

MALLETS

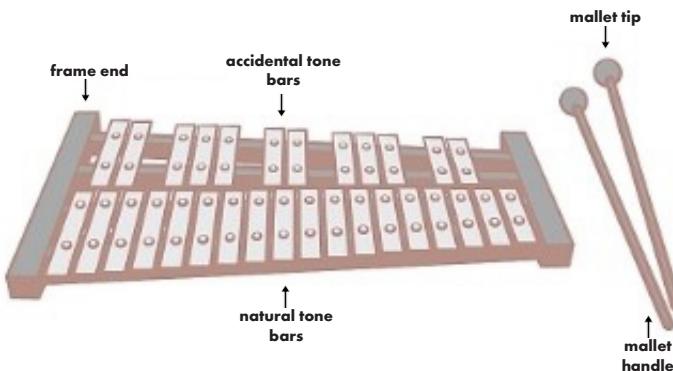
# THE LET'S PLAY BAND METHOD

***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

Pull apart the legs of your bell stand and tighten the tripod base screw to lock them into place. Avoid over tightening. Make sure you raise the stand so that your bell kit will sit at waist level then tighten the screw to lock it into place. Place the bell kit on the stand. Some sets may screw into place. Tighten or lift any adjustment arms to fit snug against the bell kit base.

## Holding Your Instrument

- Pick up your sticks with your thumb and pointer finger about one third away from the base of the stick with the tips pointed away from you.
- Your top knuckle and thumb should be lined up on opposite sides of the stick.
- Curve the rest of your fingering lightly around the stick.
- Turn your hands over so that the back of your hand is flat.
- Stand close enough so the tips of your sticks can rest comfortably on the center of the keys.

## Getting A Sound

- Keep your elbows at your side and lift your forearms so your sticks are roughly two inches above the bell kit. Keep the tips close to each other.
- Move only your wrist so that your stick raises no more than 8 inches above the keyboard.
- Strike the keyboard near the center of the key, letting the stick rebound back into the “up” position.
- Position the tips of your mallets so both can fit on one key.

## 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!*



## Technique

- Keep your elbows out slightly when you play.
- Keep a firm grip on your sticks, mainly with your thumb and pointer finger.
- Instead of pulling the stick off the head after each stroke, think of letting the stick bounce back up on its own, as if you were bouncing a basketball. This may require a looser grip with the fingers on the bottom of the stick.

## Instrument Care

- You can care for your keyboard by wiping it down with a soft cloth regularly after use.
- Store your kit in a cool, dry place.
- Be sure to always use the appropriate mallet on your instrument. Using sticks or other incorrect mallets may lead to broken keys.

# Let's Play!



## fermata

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

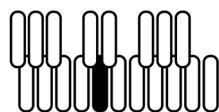
## REST

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

**F**

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

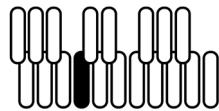
# D



Musical staff with a treble clef. Notes: D, REST, D, REST, D.

Musical staff with a treble clef. Notes: D, D, D, D, REST, E, E, E, E, REST, F, F, F, F.

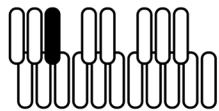
# C



Musical staff with a treble clef. Notes: C, REST, C, REST, C.

Musical staff with a treble clef. Notes: C, C, C, C, REST, C, C, D, D, REST, D, D, C, C.

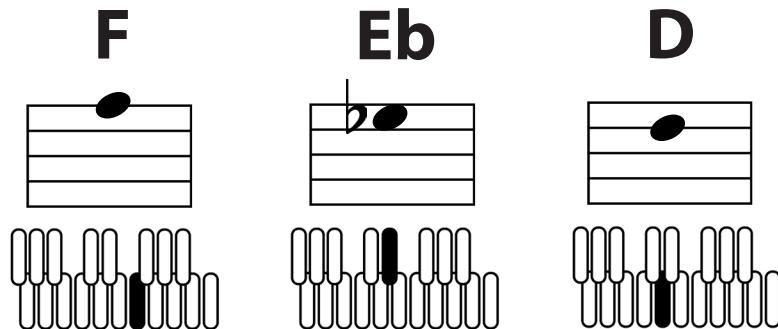
# Bb



Musical staff with a treble clef. Notes: Bb, REST, Bb, REST, Bb.

Musical staff with a treble clef. Notes: Bb, Bb, Bb, Bb, REST, Bb, C, D, E, REST, E, D, C, Bb.

# The Notes



*mf*  
mezzo forte  
“medium loud”

## music theory

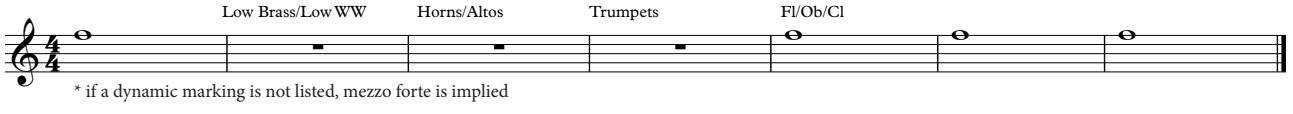
 **whole note**  
sustain sound 4 beats

 **whole rest**  
count 4 beats rest

### 1 Lift Off

### 2 Around The Room

   
\* if a dynamic marking is not listed, mezzo forte is implied

### 3 Stargazing

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

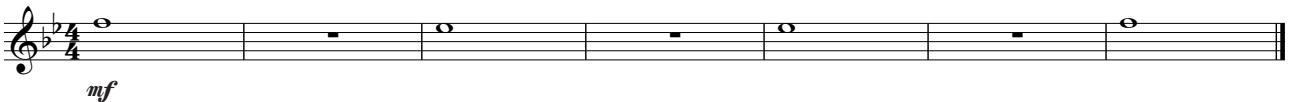
## key signature



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

4

### Oracle



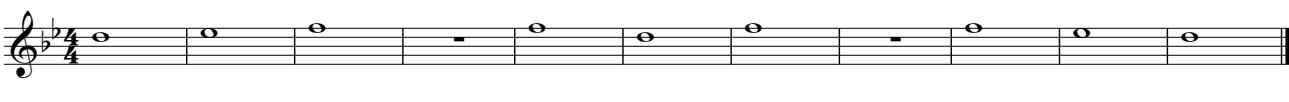
5

### 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



### "Subwoofer Lullaby"

from the Minecraft Soundtrack

Get extra practice playing **whole notes** and the note **"Concert D"** by scanning the QR Play Button below.

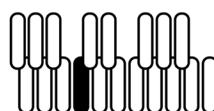
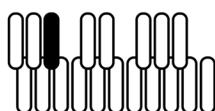
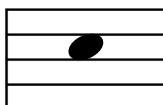


## The Notes

**Bb**



**C**



*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



*mp*

10

*Hot Cross Buns*

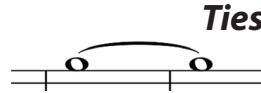
English Folk Song



## time signature

**4**  
**4**

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

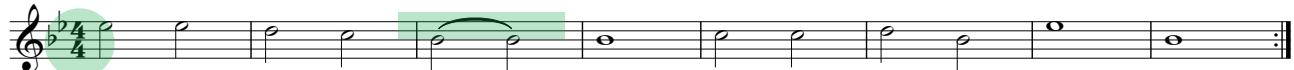


**Ties** Combines the values of two notes. Don't tongue the second note

# 11

## Country Walk

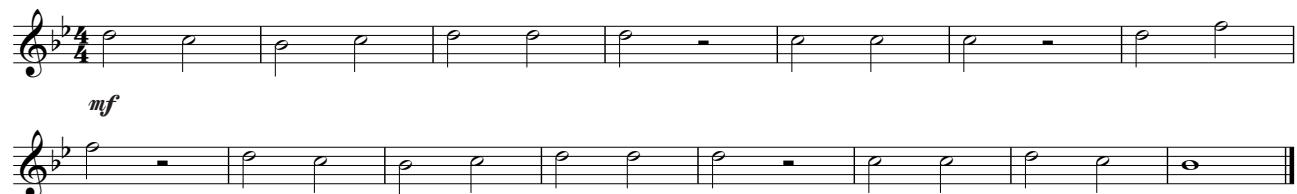
French Folk Song



# 12

## Merrily We Roll Along

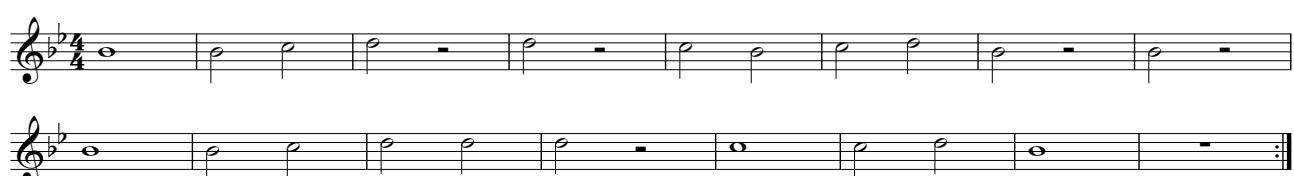
Charlie Tobias



# 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



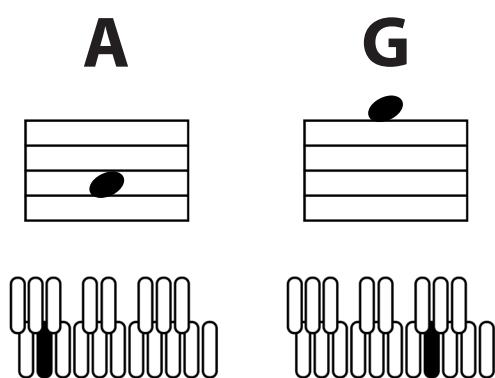
## "Hey Ya!"

by Outkast (2003)

Get extra practice playing **half notes** and the notes "**Concert C and Bb**" by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# The Notes



## music theory

 **quarter note**  
gets 1 beat

 **quarter rest**  
count 1 beat

## 14 Stodola Pumpa

Czech Folk Song



Musical score for Stodola Pumpa in 4/4 time, key signature of B-flat major. The score consists of two staves of music. A green bar highlights the first two measures (1. and 2.) of the first staff.

## 15 Jingle Bells

James Lord Pierpont



Musical score for Jingle Bells in 4/4 time, key signature of B-flat major. The score consists of two staves of music. A dynamic marking 'mf' is placed above the first staff.

## 16 Go Tell Aunt Rhody

American Folk Song



Musical score for Go Tell Aunt Rhody in 4/4 time, key signature of B-flat major. The score consists of two staves of music. Dynamic markings 'p' and 'mf' are placed below the first staff.



fermata

hold the note out longer

**1st and 2nd Endings**

1. | 2.

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



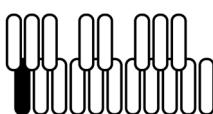
**"Look What You Made Me Do"**  
by Taylor Swift (2017)

Get extra practice playing **quarter notes** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# The Notes

**G**



**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*

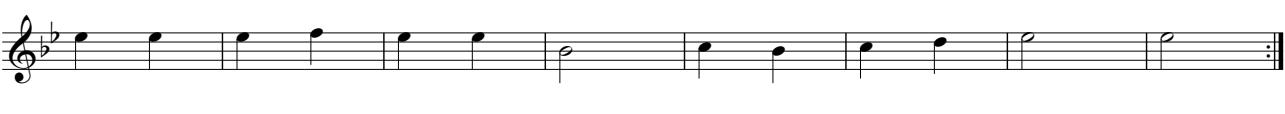
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



**23**

*Good King Wenceslas*

Finnish Folk Song



**pick up notes**

notes that happen  
before the first full  
measure

## 24 The Bridge At Avignon

French Folk Song



## 25 Up On The Housetop

Benjamin Hanby



## 26 A Tisket A Tasket

American Folk Song



### 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.

### "A Tisket A Tasket"

by Aretha Franklin



### "You Should See Me In A Crown"

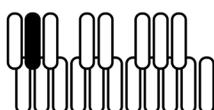
by Billie Eilish (2019)

Get extra practice playing **quarter notes** and the note "**Concert G**" by scanning the QR Play Button below:

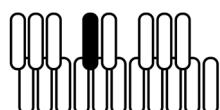


## The Notes

**Ab**



**D<sub>b</sub>**



**“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

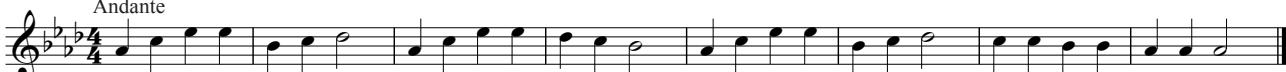


**29**

**Love Somebody**

Andante

Joan Whitney, Alex Kramer



## time signatures

**2 3 4** beats in a measure  
**quarter note** gets the beat

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

<b>Andante</b>	<b>Moderato</b>	<b>Allegro</b>
slow	medium	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



**"Carol of the Bells"**  
 by Transiberian Orchestra (1996)

Get extra practice playing in  $\frac{3}{4}$  time and the notes "**Concert Ab and Db**" by scanning the QR Play Button below:

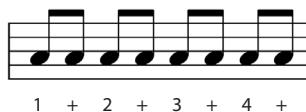


**3** *beats in a measure*  
**4** *quarter note gets the beat*

*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



**Slur**

connect two notes by  
only tonguing the  
first one

35

**Bonjour Mes Amis**

French Folk Song



Music notation for Bonjour Mes Amis. The music is in G major, 4/4 time, and consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The second staff starts with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The dynamic marking 'mf' is present.

36

**Chiapanecas**

Mexican Folk Song



Music notation for Chiapanecas. The music is in G major, 3/4 time, and consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The second staff starts with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The dynamic markings 'f', 'mf', and 'ff' are present.

37

**Goodbye Old Paint**

Charley Willis



Music notation for Goodbye Old Paint. The music is in G major, 3/4 time, and consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The second staff starts with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The dynamic markings 'f', 'mf', and 'ff' are present.

**Miles Davis**

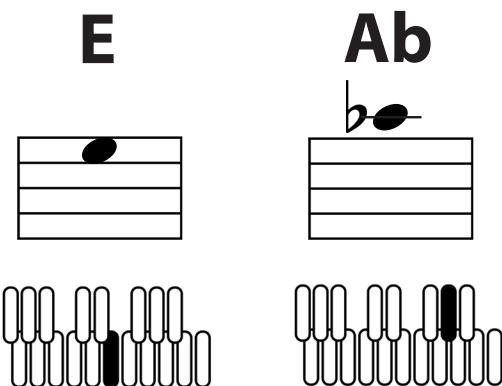
Miles Davis was an American trumpeter and bandleader that became one of the most influential figures in 20th century music. Throughout his career he continued to innovate and find new ways to play the trumpet and compose music.

**"All Blues"**  
by Miles Davis**"We Will Rock You"**  
by Queen (1977)

Get extra practice playing **eighth notes** and the notes **"Concert Ab and Db"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# The Notes



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

## music theory

### eighth note runs



When multiple eighth note pairs occur in a row they can be barred together but they maintain the same rhythm and timing.  
 Keep your air going!



### “Maiden Voyage” by Herbie Hancock

44

#### Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

English Folk Song



45

#### “Morning” from Peer Gynt

Edvard Grieg



46

#### Frere Jacques

French Folk Song



**triplets**

three notes that are playing evenly within one beat

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

**tenuto**  
long

**staccato**  
short

**accent**  
emphasized

41

**"Spring" from Four Seasons**

Antonio Vivaldi

Allegro



42

**It Had To Be You**

Isham Jones



43

**Minka, Minka**

Ukrainian Folk Song

Allegro


**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.



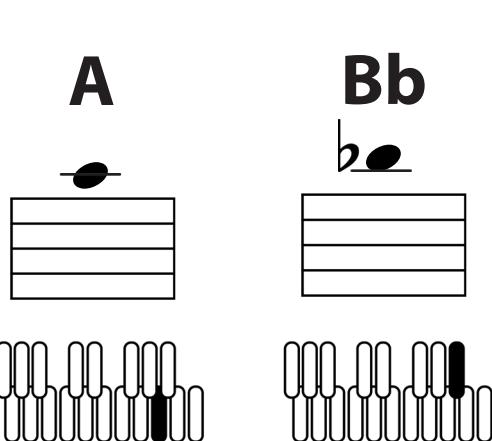
**"Adagio for Strings"**  
by Samuel Barber

**"Star Wars Theme"**  
by John Williams (1977)

Get extra practice playing **triplets** and the note **"Concert High Ab"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# **The Notes**



*eighth rest*  
rest half a beat

# *music theory*

## ***eighth note runs***



*When multiple eighth note pairs occur in a row they can be barred together but 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



A musical score for piano in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The tempo is Andante, and the dynamic is p (pianissimo). The score consists of two staves of music with various note heads and stems.

# 46 *Frere Jacques*

## French Folk Song



47

*Academic Festival Overture*

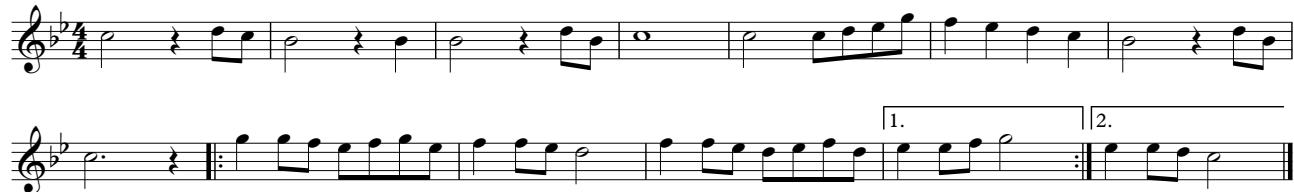
Johannes Brahms



48

*Lo Yisa Goy*

Israeli Folk Song



49

*Skip To My Lou*

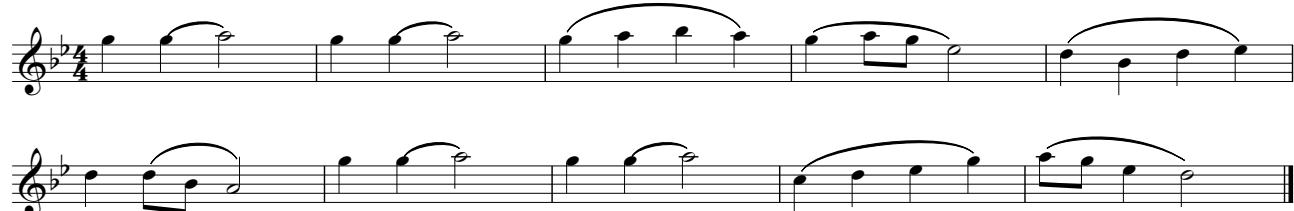
American Folk Song



50

*Sakura*

Japanese Folk Song



51

*Musette*

Allegro

**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.

**"Musette"**  
by J.S. Bach

**"Heathens"**

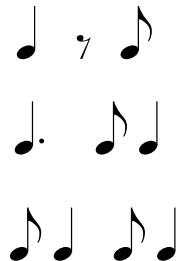
by Twenty One Pilots (2016)

Get extra practice playing **eighth note runs** and the note **"Concert High A"** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



## **"syncopated" rhythms**

*rhythms that emphasize  
the "& count" or weak beat*



*fp*  
**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

Andante



## **56** *Little Donkey*

Eric Boswell



57

**Ode To Joy**

Sheet music for Ode To Joy in 4/4 time, key signature of B-flat major. The dynamic ***fp*** (fortissimo) is marked in the middle of the staff.

Ludwig van Beethoven

58

**Arirang**

Sheet music for Arirang in 3/4 time, key signature of B-flat major. The music consists of two staves of rhythmic patterns.

Korean Folk Song

59

**New World Symphony**

Anton Dvorak



Sheet music for New World Symphony in 4/4 time, key signature of B-flat major.

60

**Kum Ba Yah**

Andante



Sheet music for Kum Ba Yah in 4/4 time, key signature of B-flat major. The dynamic ***fp*** (fortissimo) is marked at the end of the second line.

African American Spiritual

61

**Hey Ho, Nobody's Home**

English Folk Song



Sheet music for Hey Ho, Nobody's Home in 4/4 time, key signature of B-flat major. The dynamics ***mf*** (mezzo-forte), ***fp*** (fortissimo), and ***mf*** (mezzo-forte) are marked.

**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"**  
by Amanda McBroom



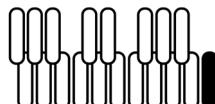
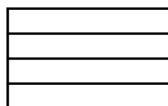
**"Married Life"**  
from the Up Soundtrack (2009)

Get extra practice playing **dotted quarter notes** and **syncopated rhythms** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



## The Notes

C



## 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



63

### Aloha Oe

Lili'uokalani



64

### Loch Lomond

Scottish Folk Song



65

**Maple Leaf Rag**

Allegro

Scott Joplin



66

**El Juego Chirimbolo**

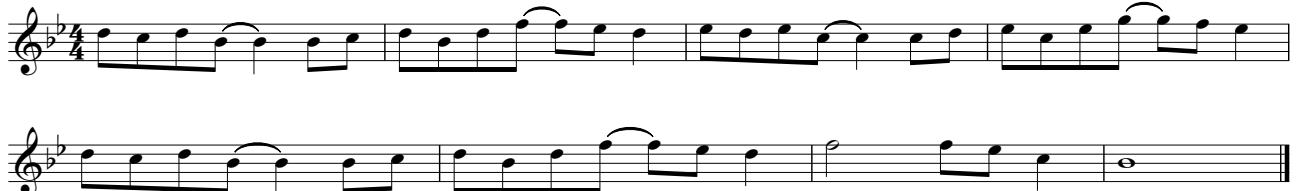
Spanish Folk Song



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**"Megalovania"**  
by Toby Fox (2015)

Get extra practice playing advanced **syncopated rhythms** and **Concert High C** by scanning the QR Play Button below:



# **Rhythm Reading**

# 5 Note Scales

## D Major Scale

Musical staff for the D Major scale. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The scale consists of the notes D, E, F#, G, and A. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note A and a fermata.

## G Major Scale

Musical staff for the G Major scale. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The scale consists of the notes G, A, B, C, and D. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note D and a fermata.

## C Major Scale

Musical staff for the C Major scale. The key signature is no sharps or flats. The scale consists of the notes C, D, E, F, and G. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note G and a fermata.

## F Major Scale

Musical staff for the F Major scale. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The scale consists of the notes F, G, A, B-flat, and C. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note C and a fermata.

## B-flat Major Scale

Musical staff for the B-flat Major scale. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The scale consists of the notes B-flat, C, D, E-flat, and F. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note F and a fermata.

## E-flat Major Scale

Musical staff for the E-flat Major scale. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, and A-flat). The scale consists of the notes E-flat, F, G, A-flat, and B-flat. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note B-flat and a fermata.

## A-flat Major Scale

Musical staff for the A-flat Major scale. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, and A-flat). The scale consists of the notes A-flat, B-flat, C, D, and E-flat. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note E-flat and a fermata.

## D-flat Major Scale

Musical staff for the D-flat Major scale. The key signature is four flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, and D-flat). The scale consists of the notes D-flat, E-flat, F, G, and A-flat. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note A-flat and a fermata.

## G-flat Major Scale

Musical staff for the G-flat Major scale. The key signature is four flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, and D-flat). The scale consists of the notes G-flat, A-flat, B-flat, C, and D-flat. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note D-flat and a fermata.

## B Major Scale

Musical staff for the B Major scale. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The scale consists of the notes B, C, D, E, and F#. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note F# and a fermata.

## E Major Scale

Musical staff for the E Major scale. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The scale consists of the notes E, F#, G, A, and B. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note B and a fermata.

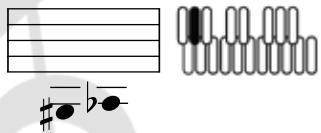
## A Major Scale

Musical staff for the A Major scale. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The scale consists of the notes A, B, C, D, and E. The staff has four measures, ending with a half note E and a fermata.

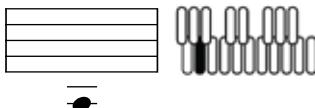
# Mallet Note Chart



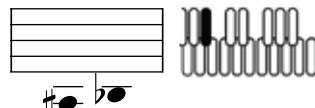
**G♯ A♭**



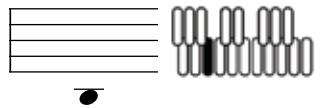
**A**



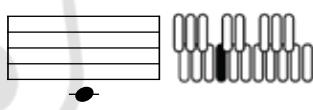
**A♯ B♭**



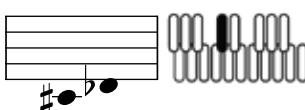
**B**



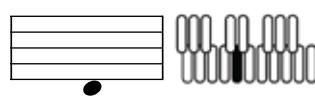
**C**



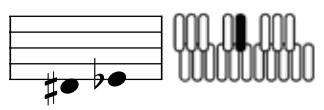
**C♯ D♭**



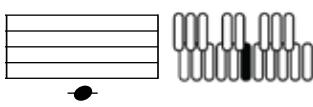
**D**



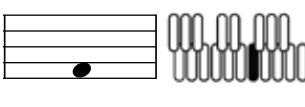
**D♯ E♭**



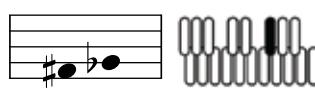
**E**



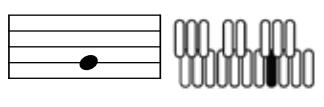
**F**



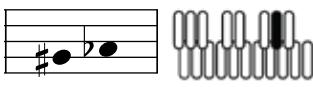
**F♯ G♭**



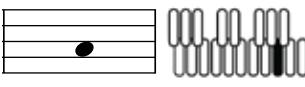
**G**



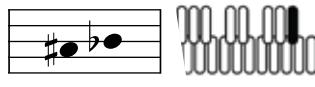
**G♯ A♭**



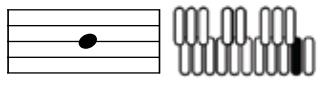
**A**



**A♯ B♭**



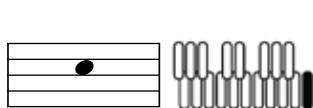
**B**



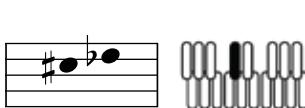
*Up One Octave*

*Up One Octave*

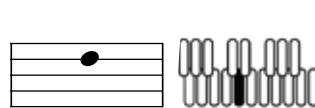
**C**



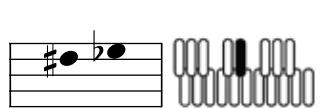
**C♯ D♭**



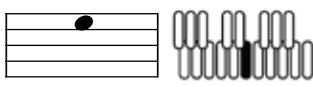
**D**



**D♯ E♭**



**E**



**F**



**F♯ G♭**



**G**

