

Musical Symbols



Staff

The staff is the fundamental latticework of music notation, upon which symbols are placed. The five staff lines and four spaces correspond to pitches of – Every Good Bus Drives Fast & F A C E



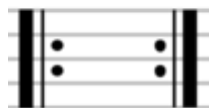
Treble clef

The centre of the spiral defines the line or space upon which it rests as the pitch *G above middle C*. Positioned here, it assigns G above middle C to the *second line from the bottom* of the staff, and is referred to as the "treble clef." Middle-C is the 1st ledger line below the staff here. The shape of the clef comes from a stylised upper-case-G. **For piano students it tells us to play in the right hand.**



Bass clef (for piano students only)

The line between the dots in this clef denotes F below middle C. Positioned here, it makes the *second line from the top* of the staff F below middle C, and is called a "bass clef." Middle C is the 1st ledger line above the staff here. The shape of the clef comes from a stylised upper-case-F (which used to be written the reverse of the modern F)



Repeat sign

Enclose a passage that is to be played more than once. If there is no left repeat sign, the right repeat sign sends the performer back to the start of the piece.

Notes and rests



Semibreve = 4



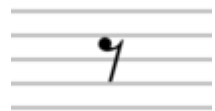
Minim = 2



Crotchet = 1



Quaver = half a beat



Two Quavers = 1



Dotted crotchet = 1 and a half beats

Placing a dot to the right of a note head **makes it half as long again**. A dot placed next to a minim (called a dotted minim) equals 3 beats.

Accidentals modify the pitch of the notes that follow them on the same staff position within a bar, unless cancelled by an additional accidental.



Flat
Lowers the note by a semitone.



Sharp
Raises the note by a semitone.



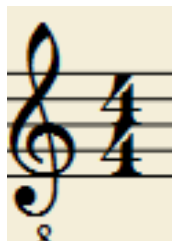
Natural
Cancels a previous accidental.



Tie
Indicates that the two (or more) notes joined together are to be played as one note with the time values added together. To be a tie, the notes must be identical; that is, they must be on the same line or the same space.



Chord
A chord is 3 or more notes played together at the same time. A chord may contain any number of notes.



Time Signature The top number tells how many beats are in a bar & the bottom what type of note the beat lands on