

Music Menu ☺

M – Memory Pieces

U – Useful Skills

S – Sight Reading

I – Instruction Book

*C – Composition &
Theory*

Music Menu Key

Elementary Students

Middle and High School Students

M — All ages: Practice all pieces that you know by memory. Take your time. Pretend you are on a concert tour playing in a different city each day for different people. If possible, play your pieces in front of family and friends when they visit you or when you visit them. If you have more than five memory pieces, choose some to play on the odd days of the week and some to play on even days. Once a week play through all of them. **Think of Memory Pieces as your appetizer. They help you get started with something familiar.**

U — Pentascales. Chords.

Scales. Cadences. Arpeggios.

Technique book(s).

Technique book(s).

Think of Useful Skills as your beverage. They are going to help everything you play sound better.

S — Try reading the treble clef and bass clef of one of the pieces in one of your extra books daily. Barnyard. Jellybean. Masterpieces.

Read through one page or 10 minutes each day without stopping to fix mistakes. Use your extra books or books borrowed from Mrs. D.

Think of Sight Reading as your side dish. It's a very valuable musical tool that helps you become a fully equipped musician.

I — All ages: Lesson book assignments. Also, work on pieces that you are memorizing or polishing.

Think of your Instruction Book as your entrée or main dish. It's the heart of your music study.

C — Theory or composition book assignment.

Theory and composition book assignments.

All ages: Make up some music of your own without writing it down. Play a piece that you already know in a new way. **Think of Composition as your dessert—in a way. Composing music is optional, just like dessert, but composition can be the most enjoyable way to learn the essential elements music.**