

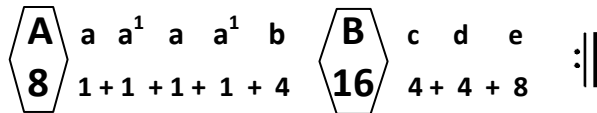
FOOTLOOSE AND FANCY FREE

MOOD: “With joy in your heart” and in your fingers!

TECHNIC & EXPRESSION:

1. The slurs in this piece have a cheerful and carefree sound. Slurs need to be played with a loose wrist so you can drop into the first note from above the keyboard, and then relax and roll into the second note; release the second note with a lighter sound by rolling your wrist forward and up.
2. Even though the piano is a percussion instrument, we can learn to make it sing! The long legato lines start in measure 5 and continue to the end of the piece. To play legato, overlap the sounds by leaving each finger on its key until the next finger plays. As soon as you hear both notes, release the first finger that played. This will connect the two sounds without smearing them.
3. To keep this piece sounding happy, use light metric stress by playing the first beat in each measure with a little more energy than the second beat.
4. Shape the Directed Motion of each 4 and 8 measure phrase by getting louder going up, and softer coming down. Make your half-note cadences clear and unhurried at the end of each phrase.

LETTER PLAN:



Notice how the first ideas are very short (1 measure) and then get longer and longer until the last idea (“e”) is 8 times longer than the first one. Make this change exciting by adding dynamics. Make the final cadence (ms 23-24) sound very grand by playing firmly and a little slower. (Page 7 shows the Letter Plan.)

FOOTLOOSE AND FANCY FREE (*Secondo*)

Music by Jon George

In the secondo staff, all downward stems indicate the left hand; all upward stems indicate the right hand.

With joy in your heart! ♩ = 168