

PianoExpress is an Australian-developed system for learning to play the piano that has been created exclusively for the older beginner. With its remarkable accelerated approach you'll learn to play in less than half the time it normally takes to learn while experiencing breakthrough results at every stage. PianoExpress students can achieve from complete beginner to intermediate level within one and a half years. With this system, you'll be glad you started as an adult!

The StartUp Course

To get you up and running, PianoExpress offers a special 10-week StartUp Course available to both beginners and those who can already play. Students attend a one-hour weekly lesson over 10 weeks.

Complete beginners

From the first lesson of the StartUp Course you'll be playing hands together and will be taught to read music and interpret musically. There is no frustrating backtracking later on to learn these skills and, with our streamlined approach, most students find they can sail through. On average, students learn to play 18 pieces in popular, classical and jazz styles.

If you can already play

If you can already play, we'll start you from where you're at now with a course designed to get you back into the swing. Don't worry if you've forgotten a few things or a lot – we'll help fill in the gaps as you go along. Also, if you've never played popular or jazz before, then you're going to really enjoy the creativity that these styles offer.

Lesson Structure

For superior results, rapid achievement and to help guarantee your success, PianoExpress is taught on a private lesson basis. You will be given a one-hour individual lesson each week. The full course allows for regular breaks and accommodates holiday absences. Lessons follow a relaxed, step-by-step approach and you'll find they become a most enjoyable part of your week.

The Cost

Please contact either the Surry Hills studio or a private teacher to find out the cost of the StartUp course as fees may vary between regions. Course payment is in advance and can be made by direct credit, cheque or cash. Please note that we don't take credit cards. Gift Certificates are also available.

What Happens After the StartUp Course?

Following the StartUp Course there is a continuation program. Subject to regular attendance, the whole PianoExpress course can be comfortably achieved within one and a half years.

Your Lesson Time is Important

The PianoExpress system was designed for adults to succeed in a short period of time, so please consider carefully when choosing a lesson time. If the course lesson structure is impaired in anyway, this can take considerable impetus from the flow and continuity of the system.

If you have to miss a lesson or reschedule, please understand that this causes inconvenience. Find a way to commit to your lesson each week, regardless, and allow yourself plenty of time to get to your lesson comfortably. Let people know that you have a scheduled appointment and that this is important for you so they can work around you. If you have to miss a lesson try to let the teacher know well in advance.

Give yourself the best chance to succeed

- * Over-Scheduling – Before making the decision to take up lessons, you may need to assess your situation, especially if you already attend 2 or 3 other activities during the week. Learning the piano requires earnest commitment. Music is an art form requiring contemplation and playing the piano is a skill requiring regular practise – in other words, you need time.
- * Work commitments - let your employer/colleagues know in advance that you have a 'scheduled appointment' on a particular day to which you are committed.
- * Trips and Travel – if you can, try to plan your trips for outside the course weeks. If unavoidable, please let your teacher know well in advance. Your teacher will be able to give you a few options.
- * Insufficient practise – students may have been too busy to practise and feel they should miss the lesson. A good excuse but not practical! The whole concept of the PianoExpress system is based on continuity. Lessons represent another chance to practise and most students find they leap ahead having had a good 'practise' at the lesson!

How Much Practise is Sufficient?

Allow yourself at least 30 minutes structured practise each weekday – Monday to Friday. Of course, the more you practise the better you'll become. You'll also need to increase your practise time as you proceed through the course. Use the weekends to go over 'old' repertoire or to give yourself more time at the piano when you are not so rushed. Also why not give yourself time just to *experiment* on the piano. Try composing a song or piece – you never know, one day you could have a hit under your hands!

Fingernails

Playing the piano involves playing on your fingertips. To give yourself the best opportunity of developing a good technique and to avoid scratching our studio pianos, please ensure that your fingernails are short for the course.

Do You Have a Piano?

It is most important to have an instrument at home on which to play. If you don't already have a piano, you might like to consider hiring, borrowing or buying an instrument. There are two main types - acoustic piano and digital piano. There is nothing better than the sound of an acoustic instrument and there are major advantages learning on one. However, if you live in an apartment or are limited as to space, a digital piano is a great way to go and are easily movable from one room to another. They should come with pedals and headphones. When purchasing a piano, always check out your local music store first.

Terms of Enrolment

- 1. As successful completion of a PianoExpress course depends on many factors, no guarantee is given that a student will reach proficiency. Even though the course has a step-by-step approach, ample, regular practise and consistent lesson attendance in the express program are the two most important factors in succeeding.**
- 2. Students must complete any PianoExpress course within the timeframe of that course regardless of whether lessons have been missed.**
- 3. No refunds are given for course discontinuance or missed lessons. Missed lessons can be made up within the timeframe of any one course. (Please note: late cancellations don't apply. see 4.)**
- 4. Students are kindly requested to phone the office or teacher more than 24 hours in advance to advise of cancellation. Please do not email. A lesson cancellation without notice or within 24 hours of an appointment time incurs the lesson fee and cannot be made up.**
- 5. If a student cannot attend at their normal weekly time, they should book for another time during that same week to maintain lesson continuity.**

Private Registered Teachers

PianoExpress is taught at our Sydney studio in Surry Hills and also by private teachers who are registered to use and teach the PianoExpress system in their own practices. All registered teachers have advanced qualifications and undergo training. Before contacting and making arrangements with any registered teacher, you are required to read and accept the Terms and Conditions. Booking-in with a teacher means that users agree with the following Terms and Conditions:

Terms and Conditions

1. The Teacher Listing on our website lists private teachers who have acquired registration or licencing to teach the PianoExpress system in their own studios as part of their own practice.
2. Users of our website and/or Enquirers/Students agree to rely exclusively on their own enquiries in relation to the suitability of any teacher with whom they commence tuition and are solely responsible for making their own evaluations and arrangements with any teacher.
3. While Sydney Music Enterprises only accepts teachers who are suitably qualified and provides training and professional development for all registered teachers in the use of our PianoExpress system, Sydney Music Enterprises and Helen Kennedy, our servants and agents will not accept responsibility or liability for any arrangements, complaints, claims, damage, costs or loss made against our system or a registered teacher.
4. The User/Enquirer/Student agrees to indemnify Sydney Music Enterprises and Helen Kennedy, our servants and agents from or against any and all actions, claims, loss, damage, costs (including legal costs), expenses or liability.

***I've dropped two piano teachers in the last six months. Not one offered structure or direction and both seemed to make it up as they went. My PianoExpress lessons are incomparable. Everything I've wanted!
I can certainly say that I'll not be dropping this! J. Wardle, Manager
It's changed my life. T. Morris, Director
I never imagined in such a timeframe, I'd come so far along! L.Emrose, Vis. Effects Design
Like it? I love it! S.Perla, Med. Practitioner***

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