



# Musical Knowledge



Renaissance  
1400 - 1600

Baroque  
1600 - 1750

Classical  
1750 - 1827

Romantic  
1820 - 1900

Modern  
1890 - 1960






















Contemporary  
1960 - Present

## Dynamics

You can play music at different volumes, including:


<i>pianissimo (pp)</i>	Very soft.
<i>piano (p)</i>	Soft.
<i>mezzo-piano (mp)</i>	Moderately soft.
<i>mezzo-forte (mf)</i>	Moderately loud.
<i>forte (f)</i>	Loud.
<i>fortissimo (ff)</i>	Very loud.


## Rhythm Notation

semibreve		4 crotchet beats.
minims	 	2 crotchet beats each.
crotchets	   	1 beat each.
quavers	     	$\frac{1}{2}$ a beat each.
semiquavers	     	$\frac{1}{4}$ of a beat each.
		 These rhythms can be combined to make rhythmic phrases.


## Time Signatures

You can find a time signature at the start of a section of music.

 The top number tells you how many beats make up a whole bar.


 The bottom number tells you the kind of note that you should count in.

2/4 time has 2 crotchet beats in each bar.



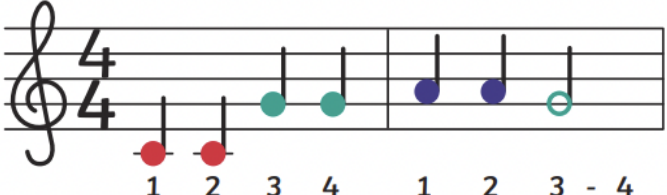
1 2 1 - 2

3/4 time has 3 crotchet beats in each bar.



1 2 3 1 2 - 3

4/4 time has 4 crotchet beats in each bar.



1 2 3 4 1 2 3 - 4

## 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.