

**Mel Bay's**

MB94178G

*ANYONE  
CAN PLAY*

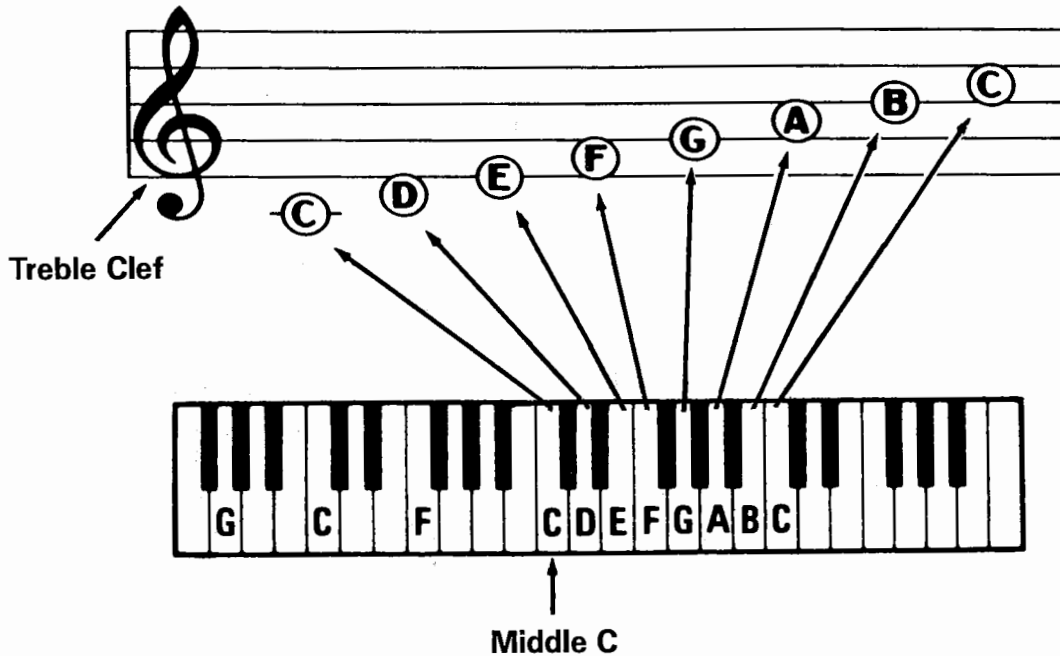
**PORTABLE  
KEYBOARD**

## THE KEYBOARD

The keyboard has **WHITE KEYS** and **BLACK KEYS**. The **BLACK KEYS** are arranged into groups of **TWO** and **THREE**. Find the second group of **BLACK KEYS** from the **LEFT HAND** side of the keyboard. The **WHITE KEY** immediately to the **LEFT** of these **TWO BLACK KEYS** is **MIDDLE C**.

From **MIDDLE C**, the very next **WHITE KEY** to the **RIGHT** is **D**. The next key to the right is **E**. The next key to the right is **F**. To the right of **F** is **G**. To the right of **G**, the keys start at the beginning of the alphabet with **A**, then to **B**, and then to **C**.

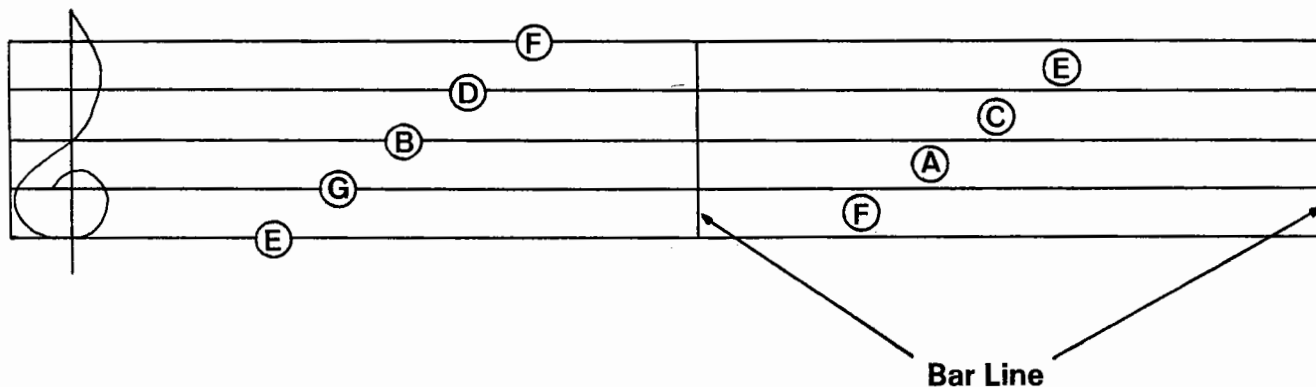
Just like **MIDDLE C**, this **C** is also just to the left of a group of **TWO BLACK KEYS**. This is true of all keyboards—**THE WHITE KEY IMMEDIATELY TO THE LEFT OF A GROUP OF TWO BLACK KEYS IS "C"**.



# HOW MUSIC IS WRITTEN

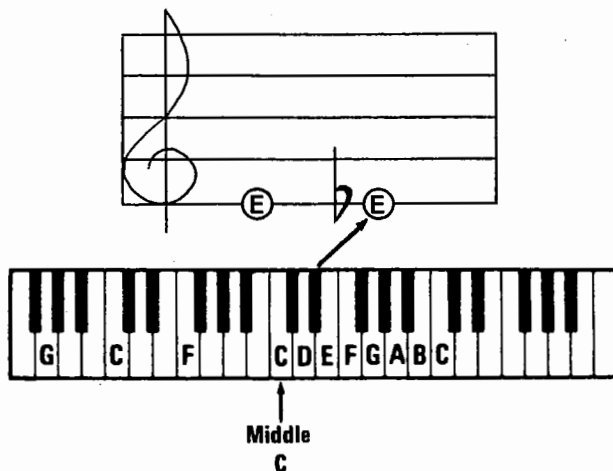
Music is written on **FIVE LINES** and **FOUR SPACES** which are called a **STAFF**. The **VERTICAL LINES** that cross the **STAFF** are called **BAR LINES** and separate the **STAFF** into **MEASURES**. The **LINES** and **SPACES** each have names. The names of the **LINES** starting from the **BOTTOM** and going up are **E, G, B, D,** and **F**. A simple way to remember these is the phrase: **"EVERY GOOD BOY DOES FINE"**. The names of the **SPACES**, again from the **BOTTOM** up are—**F, A, C,** and **E**. These are easily remembered because they spell the word **FACE**. The **NOTES** themselves are written as a round circle which may be **BLACK** or **WHITE** in the center and may have a **STEM** and other notations attached to it. The **CIRCULAR PARTS** of the **NOTES** are written upon the **STAFF**. It is the **LINE** or **SPACE** which the **CIRCULAR PART** or **BODY** of the **NOTE** rests upon that determines the **NAME** of the **NOTE** and its relationship to the keys of the keyboard.

When it is necessary to write a note outside the staff short lines are used to make the needed lines and spaces. As the **NOTES** get **HIGHER** on the music they are played further to the **RIGHT** and as the **NOTES** get **LOWER** on the music they are played further to the **LEFT** of the keyboard.

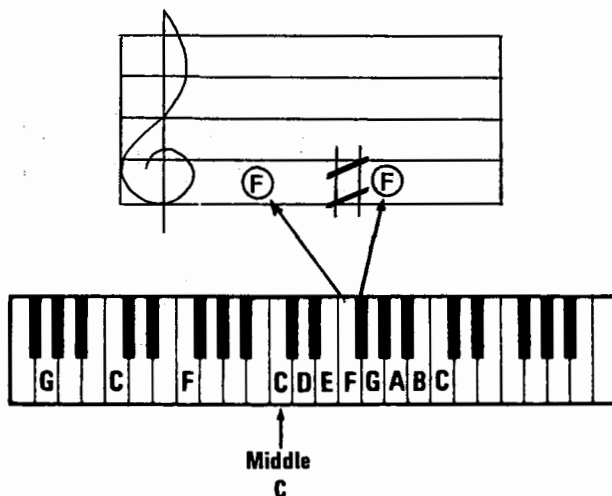


# SHARPS, FLATS AND NATURALS

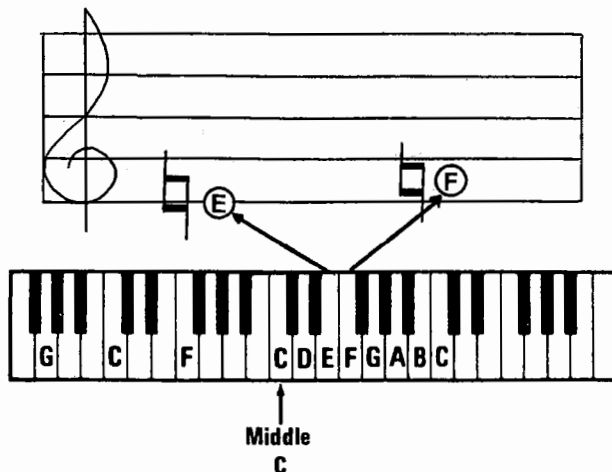
The **BLACK KEYS** are **SHARPS** or **FLATS** depending on whether you are moving to the **RIGHT** or **LEFT** of the keyboard. A symbol which looks like this "b" placed before a note means to play the very next key to the **LEFT**. This is called a **FLAT**.



A symbol which looks like this "#" placed before a note means to play the very next key to the **RIGHT**. This is called a **SHARP**.



A symbol which looks like this “**n**” placed before a note means to play the **WHITE KEY**. It is called a **NATURAL**.

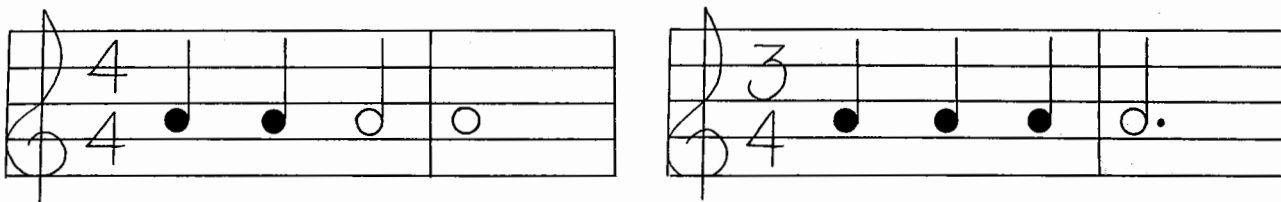


Anytime a note is **SHARPED**, **FLATTED**, or **NATURALED** in a measure the changed remains for all the notes on the same line or space until the end of the measure.

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## TIME SIGNATURES AND NOTE VALUES

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At the beginning of most songs there are two numbers—one on top of the other like a fraction. These are called the **TIME SIGNATURE**.

The **TOP** number tells how many **COUNTS** or **BEATS** is each measure. The **BOTTOM** number tells which **KIND** of **NOTE** gets **ONE COUNT** or **BEAT**.

A **BLACK NOTE** with a **STEM** is called a **QUARTER NOTE** and gets **ONE COUNT** or **BEAT**.  
 A **WHITE NOTE** with a **STEM** is called a **HALF-NOTE** and gets **TWO COUNTS** or **BEATS**.  
 A **WHITE NOTE** with a **STEM** followed by a **DOT** is called a **DOTTED HALF-NOTE** and gets **THREE COUNTS** or **BEATS**.

A **WHITE NOTE** with **NO STEM** is called a **WHOLE NOTE** and gets **FOUR COUNTS** or **BEATS**.

Song #1

WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN

Musical notation for the first system of 'When the Saints Go Marching In'. It consists of two staves in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first four measures, with a 'C' chord box above the first measure and a 'G' chord box above the fourth measure. The second staff contains the next four measures, with 'C', 'F', 'C', 'G', and 'C' chord boxes above the measures. The notes are: C4, E4, F4, G4, C4, E4, F4, G4, C4, E4, F4, G4, E4, C4, E4, D4 in the first staff; and E4, E4, D4, C4, C4, E4, G4, G4, F4, F4, E4, F4, G4, E4, C4, D4, C4 in the second staff.

Song #2

ON TOP OF OLD SMOKEY

Musical notation for the first system of 'On Top of Old Smokey'. It consists of two staves in 3/4 time. The first staff contains the first four measures, with 'F' and 'C' chord boxes above the first and third measures. The second staff contains the next four measures, with 'G' and 'C' chord boxes above the first and third measures. The notes are: C4, C4, E4, G4, C4, A4, A4, A4, F4, G4, A4, G4, G4, G4, G4, G4 in the first staff; and C4, E4, G4, C4, D4, D4, E4, F4, E4, D4, C4, C4, C4, C4 in the second staff.

## Song #3

## MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG

Musical notation for the song "Merrily We Roll Along". The piece is in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The notes are: E4, D4, C4, D4, E4, E4, E4, D4, D4, D4, E4, G4, G4, E4, D4, C4, D4, E4, E4, E4, D4, D4, E4, D4, C4.

Chord progressions are indicated by letters in boxes above the staff:

- Measure 1: C
- Measure 2: G
- Measure 3: C
- Measure 4: G
- Measure 5: C