

Steps to learning a piece :

1. Look at the context of the song you are playing.

- Research the composer. Who was he/ she? When did they write this? What was life like during that time?
- Is it from a larger work?
- Is it from a movie or show? What is the context of the movie or show?

2. Clap the rhythm of the piece.

3. Familiarize yourself by listening to recordings while looking at the music.

- Note the dynamic markings and other important aspects of the score.
- Mark parts that are rhythmically or melodically challenging. (tricky rhythms, big jumps, unusual fingering)
- Listen to multiple recordings with reputable pianists.

4. Practice hand separately.

5. When each hand is comfortable separately, practice hands together.

Important questions to ask:

What does each phrase (musical sentence) mean? What is your intention for each phrase?

What emotions are you trying to convey?

Are you following the composer's intentions?

How can you add your own artistic interpretation?

What do I practice?

Don't always sing the entire piece or in the spots you are good at. Break it into chunks starting from the tricky spots.

Look for patterns in the music that will help you memorize it quickly.

Do not just listen to one recording. Try to listen to multiple examples from reputable musicians.

(Ask me if you need recommendations)