

Piano Duet: Ready, Count, Play

A duet here means two people playing together. Each player uses one hand. Play locally on one keyboard or two.

1 · AGREE ON YOUR SPACE AND ROLES

LOW · left side Player 2 · left hand C3 D3 E3 F3 G3	Middle C = C4 Space between parts No shared keys	HIGH · right side Player 1 · right hand C5 D5 E5 F5 G5
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Ask your teacher to check seating and reach on one keyboard. Two local keyboards also work. Choose a leader: _____. Watch each other before starting. No pedal.

2 · PLAY THE ORIGINAL EIGHT-BAR DUET

Count-in: the leader says “1, 2, 3, 4” at a steady quarter-note pulse (model: 60 BPM). These counts come **before bar 1**. Player 1 starts; Player 2 counts the whole-bar rest, then enters in bar 2.

Before bar 1: count 1–2–3–4



Player 1

Player 2

Restart here

Hold 3–4; lift together

3 · CUE, RECOVER AND RELEASE

Entrance: agree on a small visible cue on bar 1, beat 4, before Player 2 enters. Keep counting while your partner plays.

Recovery: if you lose your place, stop together. Say “bar 5,” count in again, and both restart there. Learn the sound of bar 5 in the full model.

Ending: in bar 8, play the last note on beat 3, hold through beat 4, then lift together at the next beat boundary. Agree on a visible release cue.

Try it How many beats does Player 2 wait after the count-in? ____

Check: 4 quarter-note beats. Rehearse once: Player 1 starts in bar 1; Player 2 counts four silent beats and joins on bar 2, beat 1. Stop together, count in again at bar 5, and finish with one shared release.

Listen/check: 1 · Full duet; 2 · Player 1 only; 3 · Player 2 only. Practice with the partner’s part while counting your own rests.



Audio · quarter = 60 BPM · four-click count-in

Scan or visit the address below to play or download the three practice tracks.

tissimo.co/worksheets/piano-duet-start-and-stop