

Contemporary Worship: Lesson 2

A versatile left hand pattern (Beg)

by Ron Drotos

In lesson 1, I gave a grand overview of many ways to play my song "Peace" from a leadsheet, from beginning to advanced. In this lesson, we'll start to break down the elements step-by-step.

The first thing to learn about playing from a "leadsheet" is that you can play whatever styles and patterns you like, as long as they provide the necessary musical accompaniment for the congregation or soloist to sing along with. In this lesson, you'll learn a simple but very versatile left hand pattern that I frequently use myself. This is what you're looking for: ways to play songs that come easily for you (after some practice) so you can quickly apply them to new songs. You'll find that the pattern works well with a wide range of songs, and later on you can embellish the rhythm to create even more excitement and musical variety.

Start by learning to play the left hand pattern through the chord progression alone; then add the melody with your right hand as I show on the video.

Gently "Peace" Music by Ron Drotos

The musical notation is presented in a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody in the right hand consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5 in the first measure; B4, A4, G4, F#4 in the second measure; E4, D4, C4, B3 in the third measure; and A3, G3, F#3, E3 in the fourth measure. The bass line in the left hand consists of quarter notes: G3, A3, B3, C4 in the first measure; B3, A3, G3, F#3 in the second measure; E3, D3, C3, B2 in the third measure; and A2, G2, F#2, E2 in the fourth measure. Chord symbols G, Am, C, and D are placed above the first, second, third, and fourth measures respectively.

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G A m C D

The first system of music consists of four measures. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The first measure has a G chord and a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. The second measure has an A m chord and a melody of quarter notes G4, F#4, E4, D4. The third measure has a C chord and a melody of quarter notes C4, D4, E4, F#4. The fourth measure has a D chord and a melody of a whole note D4. The bass line consists of quarter notes G2, B2, D3, F#3 in each measure.

B m E m E m/D C G/B A m7 D7

The second system of music consists of four measures. The first measure has a B m chord and a melody of quarter notes B3, C4, D4, E4. The second measure has an E m chord and a melody of quarter notes E3, D4, C4, B3. The third measure has an E m/D chord and a melody of quarter notes E3, D4, C4, B3. The fourth measure has a C chord and a melody of quarter notes C4, D4, E4, F#4. The bass line consists of quarter notes G2, B2, D3, F#3 in each measure.

B m E m E m/D C Dsus G

The third system of music consists of four measures. The first measure has a B m chord and a melody of quarter notes B3, C4, D4, E4. The second measure has an E m chord and a melody of quarter notes E3, D4, C4, B3. The third measure has an E m/D chord and a melody of quarter notes E3, D4, C4, B3. The fourth measure has a C chord and a melody of quarter notes C4, D4, E4, F#4. The bass line consists of quarter notes G2, B2, D3, F#3 in each measure.