

Step 4 - LH Chords alone

This step we begin to fill in the qualities of the chords with our LH. We play through the chords with our LH just as if someone was playing the melody with us. Initially, we want to keep this simple by playing the chords on all the down beats of every measure. After we have become comfortable with all the chords, then we can begin to add rhythmic figures and spice it up. Most people jump straight to playing intricate two-handed voicings with all sorts of color tones. It's no wonder people fail to memorize tunes. They're barely playing the foundation of the chord. By just playing the chord on the down beats in root position, you are playing the bare essentials of all the harmonies. After we have learned this, we can begin to build up from there. Jumping ahead of this step is a sure way of not reaching your full potential on any piece. As we play the chords, we now start to hear how the melody fits in, (see below).

