

Theory of Music Online - Grade 1 Terms and Signs

Theory GRADE 1 Syllabus

- 1 Note values of semibreve, minim, crotchet, quaver and semiquaver, and their equivalent rests (candidates may use the terms 'whole note', 'half note', etc.). Tied notes. Single-dotted notes and rests.
- 2 Simple time signatures of two four, three four and four four.
- 4 Bar-lines and the grouping of the notes listed above within these times. Composition of a two-bar rhythm in answer to a given rhythm starting on the first beat of a bar.
- **3** The stave. Treble (G) and bass (F) clefs. Names of notes on the stave, including middle C in both clefs. Sharp, flat and natural signs, and their cancellation.
- 4 Construction of the major scale, including the position of the tones and semitones. Scales and key signatures of the major keys of C, G, D and F in both clefs, with their tonic triads (root position), degrees (number only), and intervals above the tonic (by number only).

5 Theory Revision Classes

Theory revision classes are held by Abraham Devar's Academy for Music and Song. These online classes are thorough and ensures that everything in the syllabus is learnt. When you register for online classes you will be given access to our online resource including video discussions of each topic. Included in the discussions are typical examination papers.

Suitable for the ABRSM, Trinity Guild Hall, Unisa, and Rock School Theory of Music Examinations. Visit http://www.abrahamdevar.com/mydownloads to download theory graes 2 to 5.

Italian terms and Signs used in music notation

Grade 1 Terms and Signs fo the Theory of Music Examinations.

Suitable for the ABRSM, Trinity Guild Hall, Unisa and Rock School examinations. The list below are the required terms that will be included in the Grade 1 examination paper. The signs below will be included and learners will be required to describe each music symbol /sign.



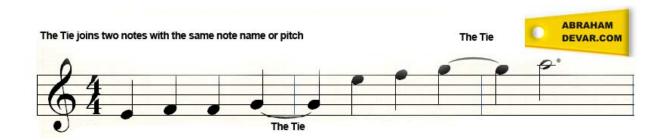
Theory of Music Online - Grade 1 Terms and Signs

Italian term	Abbreviation	English meaing
accelerando	accel.	gradually getting guicker - refers to tempo or speed
adagio	uccei.	slow
allegretto		fairly quick
andante		at a medium or walking speed or pace
cantabile		singingly or in a singing style
crescendo	cres.	gradually getting louder
da capo	D.C	repeat from the beginning of the piece
dal segno	D.S.	repeat from the sign
decrescendo	decres.	gradually getting quieter or softer
diminuendo	dim.	gradually getting quieter or softer
fine		the end
forte	f	loud
fortissimo	ff	very loud
legato	00	smoothly or connectedly
lento		slow
mezzo		half
mezzo forte	mf	moderately loud / half loud
mezzo piano	тр	moderately soft / half quiet
moderato		moderately
piano	р	soft or quiet
pianissimo	pp	very quiet
poco		a little
rallentando	rall.	gradually getting slower
ritardando	rit.	gradually getting slower
ritenuto	rit.	held back
staccato	stacc.	detached
tempo		tempo referes to speed e.g a tempo means in time.
8va		octave

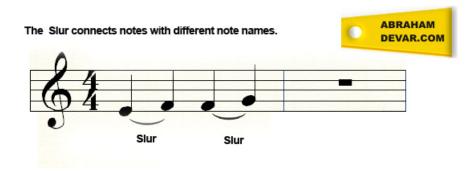


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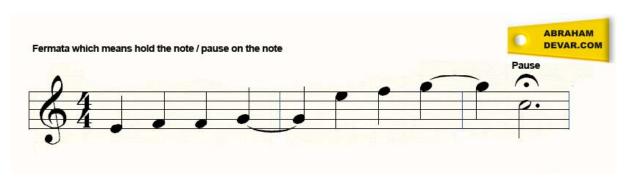
The Tie joins two notes with the same pitch. Look at the example below.



How the Slur is written in music notation. The slur connects the sounds or pitches of two different notes and requests that the performer plays them smoothly or connectedly.



Fermata - pause - hold the note. The last note at the end of the piece has the pause sign over it. The pause sign may appear over or under a note head.



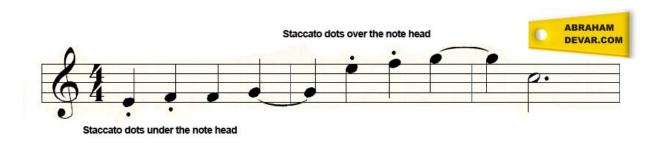


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How to use the repeat signs in music notation. The second repeat sign in the example tells the performer to repeat the piece of music from the first repeat sign. This will often be followed 'first ending' and 'second ending' of a part.



The use of Staccato Symbols in Music Notation. The staccato dots may be places above or below the note head.

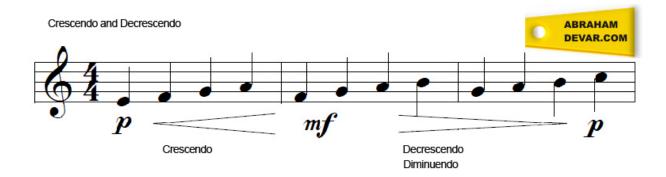


Metronome markings or Metronome Indications. The example below prescribes a tempo of: sixty crochet beats per minute.



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The terms, Crescendo, Decrescendo, Diminuendo and their usage in Music Notation.



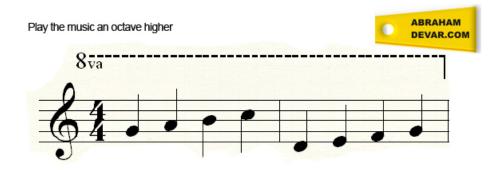
The accent sign: the accented note will be more pronounced or louder that the other notes. The example demonstrates the placement of the accent symbol above and below the note head.



The accent sign placed below the note head

The 8va or 8vb or just 8 (octave symbol) used in music notation.

The performer will play the music one ocatve higher as per the 8va symbol for the duration of two bars of music as in the example below.





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In the example below the performer will play the two bar piece an octave lower as indicated by the 8vb or just 8 and often Va, symbols.



The music will be played an octave lower

Abbreviations used in music notation:

f - forte - loud
mf - mezzo forte - loud
ff - fortissimo - very loud
p - piano - quiet / soft
mp - mezzo piano - moderately soft
pp - pianissimo - very quiet or soft



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The abbreviations above will appear in the examination paper for Grade 1. Know the complete Italian name and the English meaning of the abbreviation.

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- Learners who register for online classes receive access to our online resource including video discussions of each topic. Included in the discussions are typical examination papers.
- Theory of Music Study Guides and Workbooks.
- Grade 2 to 5 terms and signs available from our website.
- Write your theory examination in a city and country of your choice..

Remember to visit us at:

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Regards

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