

FRENCH HORN

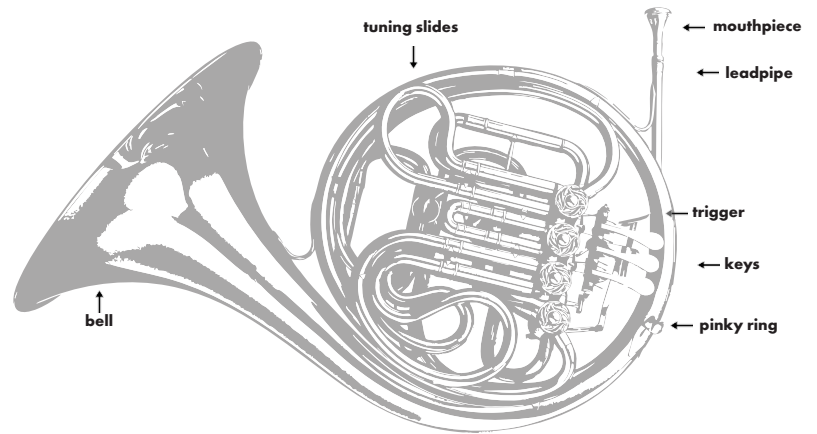
**T H E**  
**LET'S PLAY**  
**BAND**  
**METHOD**

***Edited and Arranged by Derrick Maxey***

**Special thanks to:** Grayson Switzer, Designer, Emily Jones, Designer,  
J.J. Johnson, Percussion Contributor, Daniel Lenzer, Bassoon Contributor  
Instrument fingering font from MusicTeacherTools.com

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# Getting Started



## Assembling Your Instrument

Lightly twist the mouthpiece into the leadpipe. Place the bell on your right thigh with it pointing slightly behind you. Your left thumb goes inside the thumb ring. Make sure your fingertips are resting on the valves. Your pinky finger goes inside the ring. Cup your right hand. Keeping your fingers together, place your hand inside the bell so that the back of your hand is touching the far side of the bell.

## Holding Your Instrument

With your left pink in the hook, the thumb and fingertips should rest on the valves. Cup your right hand slightly keeping your thumb against your index finger. Place your hand inside the bell with the back of your hand and fingers touching the far side of the bell.

## Getting A Sound

Lick your lips. Close your mouth naturally. Lower your jaw slightly to separate your teeth. Place the mouthpiece lightly up against your lips. You want slightly more mouthpiece sitting on your top lip. Don't push in very hard. Breath in through the corners of your mouth, keeping your mouthpiece anchored to your top lip. Blow through your lips while keeping them lightly together.

## ***Playing Position***

Many athletes have learned there is a proper way to approach the plate or the free throw line for the highest probability for success; it's the same way when playing an instrument! The following strategies have been proven to ensure the highest probability of achieving the fullest and richest tone quality on your instrument:

- Keep both feet flat on the floor
- Keep your shoulders down and relaxed
- Think about sitting up straight and making yourself as tall as possible

***Bring your instrument up to you,  
don't slouch down to reach your instrument!***



## ***Air Support***

Your instrument is a *wind* instrument. The air you put into the instrument is the key ingredient to the best possible sound. Take each breath in slowly and steadily through your mouth, not your nose. When you breathe out, keep your mouth and throat open and relaxed. Think about using “warm” air. Practice exhaling warm air onto your hand as if you were trying to fog up a window or mirror.

## ***Instrument Care***

Remove the mouthpiece, tip the horn over and dump out any extra condensation build up from the leadpipe each day before putting away your horn. When not playing your french horn, always return it safely to the case. Avoid balancing the horn on a chair. Before putting your horn away for the day, push in all the tuning slides. Pull them out the appropriate amount each day when you first get out your instrument. This will prevent them from getting stuck. A deep clean can be performed on occasion by submerging the instrument in warm soapy water. Avoid eating or drinking sugary drinks right before playing your instrument and if you do, brush your teeth first.

# Let's Play!

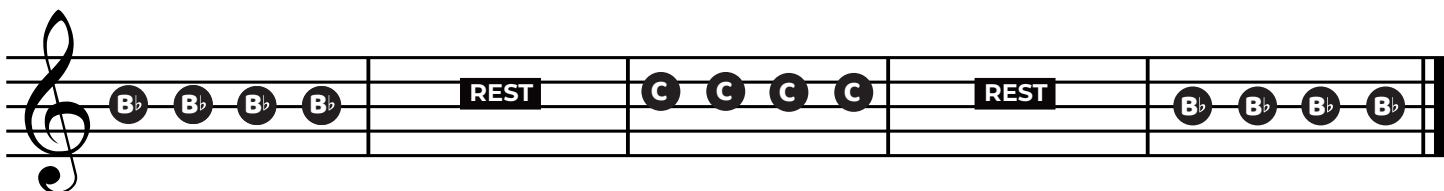
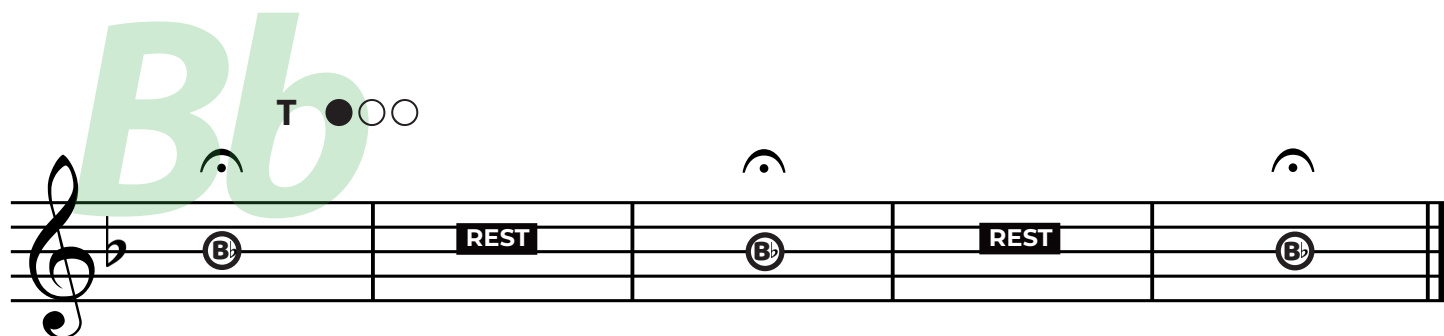
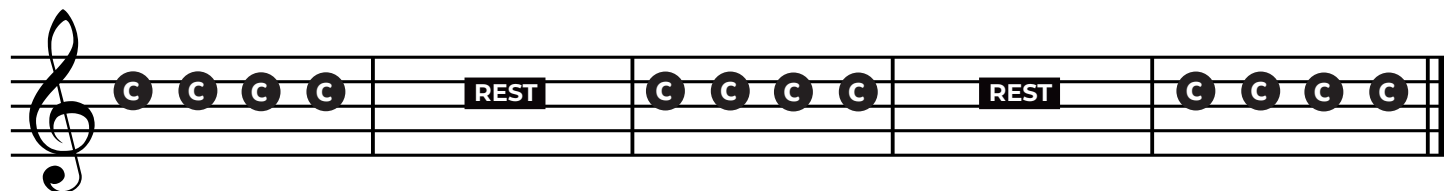
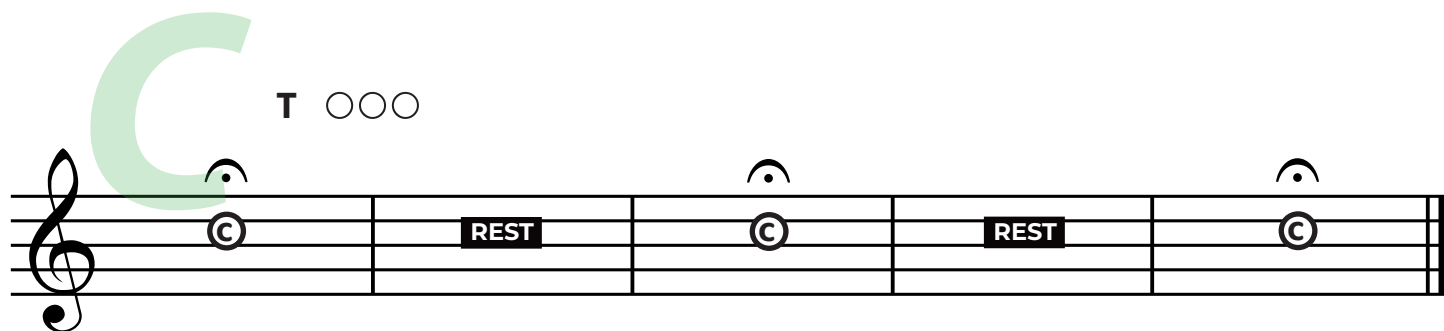


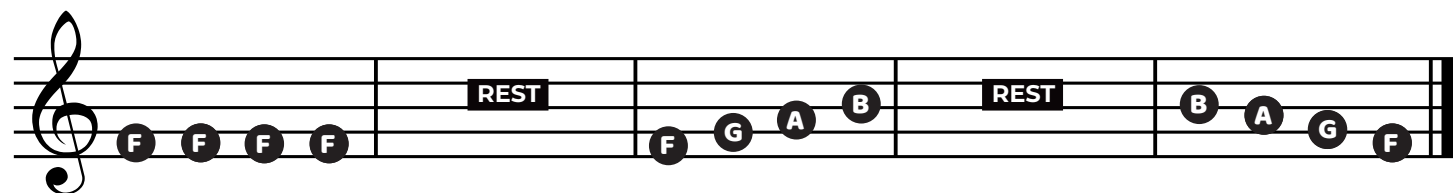
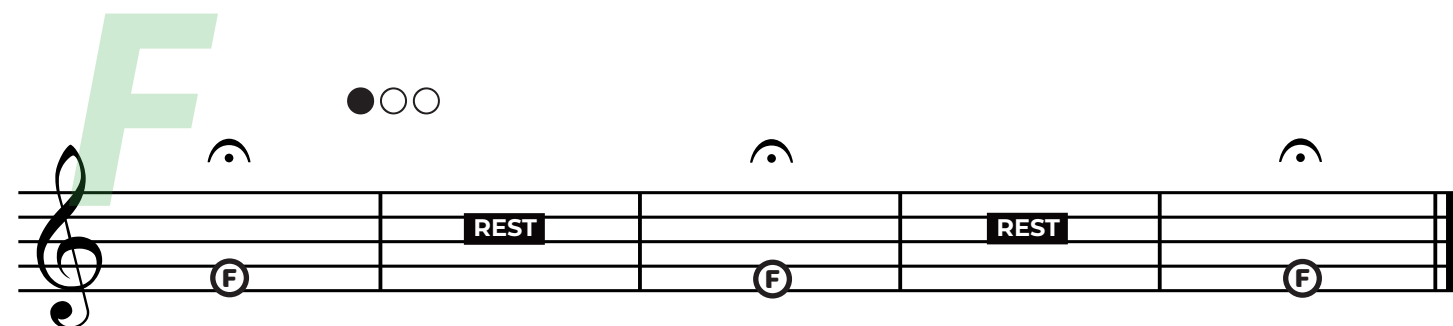
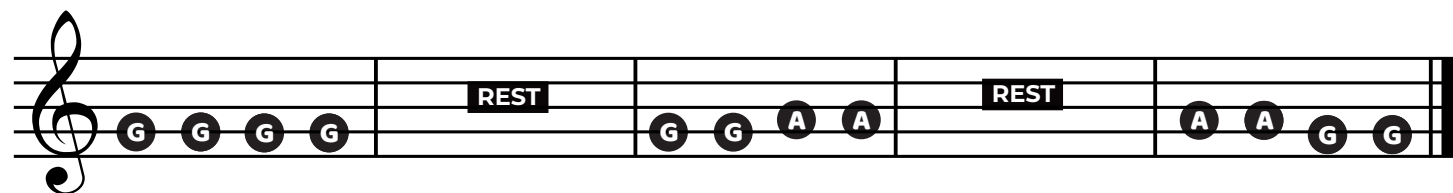
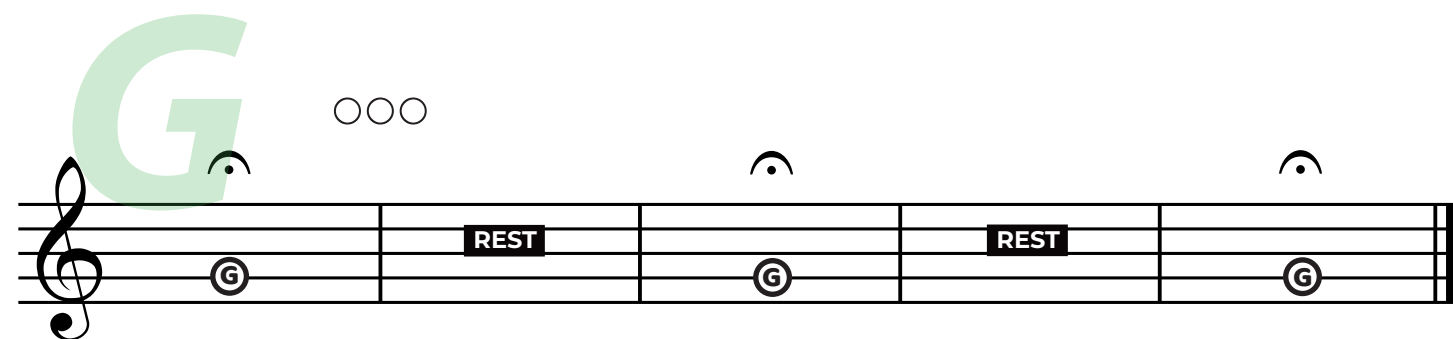
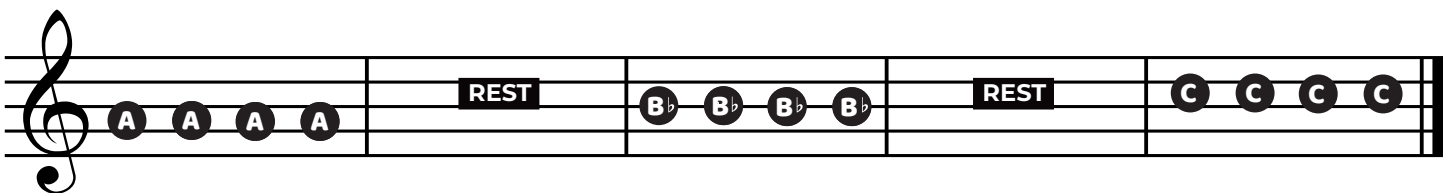
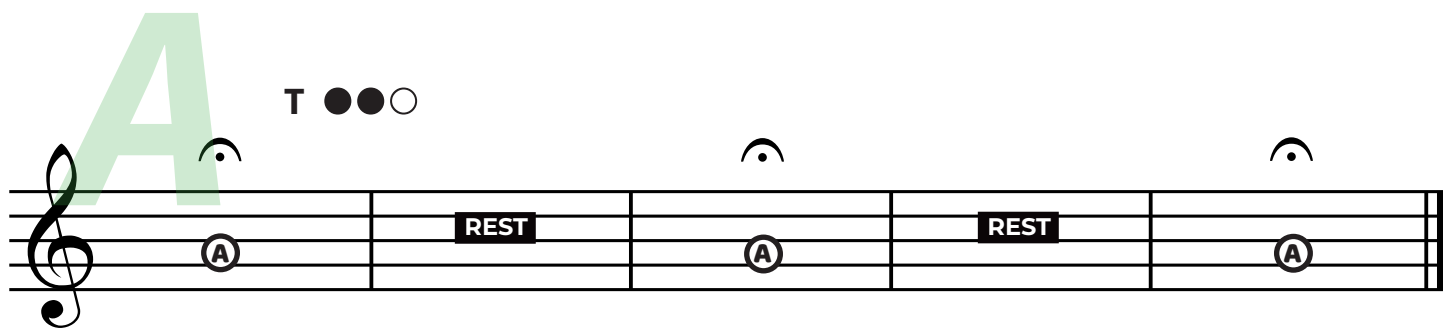
## *fermata*

"Keep holding the note until  
your conductor indicates  
for you to stop"

## REST

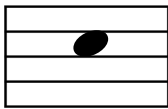
For a musician, a rest isn't a break,  
we're always counting and watching the  
conductor to see when we get to play again!





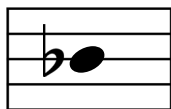
# Fingerings

**C**



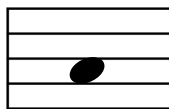
T ○ ○ ○

**Bb**



T ● ○ ○

**A**



T ● ● ○

*mf*  
mezzo forte  
“medium loud”

## music theory



**whole note**  
sustain sound 4 beats



**whole rest**  
count 4 beats rest

1

### Lift Off



2

### Around The Room



3

### Stargazing



**time signature**

**4** beats in a measure  
**4** quarter note gets the beat

**key signature**

an accidental can appear before the note, or at the beginning of the line in what's called the 'key signature'

4

**Oracle**

5

**Interstellar**

6

**Memory**

7

**Three Note Funk**

# Herbie Hancock

Herbie Hancock is an American pianist that during his time with the Miles Davis Quintet, started playing jazz piano like no one ever had before. He was one of the inventors of a new subgenre of jazz called "Post-Bop".



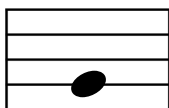
## "Watermelon Man" by Herbie Hancock

# Fingerings

**F**

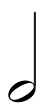


**G**



*mp*  
*mezzo piano*  
 “medium soft”

## music theory



**half note**

sustain sound 2 beats



**half rest**

count 2 beats rest

8

### Au Claire de la Lune

Welsh Folk Song



9

### Cardiff By The Sea

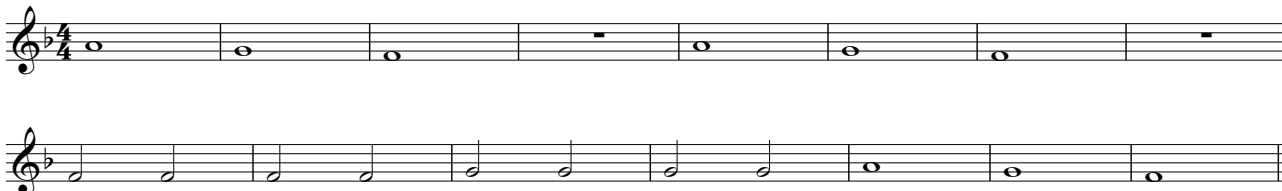
French Folk Song



10

### Hot Cross Buns

English Folk Song





**repeat sign**  
go back to the beginning,  
or another repeat sign

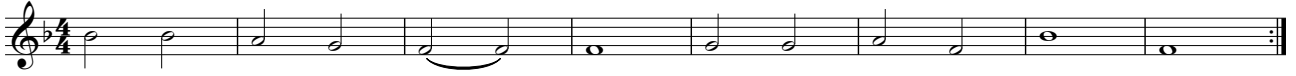


**Ties** combines the values  
of two notes. Don't  
tongue the second note

11

### Country Walk

French Folk Song



12

### Merrily We Roll Along

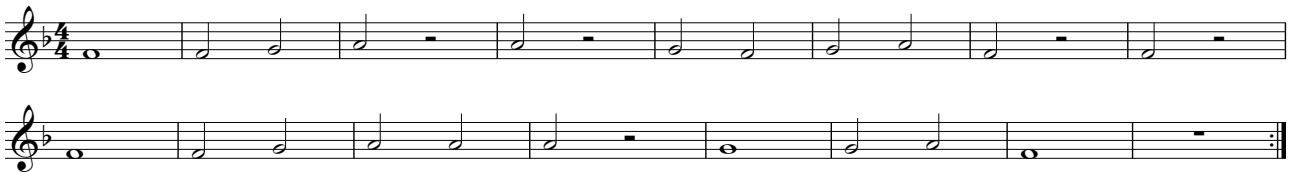
Charlie Tobias



13

### Down By The Station

Traditional



## Ola Gjeilo

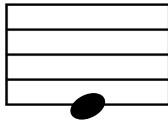
Ola Gjeilo is a Norwegian composer and pianist currently residing in Manhattan. He is primarily a choral **composer**, meaning he writes pieces of music to be sung by choirs. He is best known for his works "Dreamweaver" and "The River".



### "Still" by Ola Gjeilo

# Fingerings

E



○○○

D



T ●●○

**breath mark**

the best spot to take a deep  
breath through your mouth

*p*  
**piano**  
“soft”

## music theory



**quarter note**  
gets 1 beat



**quarter rest**  
count 1 beat

14

### Stodola Pumpa

Czech Folk Song



15

### Jingle Bells

James Lord Pierpont



16

### Go Tell Aunt Rhody

American Folk Song

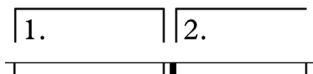




**fermata**

hold the note out longer

**1st and 2nd Endings** some repeats indicate a different ending to play for each time through



## 17 Jasmine Flower

Chinese Folk Song



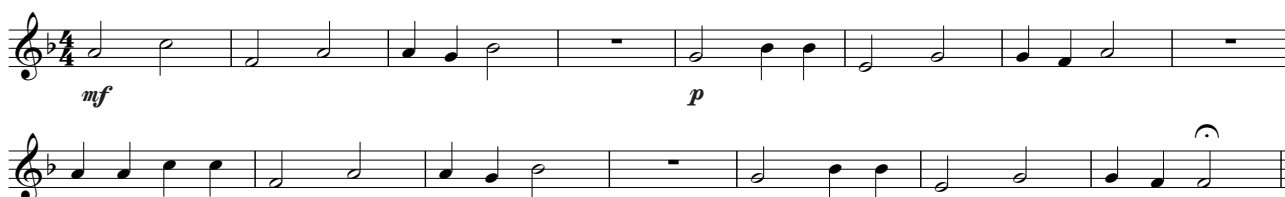
## 18 Surprise Symphony

Joseph Haydn



## 19 Mary Ann

Jamaican Folk Song



## The Kronos Quartet

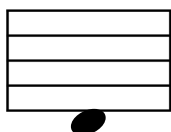
The Kronos Quartet is a string quartet based in San Francisco. A **quartet** is a musical ensemble consisting of four musicians. Kronos has been in existence since 1973 and has had over nine hundred musical pieces composed for them.



## "Lux Aeterna" by The Kronos Quartet

# Fingerings

**D**



*pp*  
pianissimo  
“very soft”

## music theory



*cresc.*

**crescendo**  
gradually get louder



*decresc.*

**decrescendo**  
gradually get softer

20

### Also Sprach Zarathustra

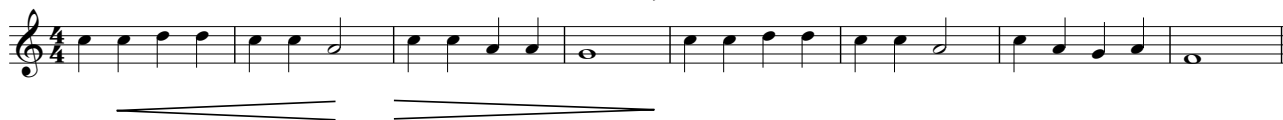
Richard Strauss



21

### Ha'Kyo Jung

Korean Folk Song



22

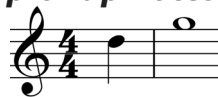
### Rondo alla Turca

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



**2** beats in a measure  
**4** quarter note gets the beat

**pick up notes**

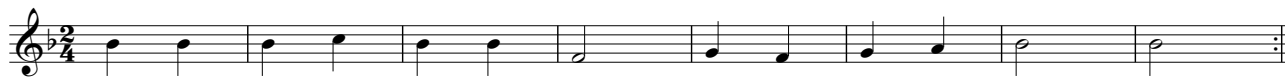


notes that happen  
before the first full  
measure

23

### Good King Wenceslas

Finnish Folk Song



24

### The Bridge At Avignon

French Folk Song



25

### Up On The Housetop

Benjamin Hanby



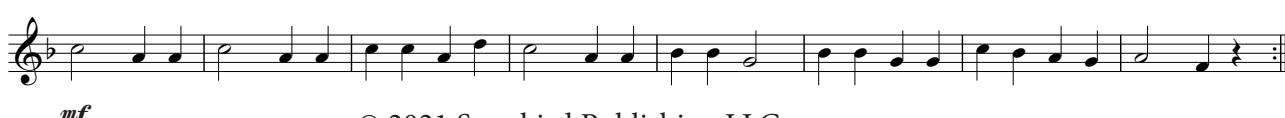
## Aretha Franklin

Aretha Franklin was a vocalist and pianist who is still regarded today as the "Queen of Soul". **Soul** is a style of music that combines elements of gospel, rhythm and blues and jazz and became popular in the U.S. in the 1950s and 60s.

26

### A Tisket A Tasket

American Folk Song



# Fingerings

**E<sub>b</sub>**



**A<sub>b</sub>**



**C**

**"common time"**

another way of  
indicating  $\frac{4}{4}$  time

## music theory

### "accidentals"

- b flat** lowers the sound of the note
- # sharp** raises the sound of the note
- ♮ natural** cancels out a sharp or flat

27

### Mary Had A Little Lamb

American Folk Song



28

### Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

James R. Murray, words by Emily Clark Huntington Miller



29

### Love Somebody

Andante

Joan Whitney, Alex Kramer



**tempo** - how fast or slow to play

**Andante**  
slow

**Moderato**  
medium

**Allegro**  
fast

30

### **Dredyl, Dredyl**

Allegro

Israeli Folk Song



31

### **London Bridge**

Moderato

English Folk Song

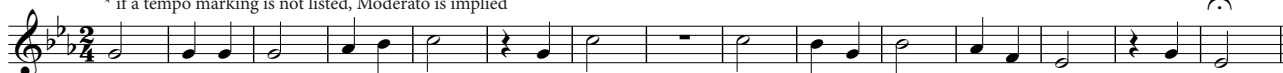


32

### **Amigas**

\* if a tempo marking is not listed, Moderato is implied

Hispanic Folk Song



## **“Duke” Ellington**

Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington was a **prolific** jazz composer, meaning he wrote a great number of jazz compositions, many which are still considered ‘standards’ today. The “Duke” helped propel jazz to being regarded on the same level as classical music.



## **“Mood Indigo” by Duke Ellington**

**3** *beats in a measure*  
**4** *quarter note gets the beat*

*ff*  
*fortissimo*  
 “very loud”

## music theory

### eighth notes



two eighth notes  
 fit equally into  
 each beat



## “Cantaloupe Island” by Herbie Hancock

33

### Old Macdonald

Allegro

British Folk Song



34

### Ezekial Saw The Wheel

African American Spiritual







35

**Bonjour Mes Amis**

French Folk Song



36

**Chiapanecas**

Mexican Folk Song



37

**Goodbye Old Paint**

Charley Willis



# Miles Davis

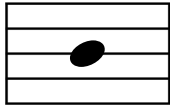
Miles Davis was an American trumpeter and bandleader that became one of the most influential figures in 20th century music. Throughout his career he continued to innovate and find new ways to play the trumpet and compose music.



## "All Blues" by Miles Davis

## Fingerings

**B**



T ○ ● ○

**E<sub>b</sub>**



T ● ○ ○

*sfz*

*sfortzando piano*  
“attack the note forte  
and hold it piano”

## music theory



### **dotted half note**

when a dot is placed beside a note it adds  
half the original value to the note.  
Dotted half notes get 3 beats.

38

### Theme from Symphony No. 1

Johannes Brahms

Andante



39

### Roses

Hispanic Folk Song



40

### Oranges and Lemons

English Folk Song

Allegro



**articulation** - a special way to play a note

**tenuto**  
long

**staccato**  
short

**accent**  
emphasized

## 41 "Spring" from Four Seasons

Antonio Vivaldi



## 42 It Had To Be You

Isham Jones



## 43 Minka, Minka

Ukrainian Folk Song



## Samuel Barber

Samuel Barber was one of the most celebrated American composers of the 20th century. While many composers of the time were experimenting with new harmonies, Samuel chose notes in his compositions that more reflected a 19th-century harmonic understanding.



**"Adagio For Strings" by Samuel Barber**

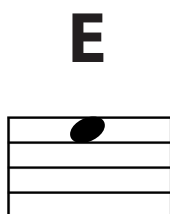


**"Bye, Bye Birdie" by Charles Strouse**

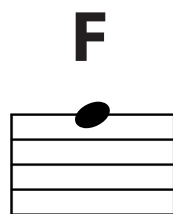


**"Freddie Freeloader" by Miles Davis**

# Fingerings



T ○ ○ ○



T ● ○ ○



## music theory



### ***eighth note runs***

*When multiple eighth note pairs occur in a row they maintain the same rhythm and timing. Keep your air going!*

44

### **Twinkle Twinkle Little Star**

English Folk Song



45

### **"Morning " from Peer Gynt**

Edvard Grieg



46

### **Frere Jacques**

French Folk Song



47

*Academic Festival Overture*

Johannes Brahms



48

*Lo Yisa Goy*

Israeli Folk Song



49

*Skip To My Lou*

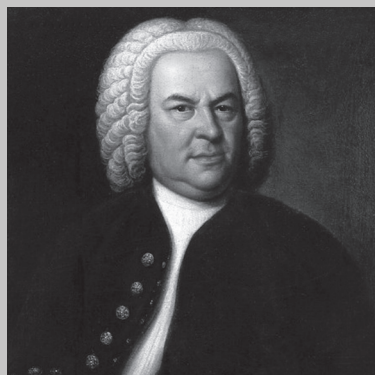
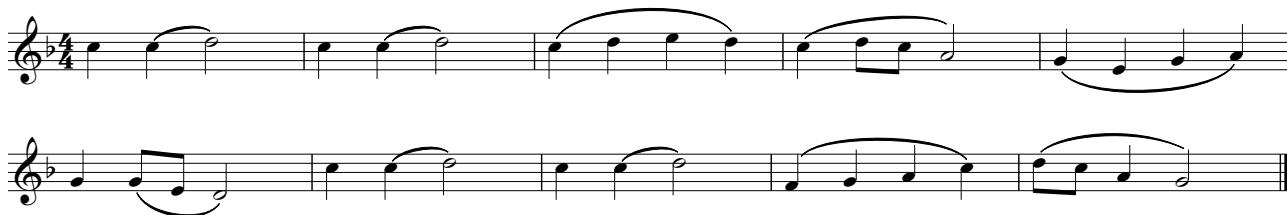
American Folk Song



50

*Sakura*

Japanese Folk Song

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and probably the most recognizable composer of the Baroque Era. The **Baroque Era** was the musical time period in Western Music between 1600-1750 and happened right before the Classical Era.

51

*Musette*

Allegro

*"Maiden Voyage" by Herbie Hancock*

## **“syncopated” rhythms**

rhythms that emphasize  
the “& count” or weak beat



*forte piano*

“attack the phrase forte  
and continue at piano”

## **music theory**

### **dotted quarter note**



Just like dotted half notes, a dotted quarter gets an extra half of the original value. Getting one and a half beats puts the note or rest after it on the “up” beat or “& count”.

# 53

### **Tzena, Tzena**

Jewish Folk Song



# 54

### **San Sereni**

Spanish Folk Song



# 55

### **Prince Of Denmark's March**

Henry Wood



# 56

### **Little Donkey**

Eric Boswell



57 **Ode To Joy**

Ludwig van Beethoven

58 **Arirang**

Korean Folk Song

59 **New World Symphony**

Anton Dvorak

60 **Kum Ba Yah**

African American Spiritual

61 **Hey Ho, Nobody's Home**

English Folk Song

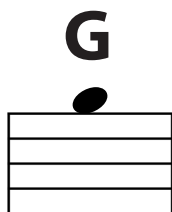
**Bette Midler**

Bette Midler is an American singer and songwriter who made her motion picture debut in the 1979 film "The Rose". Her recording of the title song became a chart hit and helped propel her award-winning career in showbusiness of over half a century.



**"The Rose" written by Amanda McBroom**

# Fingerings



T ○○○

## D.C. al Coda

D.C. or "da capo" al Coda means to go to the beginning and then go to the Coda. After playing the measure that says "To Coda" jump to the measure with the Coda sign.

### 62

#### The Charleston

Allegro

James P. Johnson

To Coda



Musical score for "The Charleston" in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two staves are the bass line. The piece ends with a Coda sign (a circle with a cross) and the instruction "D.C. al Coda".

### 63

#### Aloha Oe

Lili'uokalani



Musical score for "Aloha Oe" in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two staves. The first staff is the main melody, and the second staff is the bass line. The piece includes first and second endings, indicated by "1." and "2." above the notes.

### 64

#### Loch Lomond

Scottish Folk Song



Musical score for "Loch Lomond" in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two staves. The first staff is the main melody, and the second staff is the bass line. The piece includes a Coda sign at the end.



65

**Maple Leaf Rag**

Allegro

Scott Joplin



66

**El Juego Chirimbolo**

Spanish Folk Song



67

**Rock A My Soul**

African American Spiritual



68

**Give My Regards To Broadway**

Allegro

George M. Cohan

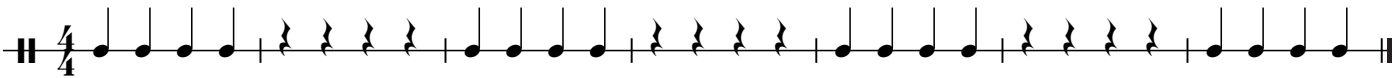
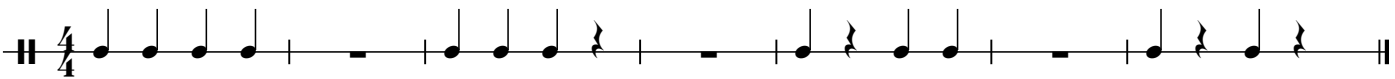

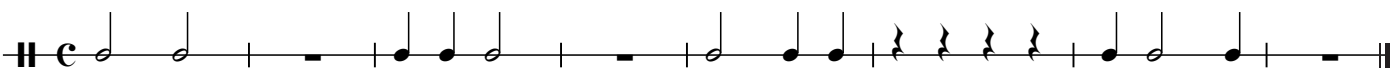






**Billie Holiday**

Billie Holiday was a celebrated jazz and swing vocalist who would influence pop singing for decades to come. Her vocal style was greatly influenced by the sounds of jazz instrumentalists.



***“God Bless The Child” by Billie Holiday***

# Rhythm Reading

- 1 
- 2 
- 3 
- 4 
- 5 
- 6 
- 7 
- 8 
- 9 
- 10 

# 5 Note Scales

## A Major Scale (D Concert)



## D Major Scale (G Concert)



## G Major Scale (C Concert)



## C Major Scale (F Concert)



## F Major Scale (Bb Concert)



## Bb Major Scale (Eb Concert)



## Eb Major Scale (Ab Concert)



## Ab Major Scale (Db Concert)



## Db Major Scale (Gb Concert)



## F# Major Scale (B Concert)



## B Major Scale (E Concert)

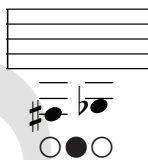


## E Major Scale (A Concert)

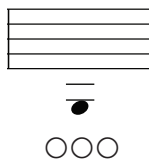


# French Horn Fingering Chart

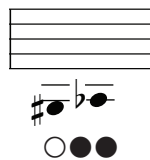
**F# Gb**



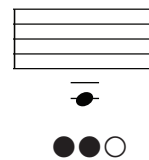
**G**



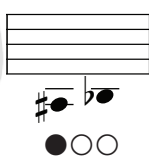
**G# Ab**



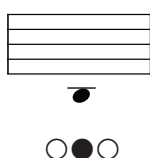
**A**



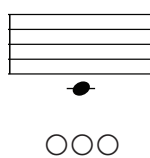
**A# Bb**



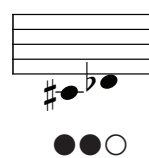
**B**



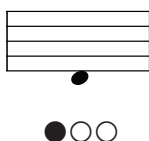
**C**



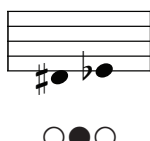
**C# Db**



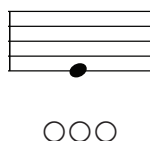
**D**



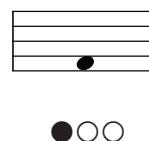
**D# Eb**



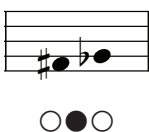
**E**



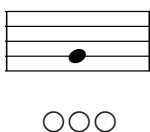
**F**



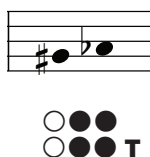
**F# Gb**



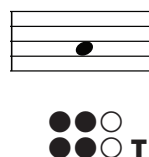
**G**



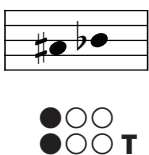
**G# Ab**



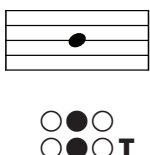
**A**



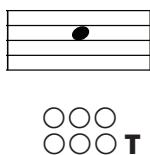
**A# Bb**



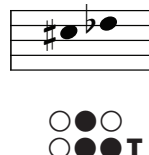
**B**



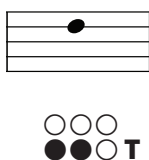
**C**



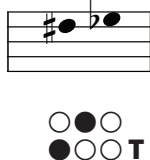
**C# Db**



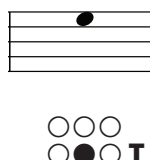
**D**



**D# Eb**



**E**



**F**

