

# Musical Knowledge

Renaissance  
1400 - 1600

Baroque  
1600 - 1750



Classical  
1750 - 1827

Romantic  
1820 - 1900

Modern  
1890 - 1960

Contemporary  
1960 - Present

## Key Vocabulary

<b>scale</b>	A set of notes ordered in step by their pitch.
<b>score</b>	The written down version of a piece of music.
<b>octave</b>	A distance between two notes of the same letter name. 
<b>time signature</b>	Two numbers that sit on top of each other at the start of a section of music. They show how many beats are in a bar. 





## Staff Notation

We can use staff notation to write down a melody. Use the lines and spaces on the staff to show the pitch. Crotchets, quavers or minims show the rhythm.



## Rhythm Notation

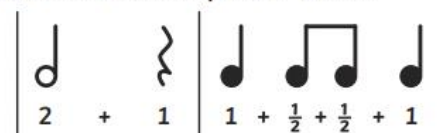
You can write rhythms using a range of different notes:

	shows 1 crotchet beat.
	shows paired quavers. Each note has a value of $\frac{1}{2}$ a beat.
	shows 1 minim. A minim is the same length as two crotchet beats.
	shows a one-beat silence where no music is played.

You can use these note lengths to make rhythm patterns or combine them with note names to write down melodies.



Rhythms can be grouped into short phrases with 2, 3 or 4 beats in each phrase. Each phrase is one bar. These phrases or bars can be arranged into sequences. For example, each bar here adds up to 3 beats.



## Elements of Music

**Pitch** – How high or low a note sounds

**Duration** – How long or short a note is

**Dynamics** – How loud or quiet a piece of music is played

**Silence** – The gaps, rests and breaks in a piece of music

**Structure** – Overall plan of a piece of music

**Tempo** – How fast or slow the music is

**Timbre** – Sound quality of an instrument or voice

**Texture** – The effect of melodies and harmonies together.