

ever wonder how a keyboard player goes up and down the keys with just one hand? Especially since there are eight white keys and only five fingers? Well, you could try mutation: grow three more fingers...but if you're not willing to wait that long, we'll have to try something else.

Place your hands as though you were going to play, so that you're looking at the backs of them. Now figure your thumb is number one, your index finger is number two and so on till your little pinkey finger is number five. Now, assuming you don't have your arms crossed, starting with your left hand and going left to right, the numbers are 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Well, we're going to get out extra 3 fingers from 3, 2, & 1 (or 1, 2, & 3.) Here's how.

Put your little finger of your left hand on "C" an octave or two below middle "C". (That's left hand pinkey #5) and let the rest of your fingers rest one each on the next white keys on up the board. OK? Now play them one at a time, starting with #5:

5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

Your thumb is now resting on the "G" key. (Check the drawing if you're confused.)

cross your middle

"A") key. As soon

Leave your thumb there as a pivot point, and

finger (#3) **OVER THE TOP** to the next (the

as it hits, pull your thumb out from under.

and thumb

PRESTO! you now have a left over index finger
to play the remaining keys.

To go the other way, just reverse it: start with your thumb on "C", play leftwards (lower) with your index and then middle finger.

When you get to the middle finger, leave it on the keyboard, and swing your thumb **UNDER** your middle finger, to the "G" key. Voila! Enough fingers to keep right on going.

If you think about it, in going down the keyboard, you're doing just the opposite of what you did when going the other way. Swing your middle finger **OVER** your thumb going up and your thumb **UNDER** your middle finger on the way back down.

Naturally, the same applies for your right hand as well. Frankly, here's where you'll simply have to do it over and over again to get it right. Start SLOWLY.

It's much more important to do it evenly paced
out

than it is to do it fast.

And, as a matter of fact, that applies to
everything

we're doing; so...I'll say it again:

IS MUCH

THE PACING, THE BEAT, THE RHYTHM

HITTING THE RIGHT

MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVEN

KEY.

(Think about it some...you're tapping your foot to a great beat, and you catch a wrong note...no big deal...BUT if your tapping along and the BEAT changes...Wow, it's like stumbling down the stairs. So, remember the beat FIRST.)