

READING MUSIC

Pitch

Musical Alphabet

The musical alphabet is just like the regular alphabet except that it only has 7 letters:

A B C D E F G

Musical Alphabet (cont.)

After you get to G, you start all over again at A like this:

A B C D E F G A B C D E F G A B C D

The musical alphabet goes on over and over forever.

Musical Alphabet (cont.)

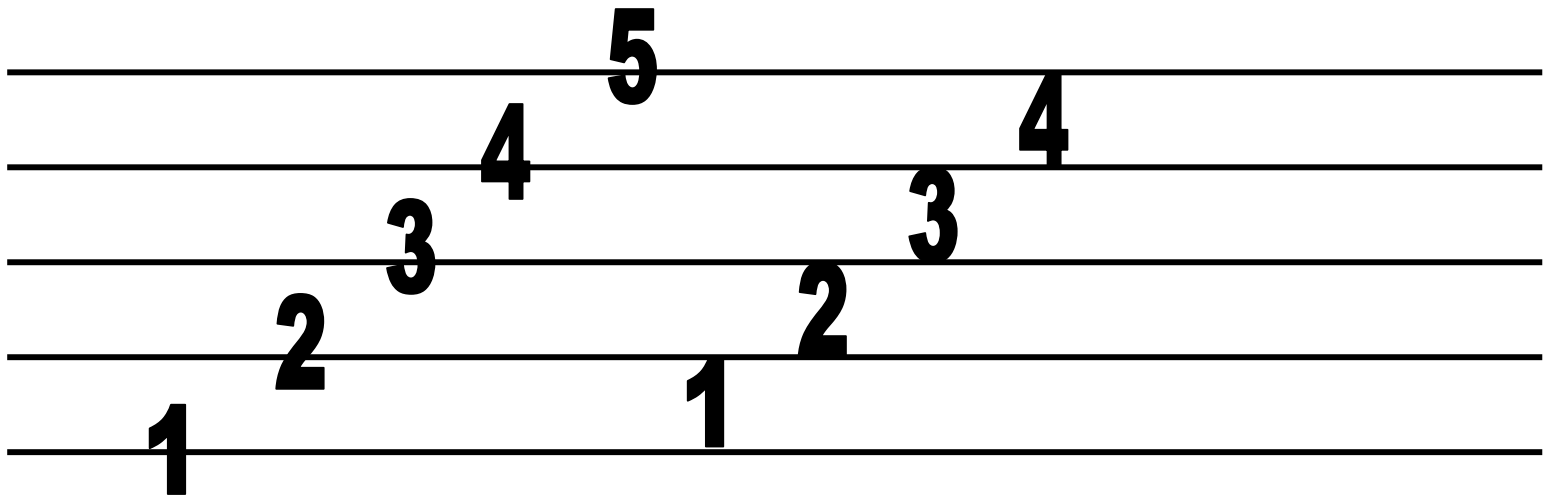
In order to become a master note reader, you will have to become familiar with the musical alphabet. Say it forwards, then backwards, then try to go faster and faster.

Forwards – ABCDEFGABCDEFGABCD....

Backwards- GFEDCBAGFEDCBAGFED...

THE MUSIC STAFF

The music staff is made up of 5 lines and 4 spaces.



THE MUSIC STAFF

(Treble Clef)

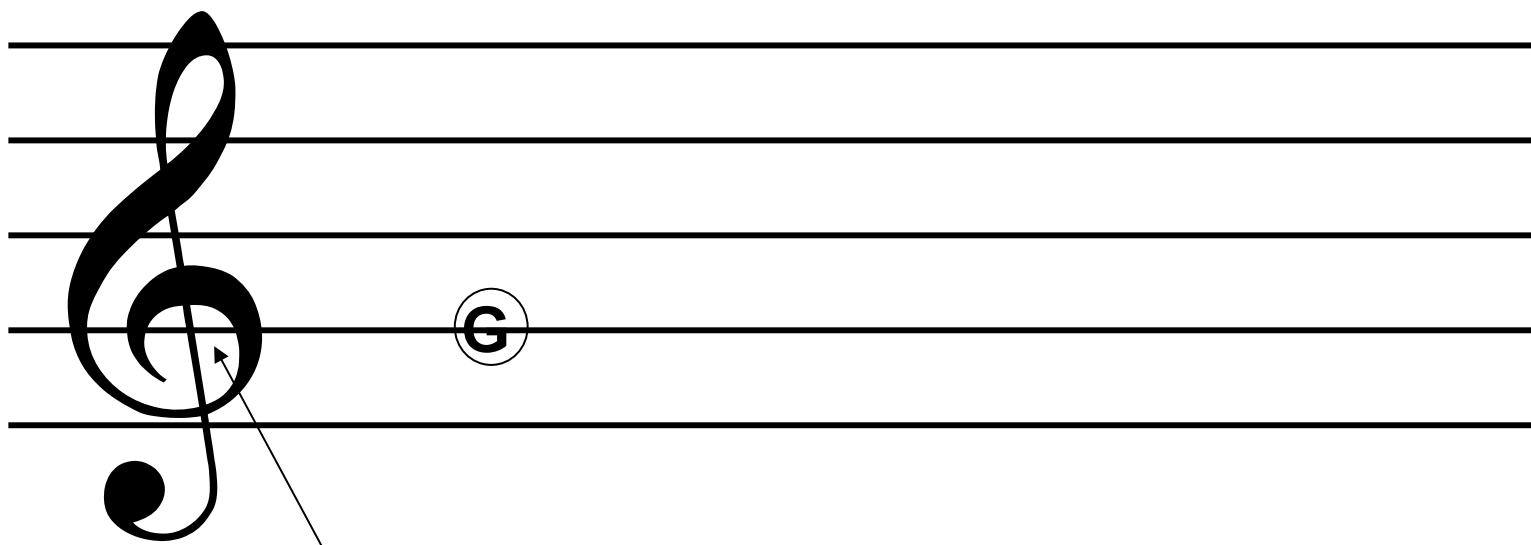
The clef tells us which notes belong on each line or space of the staff.

Flutes, Clarinets, Saxophones, Trumpets, French Horns, Violins, Bells, and many other instruments use the treble clef or G clef.



THE MUSIC STAFF

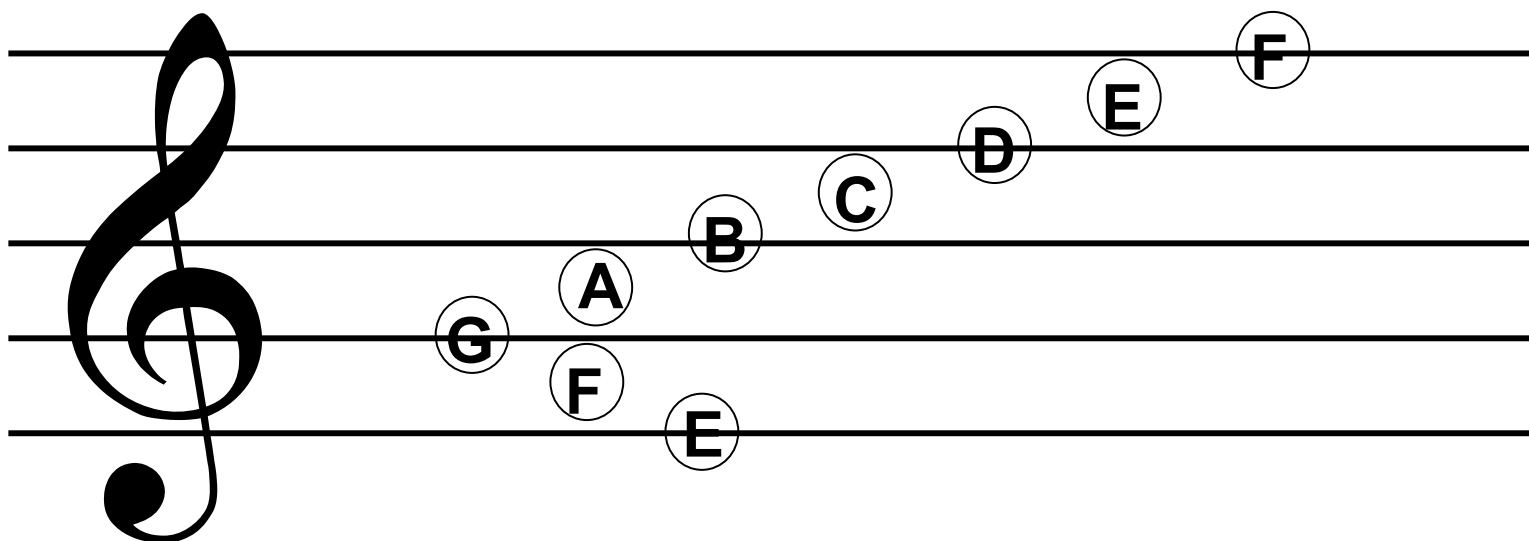
(Treble Clef)



The treble clef (G clef) swirls around the 2nd line of the staff, Showing us where the note G is.

THE MUSIC STAFF

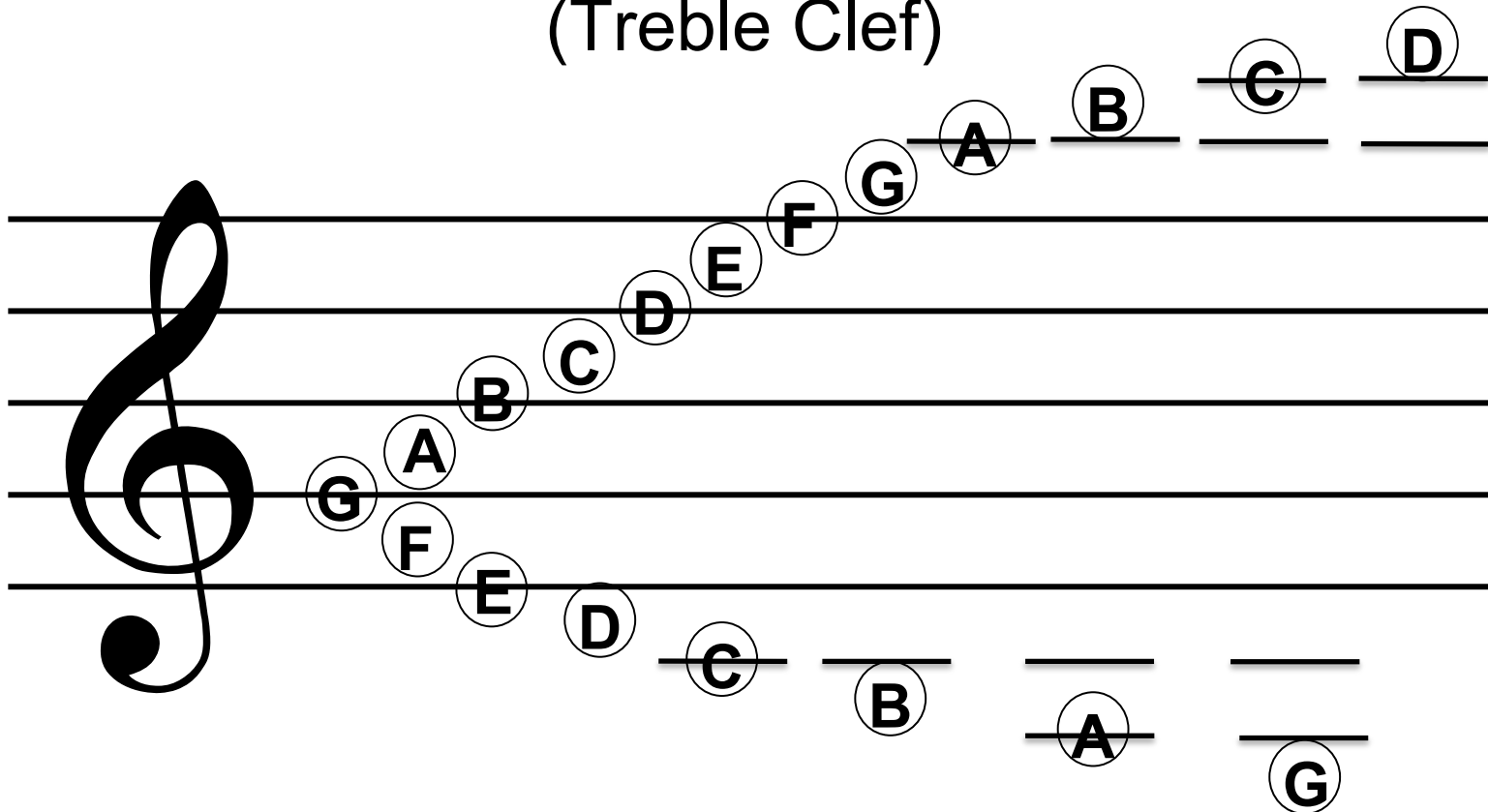
(Treble Clef)



From G we can figure out all of the notes on the staff by working up and down the staff by step (line, space, line, space) and by using the musical alphabet– go forwards in the alphabet when going up and backwards when going down.

THE MUSIC STAFF

Ledger Lines (Treble Clef)



Higher and lower notes can also be found above and below the staff. Ledger lines help us to determine the position of these notes.

You could keep adding lines and keep going forever if you wanted.

READING MUSIC QUICKLY

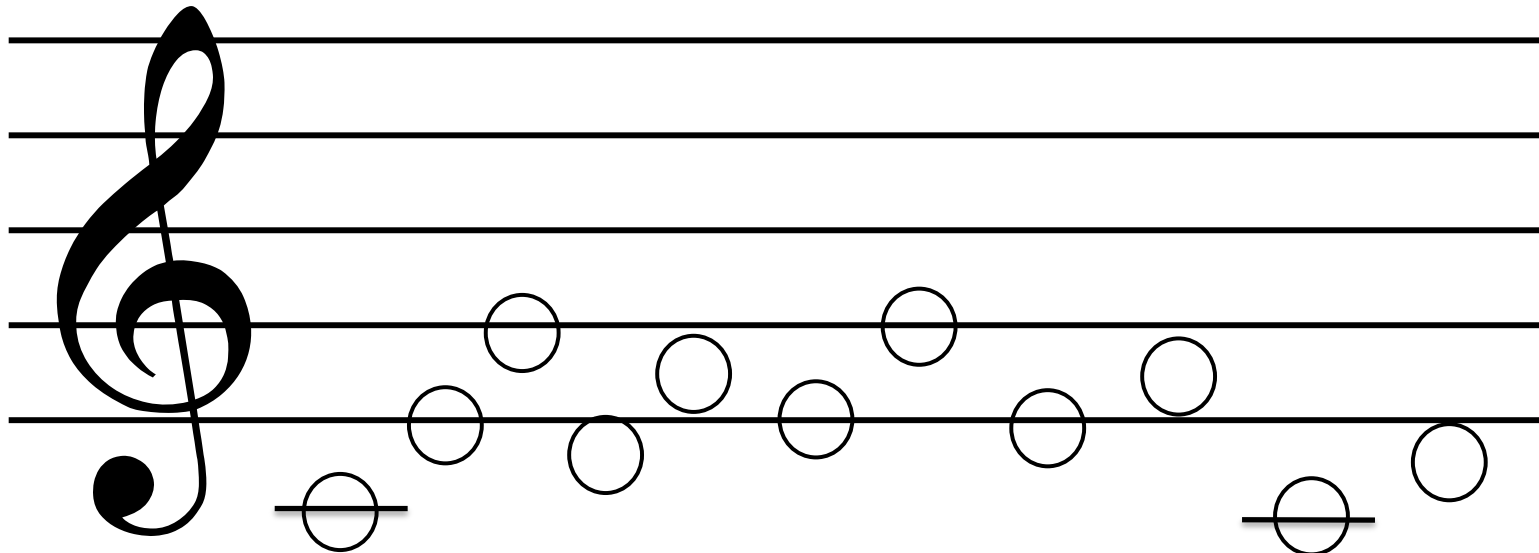
- Now that you know how the music staff works, you can start practicing note naming so that you can go quickly.
- Your goal is to be able to look at any note on the staff and name it instantly.
- The best way to practice this is by saying the letters of the notes from the songs that you're supposed to play on your instrument.

NOTE READING PRACTICE

(Clarinet/Trumpet)



Look at the position of the notes above to determine their line or space—
Then try to name the notes below.

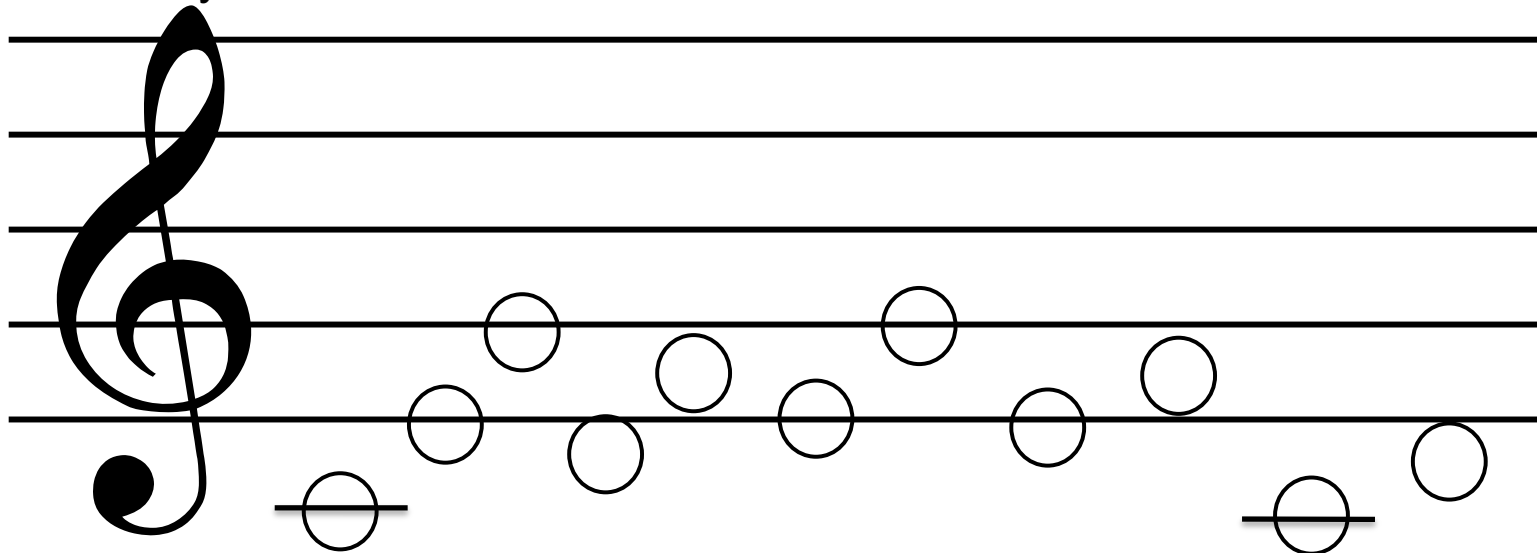


NOTE READING PRACTICE

(Clarinet/Trumpet)



Look at the position of the notes above to determine their line or space—
Then try to name the notes below.



Check your answers: C E G D F E G E F C D