

# How to Home Play

Home play is another way to say practicing. It does not have to happen every day in order to be effective, three or more times a week is ideal. Home play activities that are in tune with your child's **learning style** and **rhythm** will be most fun and rewarding.

Here are **three simple ways** to make home play work for your busy family.

**What?** Think ahead about your family's regular schedule. Is there something your child does every day or on most days, after which they could play music? From brushing teeth to having an after-school snack, there are tasks in your family schedule that can be clustered with home play. **Why?** If you can tie your keyboard home play to something that's already a habit, it will naturally build itself into your family's routine.

**What?** Set alarms, or make notes on the calendar. Use whatever system your family likes for scheduling. On your device, set recurring alarms at the same time on multiple days per week for piano home play. **Why?** Planning in advance to do home play takes the stress out of deciding whether or not to make music every home play day. Decide in advance so your only job on the day of is to do it!

**What?** Keep your keyboard in a family-centered space. When your child sits at the piano stay nearby. This is key for the first few home play sessions, but you may wish to keep sharing space during home play as quality time. While your child is focused, catch up on reading or work (if your child relies on your support for home play, then of course this separateness can come later). **Why?** You being in the same physical space while doing unrelated things, will help your child to focus. Being together in separate activities is great practice in respecting boundaries and over time can strengthen your trust in each other.

