WHY LEARN JAZZ PIANO?
   A. Be able to open any fake book or sheet music with chord symbols and play a tune.
   B. Accompany yourself or another on any type of tune (ballad, swing, Latin)
   C. Understand chord changes better: check lead sheets for accuracy, reharmonize tunes, write intros and endings.
   D. Use the piano as a tool to compose tunes.
   E. Use the piano to practice vocal improvisation.
   F. Get a solo piano/vocal gig.
   G. Become a better-educated singer, instrumentalist or teacher of jazz, with a thorough understanding of the music and the confidence that goes along with it.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN
   A. Music fundamentals
      Know music basics such as key and meter signatures, understanding and counting basic rhythms, intervals, triads, major and minor triads, and so on.
   B. Piano chops
      There’s not much you can do until you have basic facility at the piano. Be able to play all major and minor scales (with at least one hand) up and down one octave, minimum. Be able to play major and minor triads in all keys and use the damper pedal effectively.
   C. Commitment and practice
      Making a commitment to do something and then following thru on it is very empowering! Write down your commitment to practice jazz piano, tell it to others, and schedule in specific practice times.

MONTH ONE: Jazz Piano 101
   A. Chord types (Play each in all keys)
B. Quick Fix Voicing

C. ETUDE: (Quick fix voicings with inversions for better voice leading)

MONTH TWO: Position #1 (P1)

A. Voicing P1 (Play each in all keys)

B. Pattern P1 (Play each in all keys)
(Practice them down whole steps – key of F, key of Eb, key of Db, and so on:)

C. ETUDE: (P1)

“Emily”

MONTH THREE: Position #2 (P2)

A. Voicing P2 (Play each in all keys)

B. Pattern P2 (Play each in all keys, down whole steps as with Pattern P1)
C. ETUDE: (P2)

“You’d Be so Nice to Come Home to”

Words and Music by COLE PORTER

Key of F Minor

Key of Db Major

Key of F Minor

MONTH FOUR: Connecting the Dots

A. ETUDE: (Combined Voicing and Patterns P1 and P2)

“Emily”

Music by JOHNNY MANDEL

Words by JOHNNY MERCER

Key of F Minor

Key of C Minor

Key of F Minor

B. ETUDE: (P1 and P2 with broken chords and passing notes)

“All the Things You Are”

Etc...
MONTH FIVE: Swing Feel

A. Construction of a bass line

B. Right hand comping patterns

C. Put the two hands together

MONTH SIX: Bossa Nova

A. Short exercises
ABOVE AND BEYOND

A. Patterns P1, P2, P3 and P4 with color notes

B. Open voicings

C. ETUDE: (Open voicings with broken chords and passing notes)

---

• ALL MUSICAL EXAMPLES USED TAKEN FROM "JAZZ PIANO HANDBOOK" (ALFRED PUBLISHING) AND USED WITH PERMISSION •