



Music Library

Dictionary

Your teacher may ask for your help in finding a book.
For example, "I'm looking for information about the **accent**.
Could you help me find a book?"

Have fun being the music librarian!




accent mark

Play this note louder.




bass clef

Shows notes below Middle C.



Also known as the F clef.

C 5-finger scale

C-DE-F-G



Five notes that step up from C.

dotted half note

3 beats



Count: 1-2-3

dynamics

The "louds and softs" in music.

p *mf* *f*

form

The organization of a piece.

forte

The Italian word for loud.


f

Play firmly.



G 5-finger scale

G-A-B-C-D



Five notes that step up from G.

grand staff


R.H. uses the top staff.



L.H. uses the lower staff.

half note

2 beats



Count: 1-2




improvise

Making up music "on the spot."

measure

Musical beats are grouped into measures.




mezzo forte


The Italian word for moderately loud.

mf



octave

8 notes from Middle C to Bass C is an octave.



piano

The Italian word for soft.

p

Play gently.

upbeat

An incomplete measure.

quarter note

1 beat

Count: 1

quarter rest

Silence for 1 beat.

repeat sign

Play once again.

ritardando

Gradually play slower.

rit.

skip

line-to-line or space-to-space

skip a key, skip a finger

step

line to space or space to line

space to line

tempo

The speed of the music.

theme

a melody

tie

A curved line connecting the same notes.

Hold for the total counts of both.

time signature

4 beats in a measure

4 gets 1 beat

time signature

3 beats in a measure

4 gets 1 beat

treble clef

Shows notes above Middle C.

Also known as the G clef.

variation

Changing the dynamics, notes, rhythm, etc., of a theme.

whole note

4 beats

Count: 1-2-3-4