

“SIGHT-READING SECRETS”

New York-based keyboardist & Composer **David Cook**, who's the unbelievable musical director behind Taylor Swift quotes -
“There's no shame in wanting to get something right, so don't be afraid to speak up if you have questions about the music that's in front of you”

Today's lesson will be on the 'Sight-Reading Secrets'

The advantage of being able to Sight-Read is;

- It's very rewarding if you quickly want to play an arrangement with other musicians
- You can play a piece if you even haven't heard it
- One of the major advantages of sight reading, is understand the value of each note and being able to identify it on any musician instrument
- Lastly, you hardly forget a piece after you've been playing it for a few times because you start to remember the notes.

The one disadvantage there is, that is there is so many good players out there that can't bloody hell, sight-read but can play amazing well.

Personally for myself, sight-read helps me understand different variations and also learn from other talented, famous pianists out there, that have transcribe there top quality work.

Lets identify ways to 'Sight-Read' ...

1. Check out the key signature & time signature. Quickly scan the chart if there are any accidentals or key changes or even tempo changes throughout the chart and also musical terms, expressive dynamics where they occur.
2. **LOOK FOR STUMBLING BLOCKS.** There will be, new rhythmic notes that aren't that familiar, to you. Keep your eye on that target and try it out. *Figure 1.1*

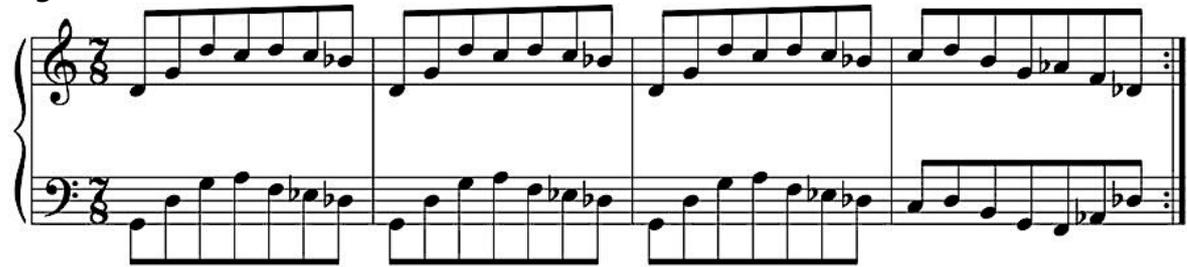


The image displays two staves of musical notation, likely for piano. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in 4/4 time. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with various accidentals (flats and naturals) and rests. The notation is presented in a clean, black-and-white format, typical of a music manuscript.

Most tunes that come to my attention have the best piano introductions, which any money, after the release date of the single,

all these people want to learn the piano introduction LOL! but part sight-reading you want to be able to play the part authoritatively. *Figure 2.1* Demonstrates this point, on an intro that's just piano alone. Play it in a strong manner to set a tone for the rest of the bane when they enter.

Figure 2.1



3. DO YOUR HOMEWORK.

Figure 3.1

Musical score for Figure 3.1, a complex piano piece in 3/4 time. The score is written for piano and consists of three systems of two staves each: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody in the treble clef is a series of chords, starting on C4 and moving up stepwise to G4, then down stepwise to C4. The bass line in the bass clef is a series of eighth notes, starting on G2 and moving up stepwise to D3, then down stepwise to G2. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. A chord symbol 'Eb/F' is written above the final measure of the bass line.

As I am preparing this, this figure looks hard. Just by looking at that complicated left hand bass, rhythm with all those 16th notes. But with an example like this, I'm sure; it's a mighty work that a composer will send ahead of time. Always try making the effort to go over it. *Figure 3.1* it something that you want to tackle under your fingers, before performing.

ASKQUESTIONS.

It's always possible to figure things out, such as;

- Unison lines
- Solo sections
- Complicated passages

David Cook quotes- try and be vocal about the small things.

- Sometimes, having a quick descriptions on your notes help untangle the mess that's inform of you.
- You as the musician, performing it, helps the composer understand the excerpt they created, because you never, know how busy there schedules maybe.

Overall, figuring out the small part is the start of understands how you ask questions.

WHATAREYOUWAITINGFOR. GO!

ALWAYS REMEMBER WHERE LEARNING! And were making music, it's fun and enjoyable, it's must feel GOOD! When you're at it, feeling confident about the music, always quickly scan over the tricky sections, breathe then dig yourself into the music. When you feel like you are READING! Understand, that's our focus next time!

EXPLAIN.

How mastering sight-reading has helped your technical piece for IM. Go over the points discussed.

BIGTHANKYOU.

To keyboardmag: Sight & DAVID COOK !