

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.

BEGINNING MUSICAL TERMS & DEFINITIONS

Personal Progress Tracker

1 2 3 4 5

"A TEMPO":

return to the original tempo

1 2 3 4 5

ACCELERANDO:

accel.

to get faster

1 2 3 4 5

ACCENT:



to emphasize a note

1 2 3 4 5

ARTICULATION:

the style in which you perform the notes

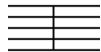
1 2 3 4 5

AUDIATE:

hearing a pitch in your head.

1 2 3 4 5

BARLINE:



vertical lines that separate measures.

1 2 3 4 5

CLEF:

helps organize the staff so notes can be easily read

1 2 3 4 5

CRESCENDO:



to get louder

1 2 3 4 5

DECRESCENDO:



to get softer

1 2 3 4 5

DOT:



adds half the original value to the note

1 2 3 4 5

DOTTED HALF NOTE:



3 beats

1 2 3 4 5

DOTTED HALF REST:



3 beats of silence

1 2 3 4 5

DOTTED QUARTER NOTE:



1.5 beats

1 2 3 4 5

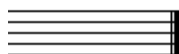
DOTTED QUARTER REST:



1.5 beats of silence

1 2 3 4 5

DOUBLE BAR LINE:



shows the end of the song or section

1 2 3 4 5

DYNAMICS:

the volume of the music

1 2 3 4 5

EIGHTH NOTE:

.5 beats

1 2 3 4 5

EIGHTH REST:



.5 beats of silence

1 2 3 4 5

FERMATA:



hold the note and watch the conductor

1 2 3 4 5

FLAT:



lowers the pitch by one half step

1 2 3 4 5

FORTE:



loud

1 2 3 4 5

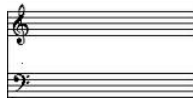
FORTISSIMO:



very loud

1 2 3 4 5

GRAND STAFF:



bass and treble staff connected by a brace and a line

1 2 3 4 5

HALF NOTE:



2 beats

1 2 3 4 5

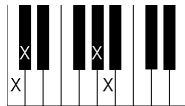
HALF REST:



2 beats of silence

1 2 3 4 5

HALF STEP:



the distance from any key on the keyboard to the very "the next key above or below, whether black or white"

1 2 3 4 5

HARMONY:

notes that compliment the melody

1 2 3 4 5

INTERVAL:

distance between two notes

1 2 3 4 5

KEY SIGNATURE:

sharps or flats at the beginning of music to indicate scale and tonality

1 2 3 4 5

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

1 2 3 4 5

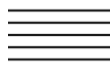
LEGATO:



smooth and connected

1 2 3 4 5

LINES:



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

1 2 3 4 5

MAJOR SCALE:



scale built on the formula (WWHWWWH)

1 2 3 4 5

MEASURE:



music between two bar lines

1 2 3 4 5

MELODY:

the main tune of a song

1 2 3 4 5

MEZZO FORTE:

mf

medium loud

1 2 3 4 5

MEZZO PIANO:

mp

medium soft

1 2 3 4 5

MIDDLE C:



the note in the middle of the grand staff and the C nearest the middle of the keyboard

1 2 3 4 5

NATURAL SIGN:



the natural sign before a note cancels a previous flat or sharp

1 2 3 4 5

NOTES:

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

1 2 3 4 5

PIANISSIMO:

pp

very soft

1 2 3 4 5

PIANO:

p

soft

1 2 3 4 5

PICK UP:



a note before the first complete measure

1 2 3 4 5

PITCH:

a musical sound

1 2 3 4 5

QUARTER NOTE:



1 beat

1 2 3 4 5

QUARTER REST:



1 beat of silence

1 2 3 4 5

REPEAT SIGN:



return to the beginning or previous repeat sign at the beginning of a section

1 2 3 4 5

RHYTHM:

division of a steady beat

1 2 3 4 5

RITARDANDO:

rit. . . .

to get slower

1 2 3 4 5

SEGNO:



a musical sign that marks a section; used with repeats

1 2 3 4 5

SHARP:



raises the pitch by one half step

1 2 3 4 5

SLUR:



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

1 2 3 4 5

SOLFEGE:

do re mi fa sol la ti do

a system of reading musical notes by assigning a different syllable to each note

1 2 3 4 5

SPACES:

spaces on treble clef (DFACEG);
spaces on bass clef (FACEGB)

1 2 3 4 5

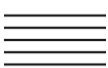
STACCATO:



short and detached; notated as a dot above or below a note

1 2 3 4 5

STAFF:



horizontal lines and spaces on which music is written

1 2 3 4 5

SYNCOPIATION:



accenting the off-beat

1 2 3 4 5

TEMPO:

the speed of the music

1 2 3 4 5

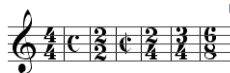
TIE:



ASDF a curved line that combines two notes of
combines two notes of the same pitch together

1 2 3 4 5

TIME SIGNATURE:



top number: number of beats per measure
bottom note: which type of note gets the beat

1 2 3 4 5

TREBLE OR G CLEF:



the clef used for notes in the higher pitch range

1 2 3 4 5

UNISON:



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

1 2 3 4 5

WHOLE NOTE:



whole measure, 4 beats

1 2 3 4 5

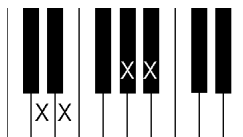
WHOLE REST:



whole measure, 4 beats of silence

1 2 3 4 5

WHOLE STEP:



the distance from any key on the keyboard to two keys away