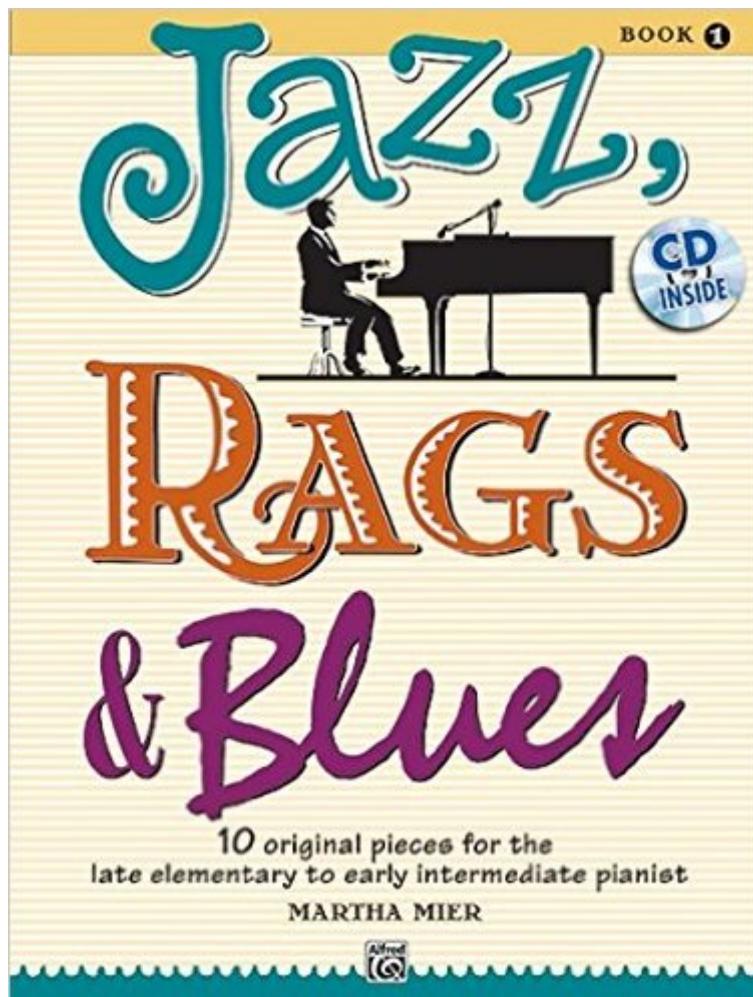


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# Jazz, Rags & Blues, Bk 1: 10 Original Pieces For The Late Elementary To Early Intermediate Pianist, Book & CD



## **Synopsis**

Jazz, Rags & Blues, Books 1 through 5 contain original solos for late elementary to early advanced-level pianists that reflect the various styles of the jazz idiom. An excellent way to introduce your students to this distinctive American contribution to 20th century music. The CD includes dynamic recordings of each song in the book.

## **Book Information**

Series: Jazz, Rags & Blues (Book 1)

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## **Customer Reviews**

Martha Mier has done a great job of composing jazz, rags and blues pieces for us folks that are relative newbies to the piano. I was so impressed with the first volume that I bought Vol. 2 and 3 as well! She has the ability to come up with pieces that sound like something Scott Joplin might have composed for beginners, as well as jazz pieces that sound like you've been playing for far longer (and better) than you have. "Seventh Street Blues" is an outstanding little number that will make you feel like a pro and you don't have to be a Julliard graduate to master it! The easier pieces in Vol. 1 are doable if you're near the end of Alfred's Adult Book 1 and provide some nice relief from the rather simple numbers in that book. If you've managed to get farther ahead in book 2 of Alfred's or what would correspond to that in the Faber series, you'll have a great time with this book. Having the CD also helps a great deal and for what this book costs, it's an absolute bargain! Thanks Martha!!!!

My students love this book and the original compositions that are reminiscent of the golden era of

Jazz and Blues. I surprisingly have many requests to play the songs in these books as I have used them as recital pieces for students in the past. All the pieces have great value in using the method taught in Alfred's Basic Piano Library - which is what I use this series in conjunction with. The only drawback is that most of the material is at a late level 2 to level 3, so the later elementary/early intermediate student is more likely to benefit from what this book has to offer. Students should have mastery of a long-short rhythm, dotted quarter to single eighths, quick paced tempos of 120-130 bpm, articulation and phrasing. I enjoy all the pieces equally, and Martha Mier has done an exceptional job composing these original pieces that sound fresh, and also nostalgic. I've yet to assign a piece to a student who doesn't like it.

Her grasp on various styles of music is wonderful. She can write an easy piece that sounds "authentic" and wows the player as well as the audience. You probably can't go wrong with any of her material.

OK, I'm an old guy trying to learn piano. I heard one of my granddaughters play "7th Street Blues" at her recital and was amazed at how complex the song was at this level of play. I hope I can do it justice.

This book is really good for beginner piano players. The CD that comes with it makes it easy to learn the pieces. I recommend it for anyone that is learning to play the piano and wants to learn to play jazz, rags or blues.

This is a great book with very lively songs. My beginner/intermediate 8 year old student can play one or two of the songs after a few lessons and lots of practice. I would definitely recommend this, but not for beginners or for students who don't like to practice often.

I'm about halfway through this book (playing every piece so far) and I love it! This music is great fun to play and has some good challenges, especially rhythmically. As far as difficulty, I'm working through the second half of Alfred's Adult #2 method book, and I think these pieces are spot on to my level of play.

My dear shweetie got me the whole set (books 1-3) and I couldn't be happier with them. The tunes are composed so that they offer a reasonable sight-reading and performance challenges, but are

not so challenging as to be frustrating. When I complete this set, I will definitely be seeking the next level - well worth the money for you and your budding pianist.

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