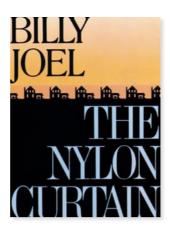
ΦΚΤΑV



Pressure Billy Joel

Level 55/100 (Ambitious)

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PRESSURE

Words and Music by Billy Joel From the album *The Nylon Curtain*, released in 1982.

In "Pressure," Billy Joel writes of a situation we've probably all been in; we feel trapped by an avalanche of pressure coming at us from all sides—work, family, school, and relationships. The metallic synthesizer, chattering frantically in a constant pattern of eighth notes, captures this feeling perfectly.

Figure 13 - Intro/Verse/Chorus

The intro and chorus make prominent use of diminished and diminished 7th chords. Diminished triads and diminished 7th chords have been a standard device used to evoke tension since the days that pianists accompanied silent movies. The verse features another staple of the Billy Joel piano style—rolling octaves in an eighth-note rhythm in the left hand. This propels the music forward, while syncopated 3rds and 6ths in the right hand add rhythmic and harmonic interest.



