

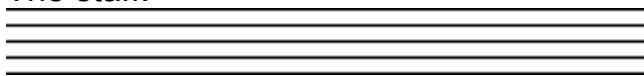
Terminology Reference Sheet

READING BASICS 101

Compiled by:
Paul Wandtke

Staff: a set of five horizontal lines each of which represents a different musical pitch but in our case it represents what drum to play and how to play it via rhythms, dynamics, tempos, and etc.

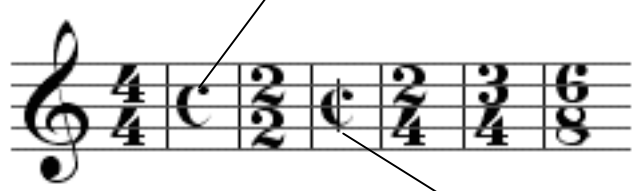
The staff:



Time signature: specifies how many beats are in each measure and what note value gets the beat. For instance, 4/4 (or **C** which means common time) indicates that there are four quarter notes in a measure and that they get the beat (the click of a metronome can be thought of as a quarter note). The bottom number indicates what note value gets the beat while the top tells you how many of those beats are in a measure. So if you have a time signature of 5/4, this tells you that there are five quarter notes in a measure.

Different time signatures:

“Common time” which means the same as 4/4



“Cut time” which is the same as 2/2

Measures or Bars: keep the staff in place by separating the notes within the time signatures. Measures (bars) are kept separated by bar lines.

Bar line: separate measures

Double bar lines: separate sections of music

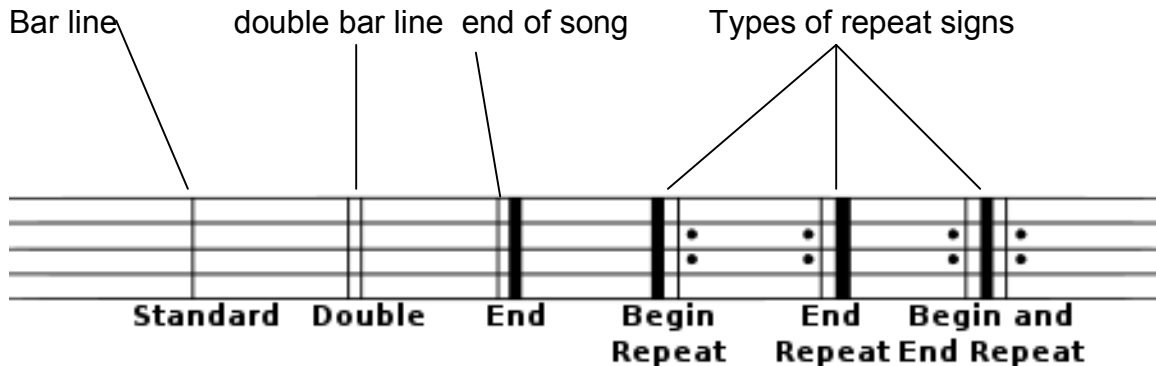
Please note: a double bar line with a thicker second line indicates that the piece of music is finished and over so stop playing!!!!!!!!!!

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Repeats: are double bar lines with the thicker second line but the difference in look is that there are two dots between the middle line on the staff. Also, don't stop playing because you have to repeat the written music.

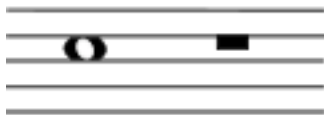


Tempo: is how fast or slow a piece of music is played in relation to a metronome. For the first exercise of part one in Reading Basics 101, notice the tempo marking because it means that the quarter note equals one-hundred and twenty beats per minute. This means that you grab your metronome and dial it in to 120bpm and count those clicks that come out of your metronome as quarter notes, and then you perform all and any note permutation on top.

Whole note: is a hollow oval note head. It is often seen in a measure of 4/4 because it takes up the space of four quarter notes.

Whole rest: often positioned in the middle of the staff as an upside down rectangle which means not to play for four beats.

Notice:



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Half note: a note played for half the duration of a whole note and twice the duration of a quarter note. In 4/4 a half note gets two beats.

Half rest: is a rectangle flag that points up. In 4/4 you simply do not play for two beats.

Notice: Open note head "rest"



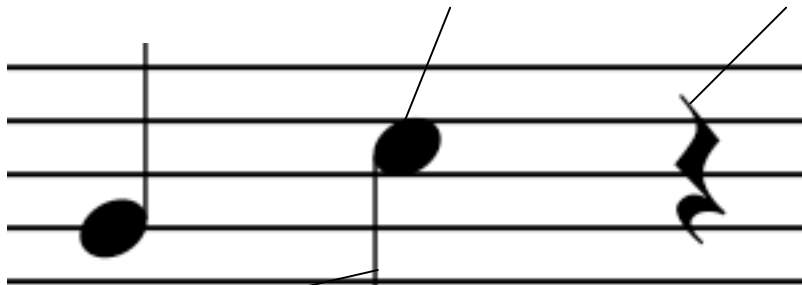
DISCLAIMER: You will rarely see whole notes and half notes but you will often see whole rests and half rests.

Quarter note: a note played for one quarter of the duration of a whole note. In 4/4, quarter notes are the beat (they make your head bob if played correctly).

Quarter notes are notated with a filled-in oval note head and a straight, flagless stem.

Quarter rests: silence of the same duration as a quarter note. It looks like a weird squiggly line and some say it looks like a z.

Notice: note head "rest"



stem

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Eighth note: a note played for one eighth the duration of a whole note hence the name. Eighth notes are notated with an oval, filled-in note head and a straight note stem with one flag. The flags are often joined with other eighth notes when deemed appropriate. In 4/4 it takes two eighth notes to fill the space of one quarter note.

Eighth note rest: you simply do not play in the time of an eighth note. It looks like a dot with a small angled line connected to it.

Notice: note head



beamed eighth notes



stem with one flag

Eighth note triplets: are the most common used tuplets and they have a three feel to them. Most of the time you'll see a number three above them especially when there's eighth rests involved. Other times in jazz/swing charts you'll see strait eighths with the intension that you'll perform them with a three feel (the first and last partial of the triplet).

Here they are:

You can count tri-pa-let or this variation:



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Sixteenth note: a note played for one sixteenth the duration of a whole note, hence the name. Sixteenth notes are notated with an oval, filled-in note head and a straight note stem with two flags. It takes four sixteenth notes to take the space of a quarter note.

Sixteenth rest: don't play in the time of a sixteenth note and they look like an eighth note rest with an added dot.

Notice:

Two flags dude

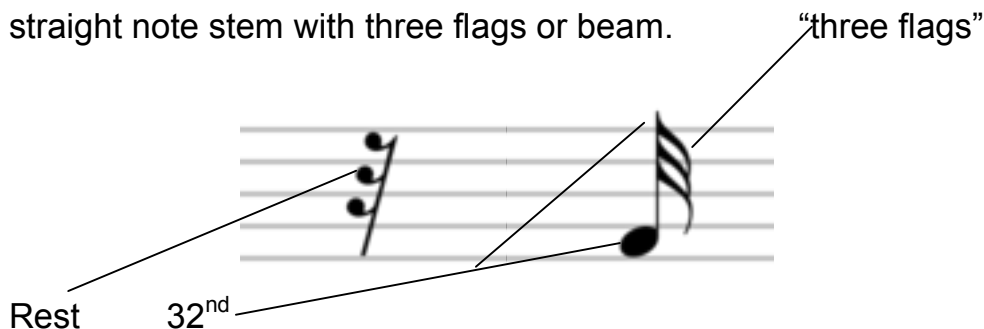
"rest"

Beamed 16th notes



Thirty-second note a note played for 1/32 of the duration of a whole note. It takes eight 32 second notes beamed together to take the place of a quarter note. 32 second notes are often used a lot by metal drummer both with hands and feet; especially with rolls around the kit, blasts, and very fast doubles.

Thirty-second notes are notated with an oval, filled-in note head and a straight note stem with three flags or beam.



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A Paul Wandtke: This is a dude or a dude-man that drums and.....
wait, check out www.paulwandtke.com for more info!

**MORE REFERENCE COMING
SOON AND UPON REQUEST!**