

MUSIC THEORY

INSTRUCTOR'S GUIDE



LEVEL 1



Table of Contents

<u>Lesson</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Material</u>
1.1	1	Introduction to Music Letter Names The Octave
1.2	7	The Staff The Treble Clef Treble Clef Note Names Treble Clef Ledger Lines
1.3	17	The Bass Clef Bass Clef Note Names Bass Clef Ledger Lines Middle C
1.4	25	Dynamics Tempo
	30	Supplementary Material

Produced by The Salvation Army
Music and Arts Ministries

3rd Edition

Copyright 2018 The Salvation Army
Canada and Bermuda Territory
2 Overlea Blvd., Toronto ON M4H 1P4

Original Author: Jeremy Smith

Contributors: Leah Antle, Mark Barter, Susan Lee, Mike McCourt, Heather Osmond

Lesson 1.1 - Introduction to Music

We all hear lots of sounds at any given moment.

Listen to the various sounds going on around you right now!

- How would you describe them?
- Do they have a pattern?
- Are they organized?
- Do you think this is music?



Music is organized sound.

We can use music to tell other people about Jesus Christ. This can be done through the use of singing, brass, percussion, piano and guitar music —any instrument that will promote God's glory!

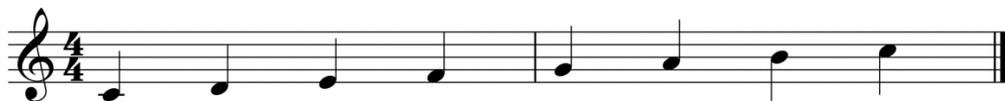
Letter Names

There are seven letters of the music alphabet:

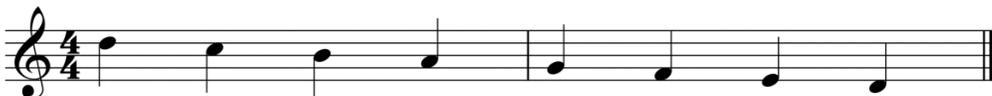
A B C D E F G

We use these as **note names** to classify what a note or pitch sounds like.

Notes can **ascend** (go higher):



Notes can **descend** (go lower):

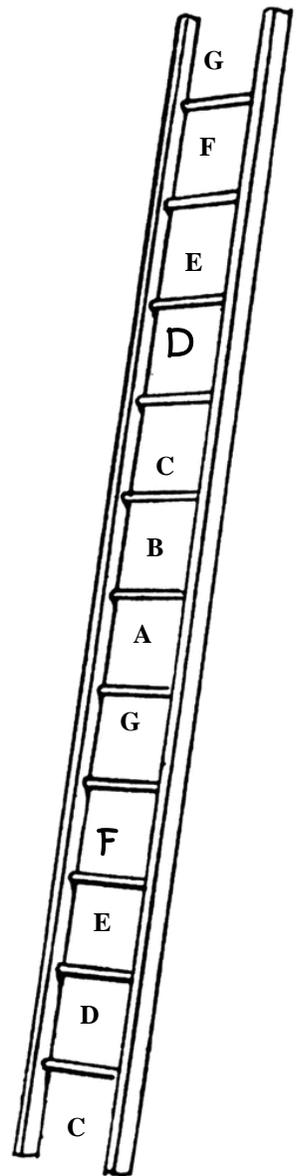
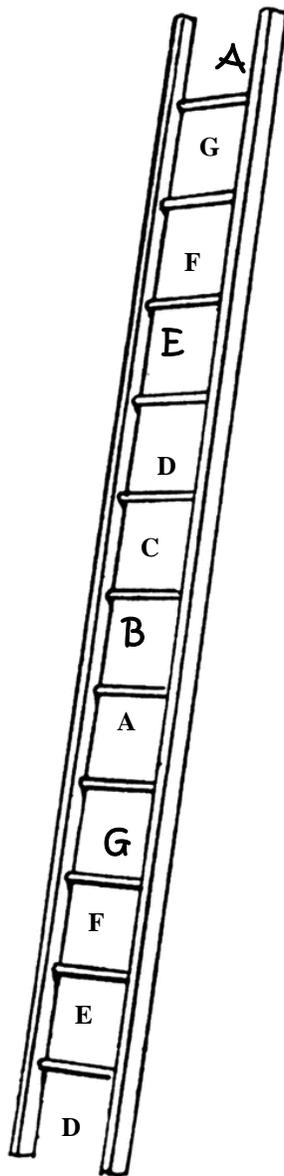
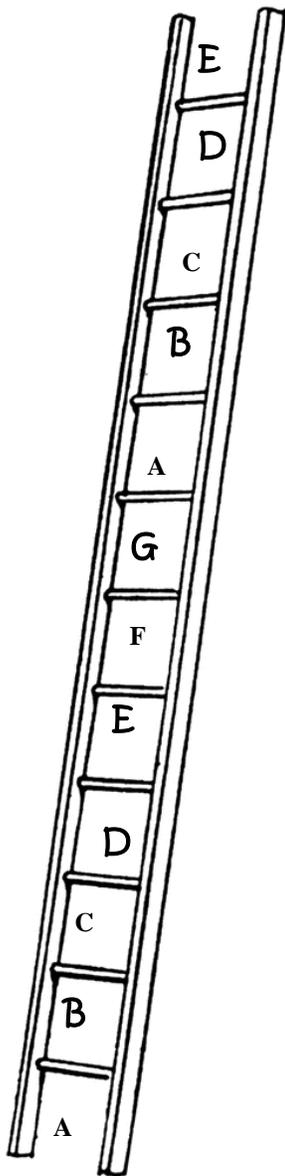


Only seven letters? There can't be just seven sounds in the whole world!

The letter names of notes can be repeated when you run out!

EXERCISE

Fill in the missing note names!



The Octave

When we have moved from one **A** to another **A**, we have played an **octave**, a term used in music to describe the space between notes of the same letter name.

Listen to different **A**'s played by your teacher.

- How are they similar?
- How are they different?

You should be able to tell that they are the same letter name, one is just higher or lower than the other. They are in different **octaves**.



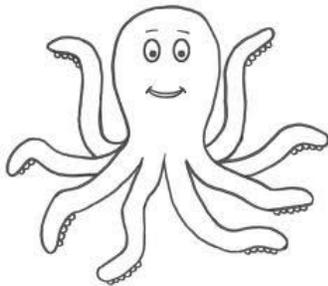
TIP

*The term octave is used because, the number **eight** is involved.*

*It turns out that including the first note and the last note, there are **eight** pitches in an octave.*



In the same way, a stop sign is in the shape of an **OCTAGON** because it has *eight* sides.



And this animal is called an **OCTOPUS** because it has *eight* tentacles (legs).

OCTAVE = EIGHT NOTES

EXERCISE

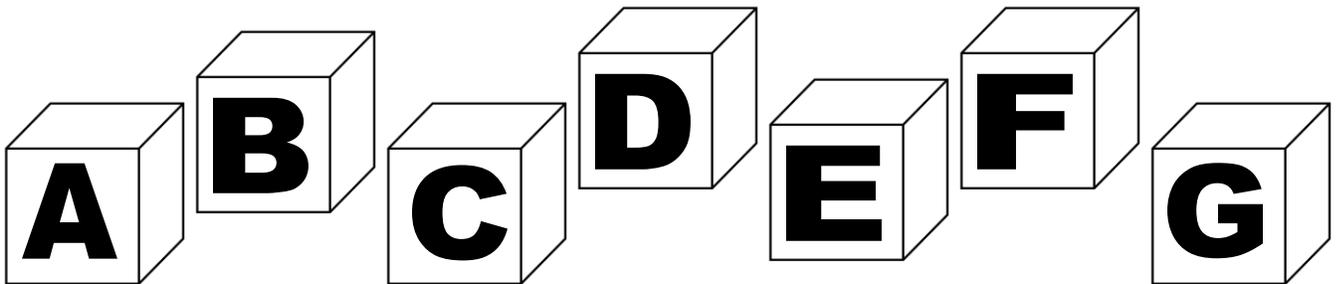
Fill in the missing notes below. Make sure you are moving forward (up the ladder, not down).

Example:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	A
C	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	C
D	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	D
G	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	G
F	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	F
B	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	B



Put letter names in the right order on the building blocks below.



F G A B C D E

D E F G A B C

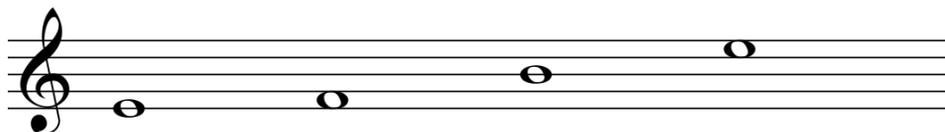
G A B C D E F

SUMMARY

- ✓ Music is organized sound.
- ✓ All pitches have note names.
- ✓ The seven note names are A B C D E F G.
- ✓ As you move forward through the music alphabet, the notes get higher (ascend).
- ✓ As you move backward through the music alphabet, the notes get lower (descend).
- ✓ The letter names can be repeated.
- ✓ An octave is the space of eight notes between pitches of the same letter name.
- ✓ Two notes of the same letter name can sound higher or lower than each other.

Lesson 1.2 - The Staff

Musical notes can be written on a staff of five lines and four spaces. Notes can be written on the lines or in the spaces.



Line note

Space note

Line note

Space note

EXERCISE

Identify which of the following notes are on a line (L) and which notes are in a space (S). The first two are done for you.



S

L

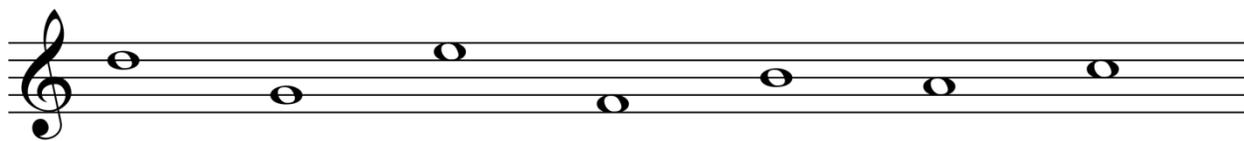
S

L

S

L

L



L

L

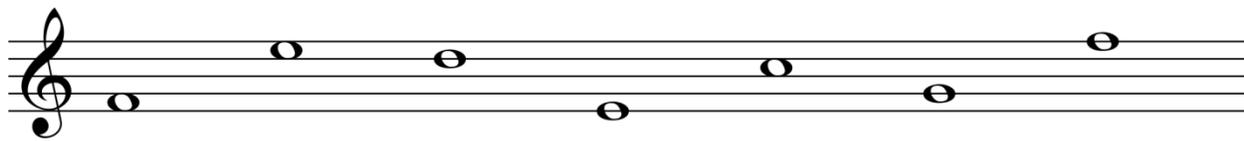
S

S

L

S

S



S

S

L

L

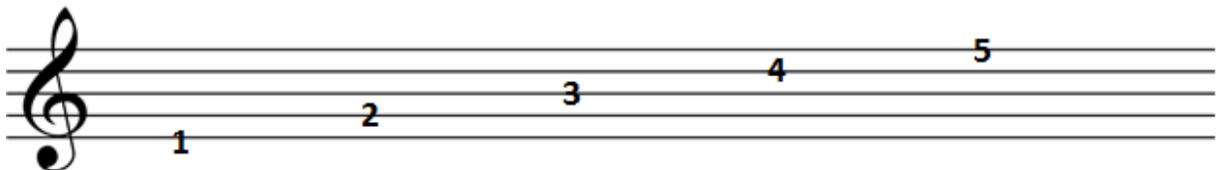
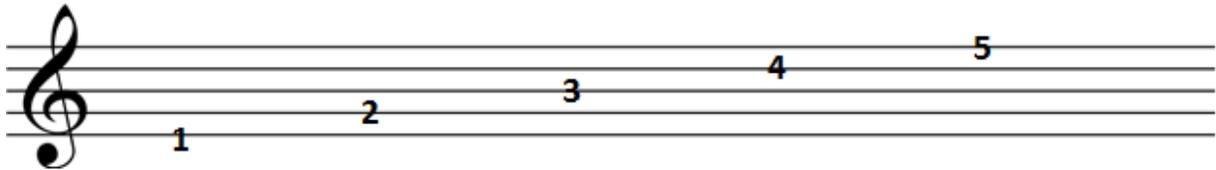
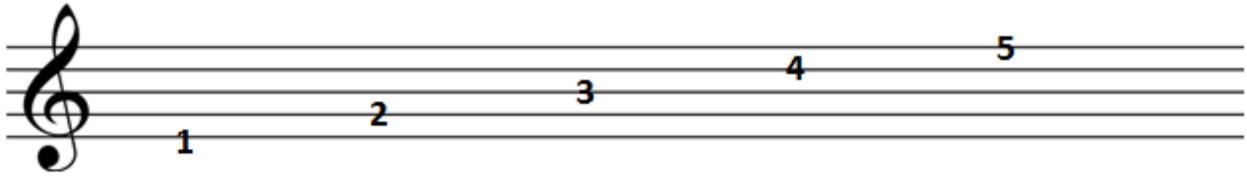
S

L

L

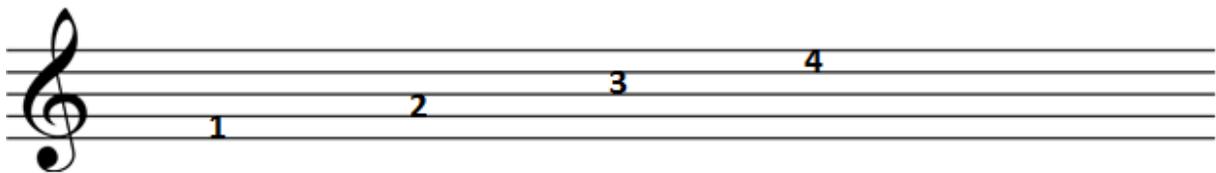
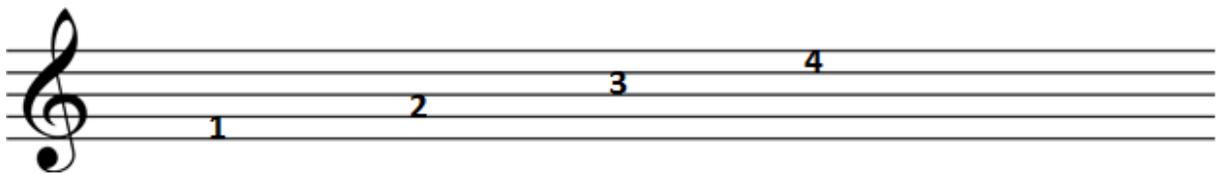
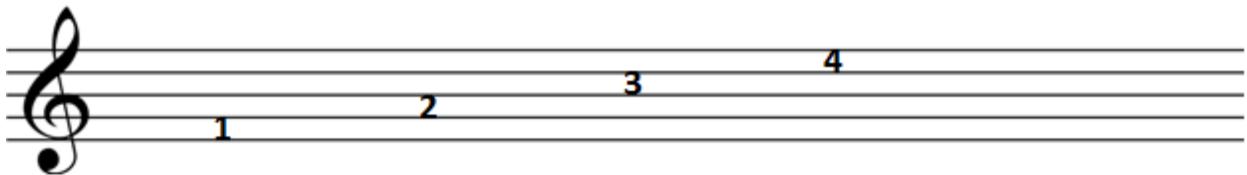
EXERCISE

Number the lines as shown.



EXERCISE

Number the spaces as shown.



EXERCISE

Fill in the missing notes. The first one is done for you.



Draw a note
on line 2

Draw a note
in space 4

Draw a note
in space 1

Draw a note
on line 5

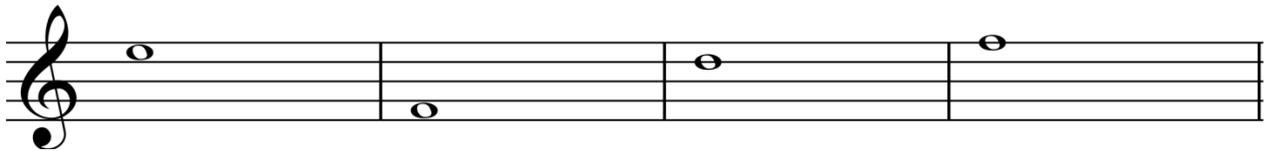


Draw a note
on line 1

Draw a note
in space 2

Draw a note
in space 3

Draw a note
on line 3



Draw a note
in space 4

Draw a note
in space 1

Draw a note
on line 4

Draw a note
on line 5

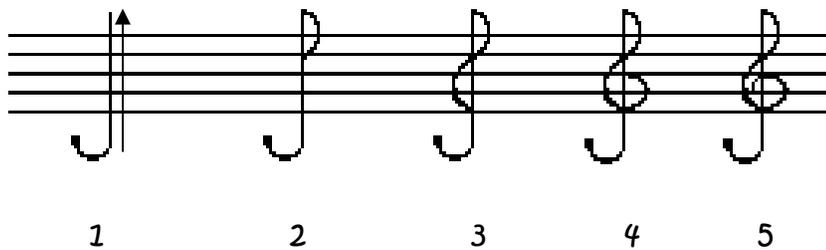
The Treble Clef

Notice the symbol written at the beginning of the staff.

This symbol is called the Treble Clef.

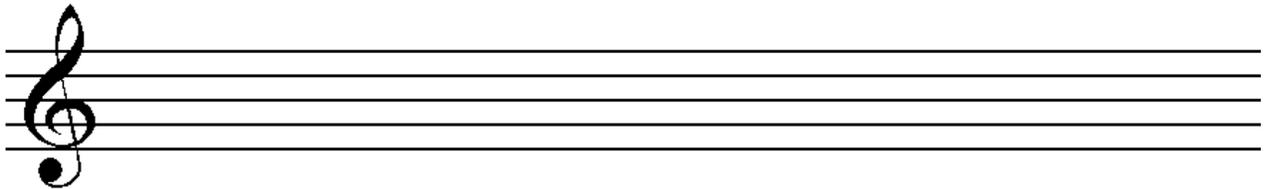
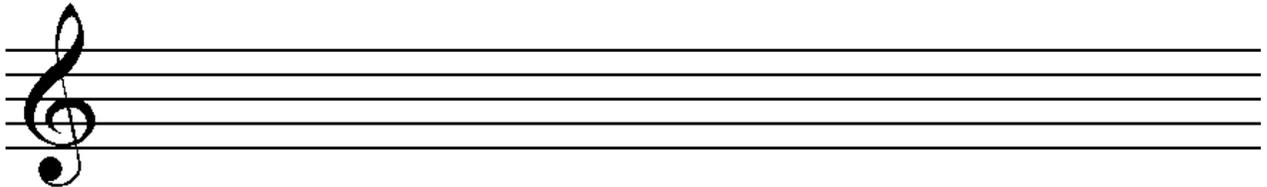


Here's how to draw a Treble Clef:



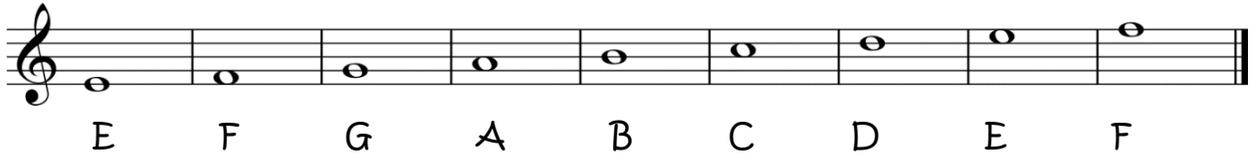
EXERCISE

Practice drawing Treble Clefs.

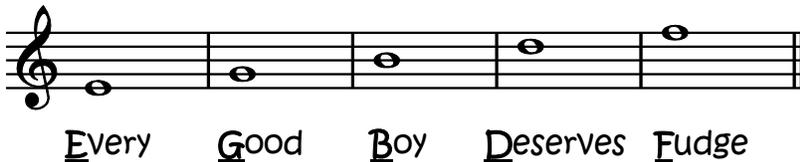
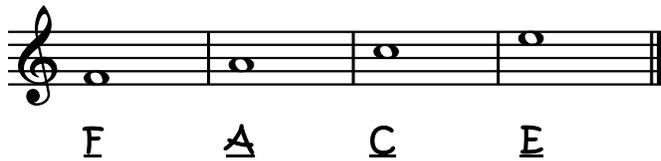


Treble Clef Note Names

On the Treble Clef Staff, the note written on line 1 is an E. When we move up the staff, the notes get higher. The note that fits on the first space is an F. The note on the second line is a G, and so on.



Another way of learning the notes written on the lines and spaces of the Treble Clef is by memorizing the following words and phrases:



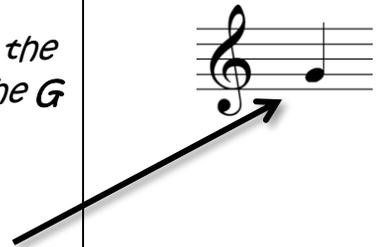
Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge



TIP

Notice that the Treble Clef circles around the note G and therefore is sometimes called the G Clef.

If you need to remember where G is on the staff, just look at the Treble Clef!

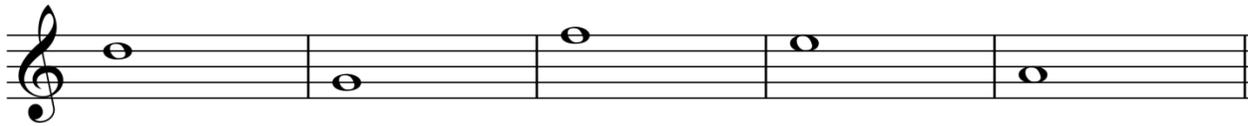


EXERCISE

Write the name of each note.



B F A C E



D G F E A



A C E D B



E G B F C



B E F C G

EXERCISE

Draw the following notes on the staff.

TEACHER NOTE: Students can choose to write the note in either octave.



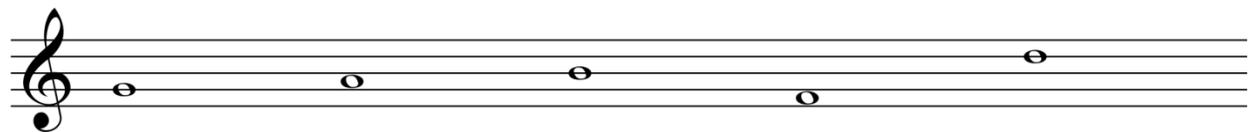
E B F C A



D C G B F



B F A E G



G A B F D

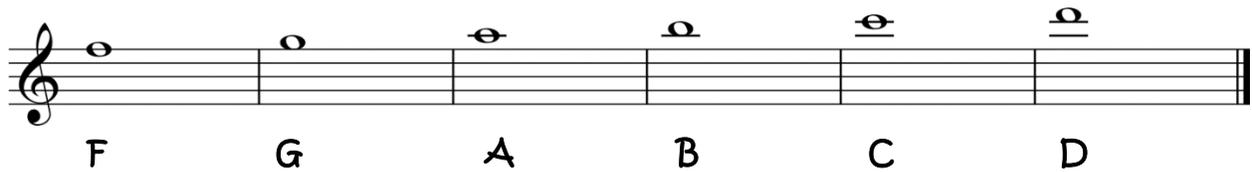


F E C G D

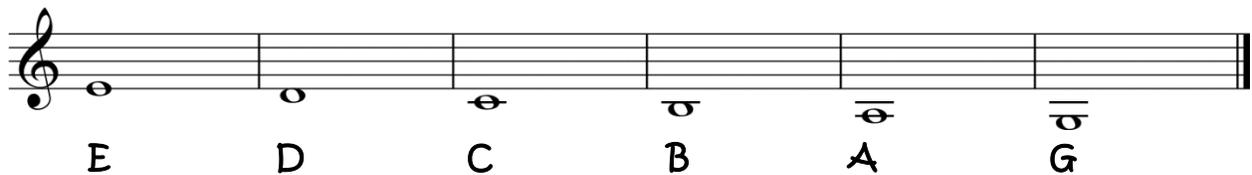
Treble Clef Ledger Lines

Remember the ladder exercise? As you went up and down the steps of the ladder, you just continued the pattern of letters in the music alphabet. In the same way, notes can be written above or below the staff using **ledger lines**.

Ledger lines above the staff:

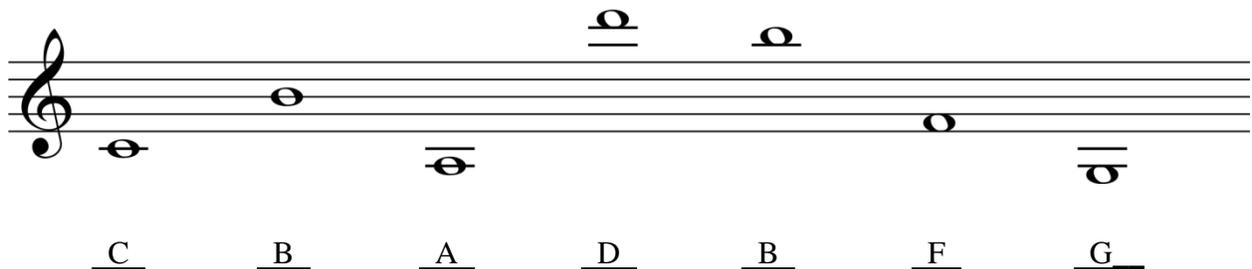
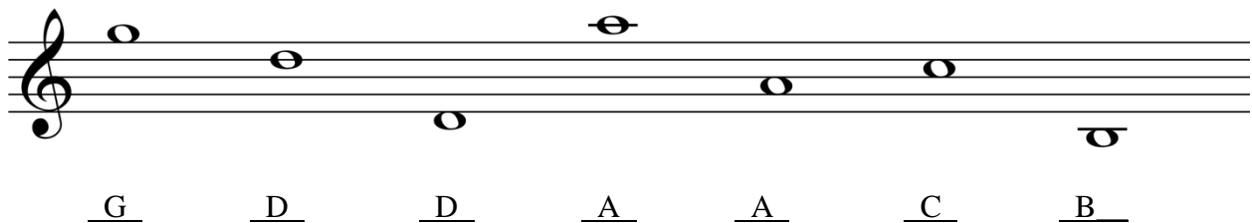


Ledger lines below the staff:



EXERCISE

Name the notes on the following Treble Clef Staves.

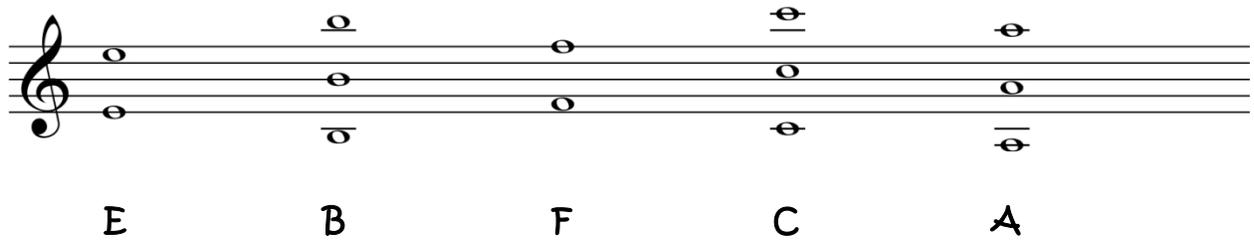


EXERCISE

Write the following notes on the Treble Clef Staff.

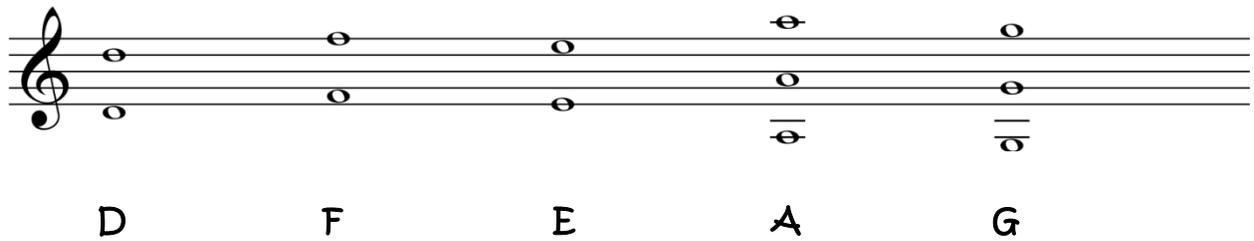
- Write at least two notes using ledger lines **BELOW** the staff
- Write at least two notes using ledger lines **ABOVE** the staff

TEACHER NOTE: Students can choose to write the note in either octave.



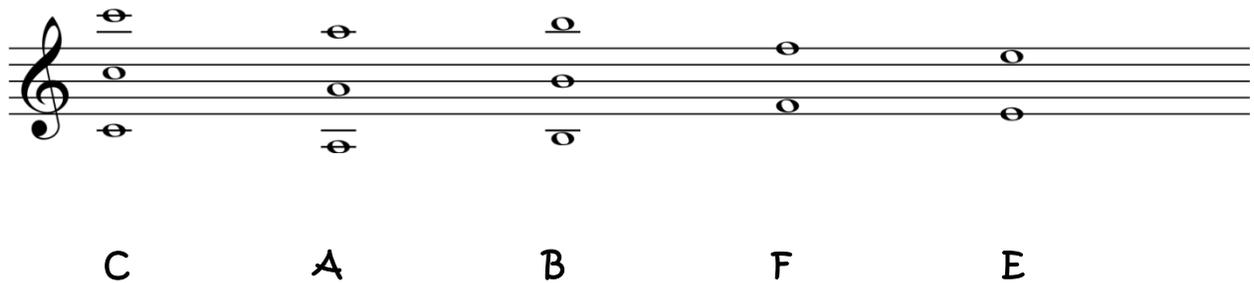
A treble clef staff with five lines. Five notes are written: E (middle C, ledger line below), B (below staff, ledger line below), F (below staff, ledger line below), C (below staff, ledger line below), and A (below staff, ledger line below). The notes are positioned as follows: E is on the first line; B is on the first space; F is on the second space; C is on the second line; and A is on the second space.

E B F C A



A treble clef staff with five lines. Five notes are written: D (below staff, ledger line below), F (below staff, ledger line below), E (below staff, ledger line below), A (below staff, ledger line below), and G (below staff, ledger line below). The notes are positioned as follows: D is on the first line; F is on the first space; E is on the second space; A is on the second line; and G is on the second space.

D F E A G



A treble clef staff with five lines. Five notes are written: C (below staff, ledger line below), A (below staff, ledger line below), B (below staff, ledger line below), F (below staff, ledger line below), and E (below staff, ledger line below). The notes are positioned as follows: C is on the first line; A is on the first space; B is on the second space; F is on the second line; and E is on the second space.

C A B F E

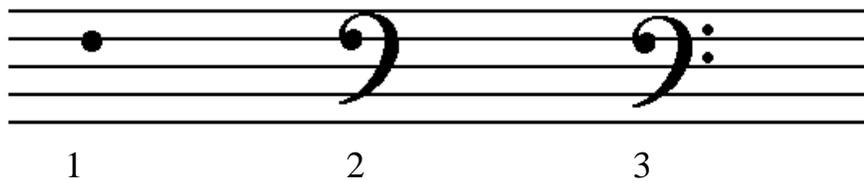
SUMMARY

- ✓ Music is written on a **Staff** (five lines, four spaces).
- ✓ Notes can be written on lines or spaces.
- ✓ The Treble Clef circles around the note G and therefore is sometimes called the G Clef.
- ✓ The note names of the five lines are E G B D F. You can use the rhyme: **Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge**.
- ✓ The note names of the four spaces are F A C E.
- ✓ Ledger lines are used to write notes higher and lower than the five lines on the staff.

Lesson 1.3 - The Bass Clef

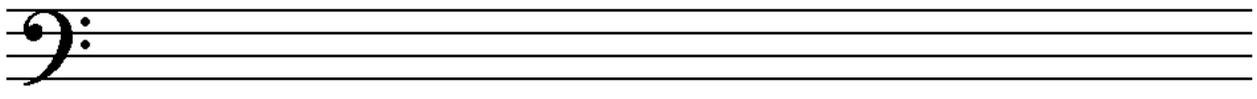
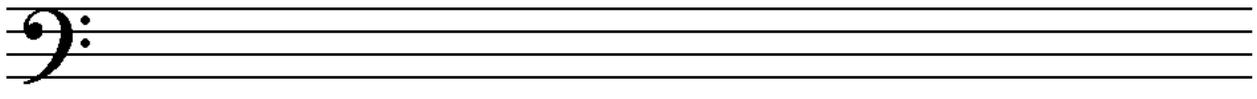
The Bass Clef  is another clef that is used in music. The Treble Clef is used for high notes and the Bass Clef is used for low notes.

Here's how to draw a Bass Clef:



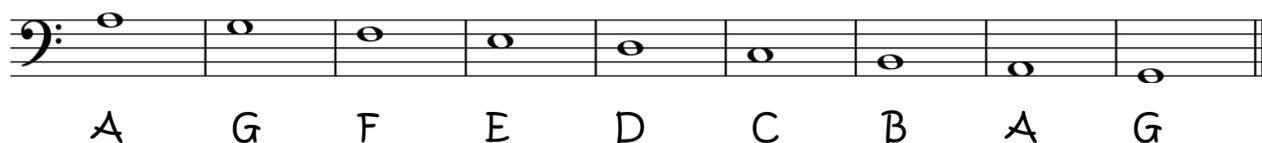
EXERCISE

Practice drawing Bass Clefs.

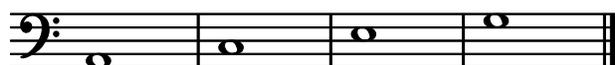


Bass Clef Note Names

Notes can be placed on the lines or in the spaces (just like the Treble Clef staff). Here are the notes of the Bass Clef:



You can remember the notes of the Bass Clef as follows:



All Cows Eat Grass



Grounded Birds Don't Fly Away



TIP

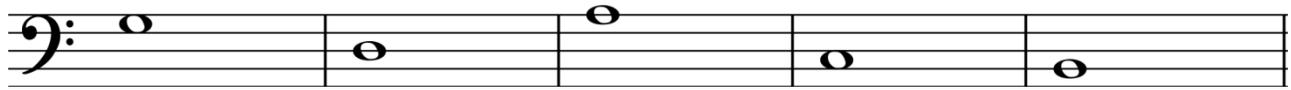
Notice that the Bass Clef dots are around the note F and therefore is sometimes called the F Clef.

If you need to remember where F is on the staff, just look at the Bass Clef!

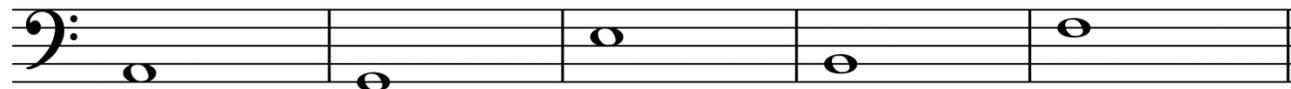


EXERCISE

Write the name of each note.



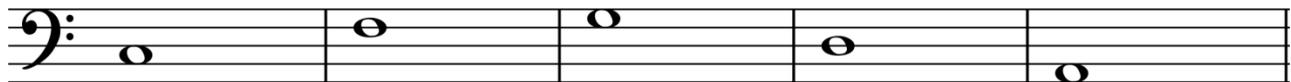
G D A C B



A G E B F



G E A G D



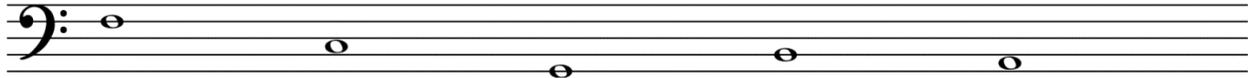
C F G D A



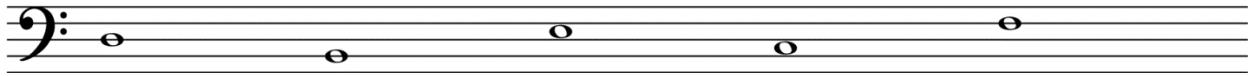
F C A A B

EXERCISE

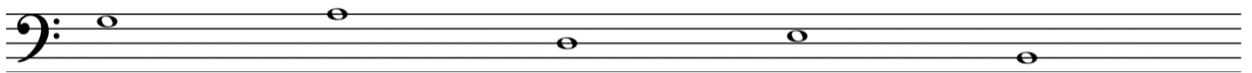
Draw the following notes on the staff.



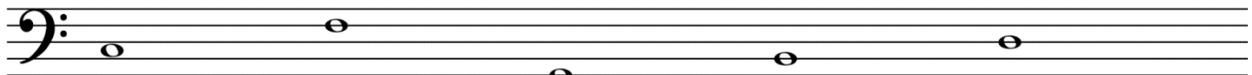
F C G B A



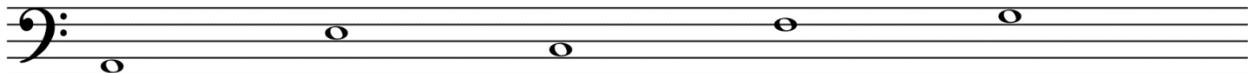
D B E C F



G A D E B



C F G B D

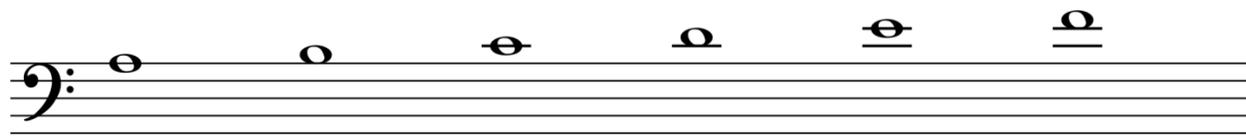


A E C F G

Bass Clef Ledger Lines

Remember what we did when we needed to write notes above or below the Treble Clef staff? We used ledger lines! Ledger lines can also be used for the Bass Clef staff.

Ledger lines above the staff:



A musical staff with a bass clef. Six whole notes are placed on ledger lines above the staff. From left to right, the notes are on the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth ledger lines. Below each note is a letter: A, B, C, D, E, F.

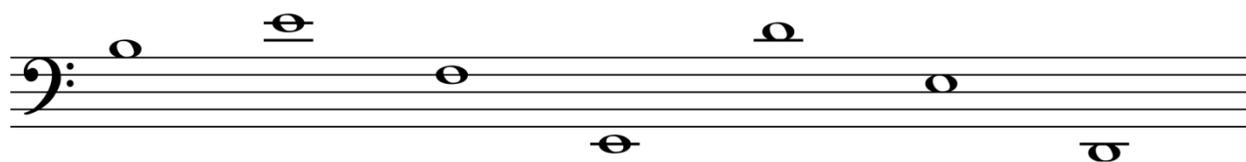
Ledger lines below the staff:



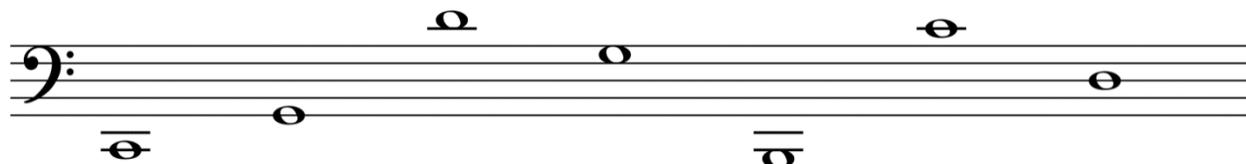
A musical staff with a bass clef. Six whole notes are placed on ledger lines below the staff. From left to right, the notes are on the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth ledger line below. Below each note is a letter: G, F, E, D, C, B.

EXERCISE

Write the names of the notes underneath the following Bass Clef Staves.



A musical staff with a bass clef. Seven whole notes are placed on the staff and ledger lines. From left to right, the notes are on the first ledger line, the first line, the second space, the second line, the first space, the first line, and the first ledger line. Below each note is a letter: B, E, F, E, D, E, D.



A musical staff with a bass clef. Seven whole notes are placed on the staff and ledger lines. From left to right, the notes are on the first ledger line, the second space, the second line, the second space, the first space, the first line, and the first ledger line. Below each note is a letter: C, G, D, G, B, C, D.

EXERCISE

Write the following notes on the Bass Clef Staff.

- Write at least two notes using ledger lines **BELOW** the staff
- Write at least two notes using ledger lines **ABOVE** the staff

TEACHER NOTE: Students can choose to write the note in either octave.

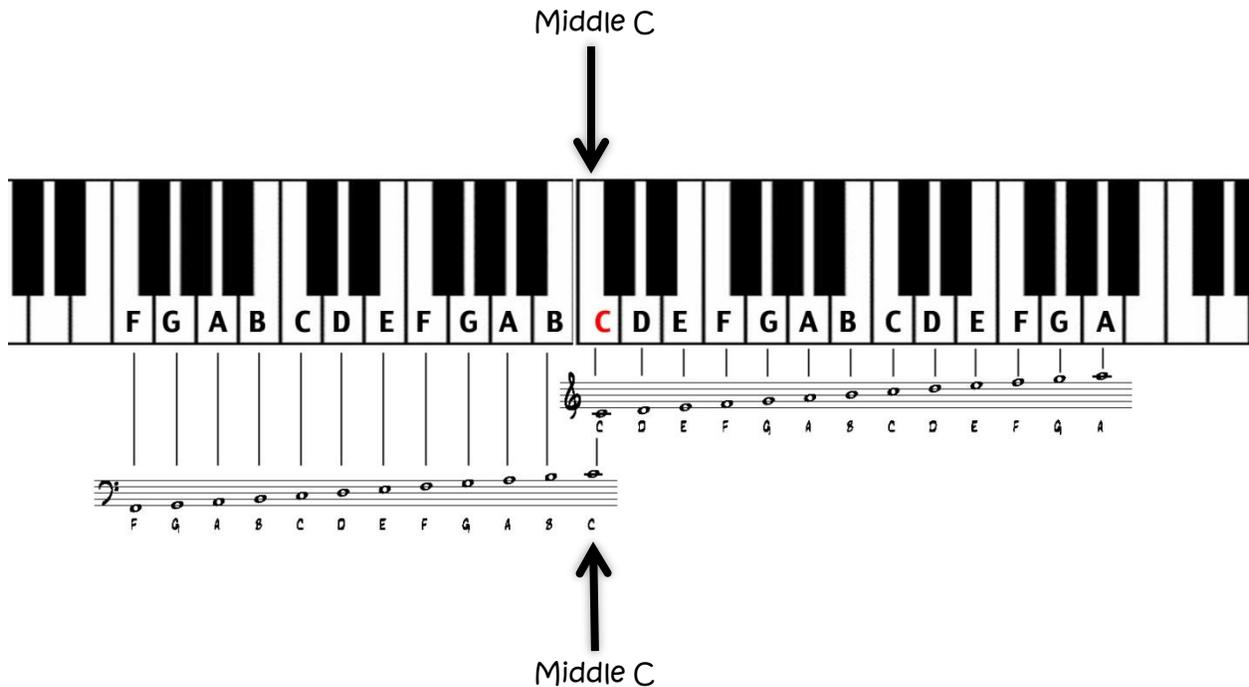
E B F C A

G D A E C

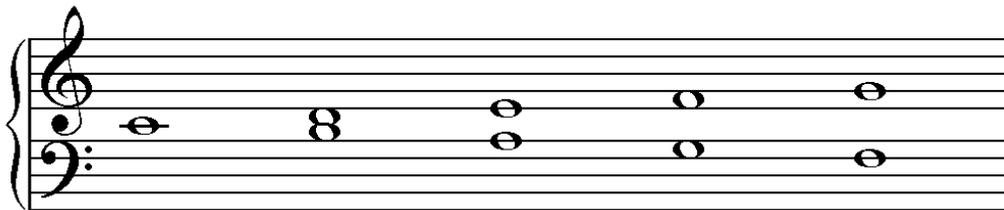
B G F D A

Middle C

The note 'C' found on the ledger line above the Bass Clef staff is the same as the note 'C' on the ledger line below the Treble Clef staff.



This note is called 'middle C' because it is in the middle of the two staves.



SUMMARY

- ✓ The **Bass Clef** is used at the beginning of the staff in order to write lower notes than the Treble Clef.
- ✓ The **Bass Clef** circles around **F** and therefore is sometimes called the “**F Clef**.”
- ✓ The names of the five lines are **G B D F A**. You can use the rhyme: **G**rounded **B**irds **D**on't **F**ly **A**way.
- ✓ The names of the four spaces are **A C E G**. You can use the rhyme: **A**ll **C**ows **E**at **G**rass.
- ✓ We can use ledger lines for **Bass Clef** as well as **Treble Clef** to write notes lower and higher than the notes within the 5 lines of the staff.

Lesson 1.4 - Dynamics

Music can be made more meaningful, expressive and interesting in a number of ways. One way is to add dynamics.



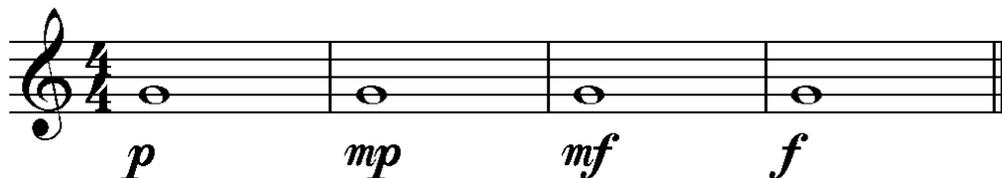
In music, **dynamics** refer to the volume – how loud or soft the notes are sung or played.

When the music is to be played **loud**, the music has a marking ***f***, which stands for ***forte***.

When the music is to be played **soft**, the music has a marking ***p***, which stands for ***piano***.

When the music is to be played at a medium dynamic, we say that it is to be played ***mezzo piano*** (medium soft) or ***mezzo forte*** (medium loud). We write these as ***mp*** and ***mf***.

From soft to loud, we have the following dynamic markings:



Why do we use **Italian** terms
in music rather than English?

This is because many of the most important early composers in the Renaissance period were Italian (e.g. Monteverdi, Gabrieli, Palestrina)

That period is when a lot of musical indications were used extensively for the first time.

Over time, Italian terminology became the accepted standard for musicians around the world.

Tempo

Tempo is how fast or slow a piece of music is played.

When the piece is to be played quickly,
the tempo word is **Allegro**.
Allegro is Italian for "fast."



When the piece is to be played slowly,
the tempo word is **Adagio**.



When the piece is to be played at a
medium speed, the tempo is referred to
as **Moderato**.

The tempo is always written at the beginning of the piece.

EXERCISE

Now you be the composer and add **dynamic** and **tempo markings** to the following pieces.

- Use each of *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *f* for dynamics. Use each dynamic at least once.
- Use Allegro, Moderato or Adagio for tempo.

TEACHER NOTE: The answers will vary between students as they choose the placement of dynamic and tempo markings.

(a)

Exercise (a) consists of two staves of music in 2/4 time. The first staff contains four measures: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The second staff contains four measures: a quarter rest, a quarter note G4, a half note F4, and a half note E4. The piece ends with a double bar line.

(b)

Exercise (b) consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff contains eight measures: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a half note G4, a quarter rest, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F4. The second staff contains eight measures: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a half note G4, a quarter rest, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F4. The piece ends with a double bar line.

(c)

Exercise (c) consists of two staves of music in bass clef with a 3/4 time signature. The first staff contains four measures: the first measure has a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, and a quarter note E2; the second measure has a quarter note D2, a quarter note C2, and a quarter note B1; the third measure has a half note A1 and a quarter note G1; the fourth measure has a half note F1 and a quarter rest. The second staff contains four measures: the first measure has a half note E2 and a quarter note D2; the second measure has a half note C2 and a quarter note B1; the third measure has a quarter note A1, a quarter note G1, and a quarter note F1; the fourth measure has a quarter note E1 and a quarter rest. The piece ends with a double bar line.

(d)

Exercise (d) consists of two staves of music in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains eight measures: the first measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4; the second measure has a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3; the third measure has a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, and a quarter note F3; the fourth measure has a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3; the fifth measure has a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note G2; the sixth measure has a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2; the seventh measure has a quarter note C2, a quarter note B1, and a quarter note A1; the eighth measure has a quarter note G1 and a quarter rest. The second staff contains eight measures: the first measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4; the second measure has a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3; the third measure has a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, and a quarter note F3; the fourth measure has a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3; the fifth measure has a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note G2; the sixth measure has a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2; the seventh measure has a quarter note C2, a quarter note B1, and a quarter note A1; the eighth measure has a quarter note G1 and a quarter rest. The piece ends with a double bar line.

(e)

Exercise (e) consists of two staves of music in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains four measures: the first measure has a half note G2 and a half note F2; the second measure has a whole note E2; the third measure has a half note D2 and a half note C2; the fourth measure has a whole note B1. The second staff contains four measures: the first measure has a half note A1 and a half note G1; the second measure has a half note F1 and a half note E1; the third measure has a half note D1 and a half note C1; the fourth measure has a whole note B0. The piece ends with a double bar line.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Music can be more exciting and expressive by adding **dynamic markings** and **tempo markings**.
- ✓ **Dynamics** tell how loud or soft the notes are supposed to be played or sung.
- ✓ From soft to loud, we have the dynamics *piano*, *mezzo piano*, *mezzo forte* and *forte*. On the music, these are written *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *f*.
- ✓ **Tempo** is the **speed** of the music. Common tempo indications are **Allegro** (Fast), **Moderato** (Medium) and **Adagio** (Slow).

Supplementary Material

The activities below are intended to reinforce the concepts taught in this level.

High and Low

This is an activity to reinforce high, mid-range and low sounds.

Using either your voice or an instrument, play a note repeatedly. The students can dance or move around. When you stop playing, the students have to stop dancing/moving. They either stretch up (if they heard a high note), curl up like a ball (for a low note), or cross their arms (for a middle note).

Vary the notes you play between high, low and middle notes.

To turn it into a game, eliminate those who get the incorrect stance when the time comes to stop dancing/moving.

A Dynamic Walk

This activity will reinforce the dynamics that have been introduced in this level.

Take your class on a walk, either indoors or outdoors. Ask them to listen for various sounds and describe those sounds using dynamics.

You can also ask them to walk, skip or run based on tempo words they have learned in this level. (*Adagio* = Walk *Moderato* = skip *Allegro* = run)

Bean Bag Toss

This game will reinforce note naming for both treble and bass clefs.

Using colored or masking tape, create a staff on the floor by taping five lines. Have students take turns tossing a bean bag towards the staff. Wherever the bean bag lands, they have to name the note that belongs to that line or space.

You can divide your class into teams, awarding a point for every correct answer. If you have space to create two staves on the floor, you can also set a time limit and the team that finishes first (each team member has a turn and answers correctly), wins!

MUSIC THEORY - Leader's Guide LV1



230-300-1010