



HOW TO USE THIS COURSE

This course is designed for people who already play a musical instrument. You can join us on flute, recorder, violin, viola, guitar, piano (right hand only), or any other instrument that can play a melody. If you play cello or bass and are comfortable using examples that are an octave or two higher than you usually play, or if you play a transposing instrument and are comfortable with examples in concert pitch, this material will work for you, too.

If you already play an instrument, but feel that playing by ear is something you haven't had a chance to do very much, this course is for you.

If you are a beginner, and want to learn how to play a instrument at the same time as you learn to play by ear, you will need private lessons. Most Suzuki trained music teachers will be able to help you to do this.

This is a self-directed online course. You can work at your own pace in the privacy of your own home. There are no deadlines. Your subscription to the course materials will last for as long as you want it to. When you register, we provide a schedule of live online seminars where you can drop in for questions, assistance, feedback, or anything else you may need. Attendance at these seminars is optional, but we do enjoy meeting and helping the people who are working on the course, and we appreciate feedback on the course materials .

We hope you enjoy it!

Thomas & Kathleen Schoen (The Schoen Duo)

HERE IS HOW IT WORKS:

Each lesson is a short video.

Each video presents one melody for you to play by ear.

We will tell you what key we are in, to give you a starting point. The default key for the first set of videos is G major.

- Listen to the video.
- Play along with us.
- We break each melody up into sections. You can play along with just one section and just listen to the other sections to hear how the short part you are playing fits into the whole thing.
- Gradually add the other sections as you feel comfortable playing them.
- Please feel free to back up and repeat the recording as much as you need.
- If the pace seems slow to you, you can skip to the Summary videos and just do those ones, and use the other melody examples in each section only when you need a bit more help.

When you log in to our studio resources site to watch the videos, you will see that each piece has a separate folder. In each folder, along with the video, are audio tracks of the melody. If you don't need us to walk you through the piece again, you can use these audio tracks as a quick reminder for review.

We recommend doing a quick review of previous pieces before starting the next one in the series. This will make the recurring patterns that you hear across several melodies more obvious and easier to recall.

The videos start with melodies that only have three notes.

Each subsequent video introduces either another note, to expand the range of pitches, or a new pattern or combination of patterns.

In this way, we will gradually expand your ability to play by ear from three notes to a full octave. Subsequent video sets will be about playing in minor keys, playing pieces that change key, and playing pieces that are longer and more complex.

You will also receive a schedule of live online seminars, where you can drop in with questions, get help with any problems in a mini-lesson format, and receive feedback on your progress.

To access the video and audio recordings:

1) Register for the Schoen Duo Studio Play by Ear online course here:

<https://schoenduo.mymusicstaff.com/registration/registration-form>

Make sure you select “On-line PLAY BY EAR course” from INSTRUMENT or CLASS list. You do not have to select a specific instrument.

2) You will then receive an email with subscription options, links, and the schedule of live online seminars.

*There will be a number of subscription options starting as low as \$27 CAD per month, as the Schoen Duo Studio offers a sliding scale for tuition payments.

*3) Once your first payment has been received, we will send you a separate email with an invitation to create a log in account on **schoenduo.mymusicstaff.com**

*We are a small music studio and process individual registrations manually. This process may take a few days, especially if we are on tour. Thank you for your patience.