Alfred's Basic Adult Piano Course is designed for the adult beginner who wishes to learn the piano by playing chords quickly. The course has a number of features that make it particularly successful in achieving its goal. It progresses very smoothly, with no gaps that cause the skipping of hard sections. In addition, it teaches chords for both hands. Because of this, the pieces in Alfred's Basic are more musical and make playing a richer, more rewarding experience.

Also taught is the understanding of how chords are formed. Instead of memorizing chords, students learn how to derive them regardless of what key they are playing in. Finally, the choice of song material is outstanding, with some popular and familiar favorites mixed with tuneful originals, all adding to the fun and enjoyment of making music.

The student is encouraged to use the compact disc recording or the General MIDI disk. Playing along with these recordings is not only enjoyable, but is invaluable for reinforcing musical concepts such as rhythm, dynamics and phrasing.