

Just As I Am

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The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of three systems of piano accompaniment. Each system includes a treble clef staff with a melodic line and a bass clef staff with a harmonic line. Chords are indicated by letters above the treble staff and chord diagrams below the bass staff. The first system (measures 1-3) features chords: C, Dm, Em, Em, G, F Em, Dm, Em, F. The second system (measures 4-6) features: Em, G, G, Dm, Em, F, Am, Am, G. The third system (measures 7-9) features: Em, C Dm, Em, Em, G, F Em, Am, Am. Chord diagrams are provided for the bass staff in each measure, showing the fingerings for the chords. The score is in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb).

2
12

3/4 Time Left Hand Pattern

C B dim A m G G G F E m D m

F Maj7 D m7 C Maj7 C 6 E m7 C 6 D m7

16 G E m

G7 C Maj7

Erroll Garner knew thousands of piano tricks which allowed him to improvise on jazz themes without thinking. It just happens. And the way it just happens without you trying to think real hard what to do is to understand parallelism. In parallelism the right hand just keeps the same FORM. In this exercise we are keeping the right hand in just ONE position. It is the root position of the chord. Now, the difference here is that the melody note of the song is at the top of the chord AND at the bottom of the chord. Just focus on playing an octave melody and then just fill in with your other two fingers to give yourself a 4 note chord. Keep this parallel pattern and 99 percent of the time it will blend perfectly with your left handed extended chord which you put together by following some basic rules of chord substitution which you see below in the next paragraph.

Basic Rule For Chord Substitution: The ONE chord can be substituted with ONE 6th, ONE Maj 7, THREE Minor, THREE Minor 7th, SIX Minor, SIX Minor 7th.

The FOUR chord can be substituted with the TWO minor 7th, SIX minor 7th

The FIVE chord can be substituted with the FIVE Dominant 7th, SEVEN Diminished seventh, and the TWO Minor 7th.