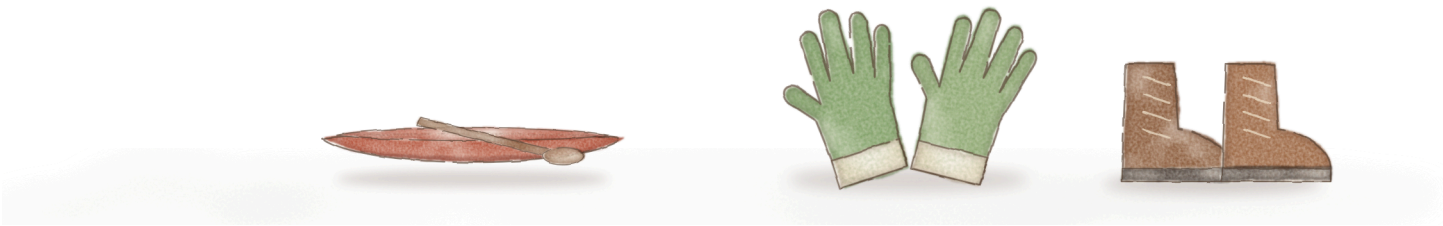
FREE SAMPLE · CASE 1

Piano Note Detective
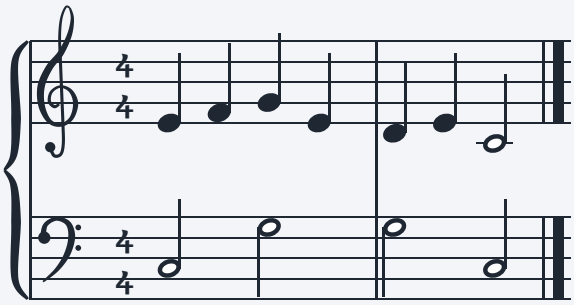
Two Hands: Take Turns, Then Together

The grand staff is a map for two hands: the top staff for the right, the bottom for the left. First the hands take turns, then they play together, in twelve short original pieces with one steady beat.



IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Case 1: top staff, bottom staff
- Which hand plays each note?
- Two take-turns pieces
- Answers with reasons



Right hand on the top staff, left hand on the bottom: together on the same beat.

1. **Find each hand's staff**
2. **Clap the beat**
3. **Hands alone**
4. **Hands together**

Digital download · Print at 100% on US Letter · For beginners who read both staves in the C position · Five sittings of about 15 minutes · With a piano or keyboard

How the case file works

Five cases, about 15 minutes each.

For a beginner who reads notes on both staves in the C position. A grand staff joins two staves with a brace: in these pieces the top (treble) staff is the right hand and the bottom (bass) staff the left hand. Notes in a straight line up and down are played at the same moment. Each case moves from hands taking turns to hands together, always on one steady beat.

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
- Five short sittings, one case each

GOOD TO KNOW

- Clap or tap the beat before playing; keep it the same for both hands.
- Practice hands alone, then together, slowly.
- Notes lined up vertically start together.

NOT A METHOD BOOK

Reading and playing practice for beginners, not piano lessons. In this book the top staff is always the right hand.

Case 1: Top Staff, Bottom Staff
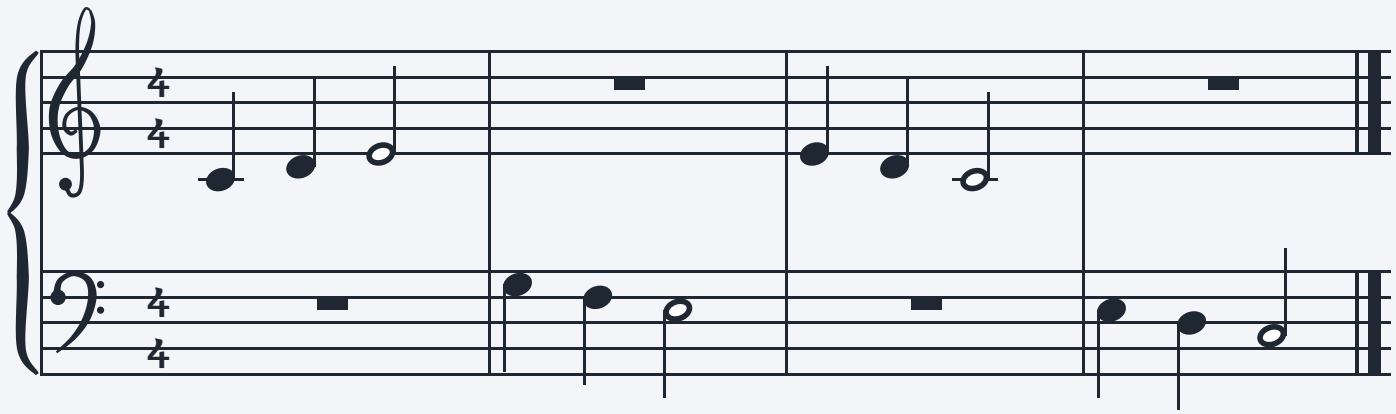
Right hand reads the top staff, left hand the bottom

THE STORY

The town's two bell towers ring a duet: one high, one low. The bell-ringers need someone who can read for both hands.

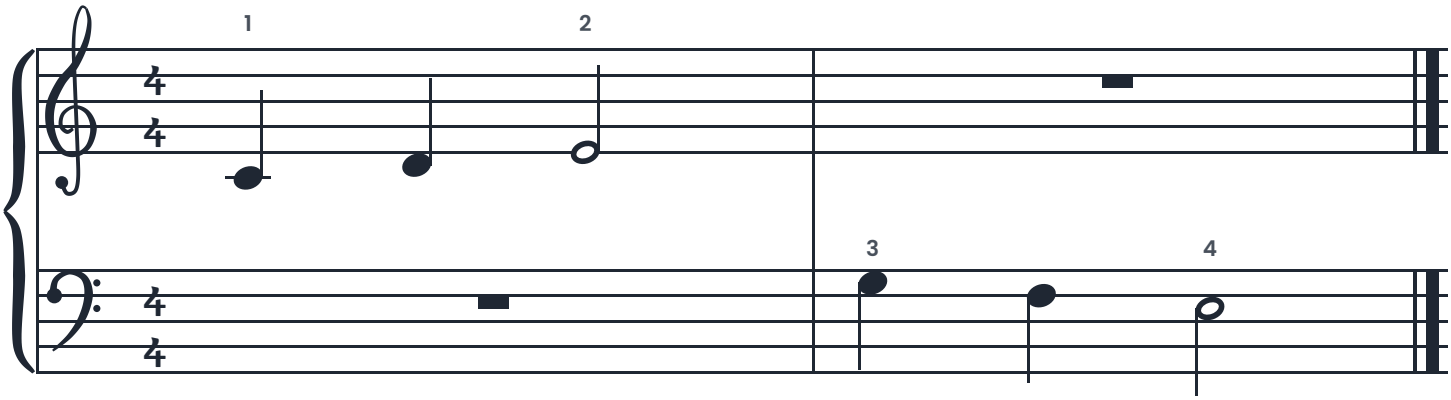
LEARN

- A brace joins the two staves of a grand staff.
- Top staff (treble clef): right hand. Bottom staff (bass clef): left hand.
- When one hand rests, the other plays; the beat never stops.



Case 1: Top Staff, Bottom Staff (continued)

1 Which hand plays each numbered note? Write R or L.



Write R (right hand) or L (left hand).

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

2 Pieces 1 and 2: play them hands taking turns. Count "1, 2, 3, 4" through the rests.

I played it | I played it with help

3 Choose the best answer.

1. Which hand plays the notes on the bass staff in these pieces?

   (H) the left hand
   (J) the right hand
   (K) both

CLUE 1

The first letter is the letter of your answer to task 3.

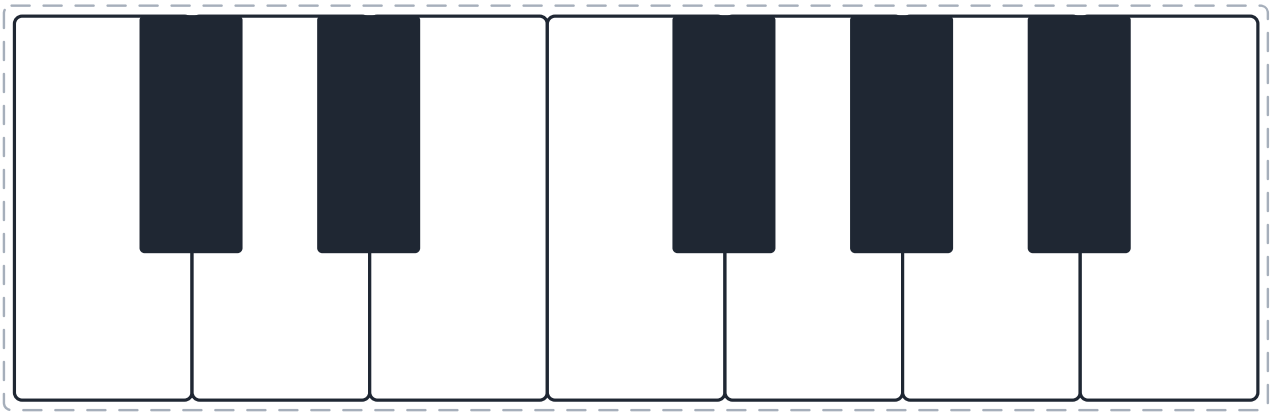
Clue: _____

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.

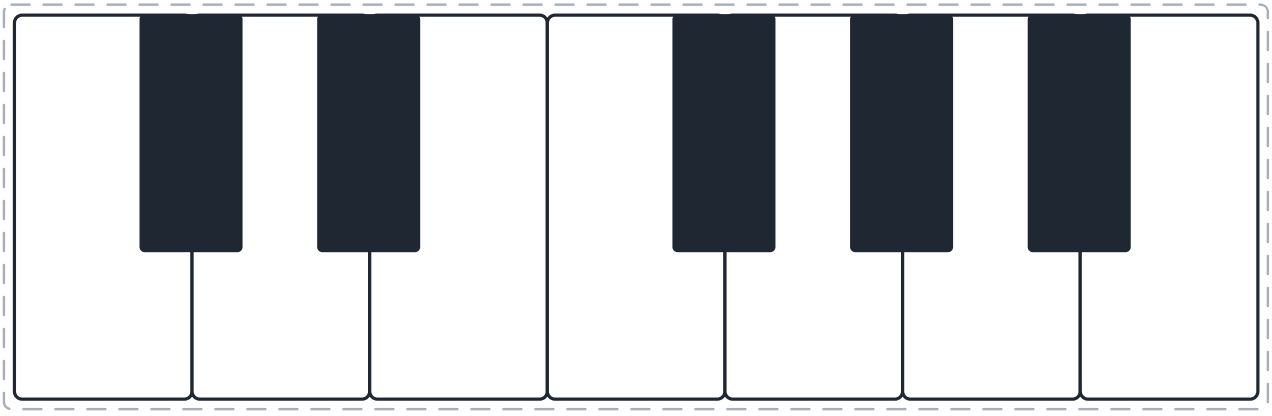
Low



Middle



High

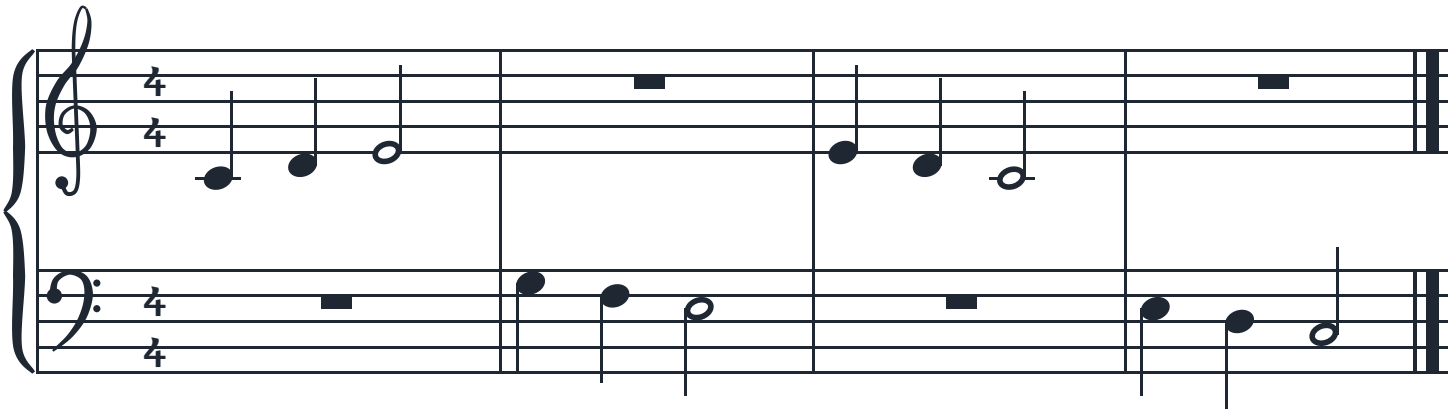


Only Middle C is labeled: finding the other keys is the detective's job. Tape the rows edge to edge (low on the left) to make one long keyboard.
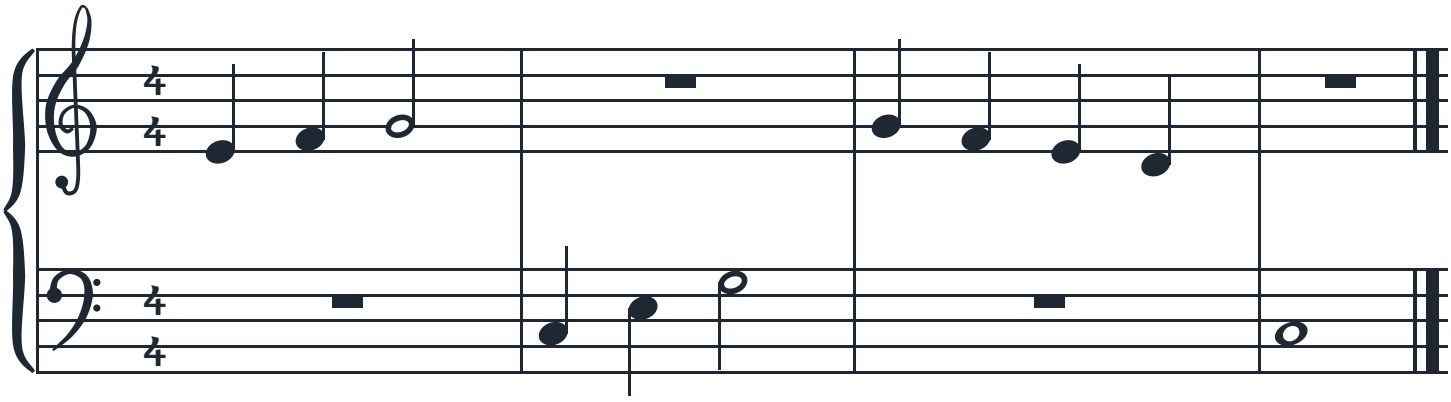
Twelve pieces for two hands

Original pieces. Top staff right hand, bottom staff left hand. Count one bar before you start.

PIECE 1



PIECE 2



Case 1 answers

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

CASE 1 · TOP STAFF, BOTTOM STAFF

Task 1 **PND23-C1-T1**	1 R · 2 R · 3 L · 4 L In this book the top (treble) staff is played by the right hand and the bottom (bass) staff by the left hand.
Task 2 **PND23-C1-T2**	One steady beat; each hand plays only in its own bars.
Task 3 **PND23-C1-T3**	1 H: the left hand Bottom staff, bass clef: the left hand.
Clue 1	H (the answer to item 1 of task 3)

THE FULL CASE FILE

The full Two Hands: Take Turns, Then Together has four more cases: taking turns, together at last, both hands moving, and a short concert, with twelve original pieces, a notebook, the final question, hints and a certificate.