# Beginner Grade 

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## Notation and Duration - Notes

O This is a semibreve. A semibreve is held for 4 beats.

Practise drawing semibreves below by joining the dots.

Practise drawing semibreves between two lines. Try not to go above or below the lines (see the example):


Practise drawing minims below by joining the dots:

The circle and line that are used to make a minim also have other names.


The stem (or stick) can point up or down. If the stem is pointing up, it must be drawn on the right hand side of the note-head. If the stem is pointing down, it must be drawn on the left hand side of the note-head.

Practise drawing minims with the stems pointing up. Keep the note-head within the two lines (see the example):


Practise drawing minims with the stems pointing down (see the example):

$\qquad$
$\qquad$

This is a crotchet. A crotchet is held for $\mathbf{1}$ beat.

Practise drawing crotchets with the stems pointing up (see the example):
$\qquad$


Practise drawing crotchets with the stems pointing down (see the example):


Circle the correct answer:

| - This note is a: | semibreve | minim | crotchet |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - This note is a: | semibreve | minim | crotchet |
| O - This note is a: | semibreve | minim | crotchet |
| A minim is held for: | 1 beat | 2 beats | 4 beats |
| A crotchet is held for: | 1 beat | 2 beats | 4 beats |
| A semibreve is held for: | 1 beat | 2 beats | 4 beats |

Musical Maths - Notes

Answer the following questions by writing the correct number (see the example):


Answer the following questions by writing the correct note (see the example). Be careful, as there are also some subtraction questions:


## Notation and Duration - Rests

- This is a semibreve rest. A semibreve rest is $\mathbf{4}$ beats of silence.

The semibreve rest hangs from a line. Practise drawing semibreve rests below. Try to only fill up half the space between the two lines with the rest (see the examples):


The minim rest sits on a line. Practise drawing minim rests below. Once again, try to only fill up half the space between the two lines when drawing the rest:

\$ This is a crotchet rest. A crotchet rest is $\mathbf{1}$ beat of silence.

Crotchet rests are quite difficult to draw at first. Start at the top of the rest, and draw a zigzag. Finish the crotchet rest by adding the letter ' C '.
1.

2.


Draw a crotchet rest in each box below (see the example):


Circle the correct answer:

| - This rest is a: | semibreve rest | minim rest | crotchet rest |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - This rest is a: | semibreve rest | minim rest | crotchet rest |
| A crotchet rest is held for: | 1 beat | 2 beats | 4 beats |
| A minim rest is held for: | 1 beat | 2 beats | 4 beats |
| A semibreve rest is held for: | 1 beat | 2 beats | 4 beats |

## Musical Maths - Rests

Answer the following questions by writing the correct number (see the example):


Answer the following questions by writing the correct rest (see the example):


## Revision Test - Notes \& Rests

Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Circle the correct answer:
$O$ - This note is a:

-     - This rest is a:
semibreve rest
minim rest
crotchet rest

A crotchet is held for:
1 beat
2 beats
4 beats

Between the two lines draw the following notes and rests:

1. Minim note (stem down)
2. Crotchet note (stem up)


Draw a crotchet rest in the following box:


Answer the following questions by writing the correct number:


## Note Names

The musical alphabet is made up of the first seven letters of the alphabet.

## $\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { A } & \text { B } & \text { C } & \mathbf{D} & \text { E } & \text { F } & \text { G }\end{array}$

Circle the letters below that belong to the musical alphabet. You should end up with 20 circled letters:

| A | F | V | H | B | U | O | J | E | C | N |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q | Y | E | C | D | A | N | Z | G | D | I |
| Z | F | B | S | M | N | I | O | E | F | A |
| X | T | W | E | Y | G | F | T | H | A | V |

Continue drawing lines to connect any two notes from the musical alphabet to make your way through the musical maze. You can only move to the right or down:
Start

## Using the Stave

Music is written on lines, or in spaces. These lines and spaces are called the staff or stave. This is what the stave looks like:

At the start of every stave we place a clef. The two clefs that are most commonly used are the treble clef and the bass clef. The treble clef is usually used for higher notes, and the bass clef for lower notes.


You have already been introduced to the letters of the musical alphabet and note lengths. Every letter of the musical alphabet has its own special place on the musical stave. Some people like to use simple phrases to help them remember where each note should be placed. This is one of the phrases often used for treble clef notes:


Make up two phrases of your own that could be used to remember treble clef lines:


Many people like to remember the treble clef spaces by using the word 'FACE'.


Make up two phrases of your own that could be used to remember treble clef spaces:


If you combine both the line and space notes, you will see how as the notes move from low on the stave to high the note names follow the same order as the musical alphabet. After the letter ' $G$ ' we start at the letter 'A' again.


Fill in each box below with the correct letter of the musical alphabet (moving from low to high). The first and last boxes have been filled in for you:


When the notes move from high to low on the stave, you need to use the musical alphabet backwards.


Fill in each box below with the correct letter of the musical alphabet (moving from high to low). The first and last boxes have been filled in for you:


Name the following treble clef notes:


## Bass Clef Lines

Short phrases can also be used to remember the letter names of bass clef notes. Below is a common example often used:


Make up two phrases of your own that could be used to remember bass clef lines:


Make up two phrases of your own that could be used to remember bass clef spaces:


Name the following bass clef notes:


Name the following notes to form words:


## Revision Test - Using the Stave

Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Name the following treble clef notes:

$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

Name the following bass clef notes:


Write a phrase that could be used to remember the bass clef lines:


Name the following notes to form words:


Total:

## Timing

A musical stave or staff can be divided into sections, called bars. We do this by adding vertical lines, called bar lines.

At the end of a piece of music we place a double bar line. This tells us that the piece is finished.


You may have noticed two numbers placed to the right hand of the clef in the pieces you have played. These numbers are called the time signature.


Every time signature is made up of two numbers. The top number tells you how many counts or beats are in every bar. The bottom number tells you what kind of note is equal to one count or beat for that particular time signature.

The number 4 at the top of a time signature tells us that there needs to be four beats in every bar of music. The number 4 at the bottom of a time signature tells us that a crotchet is equal to one count or beat.


You can have any number of notes in a bar of ${ }_{4}^{4}$, as long as the total value of the notes adds up to four beats (see the example below):


Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether the correct number of beats are in each bar according to the time signature (the first has been completed as an example):


## Circling Beats

One of the reasons we divide pieces of music into bars is that it is much easier to count the beats, as there are only a small number of individual beats in each bar.

If the time signature is $\frac{4}{4}$, you only need to count from one to four for each bar. After counting '4' you start with ' 1 ' again.


You have already been introduced to minim and semibreve notes/rests. Note below how minim and semibreves take up more than one individual beat of the bar:


Place a single circle around beat 1 in each bar betow (the first bar has been completed as an example):


Place a single circle around beat 4 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beat 2 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beat 3 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beats $\mathbf{1}$ and 2 in each bar below (the first two bars have been completed as an example):


Place a single circle around beats 3 and 4 in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beats $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathbf{3}$ in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beats $\mathbf{1 , 2}$ and $\mathbf{3}$ in each bar below:


Place a single circle around beats 2,3 and 4 in each bar below:


Place a circle around beat $\mathbf{1}$ and a circle around beat $\mathbf{4}$ in each bar below (the first bar has been completed as an example):


Place a circle around beat 2 and a circle around beat 4 in each bar below (the first bar has been completed as an example):


## Bar Lines

In the exercises below, you need to draw a bar line after every 4 beats, and a double bar line at the end of the line of music.

The bar lines and double bar lines that you draw should be vertical, straight and should not go beyond the top or bottom lines of the stave (see the examples below):


Add bar lines and a double bar line to the following lines of music:



## Revision Test - Timing

## Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether the correct number of beats are in each bar according to the time signature:


Place a single circle around beats $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$ in each bar below:


Place a circle around beat 1 and a circle around beat $\mathbf{3}$ in each bar below:


Add bar lines and a double bar line to the following lines of music:


Total: $\square$

## Instruments of the Orchestra

A symphony orchestra is made up of over 20 different instruments. These instruments can be grouped into four different sections:

1. Strings
2. Woodwind
3. Brass
4. Percussion

## Strings



There are five different instruments in the string section of a symphony orchestra:


Woodwind


There are five main instruments in the woodwind section of a symphony orchestra:


## Brass



There are four main instruments in the brass section of a symphony orchestra:


There are many different percussion instruments used in a symphony orchestra. Here are six of the more commonly used percussion instruments:


Draw a line from the inner circle to all the instruments belonging to the brass family (the first one has been completed as an example):


Draw a line from the inner circle to all the instruments belonging to the strings family:


Draw a line from the inner circle to all the instruments belonging to the woodwind family:


Draw a line from the inner circle to all the instruments belonging to the percussion family:


Find and circle the names of the twenty symphony orchestra instruments listed below. The names have been written vertically and horizontally, not diagonally (the first one has been completed as an example):

| - Bass Drum | • Double Bass | - Piccolo | • Trumpet |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - Bassoon | • Flute | - Snare Drum | - Tuba |
| - Cello | - French Horn | - Timpani | - Viola |
| - Clarinet | • Harp | - Triangle | • Violin |
| - Cymbal | • Oboe | - Trombone | • Xylophone |


| F | T | R | O | M | B | O | N | E | V | E | G | D | C |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R | E | F | D | T | A | V | B | F | L |  | T | E | X |
| E | V | G | O | R | U | E | C |  | I |  |  | T | Y |
| N | W | A | U | I | I | K |  |  |  |  | O | E | L |
| C | Y | M | B | A |  |  |  |  | B | A | E | C | O |
| H | S | V | L | N |  |  |  | M | P | A | N | I | P |
| H | U |  | E |  |  | A | R | P | V | Y | M | B | H |
| O | F | O |  |  | T | U | N | E | D | R | E | A | O |
| R | J | L | A | E | D | E | B | T | A | C | F | S | N |
| N | B | A | S | S | D | R | U | M | L | N | S | S | E |
| J | Z | D | S | N | A | R | E | D | R | U | M | O | V |
| L | R | H | U | C | L | A | R | I | N | E | T | O | L |
| C | E | L | L | O | L | N | V | I | O | L | I | N | A |
| Z | P | I | C | C | O | L | O | B | H | S | E | M | Y |

## Revision Test - Instruments of the Orchestra

Complete this revision test at your lesson.

Circle the instruments that belong to the brass family:

Violin
Flute
Tuba
Oboe
Trumpet

Circle the instruments that belong to the strings family:


Which family does the bassoon belong to?

Strings


Percussion

Circle the instruments that do not belong to a symphony orchestra:

Recorder
Guitar
Bassoon
Flute

Saxophone
Bass Drum
Timpani
Euphonium
Harmonica

## Terminology

Understanding and following the terminology in your pieces will enable you to perform more musically. There are nine terms for you to learn in Beginner Grade. You will most likely have already come across most of the terms on this list in the pieces you play.

Beginner Grade:
Forte $-\operatorname{loud}(\boldsymbol{f})$
Piano - soft ( $\boldsymbol{p}$ )
Mezzo forte - moderately loud ( $\boldsymbol{m} \boldsymbol{f}$ )
Mezzo piano - moderately soft (mp)
Crescendo - gradually becoming louder (cresc. or )
Decrescendo - gradually becoming softer (decresc.or )
\# - sharp
b-flat
母 - natural

Dynamics - We call the terms (and their abbreviations) that are used to describe the volume at which we need to play a piece of music dynamics. For example, to instruct a musician to play the start of a piece loudly, you add the dynamic marking 'forte' $(\boldsymbol{f})$ beneath the first note of the piece.

Accidentals - A sharp, flat or natural placed before a note is called an accidental.

Circle the correct answer regarding the dynamics and accidentals in the following pieces:

Bar 1 should be played:
Bar 2 needs to be:
Bar 3 should be played:
The accidental in bar 2 is a: sharp
Bar 1 should be played:
Bar 3 needs to be:
Bar 4 should be played:
The accidental in bar 4 is a: sharp


Bar 1 should be played
Bar 2 needs to be:

Bar 4 needs to be:

The accidental in bar 3 is a: sharp
loud
becoming louder extra loud
soft
quite slow
slowing down flat
moderately soft becoming softer becoming softer natural

## Repeat signs

:|| This is the end repeat (or right repeat) sign.
Play the music that is before this sign, again.


When you get to the repeat sign in the piece above, you should return to the beginning and play the entire piece a second time.
: This is the begin repeat (or left repeat) sign.
You return to this point of the piece after you have reached an end repeat.


In the example above, you repeat the section of music between bar 3 and the end of bar 6 before continuing on to bars 7 and 8 .

Circle the correct answer for each of the questions below:


| After bar 4 (the 1st time through) you should play: | bar 1 | bar 5 | bar 8 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| After bar 4 (the 2nd time through) you should play: | bar 1 | bar 5 | bar 8 |


| After bar 8 you should play: | bar 1 | bar 5 | bar 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| The last bar you should play is: | bar 4 | bar 5 | bar 8 |


After bar 4 (the 1st time through) you should play:
After bar 4 (the 2nd time through) you should play:
After bar 6 (the 1st time through) you should play:
After bar 6 (the 2nd time through) you should play:

| After bar 2 (the 1st time through) you should play: | bar 1 | bar 3 | bar 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| After bar 4 (the 1st time through) you should play: | bar 1 | bar 3 | bar 7 |
| After bar 4 (the 2nd time through) you should play: | bar 3 | bar 5 | bar 8 |
| After bar 7 (the 1st time through) you should play: | bar 1 | bar 4 | bar 7 |
| After bar 7 (the 2nd time through) you should play: | bar 3 | bar 5 | bar 8 |

The last bar you should play is:

## Sample Examination Paper 1

Your name: $\qquad$
Teacher's name: $\qquad$
Exam centre: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

Time allowed for this examination: 1 hour
Please complete all questions in pencil or ink. Read all questions carefully.

1. Notation (20 marks)

Circle the correct answer:
$\delta$ - This note is a:
semibreve


1. Crotchet rest
2. Minim note
(stem up)

3. Crotchet note
(stem down)


Between the two lines draw the following rests:
4. Minim rest
$\qquad$
5. Semibreve rest
$\qquad$

Answer the following questions by writing the correct number:
| Examiner's
use only
$/ 5$

Name the following bass clef notes:


## 3. Timing (30 marks)

Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether the correct number of beats are in each bar according to the time signature:


## Sample Examination Paper - Beginner Grade

Place a single circle around beats 2 and $\mathbf{3}$ in each bar below:

Place a circle around beat $\mathbf{1}$ and a circle around beat 4 in each bar below:


Add bar lines and a double bar line to the following line of music:

## 4. Instruments of the Orchestra ( 10 marks)

Circle the instruments that belong to the brass family:

Snare Drum Tuba

French Horn
Oboe
Trumpet

Which family does the Viola belong to?
Strings Woodwind Brass Percussion

Circle the instruments that belong to a symphony orchestra:

Double Bass
Recorder
Guitar
Oboe
Flute

Harmonica

## Sample Examination Paper - Beginner Grade

## 5. Terminology (20 marks)

Circle the correct answer in regards to the dynamic markings in the following piece:


| Bar 1 should be played: | moderately loud | moderately soft | loud |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bar 2 needs to be: | becoming louder | becoming softer | speeding up |
| Bar 3 should be played: | moderately loud | loud | soft |
| Bar 4 needs to be: | becoming louder | becoming softer | slowing down | The accidental in bar 4 is a: sharp natural flat

Circle the correct answer for each of the questions below:


## Sample Examination Paper 2

Your name: $\qquad$
Teacher's name: $\qquad$

Exam centre: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

Time allowed for this examination: 1 hour
Please complete all questions in pencil or ink. Read all questions carefully.

| Examiner's <br> use only |
| :--- |

## 1. Notation (20 marks)

Circle the correct answer:

| - This rest is a: | semibreve rest | minim rest | crotchet rest |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - This rest is a: | semibreve rest | minim rest | crotchet rest |
| A minim is held for: | 1 beat | crotchet |  |
| - This note is a: | 2 beanibreve | 4 beats |  |

In the box provided draw the following notes or rests:

1. Semibreve note

2. Minim note
(stem down)

3. Crotchet note (stem up)


Between the two lines draw the following rests:
4. Semibreve rest
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
5. Minim rest

## Sample Examination Paper 2 - Beginner Grade

Answer the following questions by writing the correct note or rest:


## 2. Note names (20 marks)

Name the following treble clef notes:


Name the following bass clef notes:


## 3. Timing (30 marks)

Place a tick or a cross in each box to indicate whether the correct number of beats are in each bar according to the time signature:


Place a single circle around beats 3 and 4 in each bar below:

Flute
Trumpet Oboe

Violin
Bassoon

Which family does the tuba belong to?

Strings
Woodwind
Brass
Percussion

Circle the instruments that do not belong to a symphony orchestra:
Cello
Kazoo
Violin
Banjo
Timpani

Kick Drum
Cymbals
Bassoon
Sitar
Koto

## 5. Terminology (20 marks)

Circle the correct answer in regards to the dynamic markings in the following piece:


| After bar 2 (the 1st time through) you should play: | bar 1 | bar 3 | bar 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| After bar 4 you should play: | bar 1 | bar 3 | bar 5 |
| After bar 6 (the 1st time through) you should play: | bar 1 | bar 3 | bar 7 |
| After bar 6 (the 2nd time through) you should play: | bar 3 | bar 5 | bar 7 |
| The last bar you should play is: | bar 4 | bar 6 | bar 8 |

