



# Let's Learn About Joplin!

a practice packet for  
early intermediate piano students

This week you will be learning about famous composer Scott Joplin. Visit the "Classics for Kids" website at [www.classicsforkids.com/composers](http://www.classicsforkids.com/composers), click on Composers A-Z, then select "Scott Joplin." Read the short article, then answer the following questions:

1. Between what years did Joplin live? \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

2. In what country did Joplin live? \_\_\_\_\_

3. In what period of history did Joplin write? Circle one:

Baroque

Classical

Romantic

Modern

4. What was the name of Joplin's opera? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write down one interesting fact you learned about Joplin.

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## Listening Activity

### *Maple Leaf Rag*

Let's listen to one of Joplin's most famous pieces, the *Maple Leaf Rag*. You will find many recordings of this piece on YouTube.

As you listen, answer the following questions:

1. What instrument is used in this piece? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is this piece fast or slow? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Overall, is this piece more legato or staccato?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the mood of this piece? How does it make you feel?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## ***The Entertainer*** **Theory Worksheet**

Now it is your turn to learn an arrangement of a piece by Joplin! You will be practicing another of his famous ragtime pieces, *The Entertainer*.

**Complete the following theory tasks as you practice the piece this week:**

1. Circle and identify the time signature and key signature of this piece.
2. This piece contains each of the primary chords: I, IV, and V7. Find and label each of these chords in the music. (Hint: these chords are broken!)
3. Write in the counts for the right hand for the first two lines of this piece.
4. Tap the rhythm for both hands for line 2 of this piece (m. 5-7).
5. Circle the repeat signs in this piece.

# The Entertainer

Not too fast

Scott Joplin  
Arr. Chrissy Ricker

4  
*f*  
4  
4  
2 1 1 2  
5

5  
*mp*  
1 5 1 2  
5 3 1 2

8  
1 1 2  
4

11

2 1 1 1

1 5 5

14

1 1

17

*cresc.*

1

20

1. 1 2.

*f* *f*

5 1