

Classic Songs 1: "The Rose" (Part 1)

Piano part by Ron Drotos

In this lesson we'll learn the chord progression used in "The Rose", one of the all-time great ballads. We'll start with a basic accompaniment pattern with root-position chords in your right hand and the chord roots, or letter names, in your left. The right hand plays quarter notes while the left holds each note for the duration of the chord. Change the pedal whenever the chord changes. This very simple style of accompaniment is surprisingly effective and versatile. At letter B, we can add a little more rhythm to the bass line. For inspiration, be sure to listen to Bette Midler's recording of the song.

A *Slowly*

Chord progression for system 1: C, G, F, G, C

Chord progression for system 2: C, G, F, G, C

Chord progression for system 3: Em, Am, F, G

Chord progression for system 4: C, G, F, G, C

pedal etc.

B C G F G C

System 1: Measures 1-4. Chords: C, G, F, G, C. Bass line: quarter notes C, E, G, C, E, G, C, E.

C G F G C

System 2: Measures 5-8. Chords: C, G, F, G, C. Bass line: quarter notes C, E, G, C, E, G, C, E.

Em Am F G

System 3: Measures 9-12. Chords: Em, Am, F, G. Bass line: quarter notes C, E, G, C, E, G, C, E.

C G F G C

System 4: Measures 13-16. Chords: C, G, F, G, C. Bass line: quarter notes C, E, G, C, E, G, C, E.