









# Notes And Rests Chart

The basics of music notation are *notes* and *rests*. Notes make sound, rests make silence.

	Note	Rest	Counts
Whole			4
Half			2
Quarter			1
Eighth			1/2

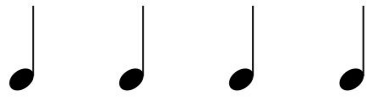
# Bars, Meter, And Your First Rhythm

This is a short piece of music, but it has almost all of the basic written notation in it. Please copy this rhythm, the labels for the parts, and the definitions. We'll learn how it all works when you're done.

*Meter or*

*Time signature*-fraction in front  
of music

$\frac{4}{4}$



*Bar line or  
measure line*-ends a bar or measure

*Bar or  
Measure*-1 group of beats

*Final bar* -ends a piece

There is also the *double bar* || which ends a section.

# How Meter Works

The *meter* or *time signature* is the fraction in front of the music. It shows how the groups of beats are organized. Both the top and bottom number are important, and tell you different things.

4 —————▶ top number —▶ how many beats per measure (group)  
4 —————▶ bottom number▶ how many beats the whole note gets

The top number can be anything, and every measure needs to have all of the counts in it, ie if the top number is 4, you count 1, count 2, count 3, and count 4. DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING OUT! (yet)

**ALL NOTE AND REST VALUES ARE RELATIVE TO THE BOTTOM NUMBER, AND EVERYTHING CHANGES WHEN THE BOTTOM NUMBER CHANGES.**

EG.

**BOTTOM NUMBER IS 4**

ALL (*WHOLE*) OF 4 IS \_\_, THEREFORE A *WHOLE NOTE* (OR REST) GETS \_\_ COUNTS

A *HALF* OF 4 IS \_\_, THEREFORE A *HALF NOTE* (OR REST) GETS \_\_ COUNTS

A *QUARTER* OF 4 IS \_\_, THEREFORE A *QUARTER NOTE* (OR REST) GETS \_\_ COUNTS

ETC.

**BOTTOM NUMBER IS 2**

ALL (*WHOLE*) OF 2 IS \_\_, THEREFORE A *WHOLE NOTE* (OR REST) GETS \_\_ COUNTS

A *HALF* OF 2 IS \_\_, THEREFORE A *HALF NOTE* (OR REST) GETS \_\_ COUNTS

A *QUARTER* OF 1 IS \_\_, THEREFORE A *QUARTER NOTE* (OR REST) GETS \_\_ COUNTS

ETC.

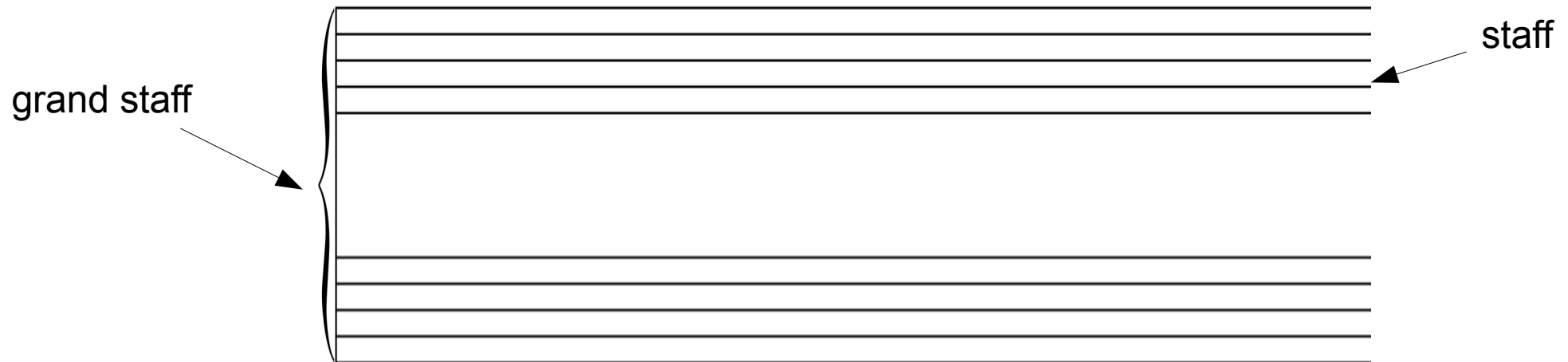
# Notes On A Staff

The *musical alphabet* has 7 letters:

A B C D E F G

These letters repeat forever.

- As you go forward in the alphabet (eg A B C D...) the pitch gets higher. As you go backwards in the alphabet (eg G F E D...) the pitch goes lower.
- The *staff* is a collection of 5 lines that shows where the notes are.
- Two staves together are called a *grand staff*. Notes can either be on *lines* or *spaces*.
- As you go higher on the staff, the pitch goes higher and you go forward in the alphabet. As you go lower on the staff you go backwards in the alphabet.
- The note *head* determines what letter the note is; the stem direction doesn't really matter.



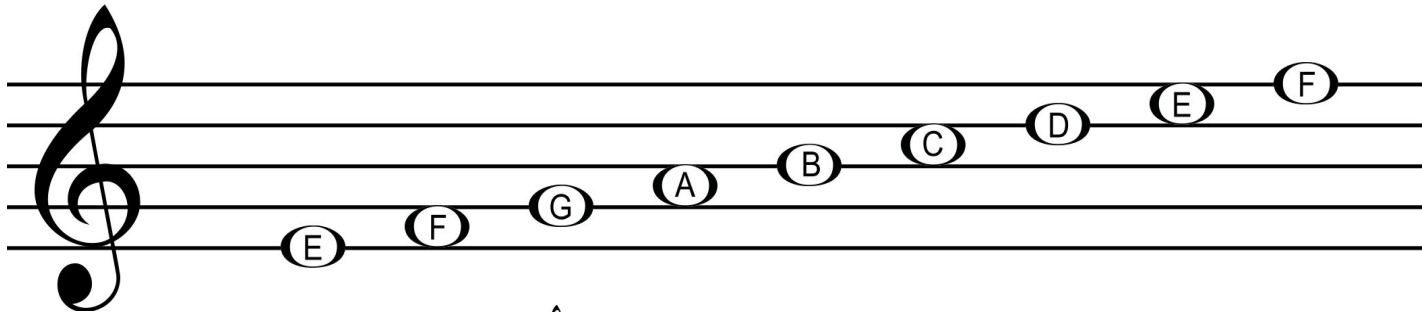
# Clefs! And Treble Clef

*Clefs* show you where the notes are. They're usually named for the letter they show, and started off as fancy ways of writing that letter.

There are many clefs, but this year we're going to use 3: the *treble clef* (or *G clef*), the *bass clef* (or *F clef*), and the *alto clef*, which is a kind of *moveable C clef*.



The *treble clef* or *G clef* is used by flutes, clarinets, oboes, saxophones, trumpets, french horns, mallet percussion, violins, and female vocalists. It shows where G is, on the second line of the staff.



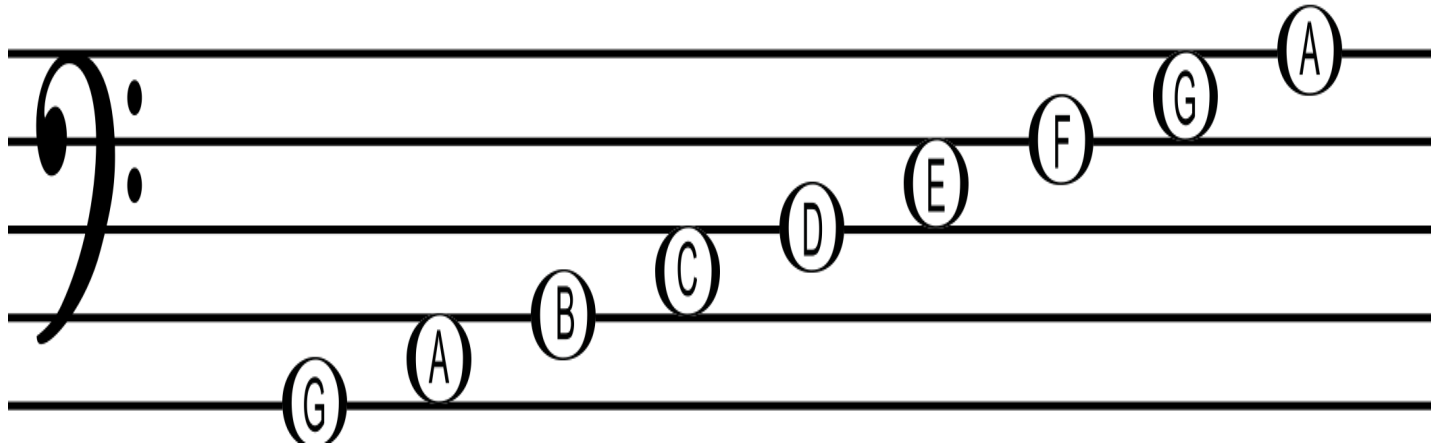
Lines : Every **G**ood **B**oy **D**oes **F**ine

Spaces : There's a **FACE** in the space

**LEARN THE SENTENCES FOR LINES AND SPACES IN EVERY CLEF! THEY'RE ALL ON THE TEST!**

# The Bass Clef

The *bass clef* or *F clef* is used by trombones, euphoniums, tubas, cellos, and male vocalists, and very rarely by french horns and mallet percussionists. It shows where F is, on the fourth line of the staff (right between the two dots).

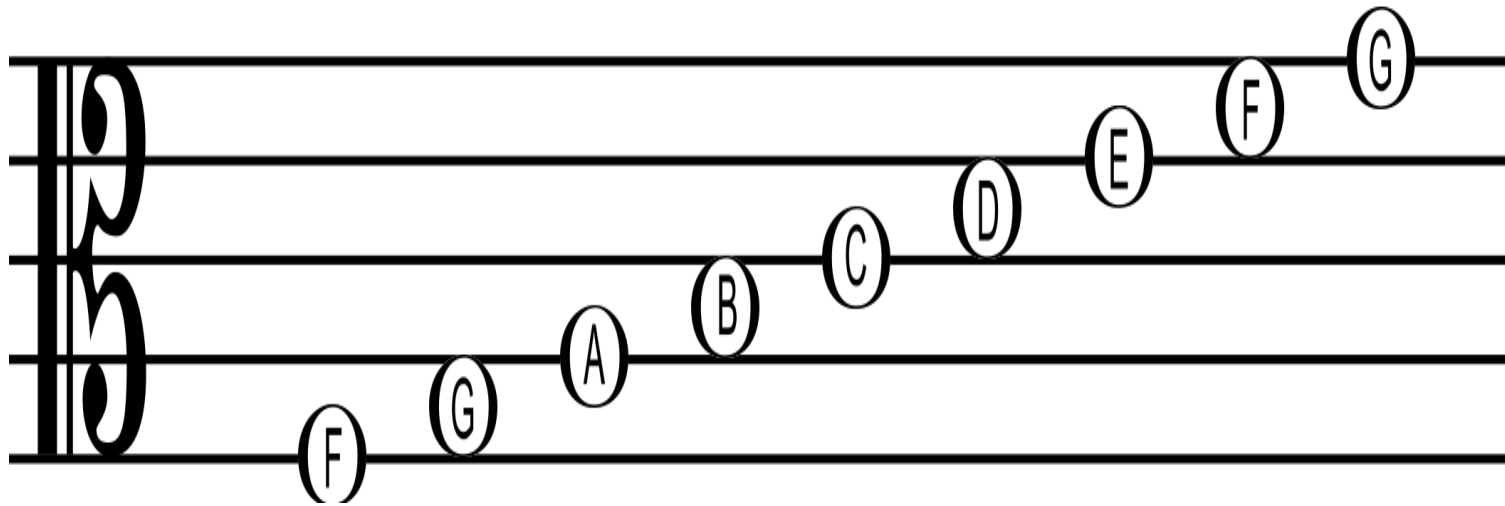


Lines ♭: **G**ood **B**urritos **D**on't **F**all **A**part

Spaces ♭: **A**ll **C**ows **E**at **G**rass

# The Alto Clef

The *alto clef* is a kind of *moveable C clef*. The *C clef* (C-clef) always shows where C is, right between the two bumps on the “B”.



Lines C-clef: **FACEG**

Spaces C-clef: **Good Boys Do Fine**