

Rate Yourself As A Piano Parent

1. Do you listen to your child(ren) when practicing? Yes—5
No—0

2. How often do you listen to them? Regularly—10 Often—5
Occasionally—3 Seldom—2

3. Do you make positive comments after practice time? (Enjoyment, Pride in effort, Faithfulness, Quality of Practice) Regularly—10
Often—5 Occasionally—3 No—0

4. Do you make positive reminders and/or suggestions re: practice? Yes—5 No—0

5. Have you established a regular time to practice? Yes—5 Yes, working on the *carry-through*—3 No—1

6. Do you ever ask to hear something played just for enjoyment? Yes—5 No—0

7. Do you check the books for messages, practice instructions, etc., and to observe assignments? Yes—5 No—0

8. Can you name (or recognize) any of the pieces s/he has played this week? Two or More—10 One For Sure—5 None At All—0

9. Do you check the Practice Calendar and Parent Notices, and make note of dates, times, etc. of Practice Goals, Classes and other piano related events? Yes, each week—5 Yes, at least once a month—3 No—0

10. Do you provide transportation promptly to and/or from lessons? Yes—5 No—0

11. Do you keep the practice area as uncluttered as possible? Yes—5 No—0

12. Is it well-lighted, warm and well-ventilated? Yes—5 No—0

13. Is the piano near the TV and/or the phone? No—5 Yes—0

14. If it is, does regularly scheduled practice time take priority over turning on the TV (even for Dad and Mom), and over loud telephone conversations? Yes—10 No—0

15. Do you have your piano professionally tuned regularly (once a year)? Or, if your piano is electronic, do you make sure it is in good working order? Yes—15 No—0

16. Do you have the piano professionally repaired whenever necessary? Or, if your piano is electronic, do you have plans to also get an acoustic piano? Yes—15 No—0

17. Do you bring your child(ren) to the scheduled age-group classes? Always—15 Usually—10 Seldom—5

18. Do you commend your child(ren) for playing in Recitals, Adjudications, and/or Performance Classes? Yes—10 No—0

Add your score

Total Points

100 - 140 You're a Gem—Keep it up!
70 - 100 OK, but you could do more.
40 - 70 Shame on you—Get with it!
8 - 40 THINK about it!!

**FACTORS and ATTITUDES of SUCCESS in MUSIC LESSONS:
(The Home Support that is available)**

Name(s) of Student(s) _____

Age(s) of Student(s) _____

Circle all of the Letters that you feel apply to your child. If it is different for your other child, mark it on the side. (PLEASE GIVE YOUR COMPLETED TWO PAGES TO THE TEACHER.)

1. A. My child generally accepts responsibility for his/her practice.

B. My child needs to be reminded to practice, but generally does not make a fuss when reminded.

C. My child has a very negative attitude toward practicing.

2. A. I feel that regular practice (5-6 days weekly, a specified amount of time) is essential, and that this routine is broken only under extreme circumstances.

B. While practice is important, there may be occasional times when my child is unable to practice as regularly or as much as is ideal because of varying other activities and commitments.

C. My child is very involved in sports or other activities so that many times during the year the practice is quite limited.

D. My child finds schoolwork very demanding and as a result does not always have time to practice very much.

E. We do not feel that regular practice is necessary for our child's piano lesson experience.

3. A. My child can practice anytime s/he wishes in a location of the house that is free from disturbance of TV, stereo, family members, etc.

B. My child must schedule his practice in order to practice undisturbed, but most days this can be done without too much difficulty.

C. The family situation makes it difficult for my child to find undisturbed practice time.

4. A. I feel the amount of time my child practices (the written goal) is adequate for his age and level of advancement and for what he and we feel s/he should be accomplishing.

B. I would like my child to practice more. Please encourage this in lessons and know that you have our support at home.

C. We are seriously concerned that our child's (actual) practice is not nearly enough and feel that the teacher, parents and child should work out a solution to the problem.

D. I feel that my child has reasonably good work habits and uses his practice time well.

E. My child's practice is sloppy and is not directed toward doing things well.

F. My child would benefit from more specific or detailed written assignments.

5. A. My child enjoys playing the piano for friends and/or relatives.

B. My child is very reluctant to play for friends and/or relatives.

C. My child enjoys sitting down to play the piano apart from practicing assignments:

1. Old favorites from lessons.

2. Pop, folk or church songs.

3. Improvising and just "messing around."

4. Rote songs (such as Chopsticks, etc.).

D. My child rarely plays the piano "just for fun."

E. My child has occasion to accompany at school or at church, or to play for special talent days or programs.

6. I feel that the following help to motivate my child to practice:

- A. Enjoying playing the piano.**
- B. Pieces s/he especially enjoys.**
- C. Performance goals such as classes, recitals, adjudications, competitions.**
- D. Earning points.**
- E. Achieve specific or general goals such as “finish a piece,” complete a book, advance to harder music, other (?).**
- F. Being able to play new or old pieces easily and quickly.**
- G. Having to work very hard to learn a new piece.**
- H. Teacher expectations and attitude (Praise? Scolding?)**
- I. Parent expectations and attitudes.**
- J. Keeping a practice record.**
- K. Having a parent sit with or listen to him/her practice.**
- L. Not being too busy with extra activities.**
- M. Specific practice steps written down on assignment page.**
- N. Competition with peers.**
- O. My child likes to do well in most tasks s/he undertakes.**
- P. My child is usually self-motivated in accepting responsibility.**
- Q. Other?**

7. What would you suggest for your teacher to do to help contribute to a more satisfactory experience?

**8. Our piano: Make _____
Electric, Spinnet, Console, Studio Upright, Old Upright, Grand.**

9. We own a metronome which is in good working order. Yes No

10. My child plays the following instrument(s) (or voice) in addition to piano.

11. My child is in the following sports or regularly scheduled activities.

12. Please add anything that you feel would be helpful to communicate regarding your child’s music education. You may also wish to call to confer, after teaching hours (after 7:00 pm).
