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## When Is Your Child Ready For Piano Lessons? Parent Assessment

*Please fill out this assessment out so you can discuss these factors with your teacher at your appointment.*

There are many factors that contribute to the readiness of a child to begin piano lessons.

With so many studies documenting the benefits of music relative to math, science, literacy, and spatial reasoning, it's not surprising that many parents are eager to provide their child with a jump-start in musical education. However, before you sign up for private lessons, consider the factors that will influence the long-term success of your child's musical instruction.

There's no one-size-fits-all formula when it comes to kids, so when parents try to pin me down about a specific age for starting lessons, I always ask lots of questions. I want to provide parents with food for thought, so they serve the best interests of their child. Unless that child is ready, even the best teacher and unlimited amounts of money will not make him into an accomplished musician.

*Please see the entire article that accompanies this assessment for more detail.*

*Please use this assessment for your child to help us ascertain if your child is ready for piano lessons.*

### Various abilities will help students excel with piano:

1. Ability to **stay on task** for extended time
2. Ability to **work well independently**
3. Ability to **follow directions from a teacher** or other adult
4. Ability to **read**. (So they know what to do when they go home)
5. Ability to **follow written directions** on a page
6. Ability to **listen to others** well
7. **Maturity** for their age
8. Good **attention span** at school, home and otherwise
9. Has **well defined fine motor skills** (using hands, writing, drawing)
10. Being **self-motivated**
11. The **student actually wants to learn** and not being pushed into learning the instrument.

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Assessment:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent filling out form:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate for child 1-10 for the following.  
10 = Agree, 1 = Disagree

1	My child stays on task well.
2	My child is good at following directions from a teacher.
3	My child is good at following directions from their parent.
4	My child can read well.
5	My child is good at following directions on a page of instructions.
6	My child is a good listener.
7	My child works well independently.
8	My child is mature for their age.
9	My child has a good attention span at school.
10	My child has a good attention span at home.
11	My child has well defined fine motor skills (using hands, writing, drawing, etc)
12	My child is a motivated person.
13	My child really wants to learn to play piano.