

About This Product

Outta Sight Funk and R&B Riffs for Piano/Keyboards is designed to help piano/keyboard players improve their playing technique with a wide range of different Funk & R&B riffs and grooves.

While living in London during my early 20's I had the opportunity of developing my Funk & R&B skills by playing or jamming with musicians of mainly African & Jamaican descent 3 to 4 times a week. We would jam for hours on end including doing gigs to the early hours of the morning. From this experience it is my feeling that it is important to play and learn from other musicians, however, if one is unable to do so then incorporating this product into your practicing routine is the next best thing. ***By using this book your Funk/R&B keyboard playing will definitely improve.***

What is Funk Music

Funk is an Afro American musical style originated by James Brown and later Sly and the Family Stone emphasizing the rhythm and putting melody and harmony in the background. Funk often consists of a complex groove where every instrument is playing a different rhythmic part fitting together like a jigsaw puzzle. Entire songs are written without any or minimal chord changes where one or two riffs form the basis of the song as represented by the examples in this book.

One of the most distinctive features of funk music is the role of the bass line as a foundation with melodic bass lines at the centerpiece of a funk tune. The left hand parts in this book capture both the rhythmic and melodic essence of funk bass while the right hand parts capture the percussive syncopated rhythms of funk music similar to what a guitarist may play..

Funk music uses the same type of extended chords as in jazz, including minor chords with added sevenths, ninths and elevenths, or dominant seventh, ninth, eleventh, and thirteenth chords.

List of my favorite Funk Musicians and Bands that have influenced me.

Average White Band

The Blackbyrds

Brass Construction

B.T. Express

Brothers Johnson

James Brown

Bobby Byrd

Booker T & The MG's

Carleen & The Groovers

George Clinton

Bootsy Collins

The Crusaders

Manu Dibango

Earth Wind & Fire

Fatback Band

Aretha Franklin

Graham Central Station

Herbie Hancock Headhunters
The Isley Brothers
Jamiroquai
Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings
Kool & The Gang
Mandrill
The Meters/The Neville Brothers
MFSB
The Ohio Players
Maceo Parker
Parliament/Funkadelic
Prince
Rose Royce
Rufus
Sly & The Family Stone
The Super Groovers (I could not resist including my band)
Soulive
Tower Of Power
War
Stevie Wonder

Each of the 55 examples has been recorded three times:

1. The left and right hand parts are played through twice with drums & percussion, guitars and keyboards at the regular tempo.
2. Rhythm tracks at the regular tempo of guitar, bass, drums & percussion to practice the keyboard parts along with.
3. Slowed down track of the left & right keyboard parts with the drums so that you can precisely hear what the keyboard parts are playing.

For musicians/students who would like extended 2 minute Play A Long tracks for each of the 55 examples ADG Productions offer downloadable mp3 files or MIDI files for purchase from their web site <http://www.adgproductions.com>.

Computer & Sequencer Users:

MIDI files are available separately and using them with a computer sequencing program or keyboard sequencer offers the following advantages.

Playing the tracks at any tempo.

Transposing into any key.

Looping as many or as few measures as required, (great for practicing difficult measures).

Muting the keyboard parts to play a long with the rhythm tracks.

Ear training exercises, by soloing the left or right hand part, try to pick out the notes and rhythms by ear.

How to practice the examples in this book

My suggestion is to listen to the first track of the example that you are wanting to practice, 5-10 times, so that you have a good idea of the melody and rhythm of the

keyboard parts and how it fits in with the rest of the rhythm section. Once this has been accomplished, go on to track three and start practicing the keyboard parts one hand at a time at the slow tempo with the drum track making sure that you are playing the correct notes and rhythms. It may also be a good idea to clap the rhythm of both the left hand and right hand parts separately very slowly with a metronome or drum machine (around 50 beats per minute) before you even play the keyboard parts as a number of these examples are somewhat complicated rhythmically. Once you have played the keyboard parts at a slow tempo gradually increase the tempo until you get up to speed of the track by which time you should be able to play along with the rhythm section of track 2.

I would hope that once you master the grooves you will then go on and create your own keyboard parts.

You are welcome to contact me at adgordon@adgproductions.com and let me know how you are progressing with the book.

In appreciation of you buying this book, we are offering a free mp3 file of one of the tracks from my band "The Super Groovers" CD. Please send us an email letting us know where you bought this book from and we will email you an mp3 file back to you.

FUNK RIFF 1

CD track 1

Composed & Arranged by
Andrew D. Gordon

♩ = 115

Chord progression: E7, A7

Key signature: three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Time signature: 4/4.

Measure 1: Treble clef has a whole note chord E7. Bass clef has a quarter note G#3, quarter note A3, quarter note B3, quarter note C#4.

Measure 2: Treble clef has a whole note chord A7. Bass clef has a quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G#4.

Chord progression: E7, A7

Measure 3: Treble clef has a whole note chord E7. Bass clef has a quarter note A3, quarter note B3, quarter note C#4, quarter note D4.

Measure 4: Treble clef has a whole note chord A7. Bass clef has a quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G#4, quarter note A4.

CD track 2

FUNK RIFF 2

♩ = 95

Chord progression: F7, Bb7

Key signature: one flat (Bb). Time signature: 4/4.

Measure 1: Treble clef has a whole note chord F7. Bass clef has a quarter note Bb2, quarter note C3, quarter note D3, quarter note Eb3.

Measure 2: Treble clef has a whole note chord Bb7. Bass clef has a quarter note F3, quarter note G3, quarter note Ab3, quarter note Bb3.

Chord progression: F7, Bb7

Measure 3: Treble clef has a whole note chord F7. Bass clef has a quarter note C3, quarter note D3, quarter note Eb3, quarter note F3.

Measure 4: Treble clef has a whole note chord Bb7. Bass clef has a quarter note G3, quarter note Ab3, quarter note Bb3, quarter note C4.