



# 

THE STAFF AND THE MUSICAL ALPHABET

**INTRODUCTION:** 'Music Theory' is the study of how music works. In many ways, music is like learning a new language and the better you are at these basics the easier your year will be!

**THE STAFF:** The staff is the foundation of reading music. <u>Parts of the staff (key words are in bold)</u> \*label each part of the staff as you learn them

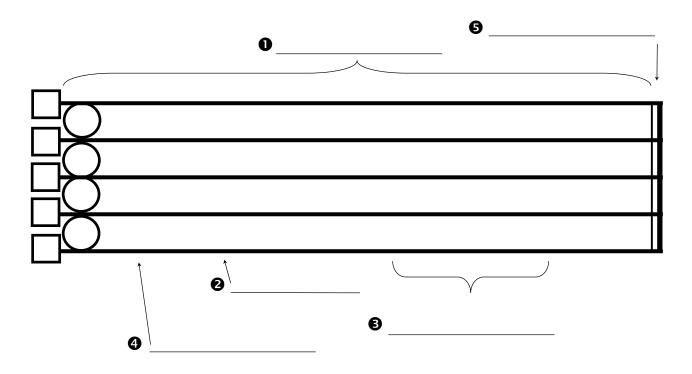
- The staff is made of \_\_\_\_\_\_ horizontal (side to side) lines.
  - We number the lines and spaces from the top up. Put the line number in the squares and the space number in circles.

**2** Bar lines are vertical lines that break the staff into smaller parts—similar to how a period breaks sentences in a paragraph.

**3** A **Measure** is the \_\_\_\_\_\_ between two bar lines.

**4** The **Clef** decides what the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the lines and spaces are. The clef is always the first thing on the staff.

**5** The **Double Bar** is always at the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the staff. The double bar is made of one regular bar line and one thicker bar line.



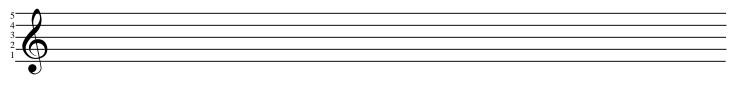
#### Music Basics (pt. 1) Continued

## CLEFS:

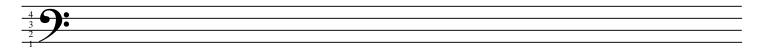
There are multiple clefs used in music. The most common clefs used in band are the **Treble** and the **Bass** clef. Usually Treble clef is used for instruments that are sound high and bass clef is used for lower sounding instruments. The names of the lines and the spaces depend on which clef is used.

#### **PENCIL PRACTICE-** DRAWING THE CLEFS:

The treble clef takes up the whole staff. Notice the big loop goes around <u>line 2</u>.



The bass clef is a curved line with two dots. Notice the two dots are on space 3 and 4.



Practice more by using any paper and drawing five lines on it! You can also print staff paper at www.blanksheetmusic.net

## MATCHING THE CLEF: DRAW THE CLEF THAT YOU THINK MATCHES THE INSTRUMENT

Woodwinds	Flute	Oboe	Bassoon	Clarinet	Saxophone
	Trumpet	Horn	Trombone	Euphonium	Tuba
Brass					
Percussion	Mallets	Timpani			