

Music Notation Reading

Following instrumental and vocal lines is an excellent way of learning to read music, while finding out about instrument timbre as well. We hope you'll use this feature for kids aged from 11 or even younger (though some of the scores get quite difficult). Our system has red dots at the beginning of bars to help the student. You can obviously use the scores for teaching note names.

There are currently 35 music scores to follow in the *Instruments* program – though we're adding them all the time, so keep a look out. Apart from the many short manuscript examples in *Sound Words*, you can find some additional scores there.

Please note that you won't be able to use the scores on Internet Explorer 8 or earlier. If you have IE8 or earlier, try to upgrade to one of the more recent versions (9, 10 or 11). They're all free, though I know some of you are hampered by school IT policies.

Viewing Scores

To see the scores, press the music note tab to the right of the screen. The better the screen resolution the better the notation will look. They're amazing on a big Apple Mac monitor or something like a Macbook Pro Retina. They're also great on an iPad with retina screen. You'll probably use a projector in school of course.

Always use the expansion button on the bottom right of the score.

To make the scores better still, try using F11 on a Windows computer. F11 takes you to full screen. It'll hide the icons at the bottom of the screen and conceal the menus etc. at the top of the screen. Press F11 again to get back to normal. To get a similar effect on a Mac with a reasonably recent operating system, press the double arrow button at the top right of the screen. This will improve matters, but not as much as on a Windows computer.

Order of teaching

Here are the scores listed in approximate level of difficulty. There are examples for each of the main clefs, concentrating on the treble clef.

Term	App.	Comments	Key	Clef	Time signature	Genre
Trumpet	Inst.	Simple. Medium speed.	D	Treble	Common time	Classical
Symphony	Inst.	Simple - though other orchestral instruments might confuse.	D	Treble	Common time	Classical
orchestra						
Xylophone	Inst.	Simple. Fun. Big accelerando.	Am	Treble	Duple time	Traditional
Glockenspiel	Inst.	Simple, short.	С	Treble	Common time	Traditional
Accordion	Inst.	Simple but fast.	G	Treble	Triple time	Traditional
Euphonium	Inst.	Slow, short, easy, but harder key signature.	E flat	Treble - octave down	Triple time	Classical
Cornet	Inst.	Simple. Slow.	D flat	Treble	Common time	Classical
Penny whistle	Inst.	Simple. But ornaments could be confusing.	С	Treble - octave up	Common time	Traditional
Bass	Inst.	Simple. Follow the words. No red dot system. Good intro to bass clef.	С	Bass	Common time	Traditional
Treble	Inst.	Slow. Simple. But Latin words	B flat	Treble	Common time	Classical
Cor anglais	Inst.	Slow. Easy. Difficult key would cause problems with note names.	D flat	Treble	Common time	Classical
French horn	Inst.	Slow simple 6/8.	F/B flat	Treble	Compound duple	Classical
Harpsichord	Inst.	Medium tempo. Quite easy.	E	Treble	Common time	Classical
Piano	Inst.	Quite easy but fast. Intro to 2 staves.	С	Treble	Common time	Classical
Classical guitar	Inst.	Slow. Quite easy. Some quite complex rhythms.	D	Treble	Duple time	Classical

Oboe	Inst.	Slow, quite short. Some complex rhythms.		Treble	Triple time	Classical
Alto	Inst.	Medium tempo.	D	Treble	Compound duple	Classical
Tenor sax	Inst.	Medium tempo. Some quite complex rhythms.	F	Bass	Triple time	Jazz
Violin	Inst.	Fast	Em	Treble - octave up	Cut time	Classical
Viola	Inst.	Slow. Easy, but some complex rhythms. Good intro to alto clef.	D	Alto	Common time	Classical
Flute	Inst.	Often high. Quite fast.	F	Treble	Duple time	Classical
Piccolo	Inst.	Quite easy. Good to demonstrate leger lines and high pitch.	B flat	Treble - octave up	Common time	Classical
Baritone	Inst.	Medium tempo. Follow the words. Free rhythms.	C/A	Bass	Common time	Classical
Countertenor	Inst.	Quite fast. Easy. Follow the words.	С	Treble	Triple time	Classical
Soprano	Inst.	Slow. Quite easy but Italian words. No red dot system.	A flat	Treble	Compound duple	Classical
Tenor	Inst.	Medium slow. Easy. Follow the words. But some free rhythms.	E	Treble - octave down	Common time	Classical
Bassoon	Inst.	Tricky key and clef. Not so hard otherwise. Good intro to tenor clef.	Bbm	Tenor	Compund duple	Classical
Trombone	Inst.	Medium fast. Some quite difficult rhythms.	B flat	Bass	Common time	Classical
Tuba	Inst.	Medium slow. Some moderately tricky rhythms.	Bbm	Bass	Common time	Classical
Double bass	Inst.	Moderately fast. Easy rhythms.	E flat	Bass	3/8	Classical
Rondo	SW	Quite easy but no red dot system.	D	Treble	Common time	Classical

Harp	Inst.	Quite difficult but short and fun.	C flat	2 clefs	Common time	Classical
Organ	Inst.	Sometimes very fast. Tricky rhythms	Dm	2- 3 clefs	Common time	Classical
Clarinet	Inst.	Medium fast. Many rapid notes. Quite difficult.	Α	Treble	Common time	Classical
Cello	Inst.	Continuous rapid notes. Difficult.	С	Bass	Common time	Classical
Prelude	SW	Quite difficult. No red dot system.	С	2 clefs	Common time	Classical
Fugue	SW	Slow but difficult. No red dot system	Cm	2 clefs	Common time	Classical
Sonata form	SW	Single line version of the score. Fast and long, but not particularly difficult	Gm	Treble	Cut time	Classical
Ragtime	SW	Fast, difficult rhythms	Ab	2 clefs	2/4	Jazz