

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR 'TICO TICO'

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1. Divide the piece into clear sections to help you think ahead

Approach the piece like a map. Identify where the repetitions are and note the exact differences between similar passages (for example b.5, b.37, b. 69) This helps you to avoid subconsciously confusing the parallel passages and to be clear about what to play..



2. Understand the pedal logic

- Pedal changes might seem confusing at first, but they generally follow a logical system. For example, in bars 5 to 8, the pedal switches consistently between C and D on the first beat.
- Make sure to prepare your feet on the pedals at the right time — for instance, in bar 67, place your foot on the F pedal early.
- Identify sections where only specific pedals are used, with no changes to others.



3. Left hand: lightness despite the damping

The left hand has a lot of damping to do, but avoid unnecessary tension. Imagine you're gently slapping the strings—soft but precise—to keep the movement relaxed and efficient.



4. Mark important accents to shape the sound

Not every note carries equal weight. Most accents fall on syncopations, which add a groovy feel to the piece. To discover them, try singing the melody and listen for the natural emphasis.



5. Work on chromatic lines

Pedal slides support the chromatic passages. Play the indicated notes lightly twice, like a pecking chicken. The only true pedal slide occurs in bar 66, where you play the note D once with the third finger.