



STANDARD MUSIC NOTATION

For Saw & Kaen

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Notes go from A to G.

Octave - each group of notes from A to G is an octave.

G Clef - the curly symbol that looks like a capital G at the beginning of the song. There are many kinds of clefs, like bass, tenor, alto, soprano, etc. but we will learn the G clef first. Another name for the G clef is Treble clef.

Staff – the five long lines touched by the G clef. Most notes are on the staff.

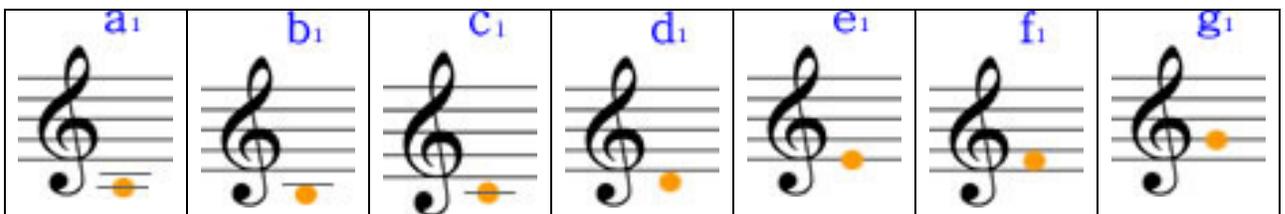
Ledger lines – the short extra lines below and above the staff.

Location of notes – a note is either on a line or in between lines. When you move from line to line or space to space, you are moving 2 notes (or 3 intervals, or you're moving in thirds).

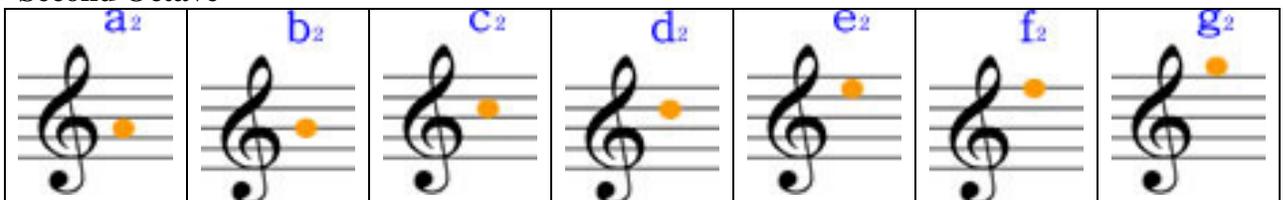
Pitch - A note has pitch and duration. Pitch tells you how low or high the sound is. The diagrams below tell you the pitch of each note and its location on the staff or ledger line.

PITCH & NOTE LOCATION

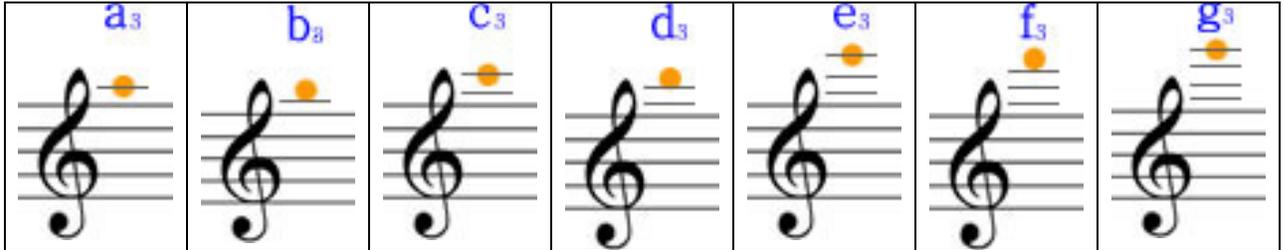
First Octave



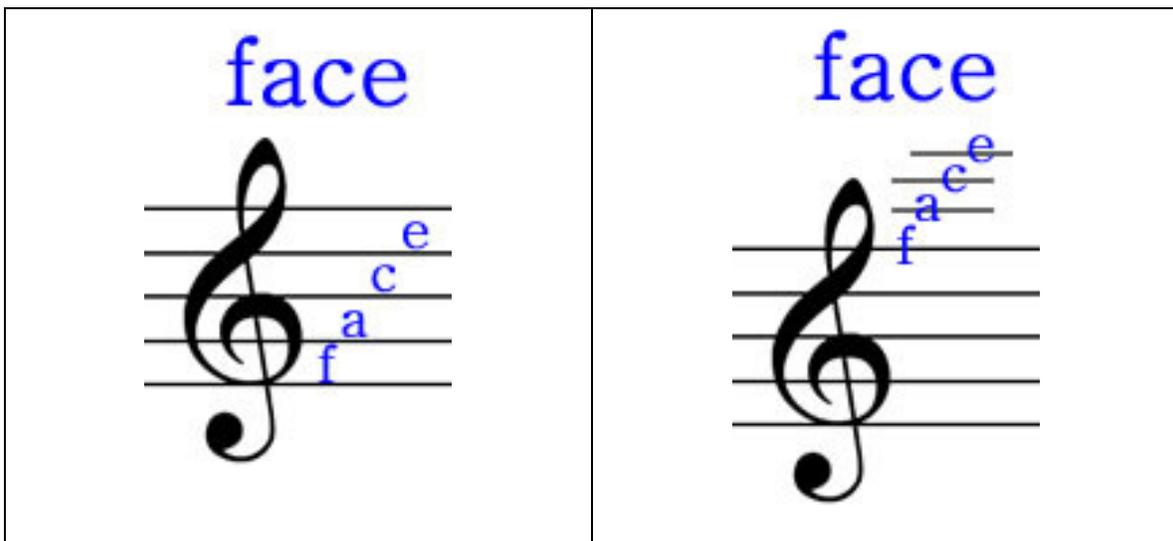
Second Octave



Third Octave



Remember your F A C E



Steps & Half Steps / Sharps and Flats

Between two consecutive notes, there is either 1 whole step or a half step. From B to C, and E to F, there is half a step (there is no sharp or flat between them). All other consecutive notes are 1 whole step apart, such as A to B, G to A, C to D, etc. (the middle between them is a flat or a sharp). For example, between A and B, there is A# or B flat. In the C major scale all notes are natural (i.e. there no sharps or flats).

Intervals

Also between two consecutive notes is 1 interval. There is no half interval. For example, G to A is 1 step, 1 interval. Same is true for A to B, C to D, D to E, F to G. However, B to C is half a step, but 1 interval. Same is true for E to F.

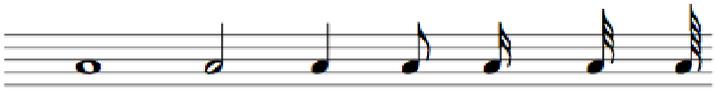
Questions:

- Going from D to E, how many steps are there? How many intervals?
- From A to C?
- From C to A?

Duration

Duration tells you how long or short the note or rest lasts. The diagrams below give the names and duration of each note and rest.

Notes



Whole (4 beats) Quarter (1 beat) Sixteenth (1/4 beat) Sixty-fourth (1/16 beat)

Half (2 beats) Eighth (1/2 beat) Thirty-second (1/8 beat)

Rests



In common time (4/4 time, 4 beats in a measure), a whole note or rest takes up the whole measure (so it lasts for 4 beats). A whole note or rest is the base unit to which all the other fractional notes are related. A half note or rest takes half a measure (so it lasts 2 beats). A quarter note or rest takes $\frac{1}{4}$ of a measure (so it last 1 beat). An eighth note or rest takes $\frac{1}{8}$ of a measure (so it lasts $\frac{1}{2}$ beat), etc.

Notes on the Saw and Kaen

At the top of the saw, the notes are more spread out, while at the bottom, the notes are closer to each other. So at the top, 1 step is about 1 inch long, and half a step is about half an inch. In the middle, 1 step is about half and inch, and half a step is about a quarter inch. In the bottom, 1 step is about a quarter inch, and half a step is about an eighth of an inch (fingers touching).

