

# BACH Prelude and Fugue No. 1 in C Major (Ave Maria)

(from The Well Tempered Clavier Book 1)

This beautiful Prelude by Bach is a great piece to sightread because it sounds incredibly impressive yet is relatively easy to play once you discover the repetitive pattern.

The secret is that each bar uses a repeat pattern of 5 notes. So once you find the 5 notes you can play the rest of the bar while studying the NEXT bar to find the next 5 notes and so on.

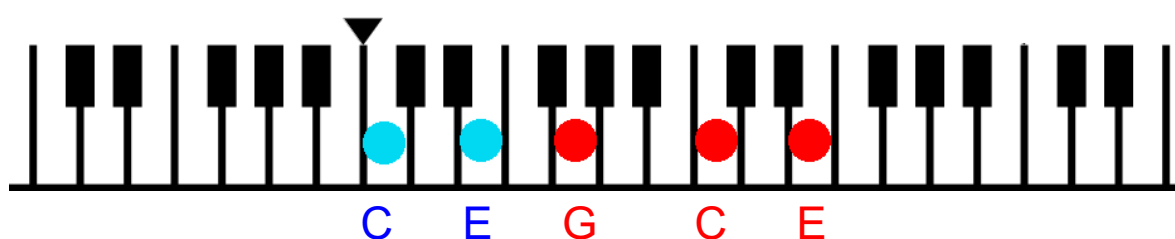
Look at the musical notation for the first bar. Observe the process.

1. The left hand plays the first 2 notes
2. then the right hand plays the next 3 notes and then repeats them
3. Then all the above is repeated for the second half of the bar

C E G C E G C E C E G C E G C E

LEFT HAND This means the note is TIED (held) - (so it isn't played again)

## Bar 1 notes



Now it's time to try the whole piece.

There are two versions - one with the five notes written out and one without. Try to play without the 'safety net' as soon as you can.

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C E G C E C D A D F

B D G D F C E G C E C E A E A

C D F# A D B D G D G B C E G C

A C E G C D A D F# C G B D G B

G Bb E G C# F A D A D F Ab D F B

E G C G C E F A C F D F A C F

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18 G D G B F C E G C E C G B $\flat$  C E

21 F F A C E F $\sharp$  C A C E $\flat$  A $\flat$  F B C D

24 G F G B D G E G C E G D G C F

27 G D G B F G E $\flat$  A C F $\sharp$  G E G C G

30 G D G C F G D G B F C C G B $\flat$  E

33 C C F A C F C A C A F A F D F D C C G B D F D B D B G B D F E D C Bckwds