

# Reading Sheet Music

## Part 1: Notations



*We must see that music theory is not only about music, but about how people process it. To understand any art, we must look below its surface into the psychological details of its creation and absorption.*

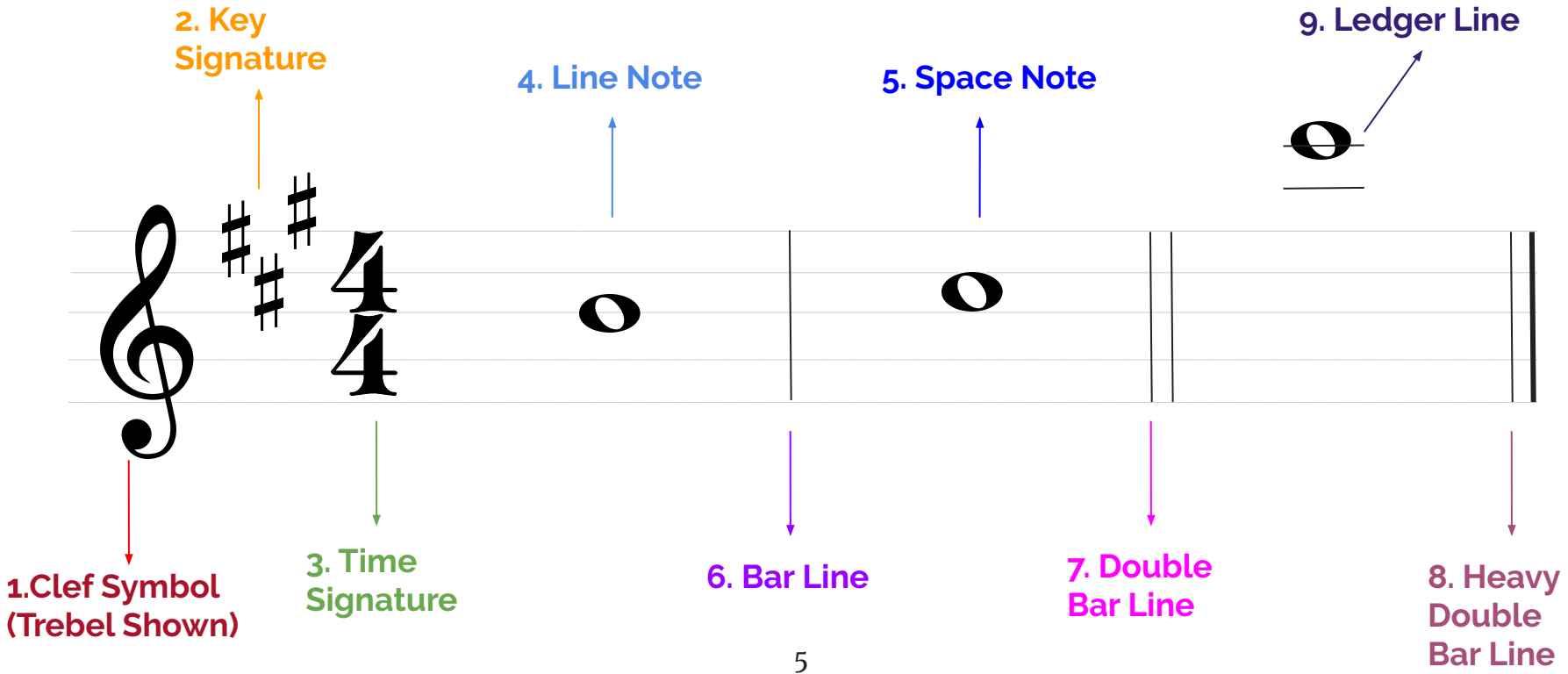
*-Marvin Minsky*

# 1. Pitch

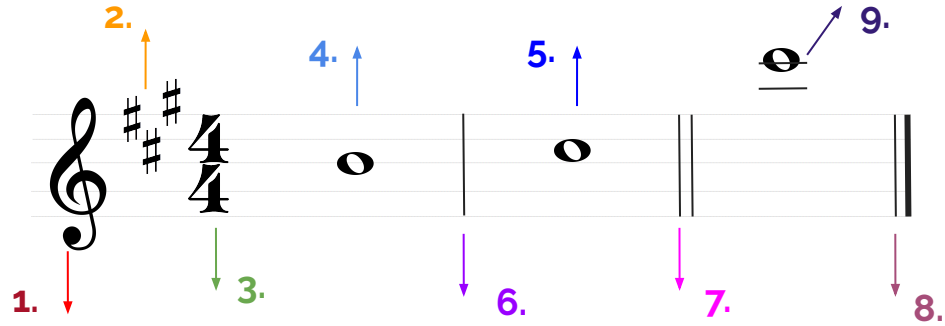
## The Staff

- The most notable way to write music
  - “Common Notation”
- 5 parallel horizontal lines
- Notes are read left to right

# The Staff Diagram



# The Staff Diagram



## 1. Clef Symbol (Trebel Shown)

The clef symbol indicates the name and pitch of the notes on the staff

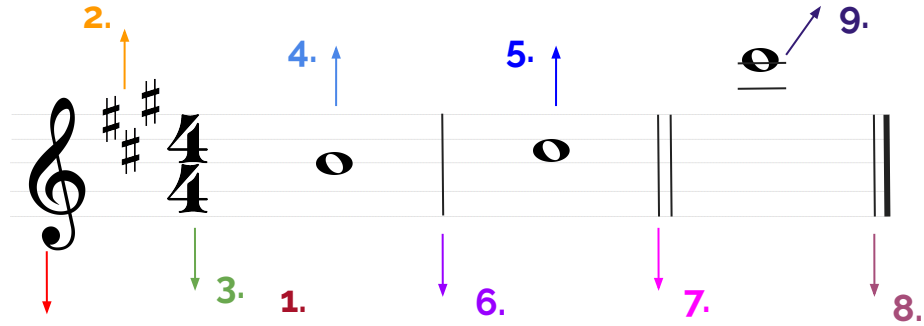
## 2. Key Signature

Flat or sharp signs that raise or lower the following notes from their natural pitch

## 3. Time Signature

Shows how many beats are in each measure

# The Staff Diagram



## 4. Line Note

A note written on the staff line

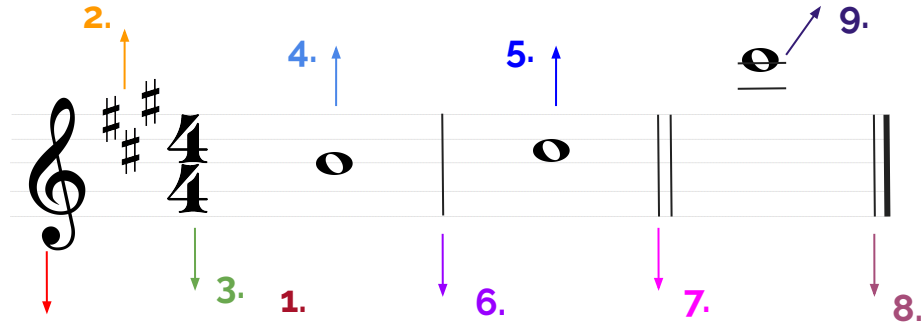
## 5. Space Note

A note written in the spaces between the staff line

## 6. Bar Line

Denotes each measure to show the number of beats

# The Staff Diagram



## 7. Double Bar Line

Shows the end of a section

## 8. Heavy Double Bar Line

Shows the end of the music

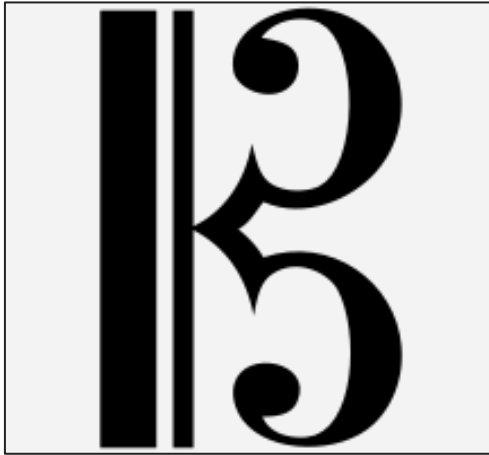
## 9. Ledger Lines

Notes a pitch higher or lower than the indicated staff

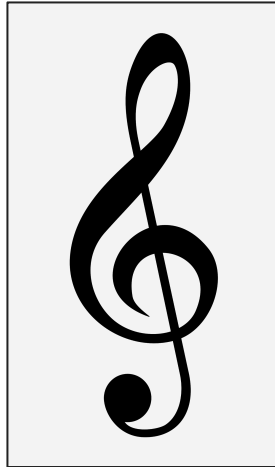


## The Clefs

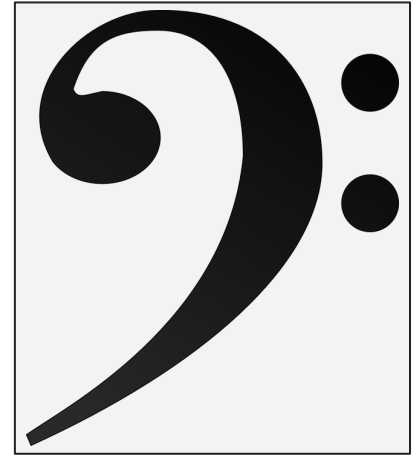
**C Clef**



**Treble Clef**

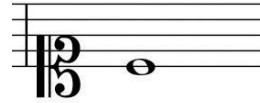


**Bass Clef**



## C Clef

- Movable clef
  - 5 clefs with different pitches of middle C (C<sub>4</sub>)
  - Eliminates ledger lines
- Has no sharps or flats
- Not as common today



Soprano Clef



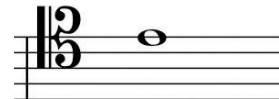
Mezzo-Soprano Clef



Alto Clef



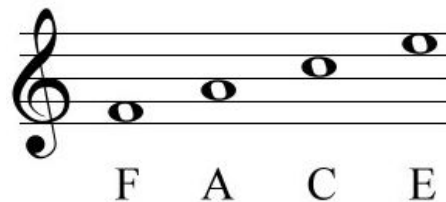
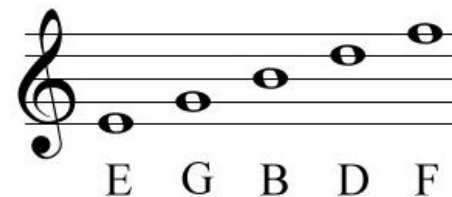
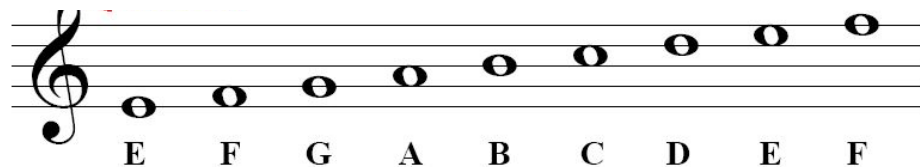
Tenor Clef



Baritone Clef

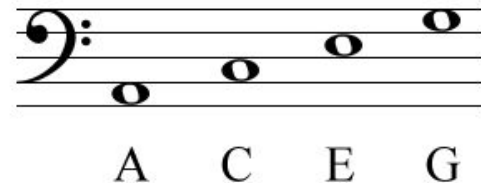
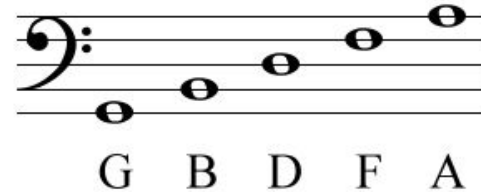
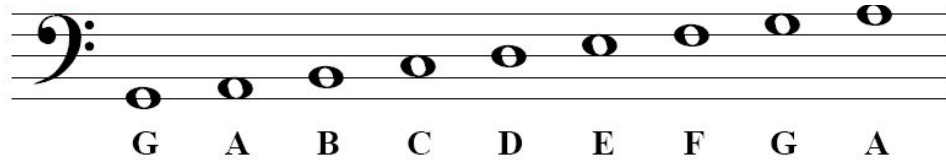
## Notes in the Treble Clef

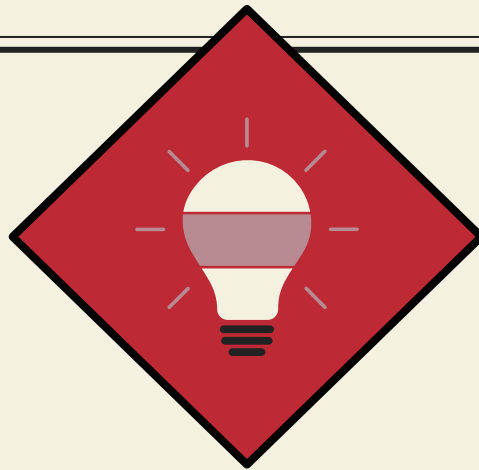
- The second line from the bottom is G
- Line notes, in order
  - EGBDF
  - “**E**very **G**ood **B**ird **D**oes **F**ly”
- Space notes, in order
  - FACE



## Notes in the Bass Clef

- The second line from the top is F
- Line notes, in order
  - GBDFA
  - “**G**ood **B**oys **D**o **F**ine **A**lways”
- Space notes, in order
  - ACEG
  - “**A**ll **C**ows **E**at **G**rass”



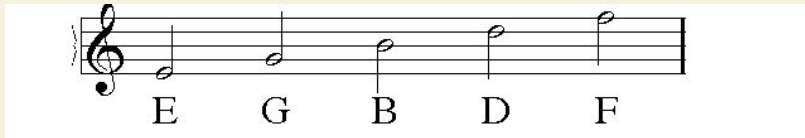


# Practice

Name the following notes on the Treble  
and Bass Clefs

# Name the following notes

Example:



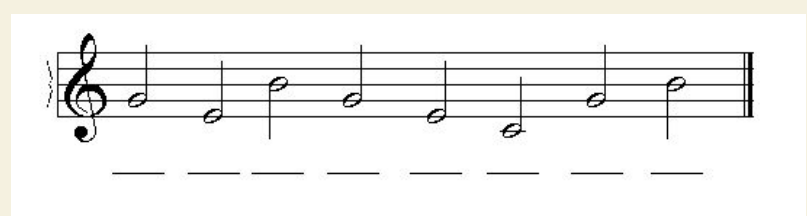
A musical staff in treble clef showing five quarter notes: E (first line), G (second line), B (third space), D (fourth space), and F (fifth line). The notes are labeled with their respective letters below the staff.



A musical staff in treble clef showing six quarter notes: E (first line), G (second line), A (second space), B (third space), C (third line), and D (fourth space). Below the staff are six dashed lines for labeling the notes.



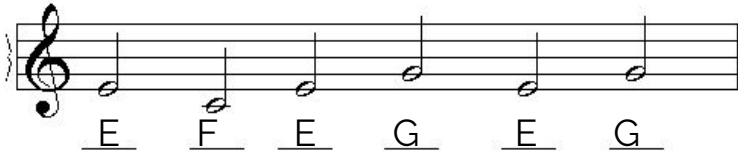
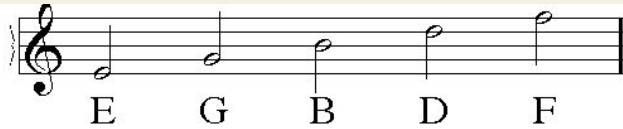
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A musical staff in treble clef showing six quarter notes: E (first line), G (second line), A (second space), B (third space), C (third line), and D (fourth space). Below the staff are six dashed lines for labeling the notes.

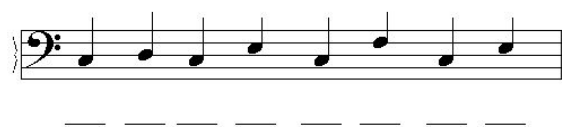
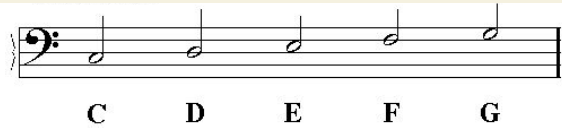
# Were you right?

Example:



# Name the following notes

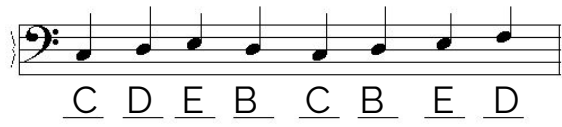
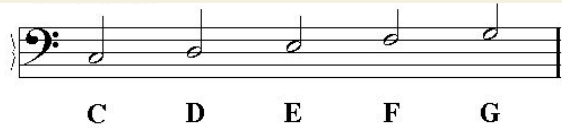
Example:





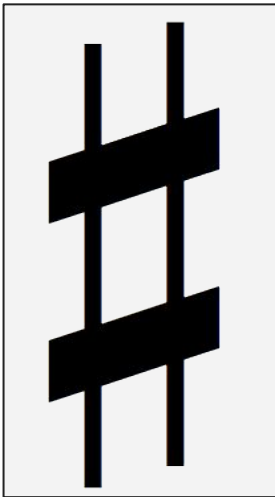
# Were you right?

Example:

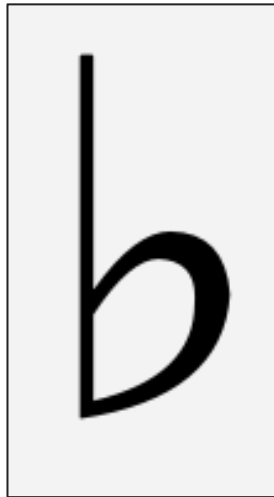


# Sharp, Flat, and Natural Notes

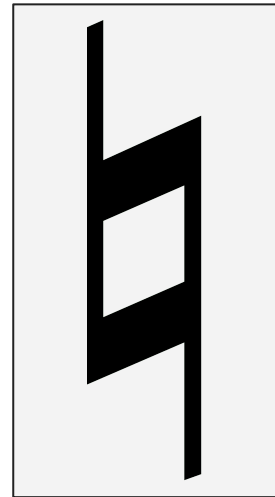
**Sharp**



**Flat**



**Natural**



## Sharp, Flat, and Natural Notes

- Sharp notes are a semitone higher than its corresponding note
- Flat notes are a semitone lower than its corresponding note
- A natural note is neither flat or sharp



C sharp



A flat



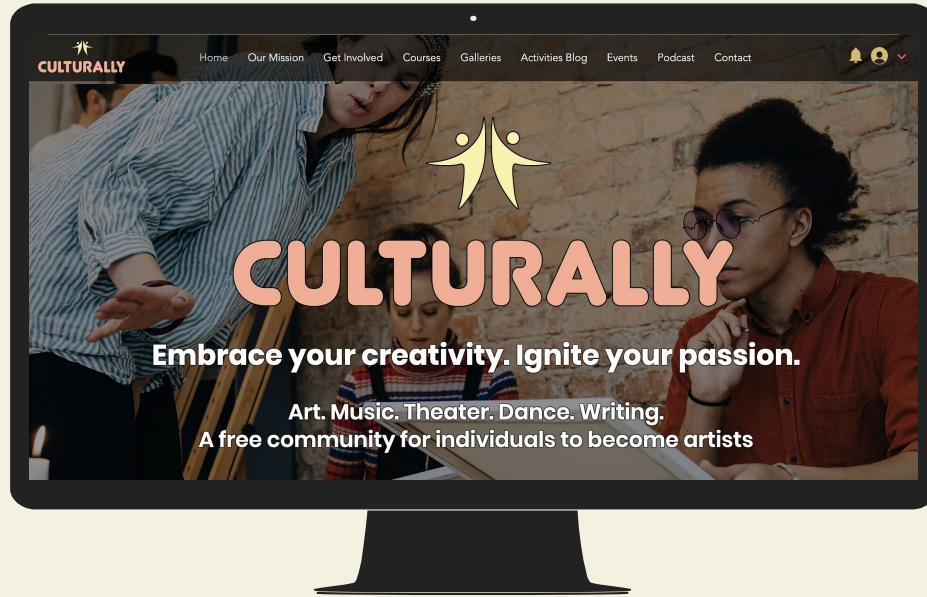
F natural

## Key Signature

- A combination of sharps and flats at the beginning of the staff to show the key of the music
- Major key signatures:

Musical notation showing the first eight major key signatures with flats. The notation is presented in two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. Each key signature is represented by a single measure of music. The keys are: C Major (no sharps or flats), F Major (one flat), Bb Major (two flats), Eb Major (three flats), Ab Major (four flats), Db Major (five flats), Gb Major (six flats), and Cb Major (seven flats). The labels for each key are written below the corresponding measure.

Musical notation showing the remaining eight major key signatures with sharps. The notation is presented in two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. Each key signature is represented by a single measure of music. The keys are: C Major (no sharps or flats), G Major (one sharp), D Major (two sharps), A Major (three sharps), E Major (four sharps), B Major (five sharps), F# Major (six sharps), and C# Major (seven sharps). The labels for each key are written below the corresponding measure.



**Thank you for supporting Culturally**

We hope you like our course so far! Next, test your knowledge of staff symbols with our crossword puzzle.