

Good Performance	Bad Performance
<p><u>Posture</u> - Straight back, - feet on the floor - Curved fingers - Relaxed Wrists - elbows at side</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - slouching - Feet swinging or crossed - Fingers flat or sticking out - Wrists too low, leaning on keys - Elbows sticking out - Moving around on the bench
<p><u>Music</u> - Notes are accurate - Rhythm is accurate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wrong notes - rhythm is wrong
<p><u>Focus</u> - Concentrating - Listening</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Talking, grimacing - Looking around - Stopping
<p><u>Interpretation - Being Musical</u></p> <p>Articulation - staccato, accent, tenuto, slur</p> <p>Dynamics - p, mp, mf, f, pp, ff</p> <p>Change in dynamics - crescendo, diminuendo</p> <p>Tempo - allegro, andante, adagio, presto</p> <p>Change in Tempo - ritardando, accelerando - fermata (pause)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Articulation not clearly defined - Playing everything at one dynamic level - Playing everything too fast or too slow

WHAT MAKES A GOOD PERFORMANCE

Be musical!

- **Communicate** with your audience by setting the **mood** or telling a **story** convincingly
- Play with a **beautiful full tone** by pressing to the bottom of the key
- **Listen** to yourself and the musical sound you are producing
- Play music from **memory**
- **Accuracy!** Play the right notes

Keep the momentum going throughout

- Maintain the same **tempo** for the whole piece
- Keep the **rhythm** very steady and precise
- Never hesitate or stop to correct errors!

Express all the Musical Markings in the Score

- Play a very smooth legato
- Get a nice crisp staccato
- Play accents clearly to give the music lots of character
- Make cresc and dim obvious
- Make a clear difference between all the dynamic levels (f, p, mf, etc)
- Pedal with clarity so tones are clear and not all “mushed” together
- Make all tempo changes (rit, rall) clearly noticeable.

Maintain good posture so you don't distract from the music

- Keep a relaxed hand and arm position
- Sit in one spot on the piano bench
- Keep your feet still in “pedal ready” position

Stay focused and concentrate

- Don't distract from the performance by nodding your head, talking to yourself, looking around, touching your hair, scratching, adjusting your clothes etc.