FREE SAMPLE · CASE 1

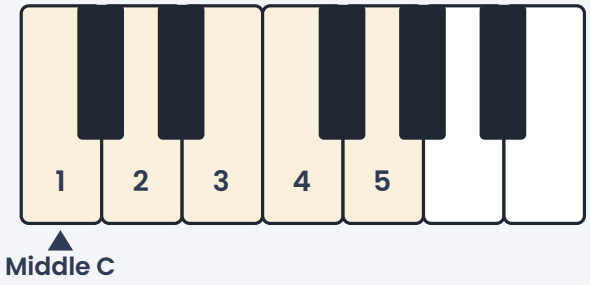
Piano Note Detective

Five-Finger Position Detective

Put five fingers on five keys and read the notes they play: right hand in C position, left hand in C position, right hand in G position, and Middle C position with both thumbs sharing Middle C.

IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Case 1: right hand C position
- Which finger plays each note?
- Name the notes
- Paper keyboard and answers



Right hand in C position: thumb (1) on Middle C.

1. **Find the position**
2. **Put the thumb on its key**
3. **Count to the note**
4. **Play and check**

Digital download · Print at 100% on US Letter · For beginners who name notes and are starting to play them · Four sittings of about 15 minutes · With a grown-up

How the case file works

Four cases, about 15 minutes each.

For a beginner who names notes and is starting to play them. A five-finger position puts one finger on each of five white keys next to each other. Fingers are numbered 1 to 5 from the thumb on both hands. In this book each case states its position, and the finger numbers come from that position.

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 if you have one, or the paper keyboard near the end
- Four short sittings, one case each

GOOD TO KNOW

- Thumb = 1, pinky = 5, on both hands.
- The fingering here is one common choice for these positions. Teachers and pieces may use other fingerings: follow the teacher or the music.
- Right hand: count up from the thumb. Left hand: count down from the thumb.

NOT A METHOD BOOK

Note-reading practice for beginners, not piano lessons. Note reading and keyboard practice only: no sharps, flats or key signatures.

Case 1: Right Hand, C Position

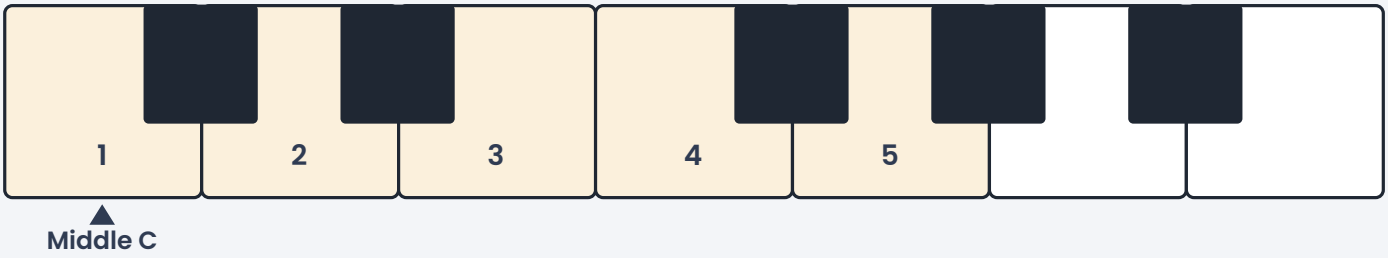
Right thumb on Middle C: fingers 1 to 5 play C, D, E, F, G

THE STORY

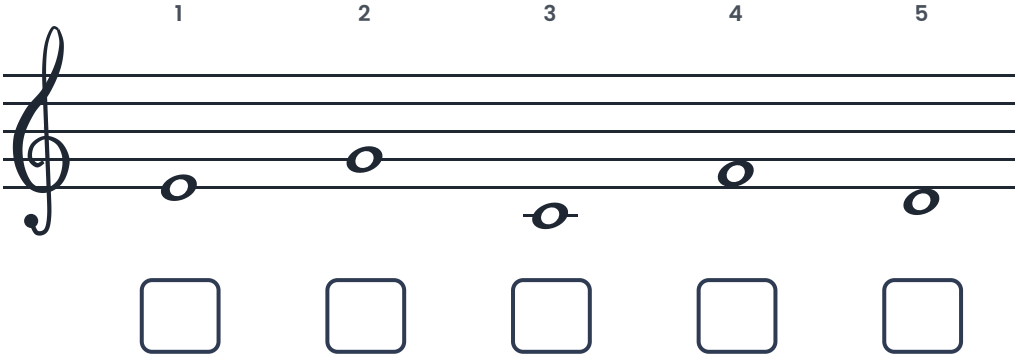
The piano club's new songbook has gone missing before the spring show. The club leader left finger clues on the music stand. Each case gives one letter of where the songbook is.

LEARN

- Right hand in C position: thumb (1) on Middle C.
- Fingers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 play C, D, E, F, G: one white key each.
- To find a finger, count up from the thumb.

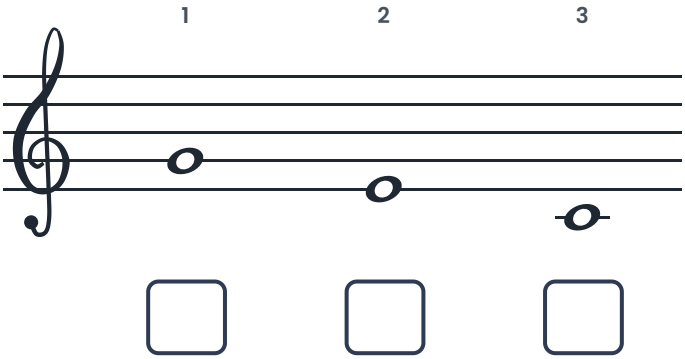


1 Right hand in C position. Which finger plays each note? Write 1 to 5.



Case 1: Right Hand, C Position (continued)

2 Write the letter of each note.



3 Play C, D, E, F, G with fingers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, then back down. Say the finger numbers as you play.

I played it | I pointed and sang

CLUE 1

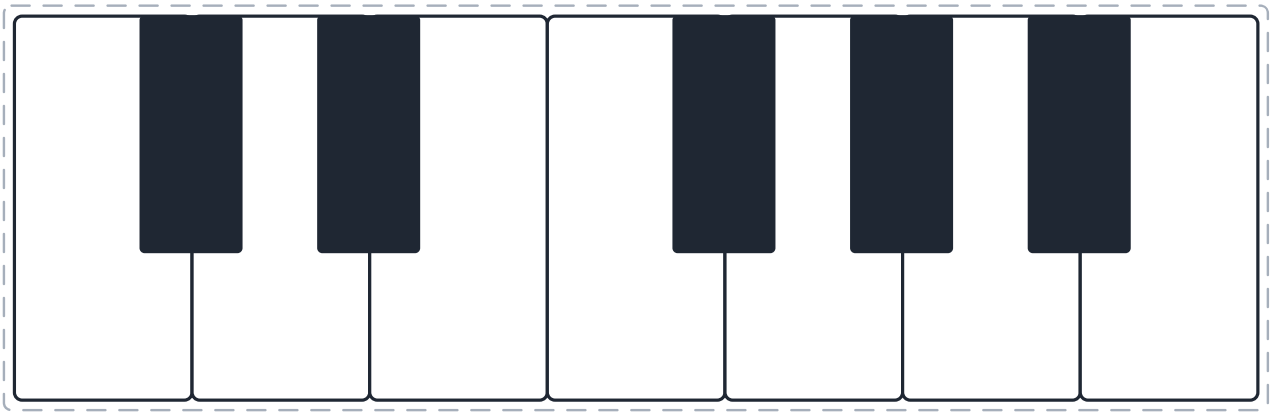
The first letter of the hiding place is the letter of note 2 in task 2.

Clue: _____ Copy it onto the answer line of the final question.

Paper keyboard

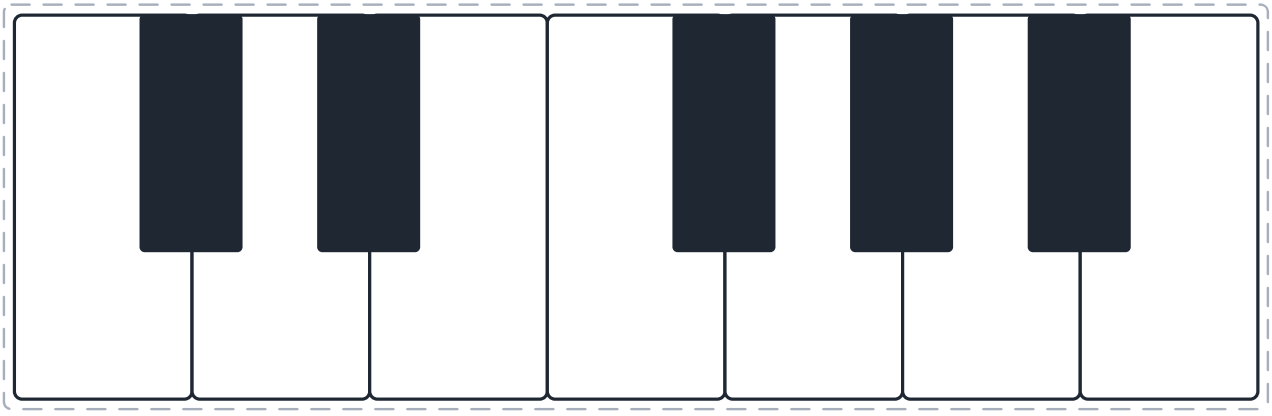
Cut out the rows and tape them in order, low to high. White keys are about as wide as a real piano's.

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 · RIGHT HAND, C POSITION

Task 1 **PND16-C1-T1**	1 finger 3 (E4) · 2 finger 5 (G4) · 3 finger 1 (C4) · 4 finger 4 (F4) · 5 finger 2 (D4) E4 is 2 white keys up from the right thumb on C4: finger 3. G4 is 4 white keys up from the right thumb on C4: finger 5. C4 is 0 white keys up from the right thumb on C4: finger 1. F4 is 3 white keys up from the right thumb on C4: finger 4. D4 is 1 white key up from the right thumb on C4: finger 2.
Task 2 **PND16-C1-T2**	1 G · 2 E · 3 C treble 2nd line is G4. treble 1st line is E4. treble 1st ledger line below is C4.
Task 3 **PND16-C1-T3**	Up: 1 2 3 4 5 on C D E F G; down: 5 4 3 2 1.
Clue 1	E (the answer to item 2 of task 2)

THE FULL CASE FILE

The full Five-Finger Position Detective has three more cases: left hand C position, G position, and Middle C position with both hands, with a notebook, the final question, hints and a certificate.