Treble Clef and Staff

Music notes are named after the first seven letters of the alphabet, from A to G. By their position on the staff, they can represent the entire range of musical sound.

CLEF signs help to organize the staff so notes can easily be read.

The TREBLE CLEF is used for notes in the higher pitch ranges. The treble (or G) clef has evolved from a stylized letter G:

The curl of the treble clef circles the line on which the note G is placed. This G is above MIDDLE C (the C nearest the middle of the keyboard).

In the treble staff, the names of the notes on the lines from bottom to top are E, G, B, D, F.

The names of the notes in the spaces from bottom to top spell FACE.

Exercises

1. The treble clef is written in two motions. Trace along the dotted lines as indicated, then draw four more.

2. Write the letter names of the following notes. Use capital letters.

3. Write the notes on the staff indicated by the letters. If the notes can be written in two places, write one above the other.
The Staff, Notes and Pitches

Music is written on a STAFF of five lines and the four spaces between.

The STAFF

Music NOTES are oval-shaped symbols that are placed on the lines and in the spaces. They represent musical sounds, called PITCHES.

The lines of the staff are numbered from bottom to top.

The spaces between the lines are also numbered from bottom to top.

If the notes appear higher on the staff, they sound higher in pitch. If the notes appear lower on the staff, they sound lower in pitch.

Exercises

1. Draw a staff by connecting the dots. Use a ruler or straight edge. Number the lines, then the spaces from low to high.

2. On the staff, mark an X in the following locations:

   Line 3  Space 2  Line 1  Space 4  Line 5  Space 1  Line 4  Space 3  Line 2

3. Write notes like this O on the following lines and spaces:

   Space 4  Line 1  Space 2  Line 3  Space 1  Line 5  Space 3  Line 2  Line 4

4. Indicate whether the 2nd note is higher or lower than the 1st note by using an H (higher) or L (lower).
Bass Clef and Staff

The BASS CLEF (pronounced "bass") is used for notes in the lower pitch ranges. The bass (or F) clef has evolved from a stylized letter F:

The two dots of the bass clef surround the line on which the note F is placed. This F is below middle C.

In the bass staff, the names of the notes on the lines from bottom to top are G, B, D, F, A.

All the notes of the BASS STAFF:

The names of the notes in the spaces from bottom to top are A, C, E, G.

Good Boys Do Fine Always

All Cows Eat Grass

Exercises

1. The bass clef is written in four motions. Trace along the dotted lines as indicated, then draw four more.

2. Write the letter names of the following notes.

3. Write the notes on the staff indicated by the letters. If the notes can be written in two places, write one above the other.
When the bass and treble staffs are connected by a brace and a line, they combine to form the GRAND STAFF.

Ledger Lines — The Middle Notes

LEDGER LINES are short lines which are added to extend the range of the staff when the notes are too low or too high to be written on the staff.

The notes in the middle range of the grand staff are B, C and D. They can be written on ledger lines in both the bass and treble staffs.

These notes are written differently but sound the same.

Exercises

1. Trace these three braces. Then, using the staffs provided, draw the grand staff three times. Include the brace, line and both clef signs.

2. Write the letter names of the notes from the treble staff.

3. Write the letter names of the notes from the bass staff.

Write the notes indicated by the clefs and letter names in two places on the grand staff. Add ledger lines where necessary.