

Adagio

Johann Kaspar Mertz
(1806 – 1856)

Measures 1-4 of the piece. The music is in G major and 3/4 time. It begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass line features chords and single notes. Fingering numbers (0, 1, 2, 3, 4) are indicated above the notes.

Measures 5-8 of the piece. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes. The bass line includes chords and single notes. Fingering numbers are shown above the notes.

Measures 9-12 of the piece. Measure 9 includes a triplet of eighth notes and a note marked with an accent (>). Measure 10 has a note marked with an accent (>) and a circled 4 '(or 4)'. Measure 11 has a circled 5 '(5)'. Measure 12 features a triplet of eighth notes and a circled 3 '(3)'. Fingering numbers are indicated throughout.

Measures 13-16 of the piece. Measure 13 has a note marked with an accent (>). Measure 14 has a note marked with an accent (>). Measure 15 has a note marked with an accent (>). Measure 16 has a note marked with an accent (>). Fingering numbers are indicated throughout.

Measures 17-20 of the piece. Measure 17 has a note marked with an accent (>). Measure 18 has a note marked with an accent (>). Measure 19 has a note marked with an accent (>). Measure 20 has a note marked with an accent (>). Fingering numbers are indicated throughout.

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1 0 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 1 3 1 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 5 3 2 0 2

T 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 3 1 0 2 0 2 0 0 0 3 2 0 2
A 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
B 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2

5 0 1 0 0 2 0 4 1 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0 4 0 0 0 2 0 0 3

T 0 1 0 0 3 2 0 3 1 0 2 0 1 0 3 0 0 2 0
A 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
B 0 0 0 0 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

9 3 0 0 1 0 4 0 3 0 0 1 0 3 0 0 1 0 4 2 0 3 2 1 0 3 2

T 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 3 0 7 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 2 0 3 2 1 0
A 2 2 2 0 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
B 2 2 0 0 7 2 2 0 0 2 3 2 0 0 0 2 3 2 0 3 2

13 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 1 3 1 0 2 0 0 0 3 2 0 0 8 7

T 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 3 1 0 2 0 0 0 3 2 0 0 8 7
A 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 0
B 0 0 0 0 0 3 2 0 0 3 2 0 2 0 2 0 0

17

T
A
B

7	2	3	0	8	7	7	2	3	0	12	12	12	12	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0

Musical Tip Sheet

The Big 5:

1. Reduce work with posture and a positive attitude
2. Troubleshoot - Everything should be easy
3. Breathe
4. Trust yourself to play accurately and musically inspired (instead of judging)
5. Always play as a gift to yourself and others

The 7 Steps to Learn Any Piece:

1. Make small sections
2. Know all the notes and musical markings
3. Clap and count the rhythm aloud
4. Play the right hand alone, counting aloud
5. Play the left hand alone, counting aloud
6. Play hands together, pausing when needed (no mistakes!)
7. Play hands together slowly in rhythm, counting aloud

Musical Starting Points:

1. Decide which notes are melody (probably stems up), and play the others quieter
2. Connect all melody notes smoothly (no gaps)
3. When a musical line or melody goes up in pitch, get quieter
4. When a musical line or melody goes down in pitch, get louder
5. Don't let the high notes stand out (any note higher than the ones before and after)

Practice Tips:

1. Before slowing down or speeding up (rubato) master it at a steady pace.
2. For tricky spots, state out loud exactly what the problem is, in every detail.
3. Memorize every piece (even if you don't, you'll learn it faster if you try)
4. Have a purpose behind each repetition (so you don't ingrain bad habits).
5. Video yourself for performance practice, and to hear what is working.

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