**­­­­­­BEGINNING MUSICAL TERMS & DEFINITIONS**

**Personal Progress Tracker**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**As you become familiar with each term and its symbol and name, shade in the boxes next to it according to the following scale:**

1. I don’t know what this is.
2. I can tell the meaning of this.
3. I can write this, draw it, and tell the meaning.
4. I can find examples of this in real music and teach it to a friend.
5. I knew this all last time and I still remember it without being reminded.

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**“A TEMPO”:** return to the original tempo



**Accelerando:** to get faster



**Accent:**  to emphasize a note

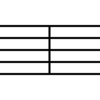


**ARTICULATION:** the style in which you perform the notes



**Audiate**: hearing a pitch in your head.

**barline**: vertical lines that separate measures.



**clef:** helps organize the staff so notes can be easily

read



**Crescendo:** to get louder



**Decrescendo:**   to get softer

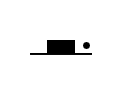


**dot**: adds half the original value to the note



**dotted half note**: 3 beats

**dotted half rest:**  3 beats of silence



**dotted quarter note**: 1.5 beats



**dotted quarter rest:** 1.5 beats of silence



**double bar line:** shows the end of the song or section



**DYNAMICS:** the volume of the music

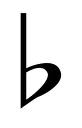
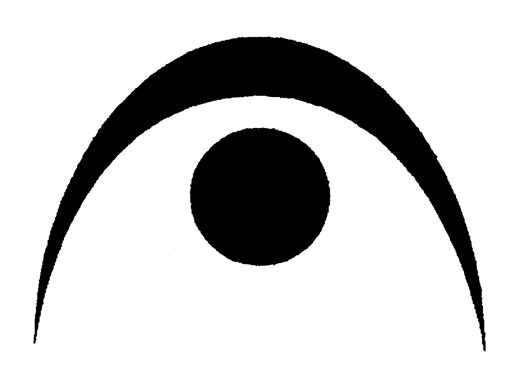
**eighth note**: .5 beats



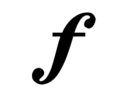
**eighth rest:** .5 beats of silence



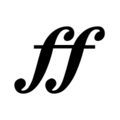
**Fermata:** hold the note and watch the conductor



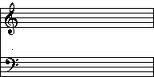
**Flat**: lowers the pitch be one half step



**Forte:** loud

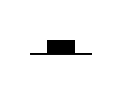


**Fortissimo:** very loud

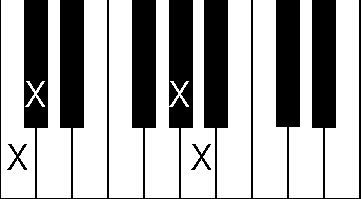


**Grand staff**: bass and treble staff connected by a brace and a line

**half note**: 2 beats



**half rest**: 2 beats of silence



**Half step**: the distance from any key on the keyboard to the very “the next key above or below, whether black or white”



**HARMONY:** notes that compliment the melody

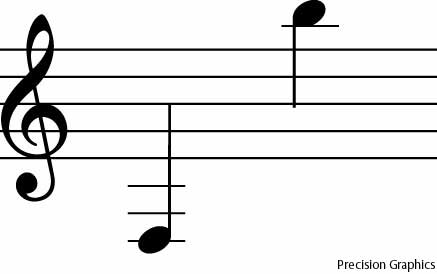


**Interval**: distance between two notes

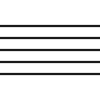
**Key Signature:** sharps or flats at the beginning of music to indicate scale and tonality



**Ledger line**: short lines that are added to extend the range of the staff when the notes are too low or too high to be written on the staff

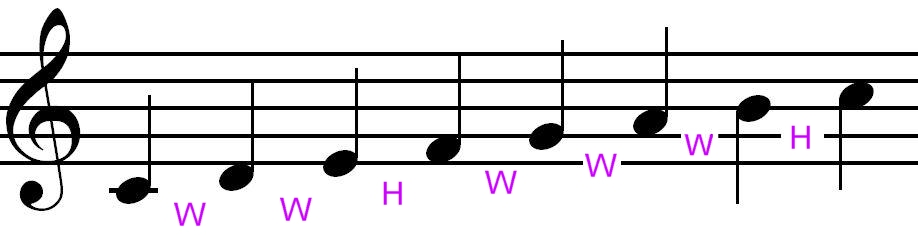


**Legato:** smooth and connected



**Lines:** Lines on treble clef (EGBDF)   
Lines on bass clef (GBDFA)

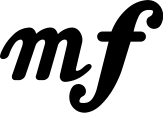
**Major Scale:** scale built on the formula (WWHWWWH)



**measure:** music between two bar lines



**MELODY:** the main tune of a song



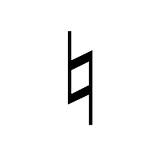
**Mezzo Forte:** medium loud



**Mezzo Piano:** medium soft



**Middle C:** the note in the middle of the grand staff and the C nearest the middle of the keyboard



**Natural Sign:** the natural sign before a note cancels a previous flat or sharp



**Notes:** the oval-shaped symbols that are placed on the lines and in the spaces of the staff. They represent musical sounds called pitches



**Pianissimo:** very soft       



**Piano:**  soft



**pick up:**  a note before the first complete measure



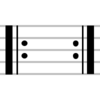
**Pitch:** a musical sound



**quarter note:** 1 beat



**quarter rest:** 1 beat of silence

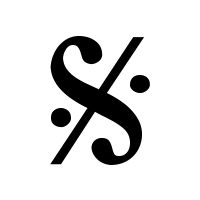


**Repeat Sign:** return to the beginning or previous repeat sign at the beginning of a section



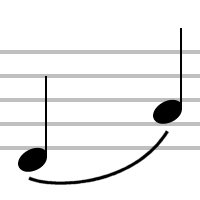
**RHYTHM:** division of a steady beat

**Ritardando:** to get slower



**Segno:** a musical sign that marks a section; used with repeats

**Sharp**: raises the pitch by one half step



**Slur:**   a curved line drawn over or under two or more notes of different pitches

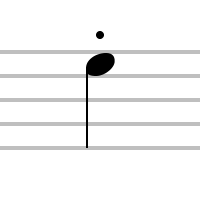


**Solfege:** *do re mi fa sol la ti do* a system of reading musical notes by assigning a different syllable to each note

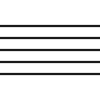


**Spaces**: spaces on treble clef (DFACEG);

spaces on bass clef (FACEGB)



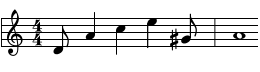
**Staccato:** short and detached; notated as a dot above or below a



note

**Staff:** horizontal lines and spaces on which music is written

**syncopation:** accenting the off-beat



**TEMPO:** the speed of the music



**tie: asdf** a curved line that combines two notes of the same pitch and adds their value together.

combines two notes of the same pitch together



**time signature:** top number: number of beats per measure

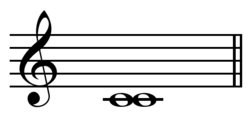


bottom note: which type of note gets the beat

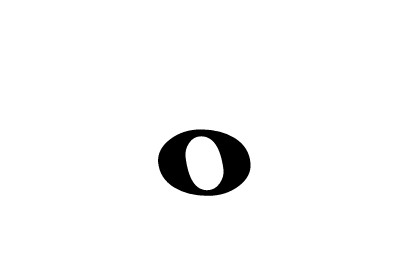


**Treble or G clef**: the clef used for notes in the higher pitch

range



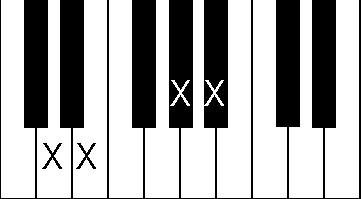
**Unison**: interval between two identical notes;  
unison singing is when everyone is singing the same pitches



**Whole note**: whole measure, 4 beats



**Whole rest:** whole measure, 4 beats of silence



**Whole step:** the distance from any key on the keyboard to two keys away

