



# Weekly Practice Schedule

*Fill out once (use pencil!).*

and leave in your binder for your reference.

Adjust as needed as your schedule changes during the year.

**Why Schedule Practices?** One of the best ways to progress in piano is to use a Weekly Practice Schedule. When you think of it, most activities have scheduled times for practice: sports, dance, bands, orchestras (etc.). Whether it's baseball, basketball, soccer, ice skating, dancing, a rock band, jazz band, or a symphony, all these things use these scheduled times to get better and better over time. It just doesn't happen magically or overnight. Success comes with time and effort.

Some people say, "I just practice when I get the chance." Well, at the week's end, many times it's all crammed in on the last days of practice time, if at all. While not having a written out schedule works for very few people, the majority of us need to be realistic and set times that our whole families are happy with for practicing.

**Why Write Days and Times Down?** At the beginning of lessons for the year, you and your family need to sit down and agree on days and times for practicing. This is so other family members won't bother you during your practice time, and you can have quiet, uninterrupted playing so you can concentrate.

When you signed up for lessons, you also agreed to practice five (5) 30 minute sessions (or if junior high or high school five (5) 40-45 minute sessions). Writing down your times helps you keep your part of your commitment to yourself to be a good piano player.

## Recommended Times:

- **Before School** (a creative time, well rested);
- **After School** (a break from school); and
- **Before Dinner** (after some homework/activities are accomplished). Older students/adults find success with
- **After dinner** or 8:30-9:15 p.m. times. Talk to your teacher and your family.

**No Nagging Allowed.** Your teacher specifically instructs parents not to nag students. What they will do is **remind** you when to play according to your weekly practice schedule. After reminding you of your practice time, they are not supposed to tell you more than once or twice. After that, it's up to you.

**Keeping The Teacher Informed.** What parents are also instructed to do is to keep the teacher informed, either by email, a phone call, coming into the lesson, or a note when practice has not been up to the normal times. You being honest with your teacher about practice times is very important because it helps them help you more for your lessons.

**A Guideline, Not a Law.** We all know there are weeks where it is just too crazy to get normal times in. This is perfectly acceptable. Any vacations, holidays, or weekends away from home, or family emergencies can suspend practicing. Basically, just do your best.

### Instructions:

Choose a practice time for every day of the week (all 7). Each week choose five of the seven times according to how busy those days are. For example, if you know you are going away on the weekend, then get it all in during the week. If there is more homework a certain week, play more on the weekend.

**Write EXACT times. (Starting and ending times.)**

Hang up this sheet in many places: refrigerator, your room, on the piano, in your binder. Ask your teacher to make copies.

|           | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| Morning   |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |
| Afternoon |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |
| Evening   |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |

**Student's Signature:**

**Parent's Signature:**

**Date:**

**ALSO: Type up your schedule on a computer including your other activities and hang in your room or put in your planner.**