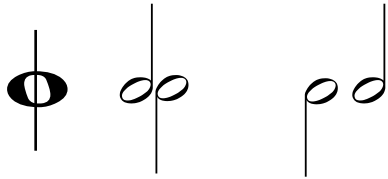


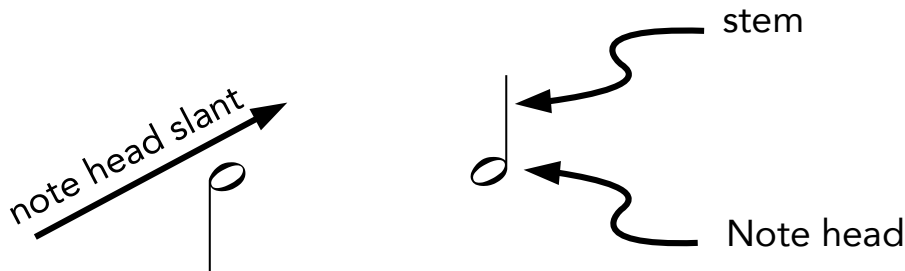
Note Durations



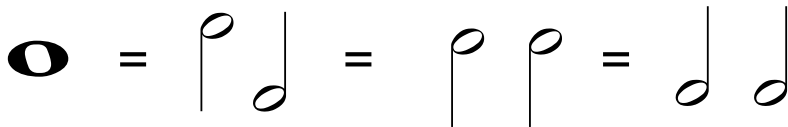
Whole Note: The entire thing!



Whole note split into two halves.

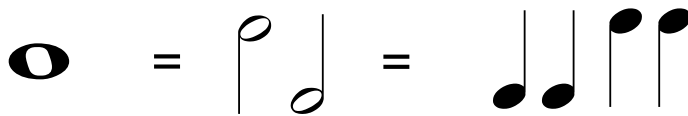


Note shapes indicate a relative time length. The length (duration) of the **whole note** is equal to two **half notes**.



The **quarter note** is the same shape as the half note with the note head filled in. Its duration is half of the half note.

One whole note = two half notes = four quarter notes.



The stem direction has no effect on the note. It is an important visual consideration, as we will see later.

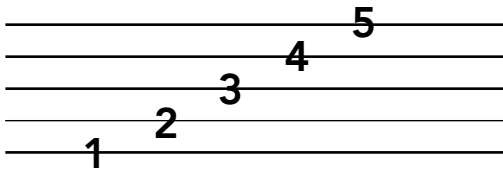
Stems going **DOWN** are drawn on the **LEFT** side of the note head.

Stems going **UP** are drawn on the **RIGHT** side of the note head.

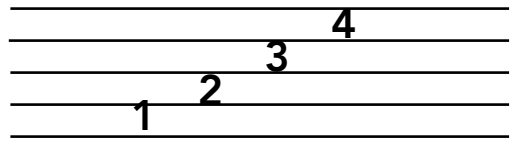
Staff Lines & Staves

Lines create a **staff** (plural is **staves**). The staff usually has 5 lines, except when it doesn't (like percussion music, which often has one or two).

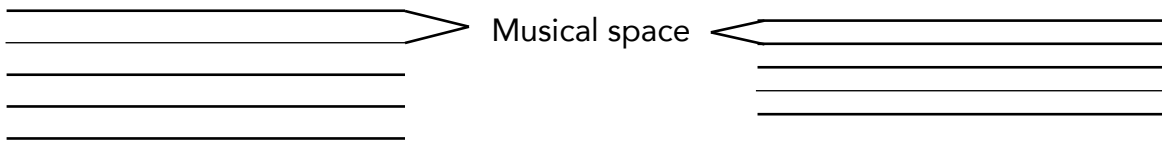
The lines of the staff are numbered from bottom to top



The spaces between lines are numbered from bottom to top.

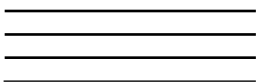


The distance between lines is called a musical **space**.
The space is an important unit of graphic music measurement.
Elements and parts of musical glyphs are sized by musical space

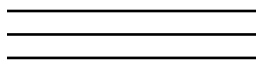


Below are examples of staves with fewer than 5 lines.

Four line staff



Three line staff



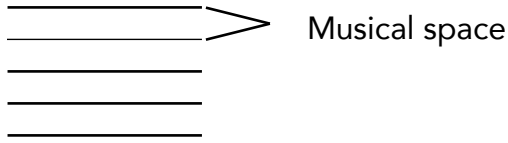
One line staff



What is the distance in musical spaces between the TOP and BOTTOM lines of a **5-line** staff? _____

What is the distance in musical spaces between the BOTTOM and MIDDLE lines of a **3-line** staff? _____

Notes On a Staff



The height of a note head is one **musical space**.

Stems are three and a half musical spaces long.

If the note head is in a space, the stem extends to a line.

If the note head is on a line, the stem extends to the center of a space.

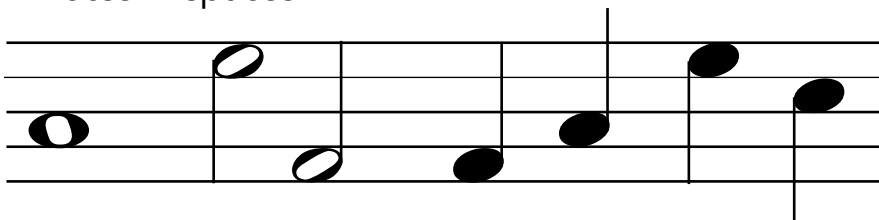
The direction of the stem goes **down** for notes **above and including** the center line.

The direction of the stem goes **up** for notes **below** the center line.

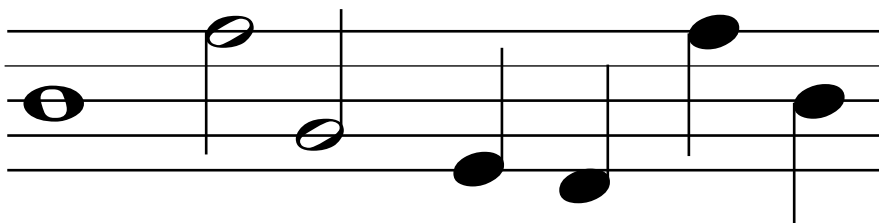
Stems going DOWN are drawn on the LEFT side of the note head.

Stems going UP are drawn on the RIGHT side of the note head.

Notes in spaces

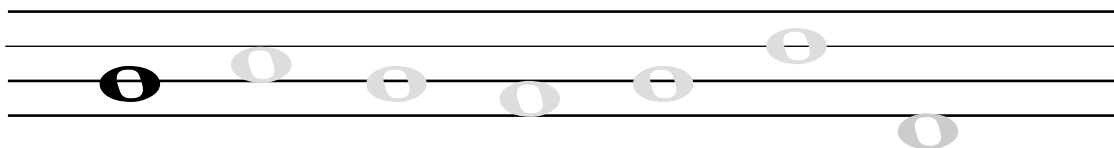


Notes on lines

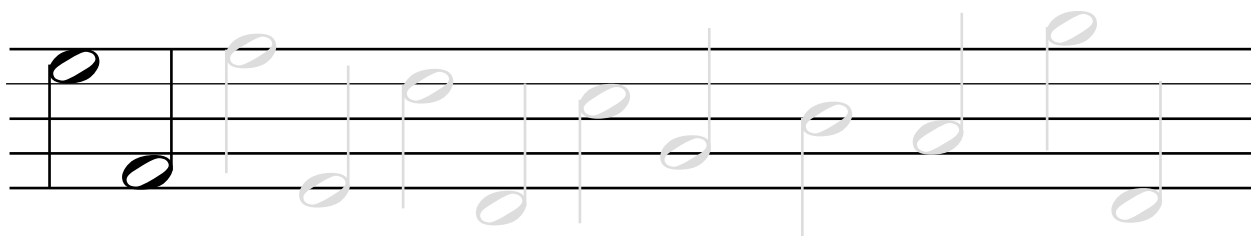


Notes Practice

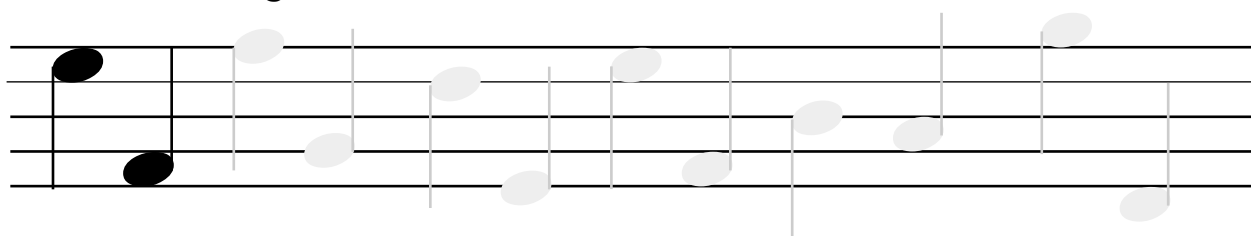
Trace the notes. Pay attention to the size and shape.
The whole note is more like an oval that is NOT slanted.



Trace the notes. Pay attention to the size and shape.
The half note is an oval that IS slanted. Notice the length of the stem.



Trace the notes. Pay attention to the size and shape.
The quarter note is the same as the half-note with the note head filled in.
Notice the length of the stem.



On the staff below, draw the following:

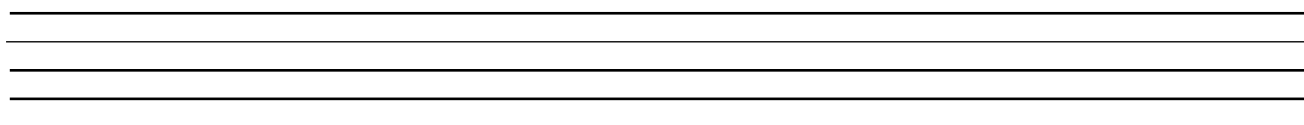
Two whole notes, one on a line and one in a space.

One half and one quarter note on a line ABOVE line 3

One half and one quarter note on a line BELOW line 3.

One half and one quarter note on a space ABOVE line 3

One half and one quarter note on a space BELOW line 3

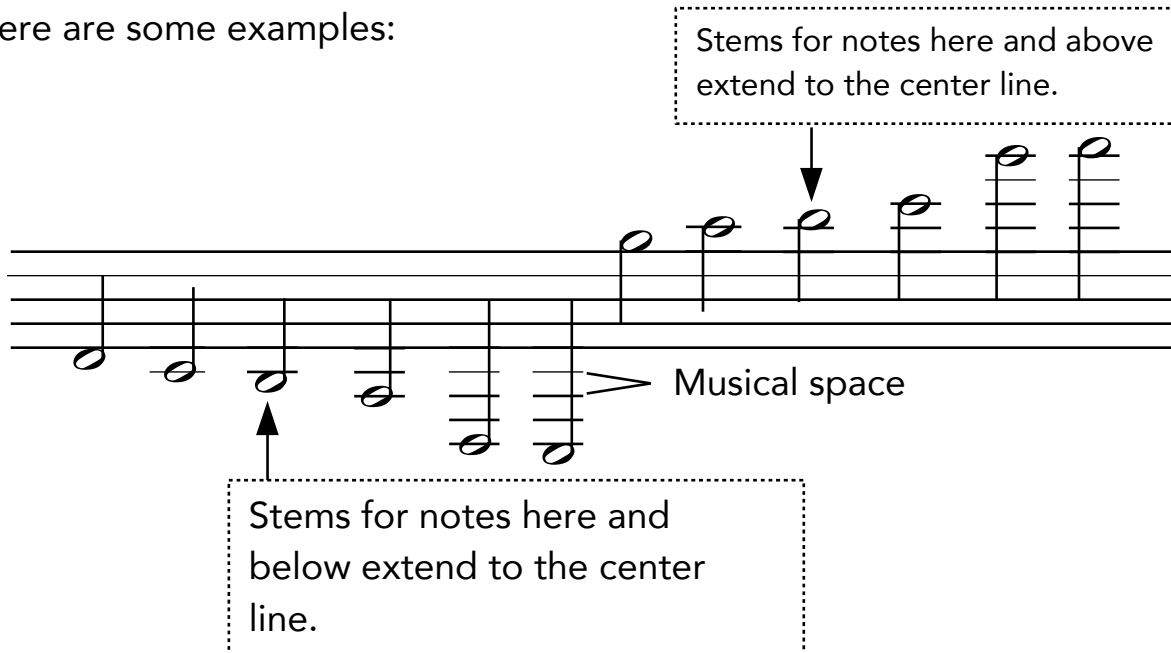


Ledger Lines

Music notes often don't fall within the staff. Extra lines are used above or below the staff to accommodate them. These are drawn on a note-by-note basis.

The space between ledger lines is the same as the space between staff lines (i.e. one musical space).

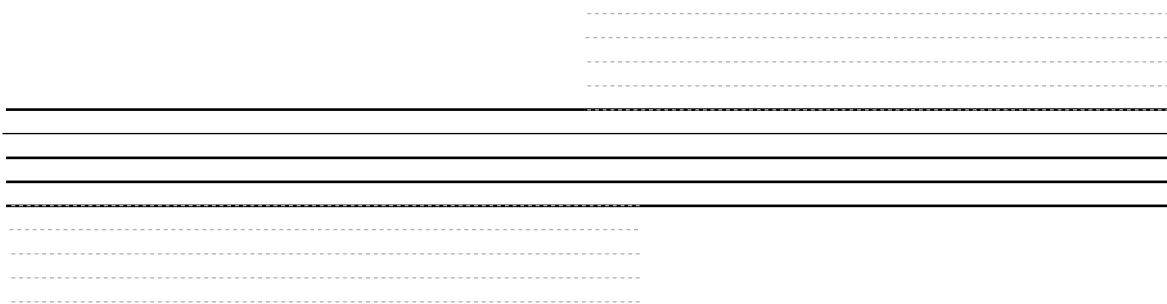
Here are some examples:



Practice drawing half notes and quarter notes **above** and **below** the staff. Use ledger lines as needed.


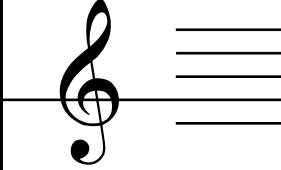
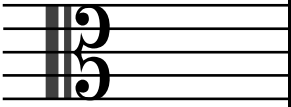
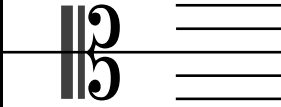
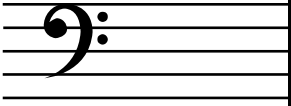
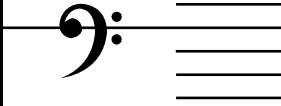
Draw six notes below, then six notes above the staff.

Stems go up for notes below the staff, and down for notes above the staff.



Clefs

The lines of a staff are meaningless until they are provided a **clef** sign. Clef signs establish a reference to specific pitches.

| | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------|-----------------|---|
|  | Treble clef | G clef | Focus line is G |  |
|  | Alto clef | C clef | Focus line is C |  |
|  | Bass clef | F clef | Focus line is F |  |

Treble clef (a.k.a. G-clef) is used for higher pitched instruments like violin, trumpet, and the higher notes of the piano.

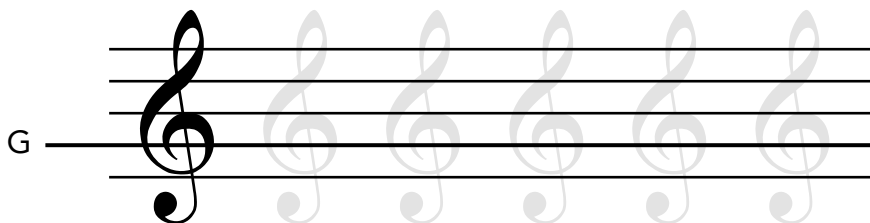
Alto clef (a.k.a. C-clef) is used for medium instruments like viola.

Bass clef (a.k.a. F-clef) is used for low pitched instruments like cello, trombone, and the lower notes of the piano.

(a.k.a. means *also known as*)

Treble (G) Clef Practice

Trace the gray treble clefs (known as the a G-clef because the reference line is G).

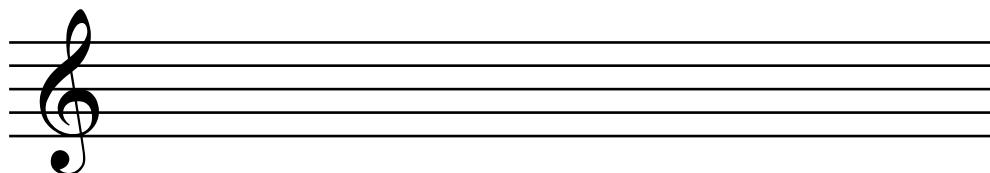


Notice the details of where each part borders or crosses the lines.

Trace the gray treble clefs



Draw 6 treble clefs



Draw 6 more treble clefs



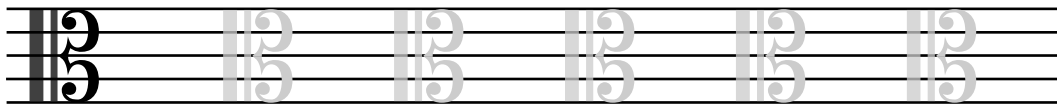
Alto (C) Clef Practice

Trace the gray alto clefs
(known as the C-clef because the reference line is C).

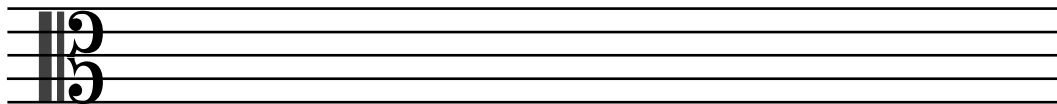


Notice the details of where each
part borders or crosses the lines

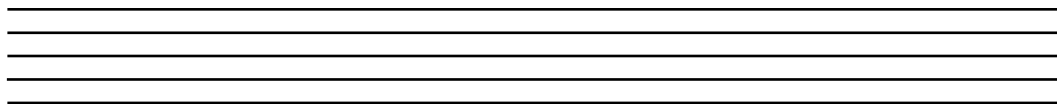
Trace the gray alto clefs



Draw 6 alto clefs



Draw 6 more alto clefs



Bass (F) Clef Practice

Trace the gray bass clefs (known as the F-clef because the reference line is F). The two dots mark the F line.

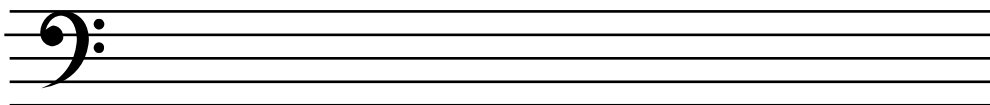


Notice the details of where each part borders or crosses the lines

Trace the gray bass clefs



Draw 6 bass clefs



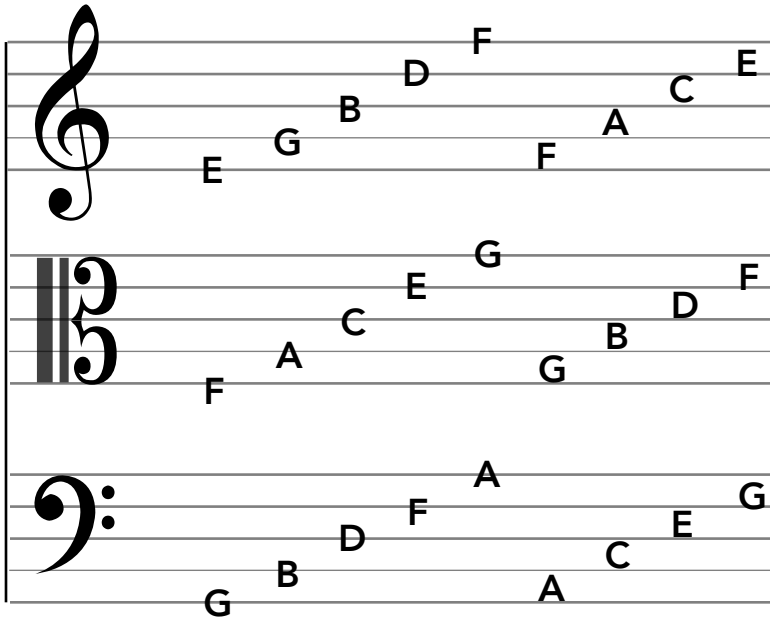
Draw 6 more bass clefs



Names of Lines & Spaces

Notes are labeled using the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', and 'g' to represent the names of pitches.

Below are the note names associated with each of the three clefs.



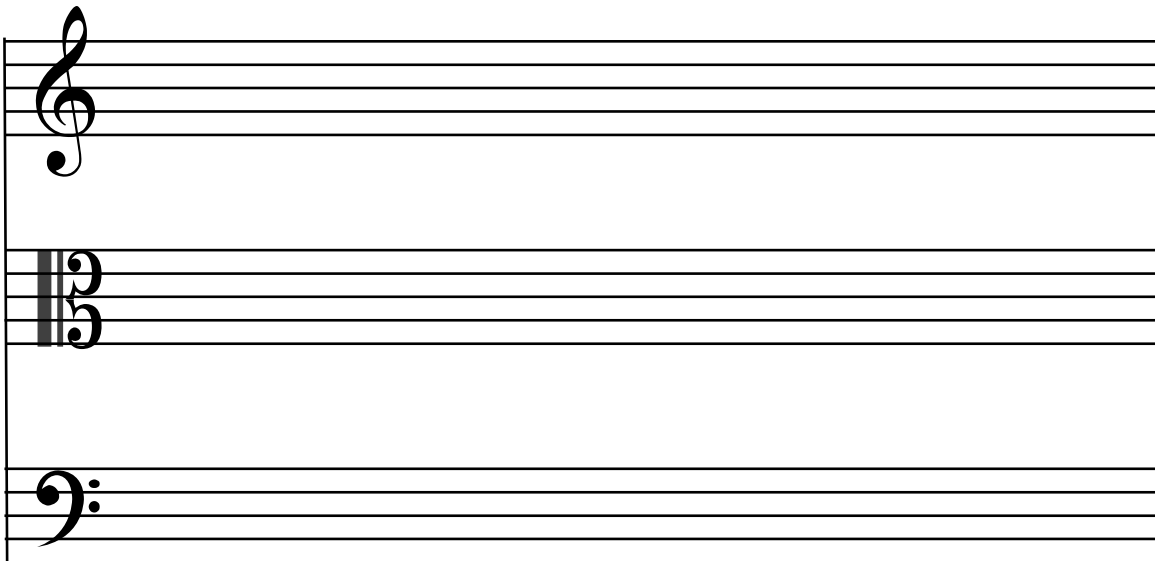
On the staves below,

Draw whole notes on all 'G's

Draw half notes on all 'D's

Draw quarter notes on all 'A's, then on all 'E's

Make sure stem directions and lengths are correct.
Make sure stems are on the correct side of the note heads.



Practice Names of Lines & Spaces

On the staves below, write the letter names for each note.

Three musical staves are shown. The top staff is in treble clef and contains six whole notes: E (first space), G (second line), B (third space), D (fourth line), F (fifth space), and A (first line above the staff). The middle staff is in alto clef and contains six whole notes: G (first space), B (second line), D (third space), F (fourth line), A (fifth space), and C (first line above the staff). The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains six whole notes: G (second space), B (third line), D (fourth space), F (fifth line), A (first space above the staff), and C (second line above the staff). The letter 'E' is written below the first note of the top staff, 'G' below the first note of the middle staff, and 'G' below the first note of the bottom staff.

Above or below the staff, write the letter names for each note.

Three musical staves are shown. The top staff is in treble clef and contains six whole notes: A (second space), C (third line), E (fourth space), G (fifth line), B (first space above the staff), and D (second line above the staff). The middle staff is in alto clef and contains six whole notes: E (first space), G (second line), B (third space), D (fourth line), F (fifth space), and A (first line above the staff). The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains six whole notes: E (second space), G (third line), B (fourth space), D (fifth line), F (first space above the staff), and A (second line above the staff). The letter 'A' is written above the first note of the top staff, 'B' above the fifth note of the middle staff, 'E' below the first note of the bottom staff, and 'E' below the fifth note of the bottom staff.

Melodic Steps & Intervals

Each change of level from line to space to line etc., is one step.
The step distance between notes is called an *interval*.

Melodic *Steps*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

In Western music notation, a distinction is made between the **distance between two notes** and the **name of the melodic interval**. This can be a little confusing because the **distance of one step** is called an **interval** of a *2nd*.

Melodic *Interval Names*

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------------|
| Melodic Steps | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Interval Name | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th | 8th Octave (8va) |

The melodic distance of an 8th is called an octave and is often notated 8va

One more special case: two notes on the same line or space (with melodic distance of zero) is called a *Unison*.

Unisons

0 steps

Practice Intervals & Steps 1

Write the **number of steps** between each pair of notes ABOVE each staff.

Write the **interval name** between each pair of notes BELOW each staff.

Use the terms U (unison), 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8va (octave).

When figuring out the interval number, include the starting note as one (1).

Steps 1 4

Interval 2nd 5th
Name

Practice Intervals & Steps 2

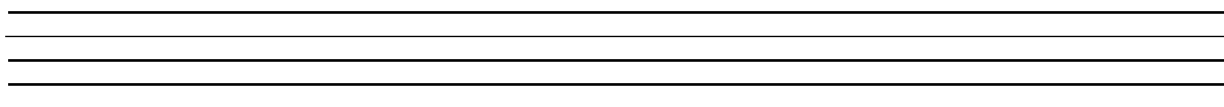
Draw a whole note on the middle line (line 3)

Draw a half note 2 steps above and 3 steps below the whole note.

Draw a quarter note 5 steps above and 7 steps below the whole note.

Use ledger lines as needed.

Label each note **measured from the whole note** according to their **interval** name (e.g., 3rd, 4th).

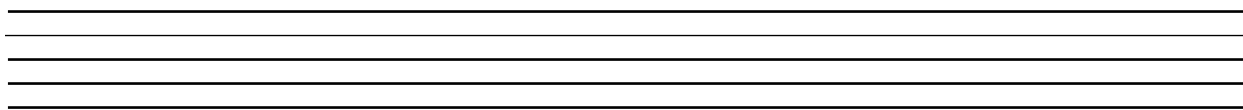


Make sure stem directions and lengths are correct.
Make sure stems are on the correct side of the note heads.

Draw a whole note on the 3rd **space** from the bottom,

Draw quarter notes a 2nd above, a 3rd below, a 4th above, and a 5th below the whole note.

Under each note, label their **step** distance from the whole note.

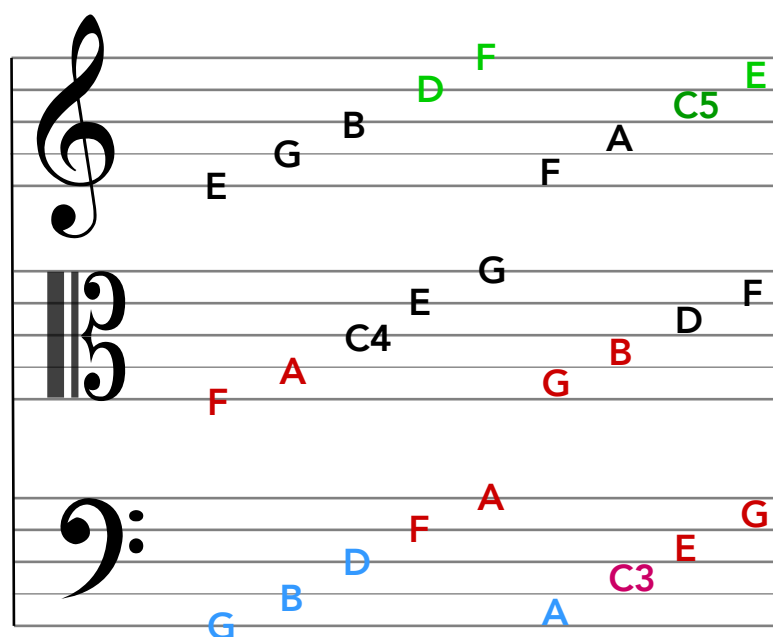
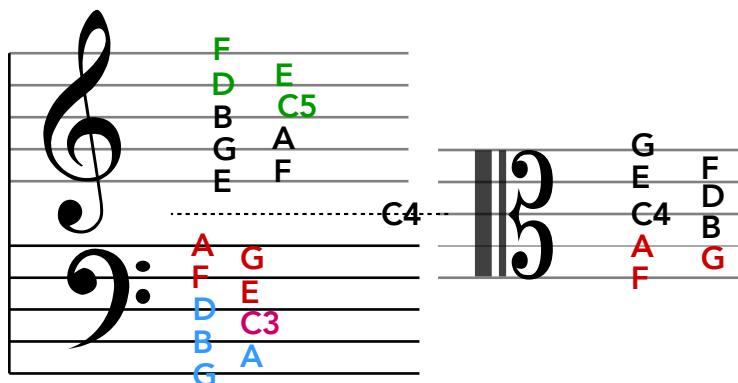


Draw a half note on the bottom line (line 1)
and another one an octave above it.

Octave Registers

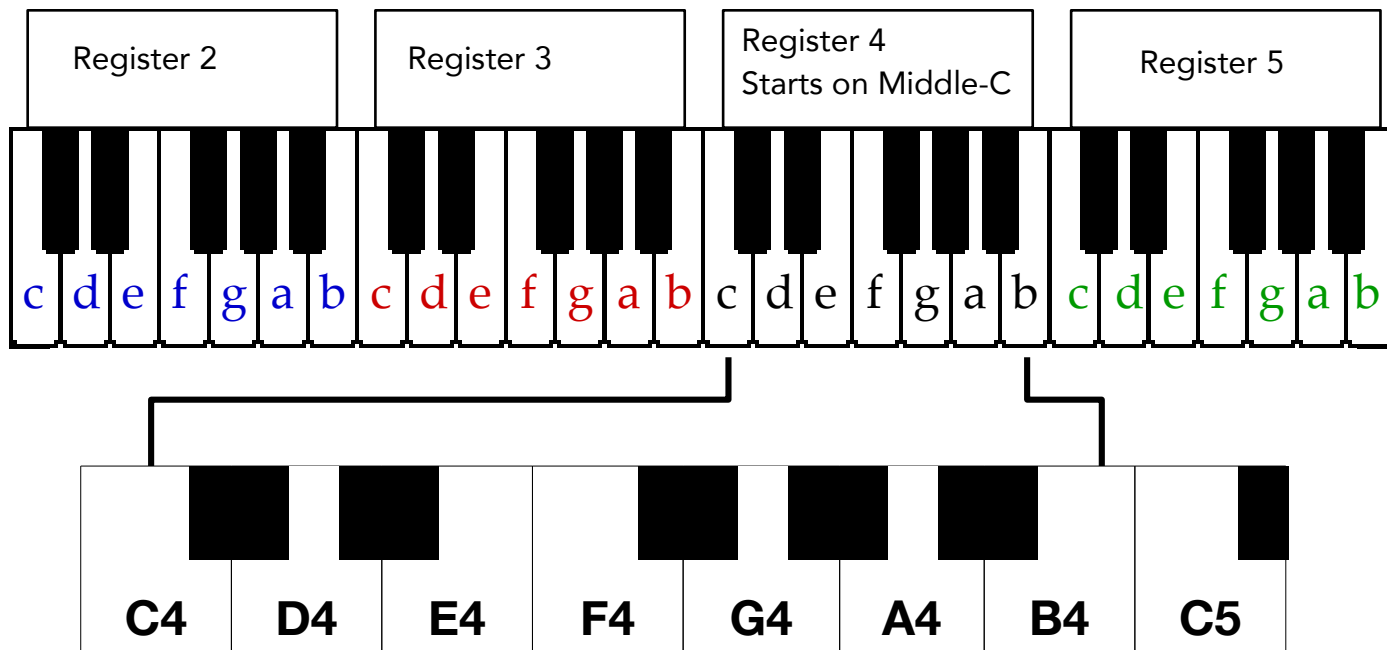
Middle C (also known as C4) is a central reference pitch in Western music.

To distinguish between notes of different octaves, there is a numeric reference to each **octave register**. 'C' is the designated first note of each register. Notes from 'C' to the 'B' above are in the same register as the 'C' reference.



Western Piano Keyboard

Note names ('c', 'd', 'e', etc.) represent the names of white keys of a piano keyboard.

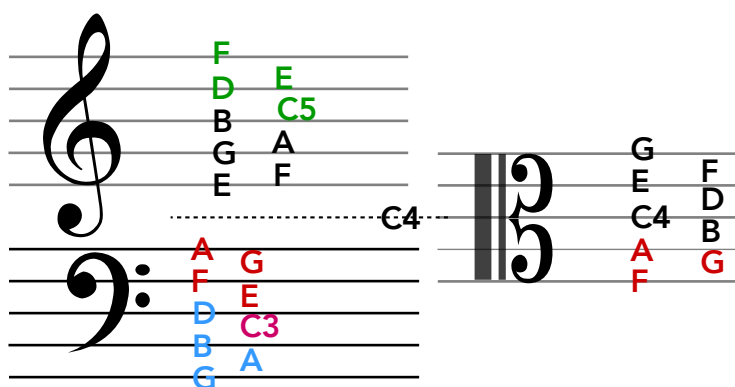


Notes of each register are shown below.

These match the piano keyboard as shown above.

Notes labeled with register follow the example here:

C2, D2, E2...B2, C3-B3, C4-B4, C5-B5

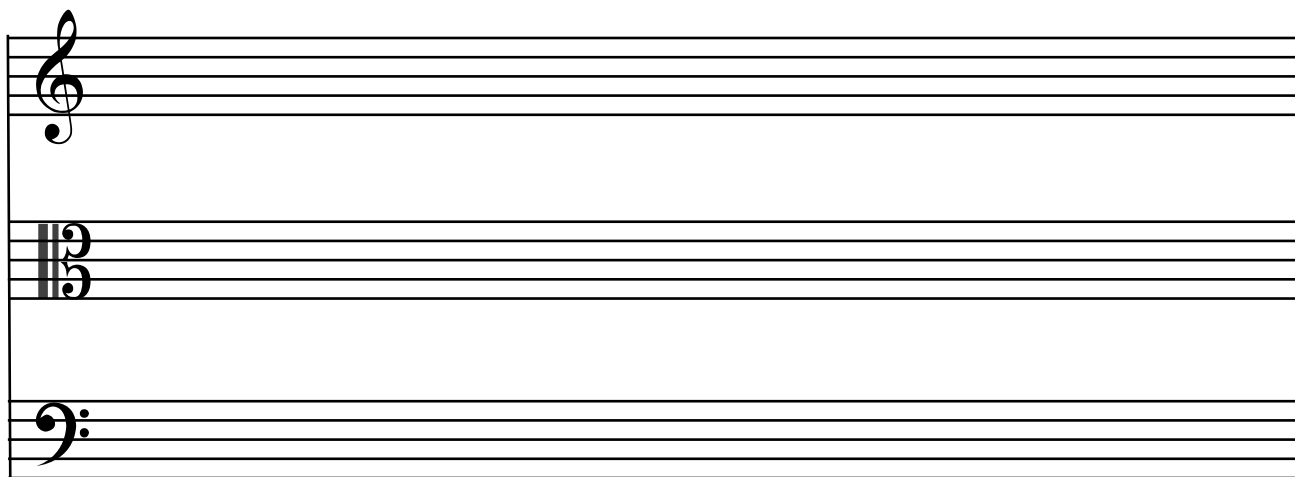


Name Notes & Registers

Draw a note on each step (line and space) starting 2 ledger lines below each staff and ascending by step to 2 ledger lines above the staff.

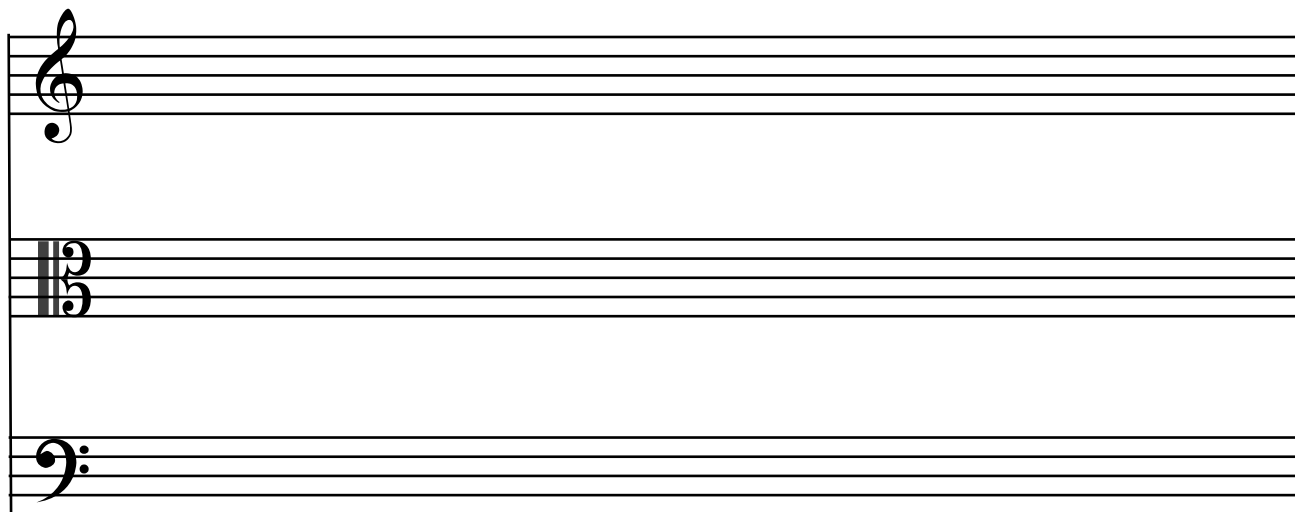
Draw whole notes for all 'C's and half notes for all others.

Below each staff, label each note with their name AND their register:
e.g. F2, G2, A2, etc.



Three blank musical staves are provided for drawing notes. The top staff has a treble clef, the middle staff has an alto clef, and the bottom staff has a bass clef. Each staff consists of five horizontal lines.

Continue below if needed.

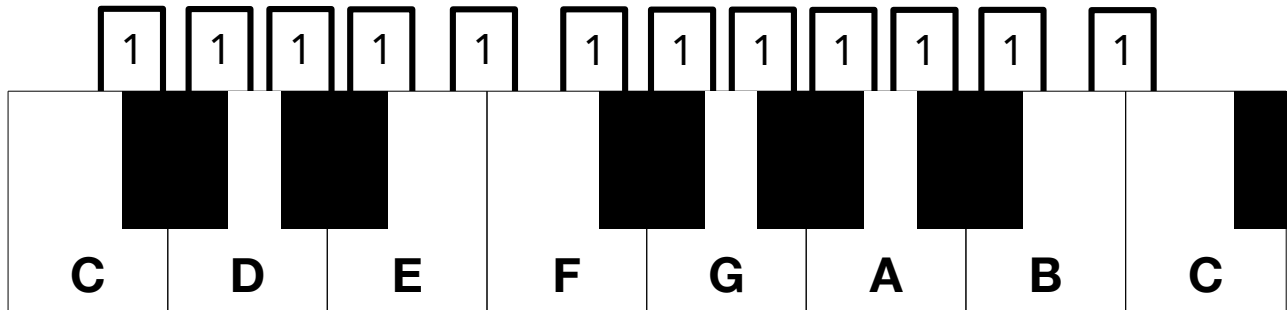


Three blank musical staves are provided for drawing notes, identical to the first set. The top staff has a treble clef, the middle staff has an alto clef, and the bottom staff has a bass clef. Each staff consists of five horizontal lines.

Chromatic Steps

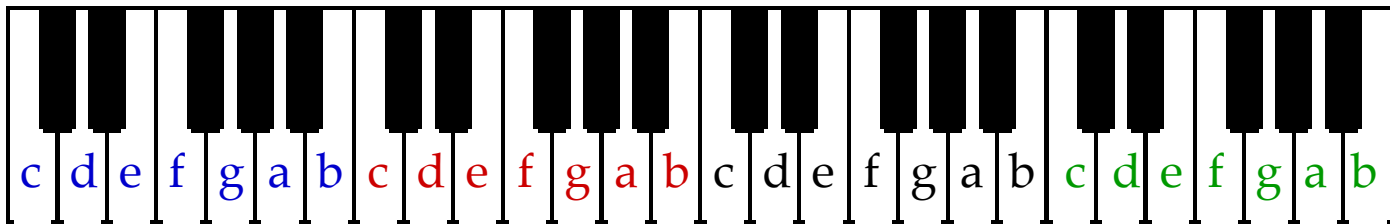
Earlier, we explored melodic steps and intervals. There is another type of interval used to describe the distance between notes. This type of interval is called a **chromatic** interval.

The distance between each successive key on the piano is **one chromatic step**.



The chromatic distance between any two notes is the number of chromatic steps between them.

For example, the distance between D and E is 2 chromatic steps because of the black key between them. The distance between E and B is 7 chromatic steps.



How many chromatic steps are there between:

F and the B below it (to the left)? 6

A and the D above it (to the right)?

C and the C above or below it (one 8va)?

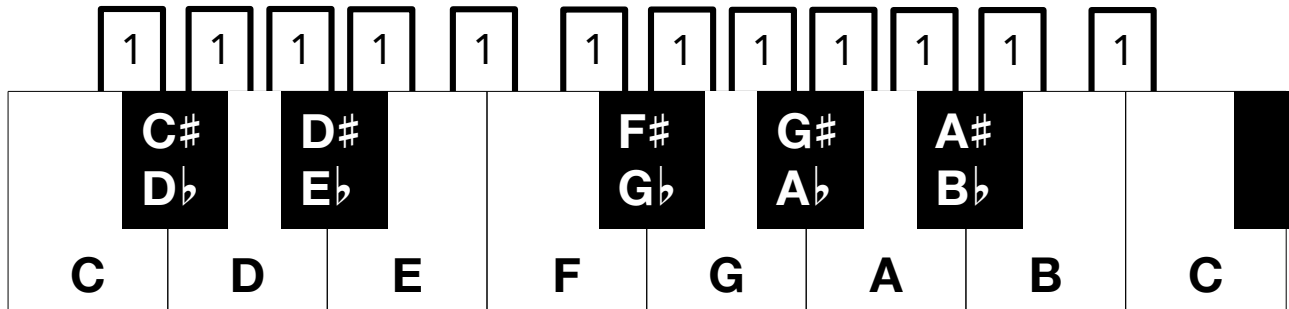
E and the black key to the right of the G above E?

D and the black key to the left of the G below D

F and the B above it (to the right)?

Accidentals

As mentioned, the distance between each successive key on the piano is **one chromatic step**.



Notice above that each black key has two names. They use what are called **accidentals** to indicate their relationship to the white keys they touch.

A **sharp** is one chromatic step higher.

A **flat** is one chromatic step is lower.

See the table below for accidentals and their meaning.

| Most Common | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| # | Sharp | One chromatic step up |
| b | Flat | One chromatic step down |
| ♮ | Natural | Cancel any active sharp or flat |
| Not so common | | |
| 𝄌 | Double Sharp | Two chromatic steps up |
| 𝄍 | Double Flat | Two chromatic steps down |

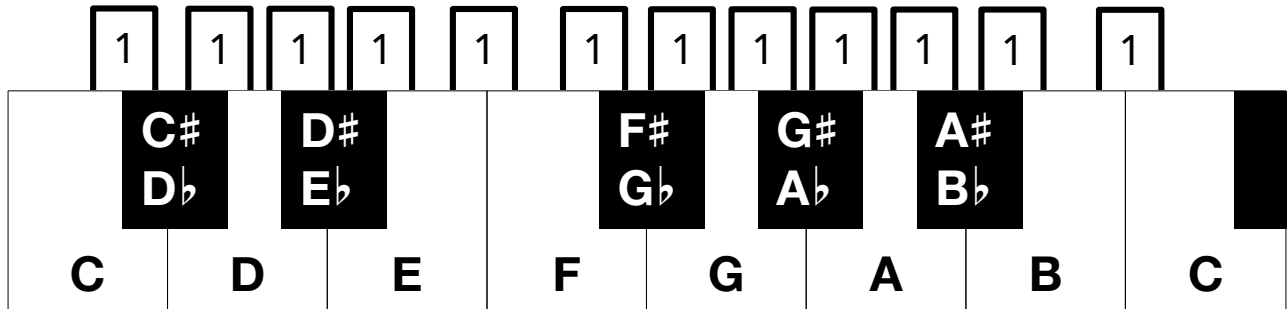
Notes With Accidentals

Accidentals are always placed to the LEFT of note heads.

Ledger lines do not extend through accidentals

Copy the contents of the three staves above to the staves below.
Pay attention to the direction and position of stems, and placement and size of accidentals.

Chromatic Intervals



The **chromatic interval** between each key goes by several names:

- One chromatic step
- One half-step
- One semitone
- Minor 2nd

These are all synonymous.

The interval between C and C#/D \flat is one semitone (1/2-step).

The interval between E and F is one chromatic step (1/2-step).

Notice the name of the **black key** between 'F' and 'G' is 'F#' (F-sharp) **and** 'G \flat ' (G-flat). This means that the same note has **two** names.

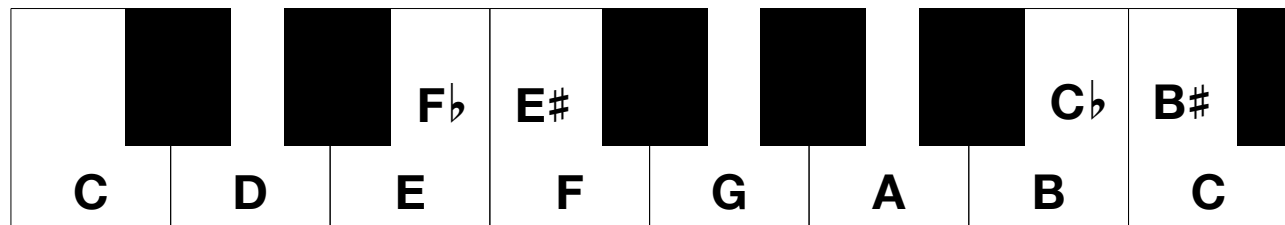
'F#' is one chromatic step **above** 'F'

'G \flat ' is one chromatic step **below** 'G'

Different names for the same note are called **enharmonic spellings** and the names are **enharmonic equivalents**.

For example, the *enharmonic equivalent* of 'D#' is 'E \flat '.

Uncommon Accidentals



Notice there are no black keys between 'E' and 'F' and between 'B' and 'C'. There are scales and music passages that will indicate an accidental that may seem strange, for example 'E#' or 'Cb'. But there are no corresponding black keys.

Since the sharp and flat signs indicate a change of one semitone (1/2 step), 'E#' is enharmonically equivalent to 'F'.

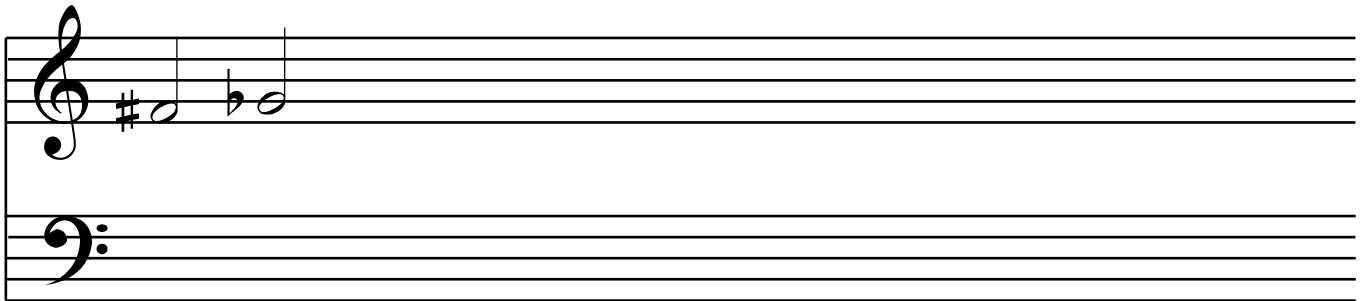
The table to the right is an enharmonic equivalence chart of the notes between which there are no black keys.

| | | |
|-----------|---|----------|
| E# | = | F |
| Fb | = | E |
| B# | = | C |
| Cb | = | B |

Practice Notes With Accidentals

On each staff, draw a half note with a **sharp** on **each space** and its enharmonic equivalent **on the line above**.

Label each note: e.g., 'F#' and 'G♭'.

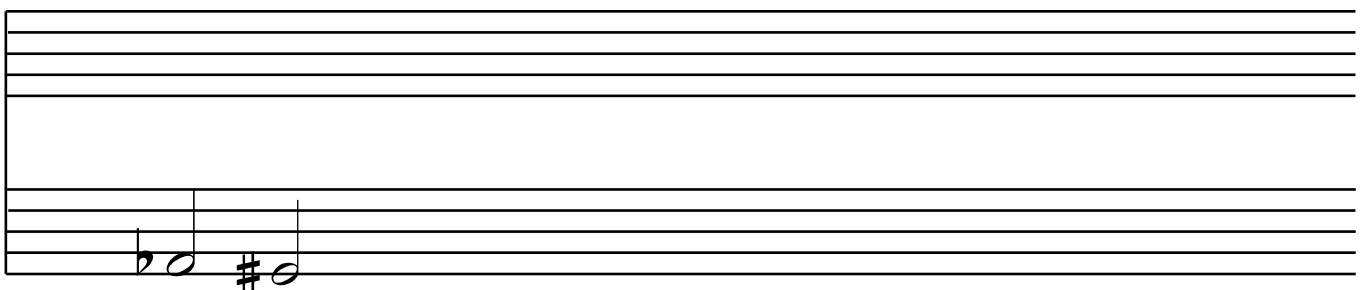


The image shows two musical staves. The top staff has a treble clef and contains three half notes: F# (on the first space), G (on the first line), and Gb (on the first space). The bottom staff has a bass clef and is empty.

On the staves below, draw a treble clef on the top staff and a bass clef on the bottom staff.

On each staff, draw a half note with a **flat** on **each space** and its enharmonic equivalent **on the line below**.

Label each note: e.g., 'A♭' and 'G#'.



The image shows two musical staves. The top staff is empty. The bottom staff has a bass clef and contains three half notes: Ab (on the first space), G (on the first line), and G# (on the first space).

Double Sharps and Flats

While unusual, there are occasions for which **double sharps** or **double flats** are used.

While a flat and sharp alters a pitch by one semitone, double sharps and double flats alter a note by two semitones.

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|----------------|---|---|---|----------------|--|
| | C# D\flat | D# E\flat | | F# G\flat | G# A\flat | A# B\flat | | |
| C | D | E | F | G | A | B | C | |
| D \mathbb{b} | E \mathbb{b} | F \flat | G \mathbb{b} | A \mathbb{b} | B \mathbb{b} | C \flat | D \mathbb{b} | |
| B \sharp | C \times | D \times | E \sharp | F \times | G \times | A \times | B \sharp | |

For each half note, draw its enharmonic equivalent as a quarter note and label both of them. Some notes may have two potential enharmonic equivalents. For those, choose one of them.

The exercise consists of two staves of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef and contains seven half notes: F \times , G \sharp , A \flat , B \mathbb{b} , C \flat , D \mathbb{b} , and E \sharp . Below the first two notes, quarter notes are drawn: F \times and G \sharp . The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains seven half notes: C \flat , B \mathbb{b} , A \sharp , G \mathbb{b} , F \mathbb{b} , E \mathbb{b} , and D \sharp . Below the first two notes, quarter notes are drawn: C \flat and B \mathbb{b} .