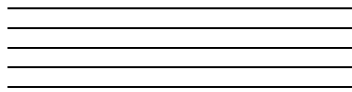
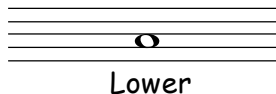


# How Music Is Written

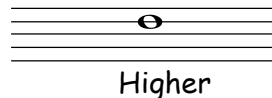
Music is written on a five-line staff:



Notes can be written in a space:



or on a line:



The higher the note, the higher the sound.

The musical alphabet has seven letters: A, B, C, D, E, F and G which are repeated for higher or lower notes.

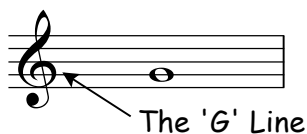
A clef is used to give notes an exact pitch.

On the piano, the right hand usually plays the highest notes, and so it uses the treble clef:

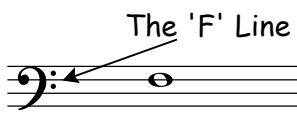


The left hand usually plays the lower notes, it uses the bass clef:

The treble clef is also called the 'G' clef, because the line on which you start to draw it (the second line) is the line for the note G. This is the G above 'middle C' on the piano:

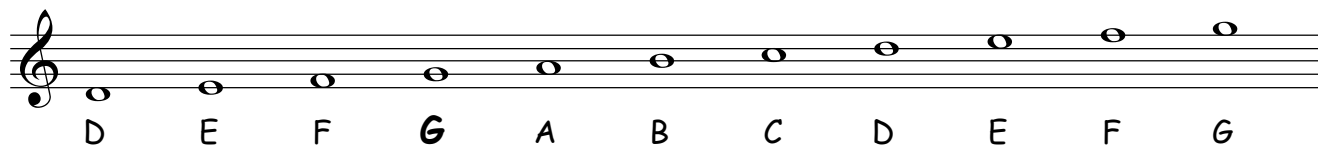


The bass clef is also called the 'F' clef because the line on which you start to draw it is the line for the note F. The two dots are written either side of the 4th line (the F line). This is the 'F' below middle C on the piano:

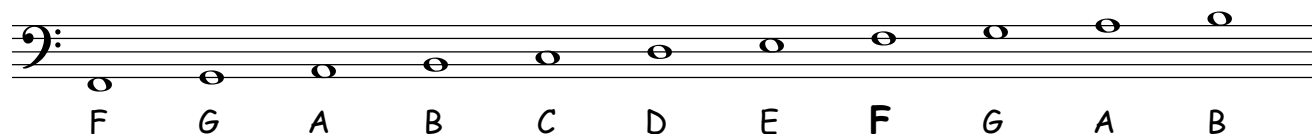


Notes always run line-space-line-space...

Here are all of the notes on the treble stave:

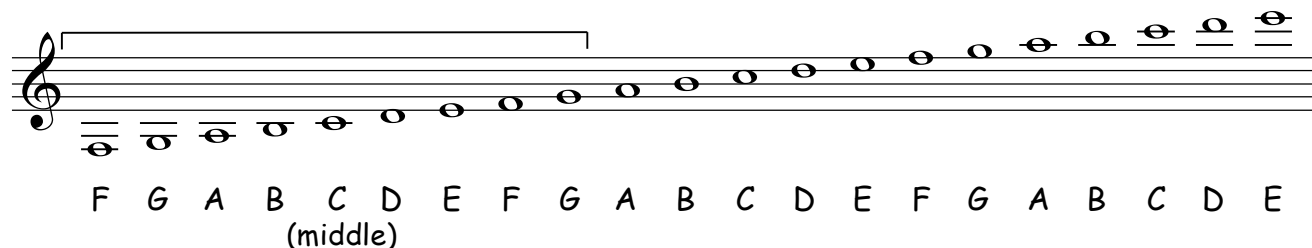


And these are all of the notes on the bass stave:

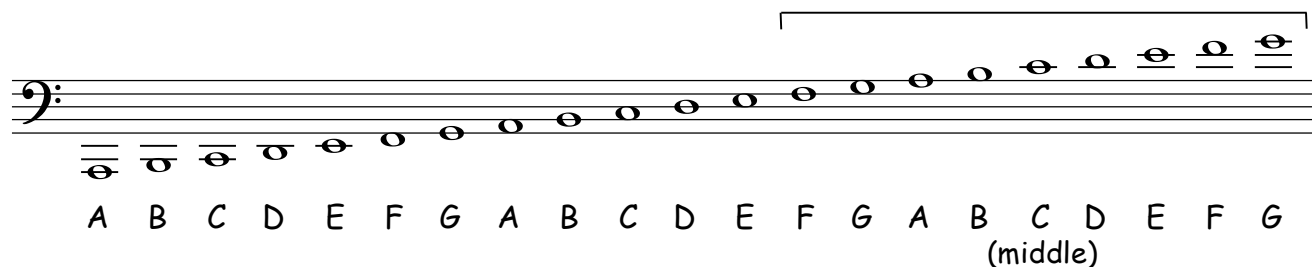


When higher or lower notes are needed they are written on **leger** lines which are just an extension of the stave.

Here are some treble clef notes written from the 3rd leger line below the stave to the 3rd leger line above it:



And here are some bass clef notes also written from the 3rd leger line below the stave to the 3rd leger line above it:



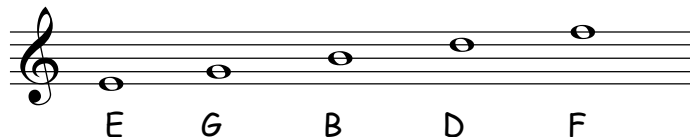
The notes shown with a bracket above them are the same notes in pitch just written in in the opposite clef.

When you first start to learn to read music, it is sometimes helpful to learn the 'line' and 'space' notes separately.

One way to do this is to remember memorable phrases for the letter names of the notes.

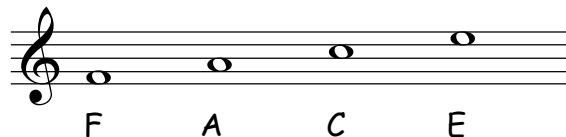
However, you should aim to recognize the notes as easily as you are reading these words, rather than counting up the lines or spaces.

### Notes in the Treble Clef:



The 'Line' notes

**Every  
Good  
Boy  
Deserves  
Football**



The 'Space' notes

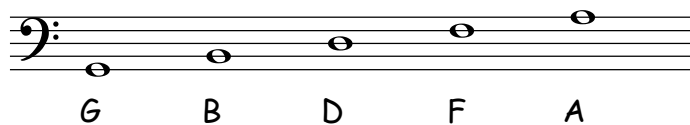
The 'space' notes  
already spell out  
a word: **F A C E**

Any memorable sentence will do:

**Engines Go By Diesel Fuel**

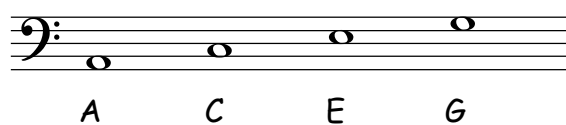
**Every Green Bus Drives Fast...**

### Notes in the Bass Clef:



The 'Line' notes

**Great  
Big  
Dogs  
Frighten  
Auntie**



The 'Space' notes

**All  
Cows  
Eat  
Grass**

**Grizzly Bears Don't Fear Anything**

**Green Buses Drive Fast Always**