

## Configurations Series: Technic and Notation Content

**CONFIGURATIONS** is a series of four books that provide a total of 64 piano pieces at the early levels. The pieces represent a variety of historical styles, from the Medieval to the Modern. In this way the elementary student is given early access to examples of the expressive melodies and incisive rhythms we associate with these various styles.

Here is the plan for each of the four books in this series:

### Book 1a (DUETS)

➤ **TECHNIC**

- Melody divided between the hands.
- Basic “pentachord” hand positions with multiple starting notes, but without moves during the pieces.

➤ **NOTATION**

(In first half of the book)  
(In second half of the book)

### Book 1b (SOLOS)

➤ **TECHNIC**

- Increasing use of “hands together.”
- Basic “pentachord” hand positions retained, but with moves during the piece
- Damper pedal (in second half of the book).

➤ **NOTATION**

### Books 2a (DUETS) and 2b (SOLOS)

➤ **TECHNIC**

- First half of each book: **CROSSINGS** (2 – 1 then 3 – 1;  
R.H. then L.H., then both hands)
- Second half of each book: **EXTENSIONS** (to the 6<sup>th</sup>, then to the 7<sup>th</sup>;  
R.H. then L.H., then both hands;  
Thumb-from-hand then hand-from-thumb)

More “hands together” as pieces advance.

Consecutive (“syncopated”) pedaling in Book 2b.

➤ **NOTATION** Key signatures (up to two #’s or two b’s).