

Max's Musical Map: Mastering Notation

Follow the notes and find the beat—let's make music sound sweet!

- The stave is made up of five horizontal lines and four spaces, which help us work out the pitch of a note.
- A crotchet is a solid note head with a stem, and it lasts for exactly one beat in common time.
- The treble clef is the symbol at the start of the stave that tells us the music is usually played in a higher register.
- Bar lines are the vertical lines drawn across the stave to divide music into equal sections called bars.
- A minim is an open note head with a stem that lasts for two beats, making it twice as long as a crotchet.

Did you know? Did you know? Before musical notation was invented, musicians had to memorise every single song by ear! It wasn't until a monk named Guido d'Arezzo created a system of lines in the 11th century that people could finally write music down so others could play it accurately.

Key vocabulary: Stave · Treble Clef · Minim · Crotchet · Quaver · Bar Line · Pitch