
CPP LEVEL 3 BOOK LIST

Here are the recommended books for the course. Some companies have made the transition to digital better than others, and some are easier to get a hold of than others. I'll specify these below, as well as provide details on how and where to purchase these.

Question: Why do I need to purchase books? Why don't you provide all the music in the course for free?

A lot of the course pieces are available for free to download (the older copyright-free ones), but there are many excellent collections and books that span beyond what I'm able to share myself. I also believe strongly in supporting composers and artists, and generally oppose copyright infringement. Finally, with the amount of time and energy you are investing into piano (least of which includes the investment in your instrument), books should be considered a necessary, non-optional expense.

That said, due to the proliferation of options in the CPP-3 level, you could get away with making little to no book purchases. Almost all the mandatory pieces are copyright-free. You also might have books from previous classes in your collection already (such as books by Kabalevsky or Donkin), which you will be able to utilize in this class. On the other hand, music collectors might enjoy selecting a handful of new and interesting piano books; please choose your own adventure in this.

Since this course runs for two semesters (about 8 months), these books are a one-time purchase used over a large timespan. Many of them can be used for multiple years. I'll specify where this is the case.

What books should I purchase?

The bare minimum would be to purchase 2-3 books: Piano Adventures 4 Lesson Book (optional but recommended), Kabalevsky's op. 39 (which you might have from CPP-1 or CPP-2), and another selection of your choice. (see details below). Though the Piano Adventures 4 book is a method book, and targeted for youth, I like the background structure of learning these pieces alongside our other material, and the pieces themselves are appealing. However, this is optional and only recommended for those who crave more variety and have extra practice time.

It is up to you if you'd like to purchase books of copyright-free music. I recommend getting Clementi's op. 36 sonatina book, since we will be learning all three movements of op. 36 no. 1 (in my book, this totals seven pages of music). However, this is entirely optional and preference-based: you can still work on the sonatina without a book. Just make sure you have access to a good printer, or a good tablet.

Please also refer to the "Grade 3 Syllabus Pieces" document to help you decide what books you'd like to get. I recommend a lot of listening to decide on your piece selections for the class ahead of time.

Book used near-weekly in the course:

- Piano Adventures 4 lesson book
 - [Digital and print version](#)
 - *Using this book is an optional adjunct to the course.*

Books re-used for Level 3:

These are books you probably have already if you participated in CPP-1/2. We will use these books more in CPP-3.

- Kabalevsky's op. 39 and op. 89
 - [Print version](#), bundled
 - *These collections have over a dozen RCM selections from Prep A to Grade 5. Strongly recommend.*
 - Grade 3 selection: Clowns (op. 39 no. 20): *this piece is mandatory.*
- Legends & Lore – Christine Donkins (PDF or print)
 - [Legends & Lore \(elementary piano\) – Christine Donkin](#)
 - Grade 3 selection: Witches and Wizards (etude): *optional piece.*

Optional books for Level 3:

Depending on what pieces you select to learn for semesters 1-2, you might need to pick up some piano books. None of these are required; selections are based purely on your preference.

- Kabalevsky's op. 27
 - [Print version](#) (Amazon)
 - *11 pieces in the RCM syllabus ranging from Grade 2-6. We will use this one in upcoming grades.*
- The Piano Pieces for Children: Nakada.
 - [Print version.](#)
 - *Song of Twilight* is an ABRSM and RCM selection. *A Green Caterpillar and a Butterfly* is another RCM selection. Pieces in this collection range from level 2-8.
- For Children, 1 and 2: Bartok.
 - [Print version.](#)
 - *Andante (no. 2)* is an ABRSM selection.
 - 34 pieces from these collections appear in the RCM syllabus, ranging from levels 2-8.
- Connections 3: Norton.
 - [Print version](#) and digital [Superscore version](#).
 - 2 RCM selections. Note that the entire collection is around a grade 3 level.
- L'Enfant Aime (A Child Loves): Milhaud (Hal Leonard).
 - [Print version.](#)

- 1 selection for grade 3 (flowers), and 1 selection for grade 4 (candy).
- In My Dreams: Crosby (FHM).
 - [Digital version.](#)
 - 3 optional pieces for this course.
 - 6 RCM selections between grades 1-4.
- A Chinese Festival, Volume 1: Huang (Alfred).
 - [Print and digital version.](#)
 - Includes RCM grade 3, 5, and 7 selections.
- More Little Peppers: Milne (Faber).
 - [Print version.](#)
 - 1 RCM selection: *Violets are Blue*.
- Pepperbox Jazz, Book 1: Milne (Faber).
 - [Print version.](#)
 - 1 RCM selection: *Gone too Soon*.
- The Twelve Chinese Zodiac Animals, Book 1: Ho.
 - [Print version](#) and [digital version.](#)
 - 7 RCM selections from grades 2-6.
- Left Alone – Right On!: Grill (Alfred).
 - [Print and digital version.](#)
 - An RCM 3 and 4 selection.
- Watercolor Miniatures: Klose (Hal Leonard).
 - [Print and digital version.](#)
 - 1 RCM selection: *Dreaming in Watercolors*.
- Especially in Romantic Style, Book 1: Alexander (Alfred).
 - [Print and digital version.](#)
 - 2 RCM selections, grade 1 and 3.
- Attention Grabbers, Book Three: Hidy (Piano Town).
 - [Print version.](#)
 - 1 RCM selection: *Flyover*.
- Romantic Sketches 2: Mier (Alfred).
 - [Print and digital version.](#)
 - 1 RCM selection: *Interlude*.
- The Galaxy Series, 2: Telfer (Debra Wanless).
 - [Print version.](#)
 - 4 RCM selections (3 are RCM 3; 1 is RCM 4).
- A Day in the Forest (George).
 - [Print version.](#)
 - 1 RCM selection: *Rain...and the Rainbow*.

ABRSM collections:

If you are interested in ABRSM exams, these specific collections might be of interest to you:

- Rainbow: Piano Solo: Harris (Boosey & Hawkes).
 - [Print version](#) (B&H) and [another retailer](#) (ABRSM)
 - *Indigo* is in the ABRSM 3 syllabus (List B).
- In Southern Seas: Carroll (Forsyth).
 - [Print version](#) and free [digital version](#).
 - *Spraymist* is in the ABRSM 3 syllabus (List B).
- The Piano Pieces for Children: Nakada.
 - [Print version](#).
 - *Song of Twilight* is an ABRSM and RCM selection.
- For Children, 2: Bartok.
 - [Print version](#).
 - *Andante (no. 2)* is an ABRSM selection, and there are many more RCM selections.

Collections I share with you:

No need to purchase the following books, as I'll share these pieces with you. They are simply listed for completion's sake.

- Sonatinas, op. 36 – Clementi ([print version](#) and free [digital version](#))
 - All six sonatinas are in the RCM syllabus (Grade 3-8). The first sonatina is a mandatory selection in this class. A standard.
- Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach – Bach ([print version](#) and free [digital version](#))
 - Multiple selections from Grade 1-6. A standard.
- Album for the Young, op. 68 - Schumann ([print version](#) and [digital version](#))
 - 16 selections in the RCM up to level 8. A standard.
- Album pour enfants, op. 39 - Tchaikovsky ([print version](#) and free [digital version](#))
 - 10 selections in the RCM up to level 7. A standard.
- Children's Book, op. 98 – Grechaninov ([print version](#) and free [digital version](#))
 - 5 pieces in the RCM from grades 1-3.
- 25 Progressive Etudes, op. 100 – Burgmuller ([print version](#) and free [digital version](#))
 - An RCM 3, 4 and 5 selection. A standard.

Sight reading collections

Throughout the course, I share daily sight-reading excerpts from a variety of sources. If you're curious about the collections I use, I've listed them below. Many of these collections are quite complex and can be used for

years. No need to purchase these unless you're a book collector – every sight-reading assignment in the course is freely shared.

- Beyer: op. 101
- Kunz: 100 canons
- Bartok: Mikrokosmos 1
- Bartok: First Term at the Piano
- Turk: op. 30
- Carroll: Scenes at a Farm
- Czerny: op. 261
- Czerny: op. 823
- Czerny: 100 Recreations
- Berens: op. 70
- Mozart, L: Notebook for Nannerl

Note: For full disclosure, I receive a small commission on any orders placed on Sheet Music Plus.