

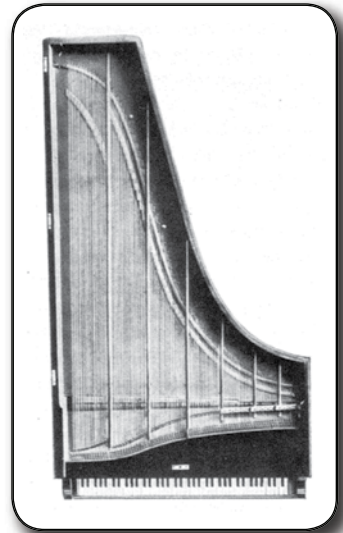
During the Romantic and Modern Eras

The Romantic Era (1790–1910)

The term *Romantic* is used to describe 19th-century art, literary writing, and music. During this time, people became more accepting that feelings and imagination were important in learning and creating.

Pianos Grew Stronger in the Romantic Era

Around 1800, pianos became more popular than harpsichords. But when **Ludwig van Beethoven** (1770–1827) played, “*At the first chords of the solo, half a dozen strings broke*” on the delicate instrument.



*First “iron bar” grand piano, 1823
6 octaves*

- The wooden frame of early pianos would collapse if there were too many strings and they were pulled too tightly.
- In the early 1800s, piano builders began to strengthen the frame by adding metal braces that could support the now 6-octave keyboard.
- By the 1850s, the new all metal frame could support the longer 7¼-octave keyboard and its strings.

*Romantic piano (mid-19th century)
7¼ octaves*



Modern Era (1880–forward)

Around 1900, there were many different styles of music and art. Many artists painted ordinary people in their daily lives—working, boating, and dancing. Musicians became interested in the folk music of different cultures.

Pianos in the Modern Era

The inside construction of 20th-century pianos is about the same as in the late-Romantic era.

- By 1890, 7¼ octaves were standard.
- Concert grand pianos are approximately 9 feet long, and plain, black cases are favored.

*20th-century piano
7¼ octaves*



An Early Musical Instrument

Bagpipes existed more than 2,000 years ago at the time of ancient Greece and Rome.

- Tubes, called **pipes**, are inserted in an airtight bag, originally made from an animal skin.
- There are two kinds of pipes: the **melody pipe** or **chanter**, and the **harmony pipes** or **drones**. Drones usually sound the interval of a fifth, like the left hand of this piece.
- The pipes have a reed attached, creating sound as the air passes through it. (The air in the bag keeps the sound playing while the bagpiper breathes.)
- Bagpipes often accompanied dancing during the Baroque era and were used by people from all levels of society.



The Bagpiper (1624)

Bagpipe

Track 1



Anonymous

Andante

5

1

f

mf

Keyboard Lessons in the 18th Century

During the Classical era, **the more scientific way of looking at life influenced music teaching.** Some teachers wrote detailed, almost scientific, books on how to play keyboard instruments.

- In 1789, the German teacher and composer **Daniel Gottlob Türk** published *School of Keyboard Playing*, which was used by many teachers.
- He wrote titles that would help students understand the mood of the pieces and encourage them to feel and show the emotions of music.



The Music Lesson
by Jean Carolus (1867–1880)

CLASSICAL

Beginnings Are Difficult

Track 2



Daniel Gottlob Türk
(1750–1813)

Allegro

5

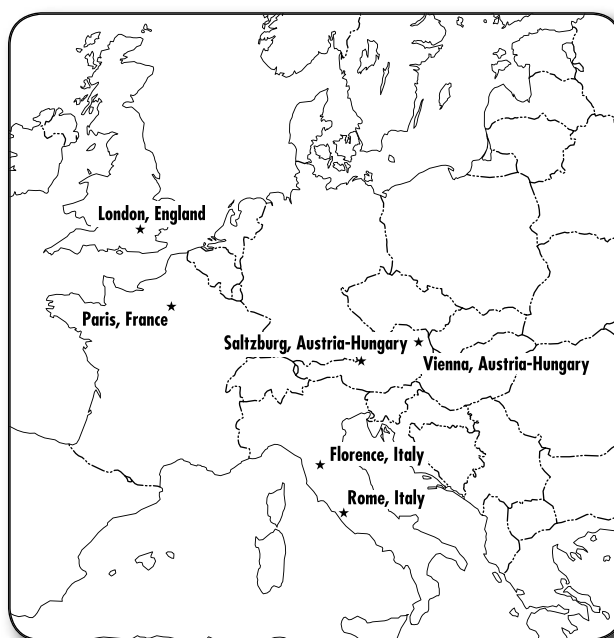
THE MOZART FAMILY

"My little girl [Nannerl] ... only 12 years old is one of the most skillful [keyboard] players in Europe."

—Leopold Mozart

Leopold Mozart was a violinist, conductor, and composer.

- When his daughter Maria Anna (1751–1829), also known as **Nannerl**, was about seven, Leopold compiled the *Notebook for Nannerl*, a book of music to use in her keyboard lessons.
- His son **Wolfgang Amadeus** (1756–1791) was only three but spent hours at the keyboard and was soon playing from Nannerl's notebook, too. By five, Wolfgang was composing minuets, which Leopold added to the notebook.
- In 1761, the entire family traveled from their home in Salzburg to Vienna, Austria, where the children performed for royalty. They soon became famous all over Europe.
- During their concerts, Nannerl and Wolfgang had a trick of playing with the keyboard covered by a cloth so they could not see the keys.



Some of the cities where W. A. Mozart performed as a child

Leopold, Wolfgang, and his sister Nannerl



Wolfgang and Nannerl



Mozart's Keyboard Lessons

Leopold Mozart wrote that Wolfgang learned eight minuets (including this one) when he was four. He learned one in only 30 minutes.

Minuet in F Major

from the *Notebook for Nannerl*

Leopold Mozart
(1719–1787)

Track 16



Andantino grazioso

5 2 1 2 1

mf

3 5 1 2

5 2 3 2 1 2

9 5 *f* *p*

13 5 3 2 1 2

mf

* Pianists with small hands may omit the top C.