

# INTERMEDIATE MUSICAL TERMS & DEFINITIONS

## Personal Progress Tracker

### Level 1

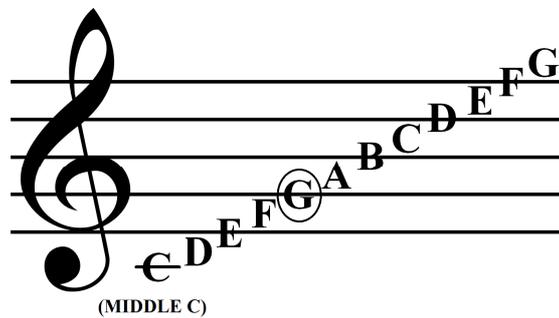
*(Review) Be Able To Hear And Sing:*

DO-RE	DO-SO	DO-FA	DO-DO'
RE-DO	SO-DO	FA-DO	DO-DO'
DO-MI	MI-SO		DO'-DO
MI-DO	SO-MI		

*Pitch (Review)*

**REVIEW FROM BEGINNING:**

- Solfege (sing and sign) (*do re mi fa sol la ti do*)
- Note names on treble clef
- 4-note dictation
- Aural identification



*Rhythm (Review)*

**EIGHTH NOTE:** .5 beats

**EIGHTH REST:** .5 beats of silence

**QUARTER NOTE:** 1 beat

**QUARTER REST:** 1 beat of silence

**HALF NOTE:** 2 beats

**HALF REST:** 2 beats of silence

**DOTTED HALF:** 3 beats

**DOTTED HALF REST:** 3 beats of silence

**WHOLE NOTE:** whole measure, 4 beats

**WHOLE REST:** whole measure, 4 beats of silence

**TWO EIGHTH NOTES:** same as   
*(eighth notes are usually beamed in sets of two, which would add up 1 beat)*

**TIME SIGNATURE:**   
 top number: number of beats per measure  
 bottom note: which type of note gets the beat  
*(the example shows seven different time signatures)*

**DOT:** ← adds half the value of the previous note to the total value

**TIE:** combines the value of two notes of the same pitch together

## Level 1 (cont.)

### Terms (Review)

**PITCH:** The highness or lowness of sound

**BEAT:** The steady pulse of music

**RHYTHM:** the division of steady beat

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**STAFF:**



horizontal lines and spaces on which music is written

**TREBLE OR G CLEF:**



The symbol used for notes in the higher pitch range.

**BASS OR F CLEF:**



The symbol used for notes in the lower pitch range.

**REPEAT SIGN:**

return to the



beginning or previous repeat sign at the beginning of a section

**INTERVAL:**

the distance between two notes

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**ARTICULATION:**

the style in which you perform the notes

**ACCENT:**



to emphasize a note

**FERMATA:**



hold the note and watch the conductor

**DYNAMICS:** the volume of the music

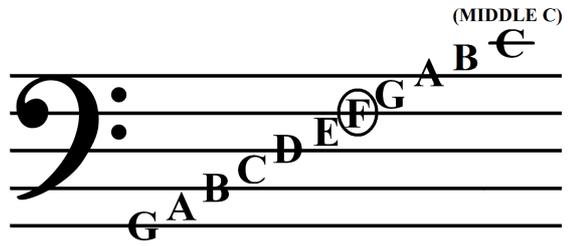
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# Level 2

Be Able To Hear And Sing:

DO-LA  
 LA-DO  
 DO-TI  
 TI-DO  
 (DRMFSLTD')

**NOTE NAMES ON THE BASS CLEF:**



Pitch

- SHARP:** # raises the pitch by one half step
- FLAT :** b lowers the pitch by one half step
- NATURAL:** ♮ cancels a previous flat or sharp, including any sharps and flats called for by a key signature.

**ACCIDENTAL:** a sharp, flat, or natural which is not in the key signature. *Accidentals are placed before a note in a measure and remain in force for the rest of that measure for all with the same pitch name.*

**SKILL TO REVIEW:** Know how to assign solfege and note names to notes.

Rhythm

**DOTTED QUARTER NOTE:** 1.5 beats 

**DOTTED QUARTER REST:** 1.5 beats of silence 

**SKILL TO REVIEW:** (Dictation)

**KNOW THIS RHYTHM:** 

Terms

- FORTE:** *f* loud
- MEZZO FORTE:** *mf* medium loud
- MEZZO PIANO:** *mp* medium soft
- PIANO:** *p* soft

**CRESCENDO:**   
*cresc.* to get louder

**DECRESCENDO:**   
*decresc.* to get softer

**LEGATO:** *legato*  
 smooth and connected, often shown with a slur

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

**STACCATO:**  short and detached

**HARMONY:** Notes that compliment the melody

**SLUR:** a curved line drawn over or under two or more notes of different pitches that indicates legato (*remember: it is a tie if the notes are on the same pitch*)



## Level 3

### Be Able To Hear And Sing:

LA, - DO  
DO - LA,  
SO. - DO  
DO - SO,

RE - FA  
FA - RE  
(S, L, D R M F S L T D')

### Pitch

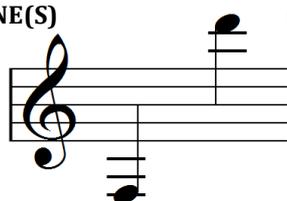
**SKILL TO KNOW:** Be able to identify the names of notes in the bass clef in a musical score

**ORDER OF HALF/WHOLE STEPS:** In a major scale, the order of steps is **W W H W W W H**

**SKILL TO KNOW:** Tell where all whole steps and half steps are in the solfege scale. (MI-FA and TI-DO)

**DO-RE RE-MI MI-FA FA-SO SO-LA LA-TI TI-DO**  
(*WHOLE STEPS are underlined, HALF STEPS are not underlined.*)

### **LEDGER LINE(S)**



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.

### Rhythm

**(REVIEW) TIE:**  
combines the value of two notes of the same pitch

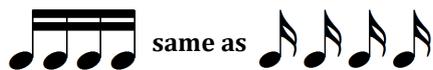


**SKILL TO KNOW:** Practice how to work with tied notes in your music and various examples.

**SIXTEENTH NOTE:**  .25 beats

**SIXTEENTH REST**  .25 beats of silence

**SIXTEENTH NOTES:**



(sixteenth notes are usually beamed in sets of four, which would add up 1 beat)

**SKILL TO KNOW:**  
(Continue to practice dictation)

### Terms Review

**TEMPO:** the speed of the music

### Terms

**A TEMPO:** *a tempo* Return to the original tempo

**ACCELERANDO:** *accel.* to get faster

**RALLENTANDO:** *rall.* Gradually slowing down (Similar to *rit.*)

**RITARDANDO:** *rit.* \_\_\_ gradually get slower

**KEY SIGNATURE:**



sharps or flats at the beginning of music that tell you where DO is (usually located right after the clef)  
*This example shows three different key signatures.*

# Level 4

## Pitch

**KEY SIGNATURE:**  Sharps or flats at the beginning of music that tell you where DO is. All note names shown in the key signature (in all octaves) should be sharped or flatted throughout the entire song.

**ORDER OF SHARPS:** F# C# G# D# A# E# B#  
(in a key signature)

**ORDER OF FLATS:** Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb Fb  
(in a key signature)

## Rhythm

**COMMON TIME:**  "common time" - same as 4/4 time: 4 (quarter note) beats per measure

**CUT TIME:**  "cut time" - same as 2/2 time: 2 (half note) beats per measure

**SKILL TO KNOW:** Continue to practice dictation.

**PICK UP NOTE(S):** a note or notes before the first complete measure of a musical phrase



Oh, say, does that star - span - gled

**RHYTHMS TO KNOW:** Be able to dictate and perform the rhythms similar to the following:



## Terms

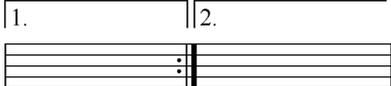
**PIANISSIMO** *pp* very soft

**DIMINUENDO** *dim.* getting softer  
(same as *decrescendo*)

**FORTISSIMO** *ff* very loud

**CODA**  an added ending, or "tail"

**1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> ENDING:**  
Play or sing through the first ending to the repeat sign, then go back to the beginning. When repeating, skip the first ending and go to the second.



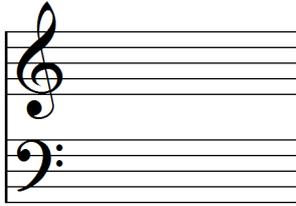
**SEGNO**  a musical sign that marks a section; used with repeats

**D.S. AL CODA** "dal segno al coda"  
**D.S. al Coda** Go (back) to the segno, then skip to the coda when indicated.

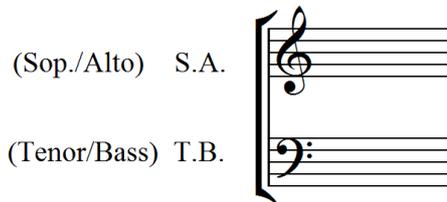
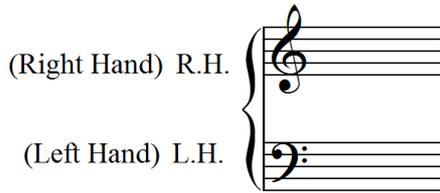
## Bonus

### Pitch

GRAND STAFF:



A treble staff and a bass staff connected by a vertical line. Often used for piano or keyboard accompaniments: right hand plays the upper staff ; left hand plays the lower staff. Also often used for choral music where the soprano and alto sing from the top staff and the tenor and bass sing from the lower staff. (see examples below)



### Rhythm

6/8 TIME:



A compound meter consisting of six eighth note pulses per measure. The eighth note gets the *pulse*; but there are only two beats per measure. The dotted quarter gets the beat, which can be subdivided into three eighth note pulses. *Caution: though mathematically equal, 6/8 and 3/4 do not sound the same! Compare the examples below.*

NOTE VALUES IN 6/8 TIME:



= 1 pulse or .33 beat



= 3 pulses (equal to 1 beat)



= 1 beat



= 2 beats



three beats

six pulses  
(two pulses per beat)



two beats

six pulses  
(three pulses per beat)

### Terms

LARGO	<i>largo</i>	very slow	MODERATO	<i>moderato</i>	medium fast
ADAGIO	<i>adagio</i>	slow	ALLEGRO	<i>allegro</i>	fast
ANDANTE	<i>andante</i>	walking speed	PRESTO	<i>presto</i>	very fast

— SFORZANDO

*sfz*

a sudden, strong accent