

Day Four: Hand Position

Tip for Today:

When sight reading, consider where your hand needs to go. In AMEB Preliminary and Grade One sight reading examples, your hand will stay in the same position for the whole piece. It will be in “five-finger” position, where each finger stays on one note. Once you find the lowest and highest notes in the example, you can choose the best place for your hand.

Preparation:



For this piece, which is the highest note? Which is the lowest note?

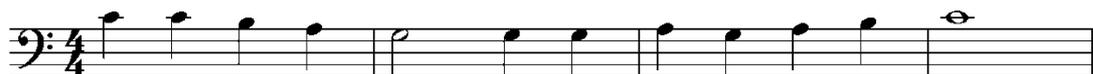
You would put your thumb on G for this piece, and D would be your fifth finger. Think about the five notes that will be under your hand. Without moving your fingers or touching the keyboard, imagine playing the piece.

Let's Try:

Can you play the piece without looking at your fingers?

Preparation:

Here's another example.



For this piece, which is the highest note? Which is the lowest note? Have you noticed that there are only four different notes? You can choose whether to put your thumb on C, or your fifth finger on G.

Let's Try:

Choose which position you want to put your hand in, and play the example.