



Author: Traditional
 Year: Early 1900s
 Tempo: Lively

When the Saints Go Marching In

Key: C
 Time: 4/4 (1+ = ♩)
 Sections: 5

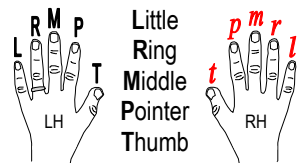


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Allcanplay Notation

Match fingers to keys & play!



Timing Notes

Songs are divided into equal groups of beats called "measures."

Normally, a measure begins on a 1-count which is played with a slightly louder and heavy emphasis known as a "downbeat."

When a song starts on any count other than a "1," it is said to start on an "upbeat," which is played with a lighter touch.

This song starts on a lighter 2-count. The first heavier 1-count occurs on the lyric SAINTS.

This song has 4 beats per measure. But since it begins with only 3 beats (2+ 3+ 4+), the missing beat (1+) occurs at the end of the song.

Sections vs. Measures

This arrangement of Saints would cover 17 measures. But organizing it into 5 lyrical sections with arpeggio arrows and repeat signs makes it more compact and easier to see and play.

| | LYRIC | Timing | CHORD | Section |
|--|-------------------------------|--------|----------------|---------|
| | OH 2+ WHEN 3+ THE 4+ | | C ³ | 1 |
| | SAINTS 1+2+3+4+1+ | | C ⁴ | |
| | GO 2+ MARCH- 3+ -ING 4+ | | C | 2 |
| | IN, 1+2+3+4+1+ | | C | |
| | OH 2+ WHEN 3+ THE 4+ | | C | 3 |
| | SAINTS 3+ GO 4+ | | C | |
| | MARCH- 1+2+ -ING 3+4+ | | C | |
| | IN. 1+2+3+4+1+2+ | | G7 | |
| | LORD 3+ I 4+ | | C | 4 |
| | WANT 1+2+3+ TO 4+ | | C | |
| | BE 1+2+ | | C | |
| | IN 3+ THAT 4+ | | C | |
| | NUM- 1+ -BER 2+3+4+1+2+ | | F | |
| | WHEN 3+ THE 4+ | | C | 5 |
| | SAINTS 1+2+ GO 3+4+ | | C | |
| | MARCH- 1+2 -ING 3+4+ | | G7 | |
| | IN. 1+2+3+4+1+ | | C | |

Five Finger Positions

The beauty of this arrangement is that it's in 5-Finger Position for both the right hand and the left hand.

Once you place your fingers on the correct keys, you'll never have to look at or move your hands!

Simply focus on the songsheet and press down the appropriate finger when you see its letter.



History

"When the Saints" is the unofficial anthem of New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz.

Originally a slow and stately 19th century Christian hymn, it emerged as a folksong with no official author.

In 1938, Louis Armstrong transformed it into a universally recognized jazz-pop classic.

Fats Domino included it in his rock & roll repertory, often for the grand finale with his horn players marching through the audience.

Dolly Parton used it as part of a gospel medley, and it has been recorded by numerous other artists, including Elvis Presley and Bruce Springsteen.

The song inspired the name of the New Orleans Saints NFL football team, which uses the Fats Domino version as its touchdown song.

[Wikipedia-Saints](#)