

Name: _____


Class: _____


Music Vocabulary - Level 1

Mr. Summers

Staff / Staves: the set of 5 lines and 4 spaces on which music is written.



Treble Clef a.k.a. "G" clef. 

Bass Clef a.k.a. "F" clef. 

Clef Mnemonics

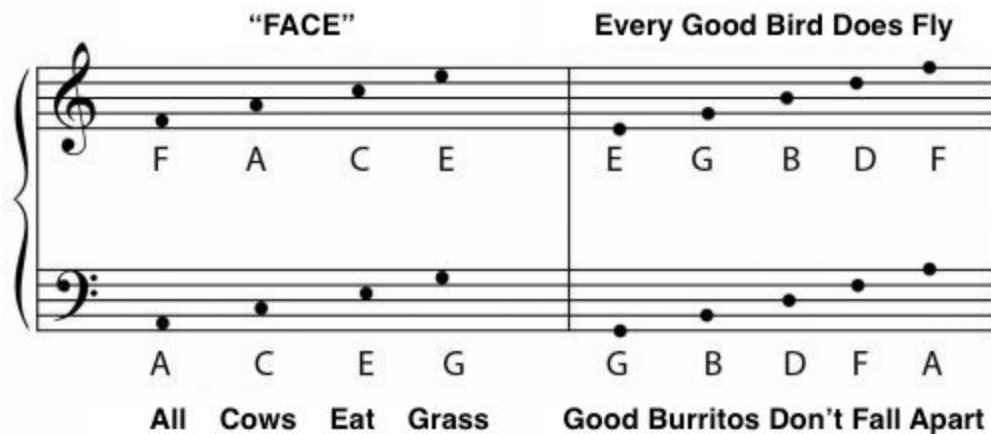
Always start from the bottom and go up. And remember, there are 5 lines and 4 spaces on the staff, so the mnemonics to remember line notes have 5 words and the mnemonics to recall space notes have 4 words or letters.

Treble Clef space notes: F A C E

Treble Clef line notes: Every Good Bird Does Fly

Bass Clef space notes: All Cows Eat Grass

Bass Clef line notes: Good Burritos Don't Fall Apart



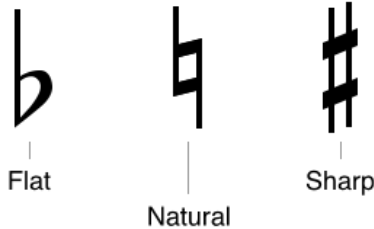
"FACE"				Every Good Bird Does Fly				
F	A	C	E	E	G	B	D	F
A	C	E	G	G	B	D	F	A
All	Cows	Eat	Grass	Good	Burritos	Don't	Fall	Apart

Name: _____

Class: _____

Accidentals

In music, sometimes we want to change the pitch of a note. We can use *accidentals* to achieve this. A **flat** lowers the pitch of a note by a half step. A **sharp** raises the pitch of a note by a half step. A **natural** cancels a previous flat or sharp.



Key Signature: the sharps or flats located near the beginning of each line of music next to the clef.

All the Bs in the song would be played as B-flat because there is a flat sign on the B line in this key signature example.



All Fs and Cs in the song would be played as F-sharp and C-sharp since there is a sharp sign on the F line and the C space in this key signature.



In this example, there are no sharps or flats in the key signature, so all notes would be played *natural* (white piano keys).



Time Signature: the two numbers located near the beginning of the music. The *top* number tells you *how many* beats or counts are in each *measure*. The *bottom* number tells you *which kind of note* is worth *one* beat.

So, for example, if the time signature is $\frac{4}{4}$ (pronounced “four four”), that means there are *four* beats in each measure (top number) and that the *quarter note* is worth one beat (bottom number). If the time

signature was $\frac{3}{2}$ (pronounced “three two”), then there would be *three* beats in each measure and


the *half note* would be worth one beat. If the time signature was $\frac{2}{8}$ (pronounced “two eight”), then


there would be two beats in each measure and the *eighth note* would be worth one beat.

Name: _____

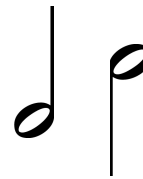
Class: _____

Note and Rest Values

Whole Note: Fills a *whole* measure with sound. Normally worth *four* beats. 

Whole Rest: Fills a *whole* measure with silence. Normally worth *four* beats. 

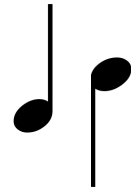
Half Note: Lasts *half* as long as a whole note. Normally worth *two* beats.
Stem can go up or down.



Half Rest: Lasts *half* as long as a whole rest. Normally worth *two* beats.
Be careful: it looks very similar to the whole rest.



Quarter Note: Lasts *one quarter* as long as a whole note. Normally worth *one* beat.
Stem can go up or down.



Quarter Rest: Lasts *one quarter* as long as a whole rest. Normally worth *one* beat.



Tempo: indicates how *fast* or *slow* a piece of music should be performed. Tempo can be written as a specific number (e.g. 120, which would be 120 *beats per minute* or bpm) or as a word (e.g. **Allegro**, meaning *fast*; **Moderato**, meaning *moderately*; **Andante**, meaning *moderately slow*).

Composer: A composer is a person who creates, writes, or *composes* music. Music can be written using pen or pencil and paper or using computer software.

Name: _____

Class: _____

Instrument Families

There are four (4) main families of instruments.

- **Percussion:** any instrument that is struck, hit, or shaken. Generally, it is the vibration of the instrument itself that creates the sound (think of a cymbal or a xylophone).
- **String:** any instrument with strings. It is the vibration of the *strings*, in conjunction with other parts of the instrument, that creates the sound (think violin, guitar, or piano).
- **Brass:** an instrument played by buzzing one's lips in a mouthpiece and blowing air. It is the vibration of the performer's lips, in conjunction with the air and the metal of the instrument itself, that creates the sound (think trumpet, trombone, tuba)
- **Woodwind:** an instrument played by buzzing a wood reed and blowing air. It is the vibration of the reed, in conjunction with the air and the instrument itself, that creates the sound (think clarinet or saxophone). Flutes, although they do not use a reed, are considered woodwind instruments since they were historically made out of wood. Saxophones, although they are made out of metal, are also considered to be woodwind instruments since they use a reed.

Fun Fact! The piano can be considered both a string instrument and a percussion instrument, since the strings inside a piano are struck with hammers.

Fun fact! there is another way to categorize instruments:

- **Idiophone:** the *instrument itself* vibrates to create sound (e.g. cymbal, xylophone, woodblock)
- **Membranophone:** a *membrane* vibrates to create sound (e.g. drums, banjo)
- **Chordophone:** a *cord* or *string* vibrates to create sound (e.g. violin, ukelele, piano)
- **Aerophone:** a column of *air* vibrates to create sound (e.g. trumpet, flute, saxophone)