

So...

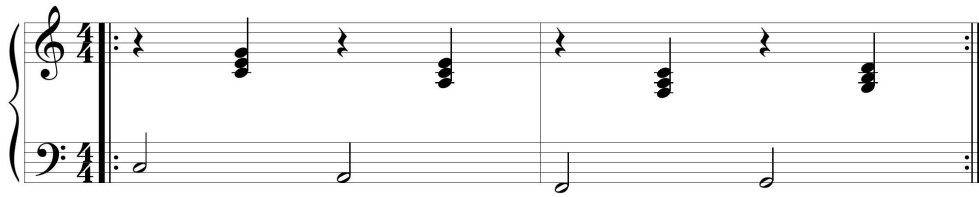
A little bit more  
**BASIC** music notation

Just **FOUR** pages

and then you'll be ready  
to start playing

# Basic Musical Notation

So what do all the lines and symbols MEAN?



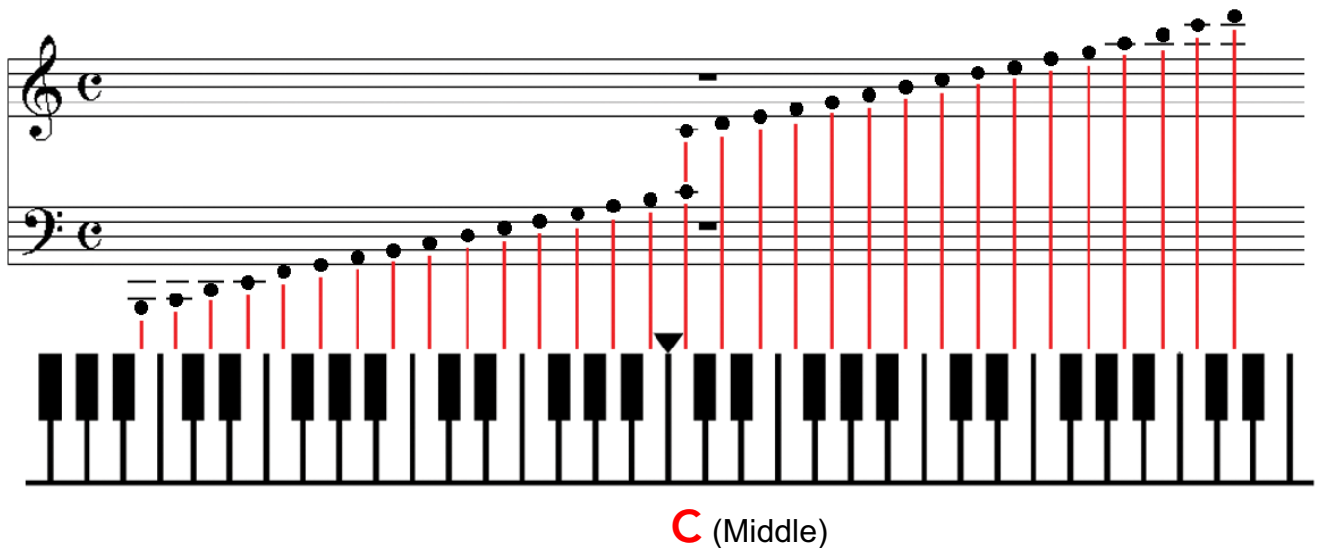
It's simple...

The **TOP** set of lines (and the spaces between them) represent keys to the RIGHT of middle C on your piano that are often played with the **RIGHT HAND**. (The symbol  $\text{treble clef}$  )

The **BOTTOM** set of lines (and the spaces between them) represent keys to the LEFT of middle C that are often played with your **LEFT HAND**. (The symbol  $\text{bass clef}$  )

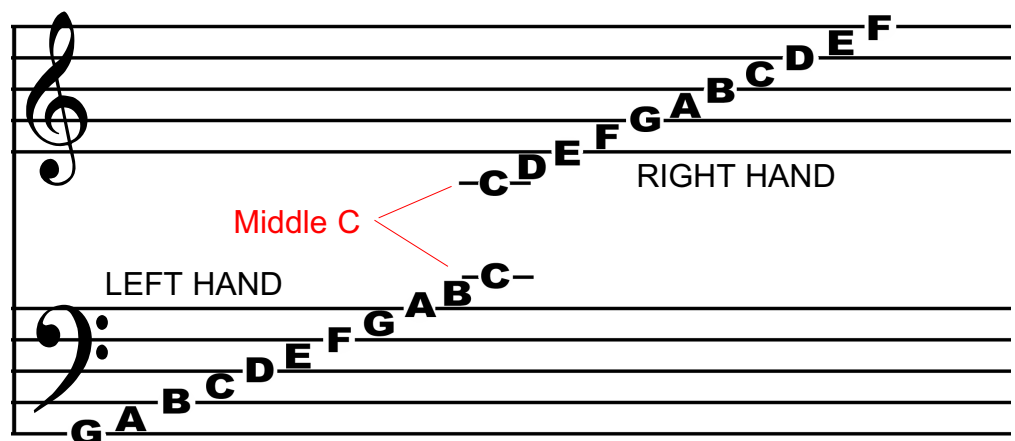
The two sets of lines are 'split' at MIDDLE C - which is indicated by a separate small line **either** below the Right Hand lines **or** above the Left Hand lines

The two sets of lines (and spaces) are known as 'Staves'



Or look at it this way

This symbol is called a 'Treble Clef'



This symbol is called a 'Bass Clef'



# JUST LIKE READING A BOOK

We read music in the same way that we read the sentences of a novel – **from the left of the page to the right.**

Getting back to our 'dots' on the Lines and Spaces. As we scan from left to right we play those keys (notes) that the dots on the Lines and Spaces represent.

Should there be SEVERAL dots (notes) in the SAME VERTICAL PLANE we must play these keys SIMULTANEOUSLY.

Read from left to right

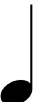
The diagram shows a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef, both in common time (C). Four vertical dashed lines mark four points in time. At the first point, there are four dots: two on the treble staff (lines 1 and 2) and two on the bass staff (lines 1 and 2). At the second point, there is one dot on the treble staff (line 2). At the third point, there is one dot on the treble staff (line 3). At the fourth point, there are two dots: one on the treble staff (line 4) and one on the bass staff (line 4).

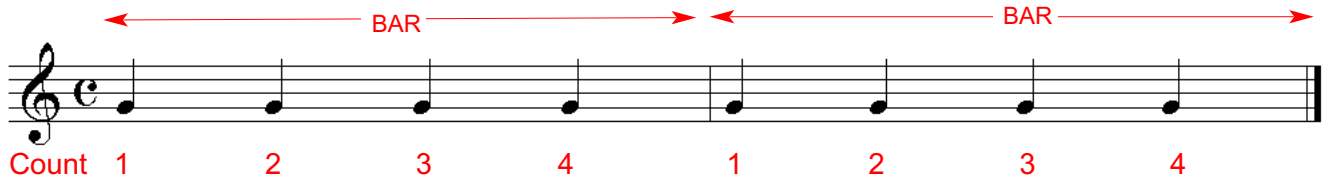
Order of play                      1st                      2nd                      3rd                      4th

# BARS & BEATS


To make music easier to follow it is divided into segments called BARS.  
BARS are divided into BEATS.

The most commonly used rhythm is 4 BEATS in EACH BAR.

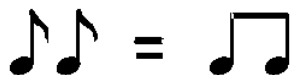
 = 1 BEAT  
US = Quarter Note  
UK = Crotchet



A beat with a 'hook' on it is a HALF BEAT.  
You could play up to 8 half beats in each bar.

 = 1/2 BEAT  
US = Eighth Note  
UK = Quaver

To make half beats easier to write out, if there are two, three or four in a row they are grouped together by joining the hooks of their tails.



So 8 HALF beats are written:



Notice that half beats are counted with the use of the word 'and' (or the symbol +).  
This means we don't have to start counting out too many numbers.

Notes can be HELD for 2 beats (hold each note DOWN for 2 beats)




**= 2 BEATS**  
 US = Half Note  
 UK = Minum

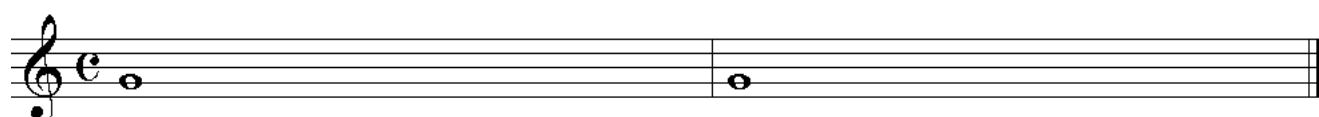


Count ( 1        2)        (3        4)        (1        2)        (3        4)

Notes can be HELD for 4 beats (hold each note DOWN for 4 beats)



**= 4 BEATS**  
 US = Whole Note  
 UK = Semibreve



Count ( 1        2        3        4)        (1        2        3        4)

Periods of **silence** are shown by symbols called RESTS.



1 Beat Rest        2 Beat Rest        1/2 Beat Rest        4 Beat Rest

Count 1    2    3    (4)    1    2    (3    4)    1 + 2 + 3 + 4 (+)    (1    2    3    4)

# MEMORISING THE LINES AND SPACES

I'm sure everyone has heard the phrase "Every Good Boy Deserves Football" and of course this is used to help memorise the lines of the Right Hand staff in musical notation.

This really IS the best way to do it. There is a special 'Note Finder' on the next page which you can print out but it is still best to use your memory.

Here are the usual tricks.. Check this on your NOTE FINDER on the next page

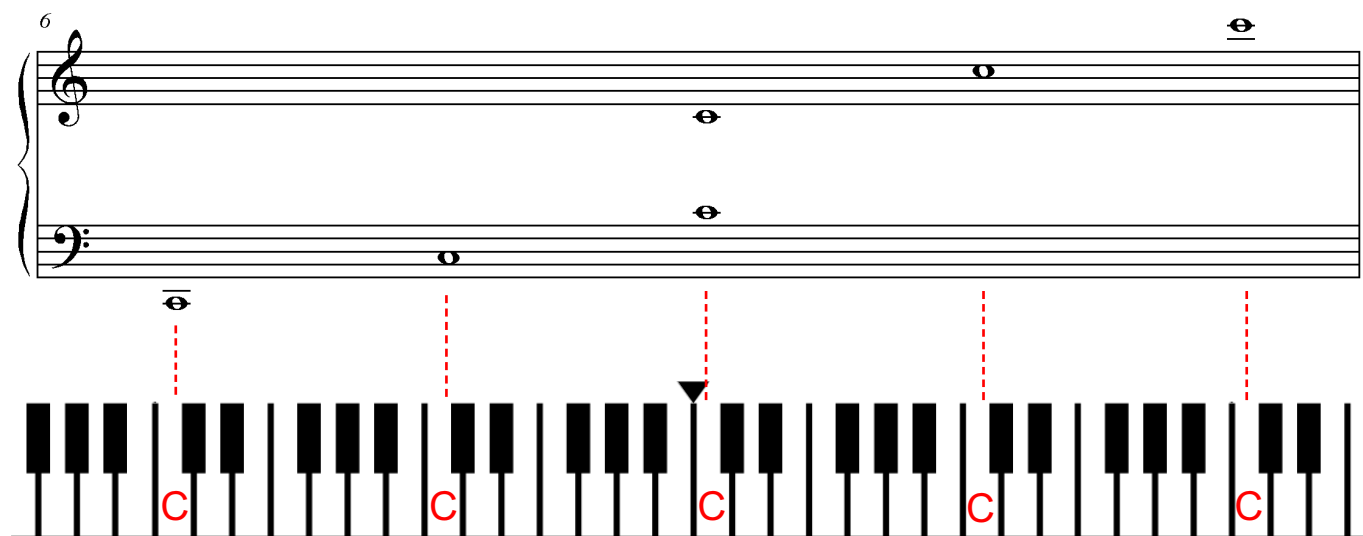
RIGHT HAND LINES            **E**very **G**ood **B**oy **D**eserves **F**ootball  
RIGHT HAND SPACES        **F A C E**

LEFT HAND LINES            **G**ood **B**oys **D**on't **F**righten **A**nimals  
LEFT HAND SPACES        **A C E** Garage

Then notice that the Lines and Spaces above and below the Right Hand lines have the same pattern. This is the same for the Left Hand.

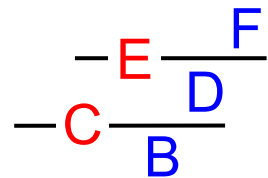
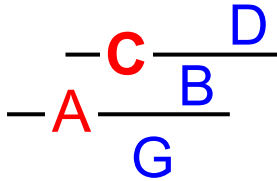
## USE ALL THE C NOTES AS ROUGH GUIDES

To begin with, I will write in the names of the notes for you but you STILL have to know WHERE each note is. If you memorise the position of the C notes. this will help you 'get your bearings'.



Print this out

The diagram illustrates a segment of a DNA double helix. It consists of two horizontal lines representing the sugar-phosphate backbones. The top line has a red 'C' (Cytosine) and a blue 'D' (Deoxyribose) attached to it. The bottom line has a red 'A' (Adenine) and a blue 'G' (Guanine) attached to it. A vertical line connects the red 'C' to the red 'A', representing a hydrogen bond. Another vertical line connects the blue 'D' to the blue 'G', representing a hydrogen bond. This shows a C-G base pair and an A-T base pair.



The musical notation shows a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bass staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notation includes a whole note chord in the treble staff (B-flat, D, F) and a whole note chord in the bass staff (B-flat, D, F). Below the notation is a piano keyboard diagram with red dashed lines indicating the fingerings for the notes B-flat, D, and F. The notes are labeled with red 'C' and the fingerings are indicated by red numbers 1, 2, and 3.

# Congratulations

You survived  
Basic Musical Notation

*It wasn't THAT bad was it..*

Now let's learn  
some more chords  
and start playing some  
**PIANO!**