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# The Piano Guys: Solo Piano With Optional Cello



## Synopsis

(Personality). The Piano Guys started as YouTube sensations with their clever and inspiring takes on popular music and the creative videos that accompany them. Their YouTube Channel is one of the most popular in the world with nearly 2 million subscribers and hundreds of millions of views! Their eclectic mix of classical, film score, rock and pop favorites resonates with audiences across generations and from all walks of life. Their two albums have both topped the Billboard New Age charts. Here are piano solo arrangements of ten favorites as performed by The Piano Guys from both of those albums: All of Me \* Arwen's Vigil \* Begin Again \* Bring Him Home \* Can't Help Falling in Love \* Home \* Just the Way You Are \* Michael Meets Mozart \* A Thousand Years \* Twinkle Lullaby. The six pieces with cello also include a separate pull-out cello part.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The only one of these pieces that really works as a piano solo is "All of Me," and I didn't need that one, since I've been playing it for a couple of decades from Jon Schmidt's earliest piano book. There are a few nice passages in these pieces, but nothing I would perform as a solo--you would really need the cello with you to make it sound complete and to make it sound like the Piano Guys sound on their CDs. I am a long-time Jon Schmidt fan (since the early 90s when he was really just popular in Utah) and a Piano Guys fan, but I would recommend Jon's other books if you are looking for piano solos. His Christmas one is especially fun to play, complicated enough to challenge (but not stump) an advanced, non-professional pianist like me, and has some real gems in it. This book, on the other hand, was considerably easier to play than Jon's other books, and I found it to be

lacking in richness and depth. I sight-read these pieces with minimal effort--there are many pages of single-line right-hand melodies with repetitive octaves in the left hand, and that just doesn't quite do it for me. Bottom line suggestions: buy the Piano Guys CDs for listening; buy Jon Schmidt's other piano books for enjoyable playing and performance-worthy piano solos.

this is a very challenging collection so it's definitely not for your intermediate or beginning player. I don't play the cello so I can't comment on the optional cello parts. However that being said, the arrangements are lovely and will bring that signature Piano Guys sound into your home.

This book is pretty much the sheet music to what you see Jon Schmidt and Steven Sharp Nelson play on The Piano Guys youtube videos. So if you want to see the difficulty or how much cello is involved in each song, just watch the Youtube videos. I would say I am an intermediate to advanced piano player. I can sight read pretty well, and some of these songs take me a while to learn while others I can learn without too much practice, so none are easy, and they are not Rhapsody in Blue either, they range in between. I'm pretty sure the cello doesn't take too much of the melody in any of these songs either, so if you are a solo pianist, I would still recommend this book because the melody is defined in the piano part.

If you love the Piano Guys music you hear on Youtube, you'll love the sheet music arrangements. They stay very true to what you hear the piano guys play. Plus, I particularly found the unique side notes helpful and fun. As far as difficulty level goes, I'm an early-advanced pianist particularly skilled in sight-reading and don't find reading the music difficult at all. However, sometimes particular passages of arpeggios or fast octaves were difficult to execute. The only reason I didn't give this book five stars was the fact that a cellist is needed in order to get the most out of a few songs. Most of the songs can sound really good with just the piano, but a few feel lacking without another instrument to play the cello part. Overall though, I would highly recommend this book if you are an intermediate-advanced to advanced pianist who loves the Piano Guys.

This is an excellent piano book. Not some unskilled pianist and cello book. If you have not been trained to play music, this book is not for you. This is an extremely difficult song book but it also contains extremely beautiful songs.

The songs in this book are fairly easy to learn as a person who has played piano for 9 years. They

are pretty fun to play and I enjoy learning how to play the songs I have heard played by the Piano Guys. However, I do think that I am missing a very important component of the song without the cello part and it sounds a little bit incomplete (i.e. I wouldn't play them as a solo piece for an audience because you can tell there is something missing.) In other words, I don't really think the cello part should be called "optional".

I love the piano guys more than I can say! So why the lower review? This is the perfect book if someone in your house happens to play the piano and someone else happens to play cello. For the solo pianist it doesn't sound much like the song because often in their music the cello has the melody. They are beautiful songs regardless. I just wish it could stand up more on its own.

The sheet music is true to their performances. Be forewarned that the songs they play become somewhat weird and a little crazy and require a bit of interpretation (not for the beginner). The only real downside is that I wish they put down the fingering because there were a few spots that I struggled to figure out the best fingering for.

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