

Pitch Names

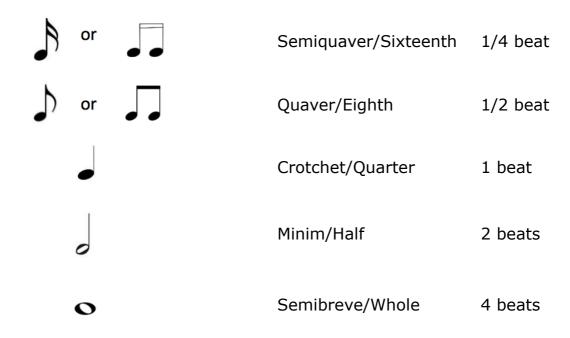


Accidentals - Sharp, Flat & Natural

Accidentals sit next to notes, but be sure to always check the key signatures too. (Tip: if the key has accidentals, check all octaves not just the one the key signature shows)

b	Flat notes drop by a semitone/half step
#	Sharp notes raise by a semitone/half step
4	Natural notes are in their original, "natural" position

Note Values



Dotted Rhythms

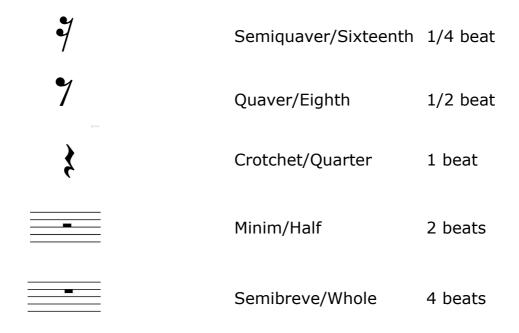
$$0 = 0 + 1$$
 $1 = 1 + 1$
 $1 = 1 + 1$
 $1 = 1 + 1$
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A dot means you add half the note value again

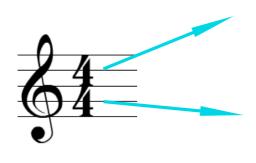
Swung Rhythm Marking

Each pair of quavers (eighth) are played as a crotchet (quarter) and a quaver tied as a triplet

Rests



Time Signatures



Top Number

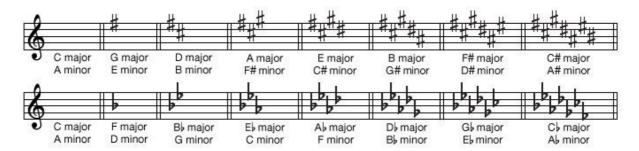
How many beats per bar

Bottom Number

What type of beats you're counting in:

- 2 minim/half
- 4 crotchet/quarter
- 8 quaver/eighth

Key Signatures



Sharp Key Signatures:

1 semi-tone higher than the last sharp IS the key signature

Flat Key Signatures:

The 2nd to last (penultimate) flat IS the key signature

Relative Minor

The relative minor is 3 semitones lower than the major.

Whether a piece is major or minor can be tricky to decipher from sheet music, here's a few ways that can help:

- Are the first and final chords the tonic (root) of the major or minor key?
- Is there regular use of the tonic (root) and dominant (fifth) of the major or minor key throughout the piece?
- Minor keys tend to use a minor 7th/flattened 7th

Tempo Marking

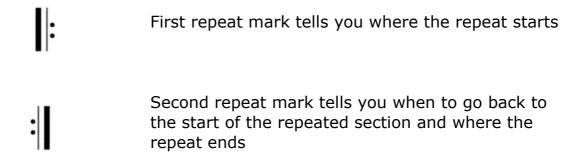
The tempo marking tells you the speed of the song by how many beats there are per minute.

This means there is 120 beats (crotchet/whole notes) per minute

Dynamic Markings

pianissimo	pp	very soft
piano	p	soft
mezzo piano	mp	slightly soft
mezzo forte	mf	slightly loud
forte	f	loud
fortissimo	ff	very loud
fortepiano	fp	loud then soft
sforzando	sfz	sudden accent
Crescendo	>	gradually getting louder
Diminuendo	<	gradually getting quieter

Repeat Marks



Legato & Staccato



Additional Markings

D.C	da capo	"from the head"/repeat from the start
D.S	da segno	repeat from segno symbol
al Coda	"from the sign"	jump to coda symbol 🕕
al Fine	"to the end"	repeat the music through to the 'fine' marking
ad-lib	ad-libitum	Latin for "as you desire" Improvise that section of music
\bigcirc	pause	pause the music for as long as desired
	Double bar lines	Separates sections within the piece
	Final bar line	Signifies the end of the piece

Recognition of an Interval up to a 10th

0 semitones Unison
1 semitone Minor 2nd
2 semitones Major 2nd
3 semitones Minor 3rd
4 semitones Major 3rd
5 semitones Perfect 4th

6 semitones Aug 4th/Dim 5th

7 semitones Perfect 5th 8 semitones Minor 6th 9 semitones Major 6th 10 semitones Minor 7th 11 semitones Major 7th

12 semitones Perfect Octave

13 semitones Minor 9th 14 semitones Major 9th 15 semitones Minor 10th 16 semitones Major 10th