FREE SAMPLE · CASE 1

Piano Note Detective

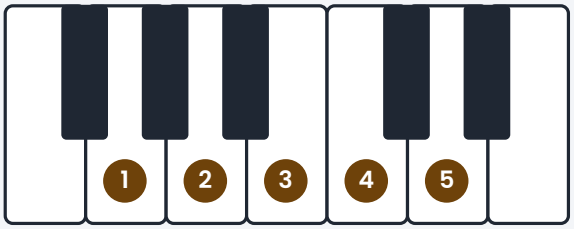
Finger Numbers Are Not Note Names

Finger 1 is your thumb, not the note C. Move your hand and finger 1 plays G, or A, or F. Read the note first, then find the finger, in twelve switch challenges for both hands.



IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Case 1: fingers have numbers
- Which key does each finger play?
- True or false about fingers
- Answers with reasons



Right thumb on G: finger 1 plays G, finger 5 plays D.

1. **Read the note**
2. **Find the thumb's key**
3. **Count the fingers**
4. **Play and check**

Digital download · Print at 100% on US Letter · For beginners who play in a five-finger position and name notes on both staves · Three sittings of about 15 minutes · With a piano or keyboard

How the case file works

Three cases, about 15 minutes each.

For a beginner who plays in a five-finger position and names notes on the treble and bass staves (from C3, the C below Middle C, to E5, the top space of the treble staff). On each hand the thumb is finger 1 and the little finger is finger 5. A finger number is not a note: when the hand moves, finger 1 plays a different key. Every task names the hand (R or L) and where the thumb goes; count one finger per white key, up for the right hand and down for the left.

EACH CASE

The story	Read it aloud together. It says what the detective is looking for.
Learn	The rule for this case, with a picture. Point at it while you read it.
Tasks	Short tasks that use the rule. Each one has a single right answer (except play tasks).
Clue	The last task gives a clue for the final question.

YOU NEED

- A pencil
- A piano or keyboard
- Three short sittings, one case each

GOOD TO KNOW

- Read the note name first, then choose the finger.
- Say "thumb on G" out loud before each task.
- In real pieces your teacher may choose other fingers.

NOT A METHOD BOOK

Reading practice for beginners, not piano lessons. Simple five-finger positions only; real fingering is the teacher's choice.

Case 1: Fingers Have Numbers

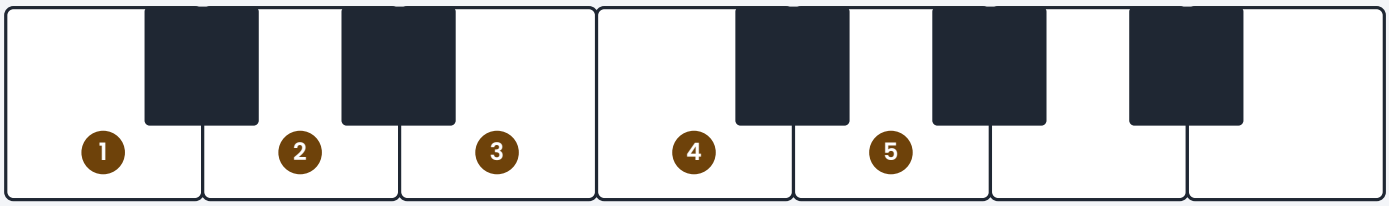
Thumb 1 to little finger 5, on each hand

THE STORY

The piano club's lockers open with a three-digit code, but the code changes depending on where your hand starts. Three cases, three digits.

LEARN

- Each hand has fingers 1 to 5: the thumb is 1, the little finger is 5.
- Right hand: put the thumb on a key and count up, one finger per white key.
- Left hand: thumb on a key and count down.



Right thumb on C: fingers 1 to 5 play C, D, E, F, G.

1 Which key does each finger play? Write the letter.

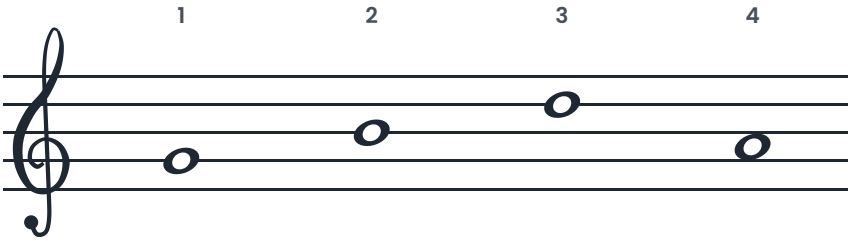
1. Right hand, thumb on C: finger 3 plays ☐
2. Right hand, thumb on G: finger 3 plays ☐
3. Right hand, thumb on F: finger 5 plays ☐
4. Left hand, thumb on C: finger 5 plays ☐

2 True or false?

1. Finger 1 always plays C. true false
2. On the left hand the thumb is also finger 1. true false
3. If the right thumb is on G, finger 2 plays A. true false

Case 1: Fingers Have Numbers (continued)

3 Right hand, thumb on G. Which finger plays each note?



☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

CLUE 1

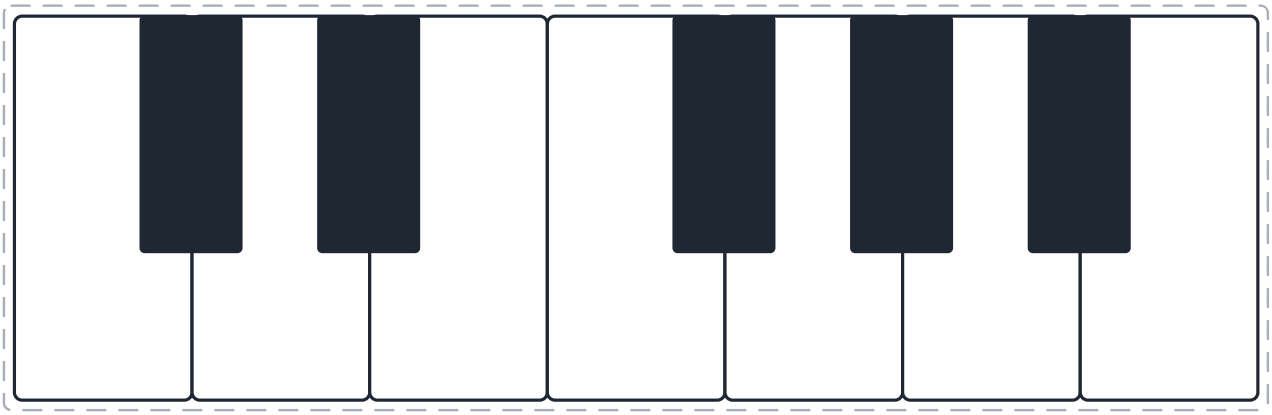
The first digit of the locker code is your answer for note 2 in task 3.

Clue: ☐ In the full case file, the clues from every case solve the final question.

Paper keyboard

Cut out the rows and tape them in order, low to high. White keys are about as wide as a real piano's.

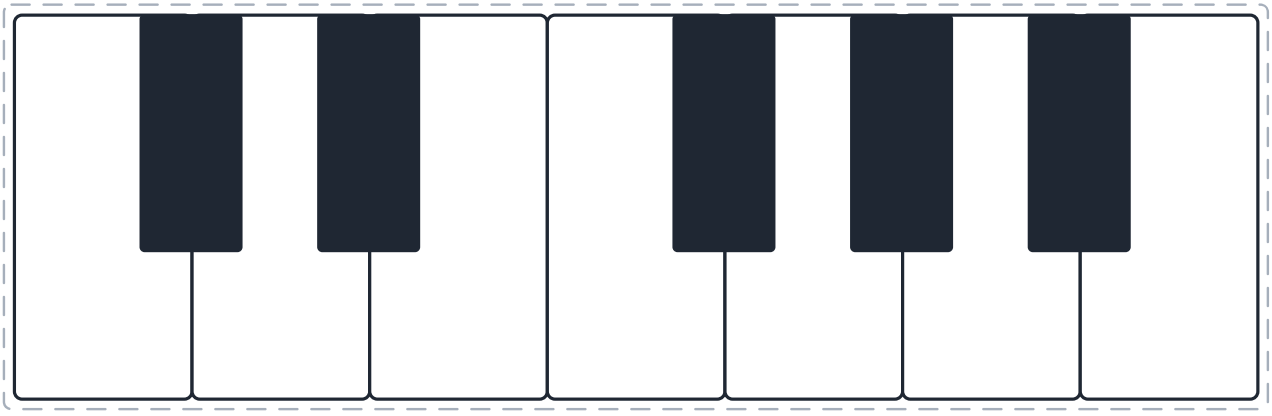
Low



Middle



High



Only Middle C is labeled: finding the other keys is the detective's job. Tape the rows edge to edge (low on the left) to make one long keyboard.

Case 1 answers

Every answer comes with its reason. Read the reasons aloud: they teach.

CASE 1 · FINGERS HAVE NUMBERS

Task 1
1 E (E4) · 2 B (B4) · 3 C (C5) · 4 F (F3)

PND22-C1-T1
Right thumb on C: count up 2 white keys to finger 3: E. Right thumb on G: count up 2 white keys to finger 3: B. Right thumb on F: count up 4 white keys to finger 5: C. Left thumb on C: count down 4 white keys to finger 5: F.

Task 2
1 false · 2 true · 3 true

PND22-C1-T2
Finger 1 is the thumb; it plays whatever key the thumb is placed on. Both hands number from the thumb (1) to the little finger (5). Count up one white key from G: A.

Task 3
1 finger 1 (G4) · 2 finger 3 (B4) · 3 finger 5 (D5) · 4 finger 2 (A4)

PND22-C1-T3
G4 is 0 white keys up from the right thumb on G4: finger 1. B4 is 2 white keys up from the right thumb on G4: finger 3. D5 is 4 white keys up from the right thumb on G4: finger 5. A4 is 1 white key up from the right thumb on G4: finger 2.

Clue 1
3 (the answer to item 2 of task 3)

THE FULL CASE FILE

The full Finger Numbers Are Not Note Names has two more cases: same key with new fingers, and switch challenges for both hands, with a notebook, the final question, hints and a certificate.