Beginning Music Facts

The piano keyboard has eighty-eight keys.

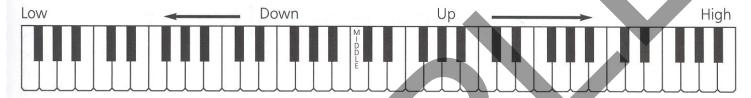
The black keys are in alternating groups of two and three.



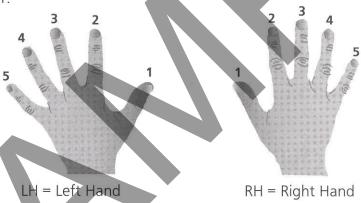


When you play to the left, it is called going down the keyboard. As you play down the keyboard, the sounds become lower.

When you play to the right, it is called going up the keyboard. As you play up the keyboard, the sounds become higher.



Each finger has a number:



Music is made of sounds called notes. The way each note looks shows how short or long it will sound.



Signs for silence are called rests.

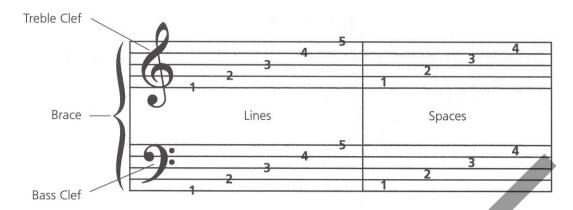


Quarter Rest (1 Beat of silence)

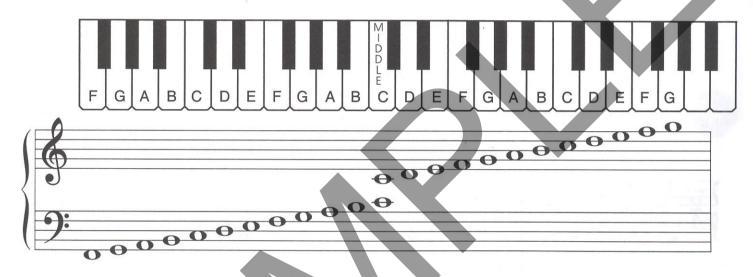
Half Rest (2 Beats of silence)

Whole Rest (Whole measure of silence)

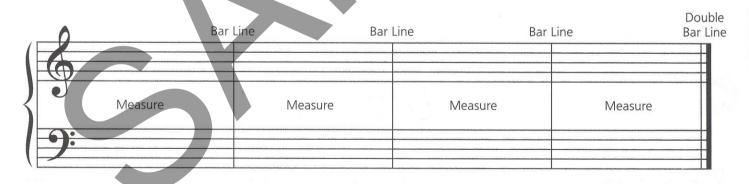
The Grand Staff



Notes on the Grand Staff



Bar Lines and Measures



Time Signatures

Two numbers written at the beginning of the staff are called the time signature. The top number tells how many beats are in each measure; the bottom number tells what kind of note gets one beat. In the time signatures below, the 4 on the bottom means the quarter note gets one beat.

24

(2 beats per measure)

34

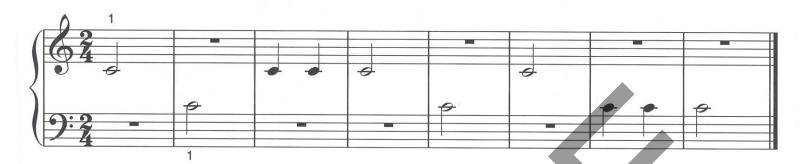
(3 beats per measure)

444

(4 beats per measure)







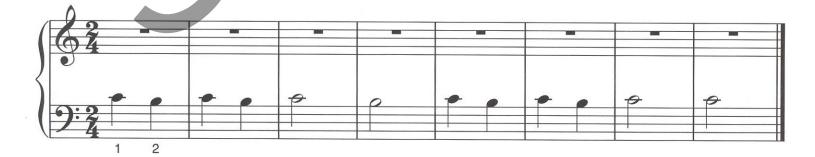






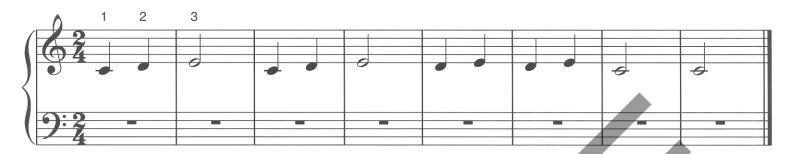
Step Down





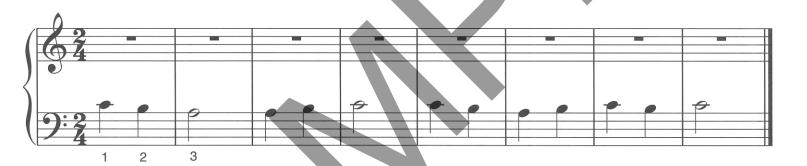
Climbing Higher





Sliding Lower





Equal Partners

Track 11-12

