

# Pianoforall Review: What's The Hype?

If you're in the market for an online piano method, you've likely come across Pianoforall.

With over 250,000 students, Pianoforall is a popular online piano course that uses a chord-based, "play first, ask questions later" approach that gets you sounding like a pro right away.

Creator Robin Hall says that his e-book course will teach you to "play piano by ear, improvise, create compositions, and then eventually read piano sheet music," with each "bite-sized" lesson planned to move you from one skill to the next in a short period of time in a logical way.

According to testimonials, 20-30 minutes of daily practice can be all it takes to start sounding good within a few days.

So, how does [Pianoforall](#) work? Can it live up to its claims? Keep reading – I'll cover everything you need to know to decide whether or not Pianoforall is the course for you.

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

"Piano for all" is quite flexible in terms of what you'll need to use the course, but a piano or keyboard is obviously non-negotiable.

It's much better to get a 61-key keyboard and start practicing than to not have a keyboard at all.

However, I'd still recommend upgrading to an [88-key digital piano](#) with fully weighted keys as soon as possible if you're serious about learning the piano.

Most 61-key keyboards are unweighted or semi-weighted, which means they feel much lighter and very different from an acoustic piano keyboard.

Digital pianos, on the other hand, usually have 88 hammer action keys that try to replicate the feel of an acoustic piano as closely as possible, which helps develop proper finger strength and technique.

In terms of tech, you have the option of downloading the e-books onto your Mac, PC, iPhone, iPad, or Android.

If you're using a Windows PC, you'll need to download a free ebook reader called kotobee, which will allow you to watch all the videos and hear the audio clips embedded in the e-books.

For an Android device, you'll need the same app, which can be downloaded from Google Play for free.

Finally, if you're using a Mac, iPad, or iPhone, you can simply use the default Books app, which should already be installed on your device.

The Pianoforall website has detailed instructions and links for the downloads, as well as a thorough troubleshooting section for when the set-up isn't going smoothly, so no worries there.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

With your one-time purchase of the course, you'll receive:

Nine e-books plus one bonus book – These comprehensive e-books take you through various styles of piano music with chords, tunes, and exercises, teaching you just enough theory for each lesson. I'll go into detail on each book below.

200 video lessons – Embedded in the e-book itself, these videos reinforce skills with explained keyboard demonstrations by Robin Hall.

He plays the lesson on a lower keyboard while an animated keyboard above shows you which notes he is playing, making it clear which notes you should play, what your hands should look like, and how it should sound.

## THE CURRICULUM

Each e-book covers a different aspect of piano playing and builds on one another so that you are putting the skills you've learned into practice.

Except for Book Nine, which can be used at any time, you should read the books in order.

#### BOOK ONE: PARTY TIME – RHYTHM STYLE PIANO

The first book is an introduction to both the program and the keyboard.

It begins by stating the primary principle of Pianoforall – that it's important to lay a foundation of chords and rhythms before building improv, melody composition, and sight-reading skills beyond that.

It introduces you to the notes on the keyboard and then jumps immediately into playing some basic three-note chords, reminding you that like learning guitar, it's more important to play than to worry about the theory at this early stage.

Book One also introduces musical notation, including rests and basic rhythm.

While most traditional curriculums spend a while on note-naming and rhythm exercises, this section moves quickly. You'll likely need to keep revisiting it to make sense of later exercises.

The rest of the book progresses by teaching you a family of chords and introducing a rhythm associated with popular music, which you can use with the chords to play a song.

All in all, you'll learn ten rhythms and eleven basic chords in Book One.

The chords are taught with the assumption that you will be reading chord symbols in songbooks, like guitar players do. Therefore, it shows you what to play when you encounter seventh chord or slash chord symbols.

By the end of the book, you should be able to play the chords and rhythms of several popular songs while you and/or a friend sing the melody.

You should also be able to play the short and lovely "Amazing Broken Chord Ballad."