*sleigh.*

part 2

G E D C  
*Da- shing through the*

G G G  
*snow, on a*

G E D C  
*oneh orse slope and*

A  
*sleigh,*

A FF E D  
*O- ver the fields we*

B  
*go*

G G F D  
*laugh- ing all the*

E  
*way,*



G E D C  
*Bells on bobt ails*

G  
*ring,*

G E D C  
*mak- ing spir- its*

A A  
*bright what*

A FD E  
*fun it is to*

G G G G  
*ride ands inga*

A G F  
*sliegh ing song*

D  
*tonight, ob!*

**Voilà!** You're all set to play jingle bells!

by *Siddh Bathla*

a project made for communicating through form.



