In the diagram below, the dot shows where to place the fingers between the black keys. The most commonly used fingers for making skips (ascending) are fingers 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5. The most commonly used fingers for making descending jumps are fingers 2-1, 3-1, 4-1. It is not necessary to continue to play between the black keys. After finding the proper key or note, the hand may be moved out and away from the black keys.

The above diagram illustrates skips ascending. For skips descending reverse the procedure. The fingers may remain between the black keys when the music has a succession of skips. Sliding the finger lightly over the black keys can also be a great help for finding the proper white keys.

Memorize the Following

C is the white key before the two black keys
D . . . . . . . . between . . . . . . . . . . . .
E . . . . . . . . . after . . . . . . . . . . . . .
F . . . . . . . . before the three black keys
G and A are white keys between the three black keys.
B is the white key after the three black keys.