TOP SHOW MUSIC



"MY VERY FIRST CONCERT AND BEYOND" 2025

Inspired by the "Bayside Beginners' Music Camp", this collection of very easy tunes for a "first" concert performance, is playable by any size group with any combination of instruments.

Fingering diagrams, lyrics for songs and explanations of signs and terminology are included.

Bb SAXOPHONES (Soprano & Tenor)



A Band development album of tunes using three, four or five notes and; beyond.

SOME ELEMENTARY TERMS AND SIGNS

STAVE - The five lines and four spaces in between which and upon which our music is written. BAR LINES - the vertical lines which divide the stave into segments END BAR LINE - The very last one has an extra and thicker bar line. BAR - a segment of the stave between two bar lines. DOUBLE BAR LINE - to draw our attention to something extra special, two bar lines are drawn at the end of that bar. G (or Treble) Clef - It is an old way of writting the letter "G". Can you see the similarity to today's " \mathcal{G} " or "g" Because it is drawn by starting around the 2nd. bottom line, this line is thus called G All other lines and spaces are named in alphabetical order using only the first seven letters - thus after G, we start again at A The names of the spaces For line names, remember the sentence spell the word FACE Every Good Boy Deserves Favour. CAN YOU MAKE UP SOME OTHERS? You can use your hand to help remember these names -Just like the stave has five lines, your hand has five fingers (including the thumb). Between these fingers there are four spaces - call them FACE Therefore you have a "face" in your hand to help you remember the names of the lines and spaces TIME SIGNATURE - The two numbers, one above the other, at the beginning of the stave and after the Clef. The top number tells us the number of beats (or counts) in a bar and the bottom number tells us the value of each beat This is the most common time signature (four four). The top number 4 means that there are four beats (or counts) to a bar. The bottom number 4 refers to crotchets (because there are 4 crotchets in a semibreve) thus the value of each "beat" or "count" is one crotchet. When the bottom number is 4, the following shapes (notes) have the values shown -Semibreve (4 beats/counts), Minim (2 beats counts) Minim. Crotchet (1 beat/count)
Crotchet. Quaver (1/2 beat/count) It make no difference whether the stem is up or down

The tail of a quaver starting on a beat is joined to the next quaver.

Notes for Saxophone

Correct posture:

Sit on the front of the chair, feet flat on the floor, back and neck straight, face forward and, shoulders level.





When assembling your instrument, always hold it with both hands close to the joint being assembled. Not doing this runs the risk of breaking the joint or, putting it out of shape. To the left is incorrect and damaging.



When attaching the reed, the reed should be placed with the top of the reed level with the top of the mouthpiece, and with part of the "dirty" part of the reed showing above the ligature.

For correct embouchure, roll the bottom lip over the bottom teeth, place about a thumb nail length of the reed into the mouth and, on top of the bottom lip. Now, gently bring to teeth down onto the reed then close the top lip. The mouthpiece should be in the mouth at approximately 90°. Never apply pressure to the reed with the teeth, always



just use lip pressure. As you progress, reed brands and sizes will need to change.



Remember that the holes in the saxophone are positioned so that the left hand comes across the front of the body and, the right hand is positioned down at the side of your body. The instrument should not rest on the chair as is incorrectly shown at left.

After cleaning your instrument, the cloth must not be left in your instrument's case. If it is left there, the moisture just goes back into you instrument. Remember, always insert the cleaning apparatus drop into the saxophone parts from narrow end to wide end.

STAGE ONE

Learning and using the note Concert "B\" (pronounced B Flat), the note shape Semi-Breve • and its value of four counts,

the Semi-breve rest shape, __ and its value of four counts (rest means silence) , | End barline (the end of the music)

When most of our music ideas were being formalised, the main instrument was the Concert Piano. In addition, instrument makers had little commonality with the size of the instruments they made and, little commonality with the sounds made and, the names given to those notes. Some notes with the same name did not sound the same. All players had to know which note on the "Concert Piano", sounded the same as "C" on their own instrument. In this lesson, we will learn the note that sounds the same as B, on the piano i.e. ConcertB.

The term "Concert" means that even though your note may have a different name, the sound you make is the same as the note if played on a "Concert Piano". Some students' note is called "B\" but some may have a note called C or G or F. They make the same sound as Concert B\.

NO. 1.1 - FIRST NOTE - C (Concert Bb)





Because the semi-breve has been drawn in the "C" space, it is asking us to play the note "C"
For the time being, the semi-breve is played for four full counts.

LEDGER LINE - (Not yet used on all instruments.)

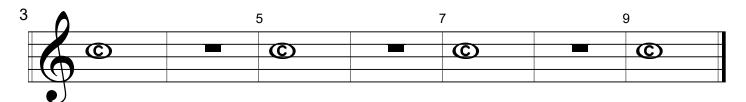
When we want to use notes that are higher or lower than the five lines in the stave, we draw just the part of the next line or lines that are needed. This additional part of a line is called a "ledger line".

NO. 1.2 - SEMI-BREVE REST



Note that the semi-breve rest shape is hanging (slung) below a Line. Note - "S" for Semi-breve, "S" for Slung. It has a value of four full counts of silence

NO. 1.3 - COMBINING NOTE AND REST



Rest Bar: When you play the above exercise, keep your fingers etc. in the playing position and, do not lower the instrument when playing the rest bar. You are going to have to bring it back up again and there is not enough time to re-position the instrument to the correct position.

Posture: remember to maintain your correct posture -

- . Sit on the front of the chair with your feet on the floor and your back straight, face forward
- . Keep your shoulders level and, without twisting to the left or right
- . Keep your instrument level, vertical or, at the angle shown to you by your teacher
- . Maintain correct arm, hand and finger positions.

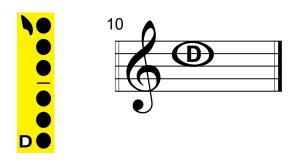
PRACTICE HINT 1 - 2

- 1- To play a note for four counts, don't forget to play the full value of the fourth count. If you stop at "four" you have only played three and a bit counts. To play four full counts, stop just as you are about to start number five.
- 2 (For wind players) To develop your best playing sound, as well as playing the note for four counts, also play it as long as you can. Use a clock's second hand to time yourself.

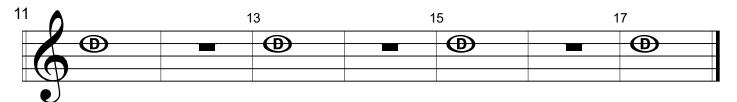
STAGE TWO

Learning and using the notes Concert "Bb" and "C"; the note shape Semi-Breve o and its value of four counts, the Semi-breve rest shape, — and its value of four counts (rest means silence), | End bar line (the end of the music) the new note shape of Minim ϕ or ρ and its value of two counts, the Minim rest shape, **_** and its value of two counts (rest means silence), the new sign "Tie" joining two notes into one new note

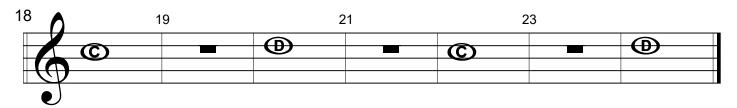
NO. 2.1 - SECOND NOTE - D (Concert C)



NO. 2.2 - NEW NOTE AND REST.



NO. 2.3 - PUT THEM TOGETHER



MFC&B 2025 Pa 6 Stage 2/25 P1

NEW NOTE SHAPE, REST AND VALUE

Our new note shape is a Minim,

It makes no difference whether the stem goes up or down but, let's follow the guideline that if the notehead is above the middle line, the stem goes down and if the notehead is below the middle line, the stem goes up. If the notehead has the middle line going through it, the stem may go either way, but it's stem direction should blend-in with the stem direction of the neighbouring notes.

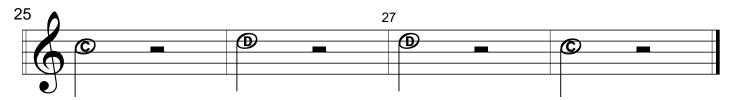
NOTE: There are exceptions to this rule in that for Drums and Auxiliary Percussion, all stems go up and, for Pipe Band Music, all stems go down.

The Mimim rest __ is an upside down Semi-breve rest, i.e. it is mounted above the Line. Note - "M" for Minim, "M" for Mounted. It has a value of two full counts of silence.

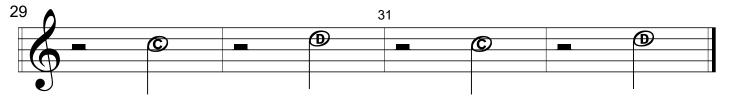
NOTE SHAPE NAMES: In the early days of developing written notation, the longest note was the "Maxima" (Latin for largest). But, its length was variable so a shorter note called the "Longa" (Latin for long) was introduced whose length, was also variable so an even shorter note ,"Breve" (Latin for brief) was introduced. Again, variations required a shorter note, so the "Semi-Breve" (half a breve) came into existence. As music evolved shorter notes where invented, the next being the "Minim" (Latin for minimum). Thus it was thought that this would now be the shortest note needed but, as we will learn later, this was not the case.

NO. 2.4 - PLAYING MINIMS -

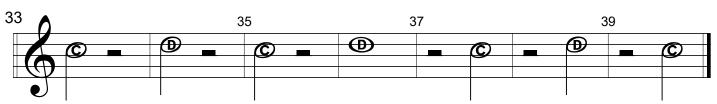
Play for two counts, rest for two counts



NO. 2.5 - PLAYING MINIMS - Play the rest first.



NO. 2.6 - PALINDROME. (Why do you think that this has the name "Palindrome?)



TIE

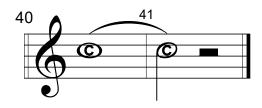
A tie is a musical plus sign which is used to add two notes together to make one new note.

A tie is a way of making new notes of different lengths than the single notes we know. It also allows us to make notes that start in one bar and finish in another bar. The sign for a tie is just a curved line ____ which joins the two notes together.

Before you play this exercise, write the new count value of the tied notes.

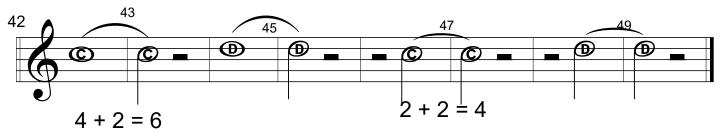
NB: If you have accidentals (sharps or flats) on the first note of a tied pair, the accidental applies to the second note also. Remember, the tie creates one new note therefore, the accidental does not need to show on the second of the tied notes.

NO. 2.7 - TWO NOTES TIED

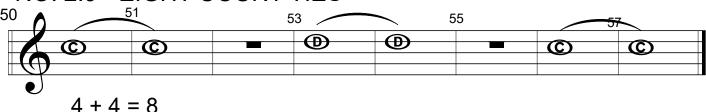


4 counts + 2 counts = 6 counts

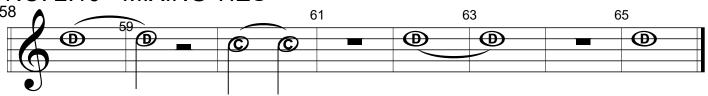
NO. 2.8 - MORE TIED NOTES



NO. 2.9 - EIGHT COUNT TIES



NO. 2.10 - MIXING TIES





STAGE THREE

Using the notes Concert Bb, C and the new note D

the values Semi-Breve (• = four counts), its equivalent rest shape, (Minim (= two counts) and its equivalent rest (=)

the new shape and value of Crotchet (or or = one count), and its rest shape

Breath mark (breathe only where this mark is), and the word "phrase" - a musical thought.

Ties, the new technique -Slurs and, the new terms Tutti (whole band or group), Soli (a smaller section of the Band or group), Solo (by yourself) and Tacet (don't play)

Double Barline - something is changing Lyrics (words) - sing, as well as play the tunes that have words.

NO. 3.1 - NEXT NOTE - E (Concert D)





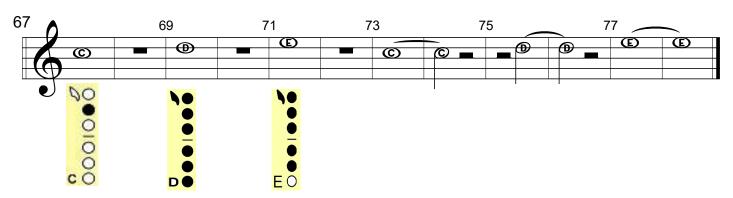
PRACTICE HINT 3 - WARM-UP

A warm up to a musician is just as important as a warm-up is to an athlete. Before you start any playing session, you need to give your body, your mind and, your instrument, a warm-up session to get all things operating better.

A good, life long skill is that every playing session should now commence by playing the note at lesson 1, slow and gentle. Then more notes maybe included, stonger and faster.

Warm-ups in this book not only help to prepare for the coming lesson or practice session, but also revise the teaching points we have already learnt.

NO. 3.2 - WARM-UP 1 and REVISION



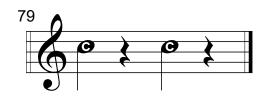
NEW NOTE SHAPE AND VALUE

Our new shape is a Crotchet, or or and, its rest shape

one count. Again, it makes no difference whether the stem goes up or down.

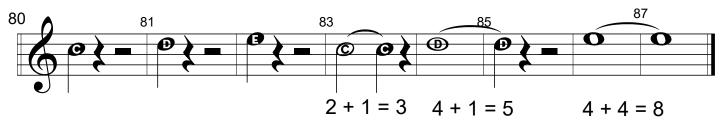
SHAPE NAME MEANING: When it was decided that a shorter note shape was needed, it was originally given the Latin name "Semiminima" (Semi meaning half, therefore half minim). Also, all previous notes were hollow and as this was the first time that the note shape had been filled in, it also had the names "Negra" or "Noire". However it also reminded people of a small hook, so the French word "Crotchet" (meaning small hook) predominated. This is also the same place we get the name "crochet needle".

NO. 3.3 - ONE COUNT NOTE AND ONE COUNT REST.

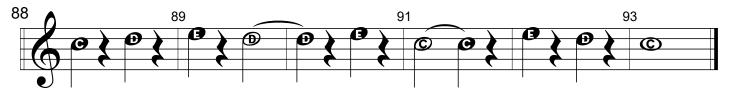


Remember that to play a one count note properly, you must play up to the next count i.e. two

NO. 3.4 - USING CROTCHETS



NO. 3.5 - MORE CROTCHETS



PRACTICE HINT 4

Always have a pencil and rubber with you. You will need to write little messages on your music which, may later want to rub out

SLURS

We have learnt that a Tie joins two notes of the same pitch (same name) together to make one new note.

A Slur is a special tie which joins two or more, different notes. A slur still forms one new note whose length is equal to the sum of the lengths of the notes that are slured, except that the note changes sound at the joining point.

The sign for a slur is just a curved line, the same as for a tie
It makes no difference if the curved line goes under or over.

In number 3.6 below, the first two minums are played as one note of four counts but change the fingering after the first two counts have been played.

The next slur, two crotchets and a minim add up to four counts, but the fingers/postion change after the first count and then, after the second count.

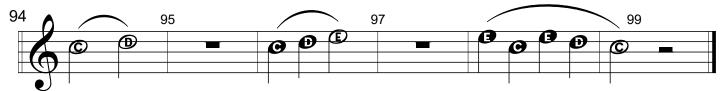
For the last slur, the total of the notes is six counts with four finger/position changes.

FOR PIANO/KEYBOARD: The way to acheive a slur as best as possible is to make sure that when the second note is played, the first note is not released until the second note has sounded.

FOR PERCUSSION, the slur has no effect but is shown for education purposes.

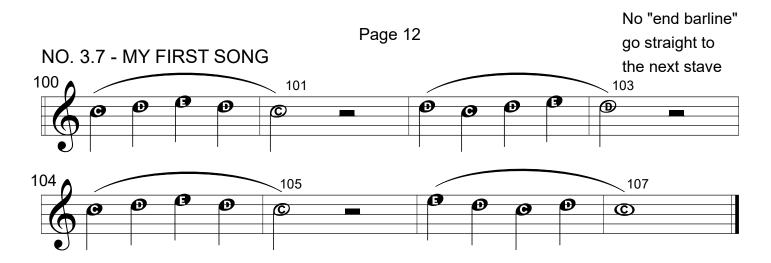
FOR STRING BASS: Change the left hand but do not pluck the slurred to note. This however, only works when the notes to be slurred are on the same string.

NO. 3.6 - SLURRING



EXTRA STAVE

Just like the words in books, music doesn't always fit on the one stave (line) and we have to use extra staves below the first stave. When music is continued on the next stave, there is no "end barline" which therefore means go straight on to the next stave.



BREATH MARK and PHRASE

A phrase in music is the same as in normal speaking, singing, reading and poetry. When we speak or sing, we often can't fit all the words into one breath and have to find a place in the music or words to take a breath.

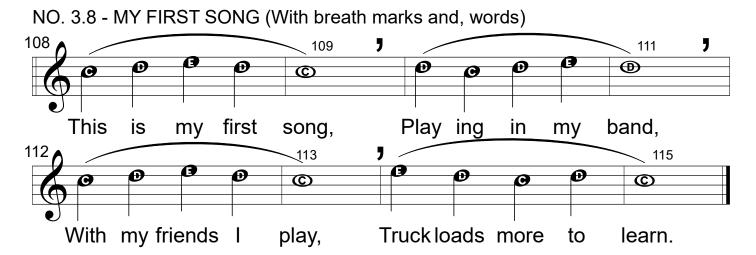
The group of words or the notes between breaths is called a "PHRASE". Putting the breath in the right place is called "PHRASING".

In music we indicate a place to breathe by placing a comma () above and just after the note we play before breathing.

Notice that the end of each phrase in No. 3.7seems ugly and short. To fix this, the last note needs to be a four count note, but now 32 beats without a breath is too long. Lets take a breath after each two bars.

LYRICS

To be able to play music as best as possible, it is most important to know the story that goes with that music. Although, some music does not have a story, most music with a story has lyrics, So if music does have lyrics, it is important to learn the lyrics and, be able to sing them as well. Doing this will empower you to play the music with greater passion and, accuracy.



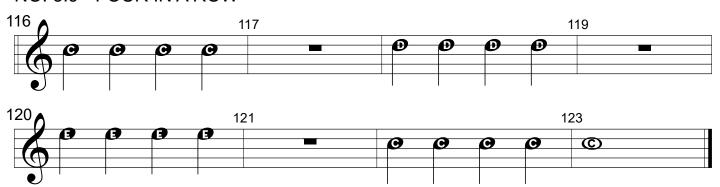
TONGUING

On many occasions, the next note is the same as the note we just played. If we slur the second note, it just makes the first note longer, therefore, we must re-start the next note. We do this by "tapping" the back of the lips (or reed) with the tongue. Doing this is called "Tonguing", even though for percussion, you just restrike the note.

It is very important to make sure that you do not stop the airflow while doing this and, NEVER take a breath at the same time. If we do this we are breaking the phrase.

Always wait for the breath mark to take the breath. When tonguing, think of the word "toe" which will help keep the throat open and the air flowing. The next exercise has four crotchets in a row so therefore think "Toe Toe Toe Toe".

NO. 3.9 - FOUR IN A ROW



TONGUING AND CHANGING NOTES

One of the great uses of slurring is to show singers that the next note is part of the word of syllable already being sung. Therefore, if there is a new word of syllable, the note should not be slurred but tongued instead. It is also common to change the note at the same time.

In the next song, all notes have a new word of syllable, therfore every note is to be tongued.

NB: for practice purposes, we will still have some slurs that cover word or syllable changes

REMEMBER, do not stop the air flow or breathe until you get to the breath mark - TOE TOE TOE TOE



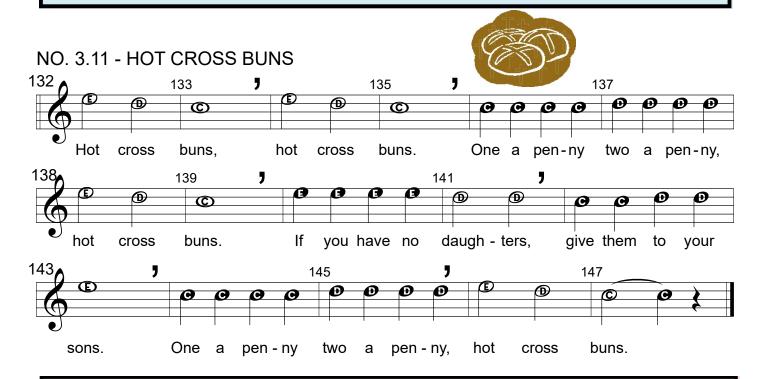
ACCIDENTAL RULE:

NOTE - some instruments are not yet using flats.

For those players using flats, In bar 144, the flat sign has been placed in front of only the first of the "B"s. From now on we will have a rule that for each bar, the flat sign is only placed in front of the first of the notes that are the same.

ACCIDENTAL RULE 1: Once a flat sign has been placed in a bar, it refers to all subsequent notes on the same line or space and, is cancelled by the next Bar Line.

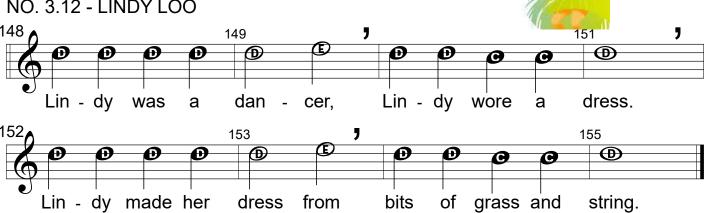
ALSO Rule 2 (Look back at EX 3.2 & 3.4) When a note with an accidental is "tied" to the next note, the Accidental does not have to be rewritten, even if there is a barline between them, because, they are joined to make one new note.



PRACTICE HINTS 5 to 8

- 5. (For Wind Instruments) Remember to think of saying "toe toe" when you play consecutive tongued notes. By doing this, the tongue, the throat and the air flow should all work correctly. Remember that when there is nothing on the music to indicate that there is a gap between these notes, we should not hear one. Remember also, that to hear all of the word attached to any note, we must play all of the note not just the start of the note
- 6. Before playing any tune, have a quick look for the elements used. e.g. which notes, which note value, changing notes with or without a rest and with or without ties and slurs.
- 7. Just like has been done in "Rain is Falling Down", when playing music that has words, always place a breath mark at the same place as there is a comma, or full stop, in the words.
- 8. When taking a breath, try to make the gap that you must have, as small a possible and, always start the next note at the right place.





TUTTI, SOLI, SOLO and TACET

Sometimes we can make the music sound better or more interesting by changing who is playing.

Sometimes we could ask a player, or a section, to not play at all, this is called "Tacet".

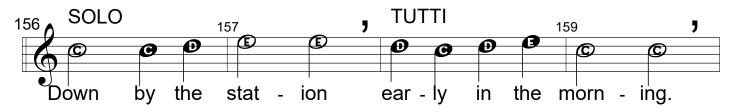
Maybe only a section or small group should play, this is called "Soli".

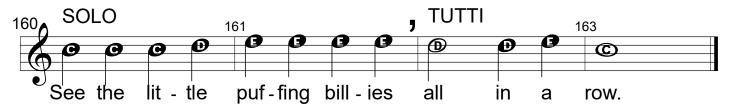
Maybe only one person is asked to play, this is called "Solo".

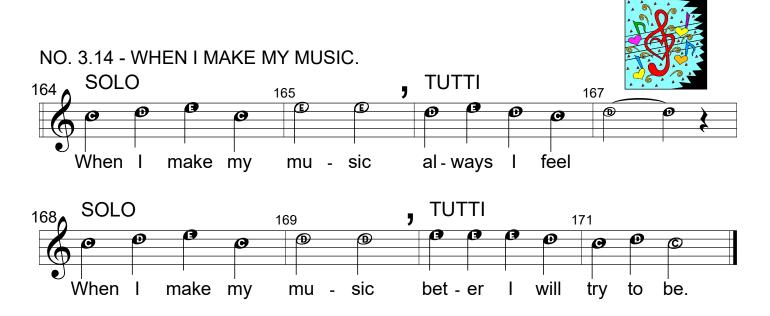
When we want every one to play again, it is called "Tutti".

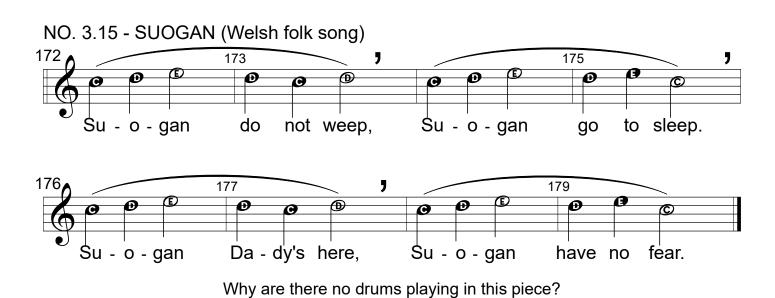


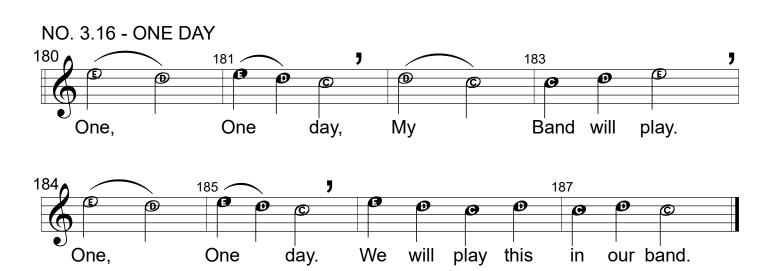
NO. 3.13 - DOWN BY THE STATION



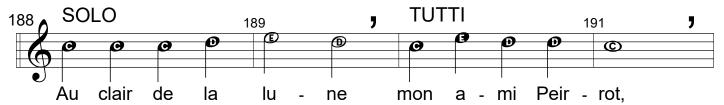


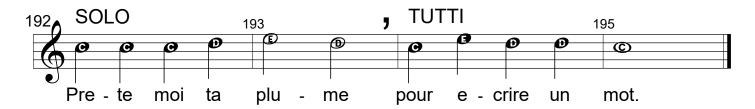






NO. 3.17- AU CLAIRE DE LE LUNE



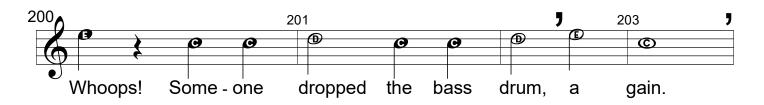




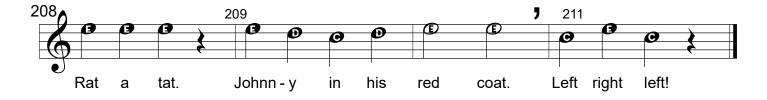
NO. 3.18 - HERE COMES THE BAND

- Note the breath mark positions.









ALPHA NOTES

So far we have been able to see the name of a note which is written inside the note. This has been useful but, it is not the usual way of writing music. We should all be able to recognise each note by its position on the stave.

From here onwards, we will start to delete the Alpha Notes and, replace them with standard notes



NO.3.19 - HEAR THE BELLS



Hear the bells ring in the town clock. The bells tell us it's O'clock.



Hear the bells count out the time, it must be O'Clock One, Two, Three.





PIANO ACCOMPANIED SOLOS

A common method of performing a whole piece as a solo is to have a backing part which is played as an accompaniment part to the solo part. The most common method is to have a piano player (pianist) play the backing part. The pianist is said to accompany the soloist.

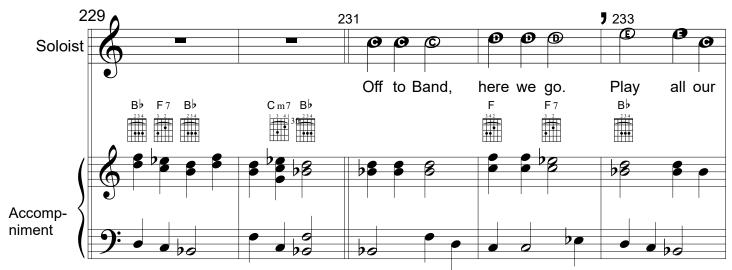
It is also becoming common for the accompaniment to be played digitally as e.g. a CD, lpad or MP3 file. The accompaniment may also be played by a guitarist which is why Guitar Chords are also shown on the piano part.

It is also common for the solo part and accompaniment to be shown on the one part so that both players can see what the other player is doing. It is also common for the accompaniment to play a short passage before the soloist starts playing. This is called an Introduction and has been done for the the piano accommpanied solos at Numbers 3.21, 3.23 and 3.25.

SOLO ONE

Solo with Piano Accompaniment

No. 3.21 - OFF TO BAND.





MEDLEY

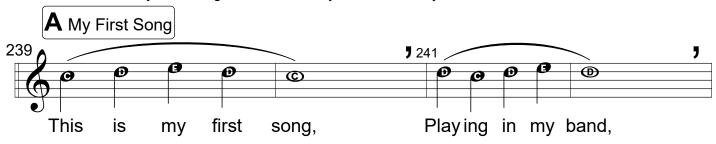
A Medley is a group of tunes or songs, played one after the other, to form one larger piece of music.

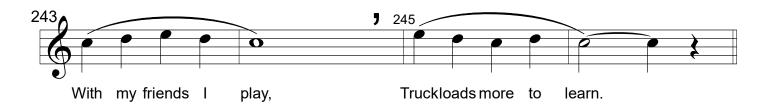
REHEARSAL MARKS

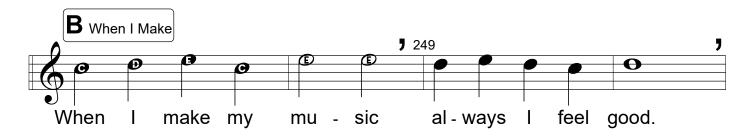
You will in this medley, see some alpha characters in boxes, These are called "Rehearsal Marks". Bar numbers show exactely which bar we may be discussing, but as our tunes get longer, it is sometimes quicker to identify a section of the music by using these alpha reference boxes.

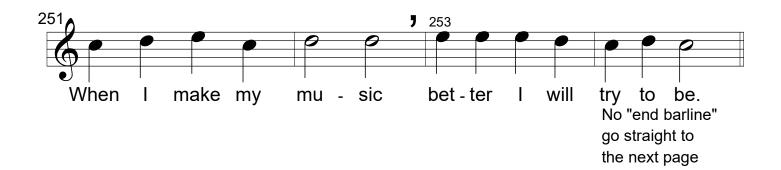
NO. 3.22 - FIRST CONCERT MEDLEY

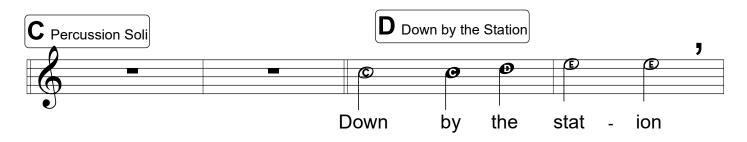
My First Song, When I make My Music, Down by the Station, Hot Cross Buns.

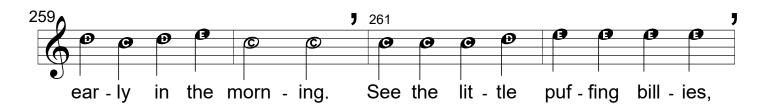


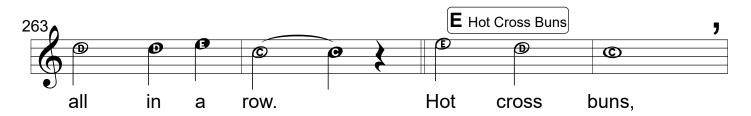


















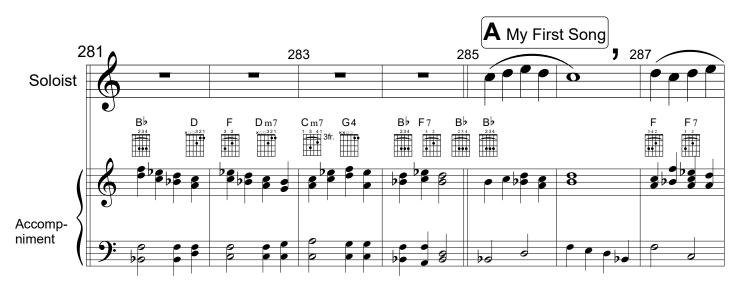
DOUBLE BARLINE

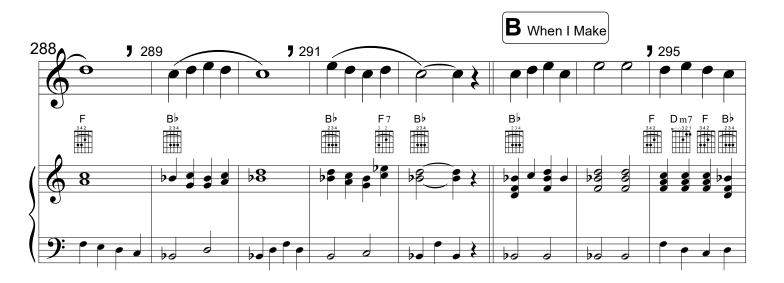
You may have noticed that at the begining of each tune or song, there are two barlines. This is called a double barline and is different to an end barline. The double barline indicates that something is changing. In number 3.21, you should have noticed the double barline where you start to play. In numbers 3.22 & 3.23, there are several double barlines which, in this case indicate the end of one song and the start of another.

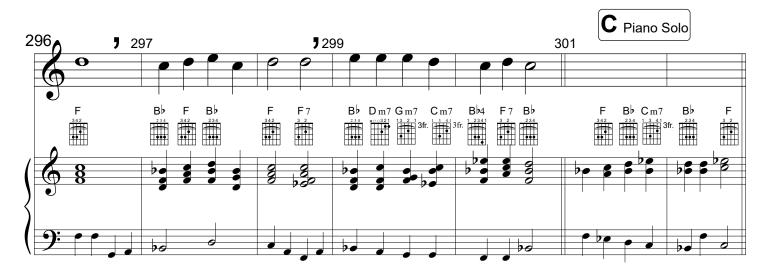
SOLO TWO

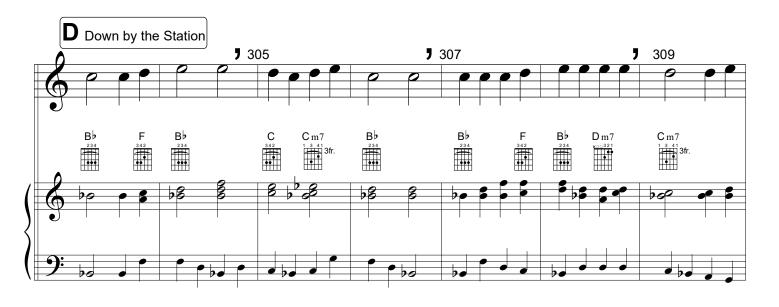
NO. 3.23 - Solo Medley with Piano Accompaniment

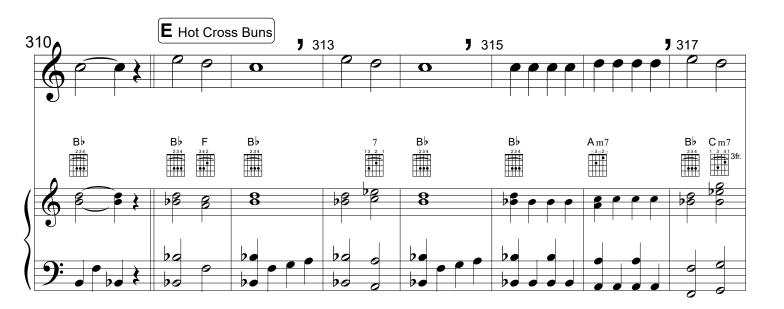
My First Song, When I Make My Music, Down by the Station, Hot Cross Buns.

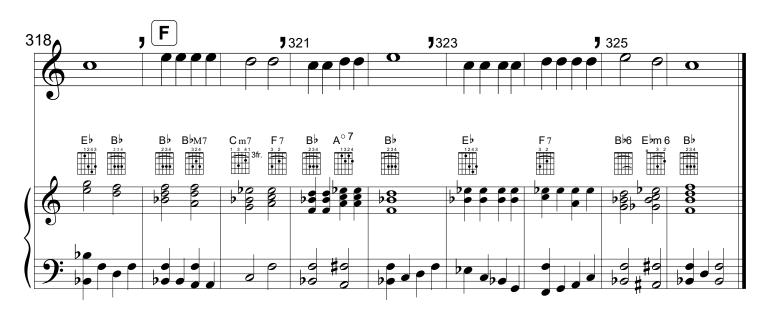








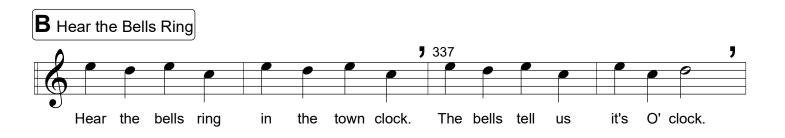


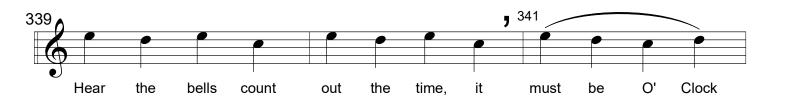


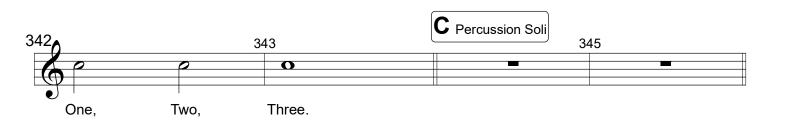
NO. 3.24 - FIRST CONCERT MEDLEY, Number 2 Rain is Falling Down, Hear the Bells Ring, Au Claire, Here Comes the Band.

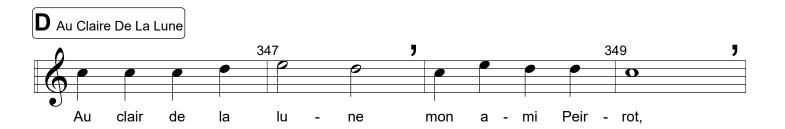






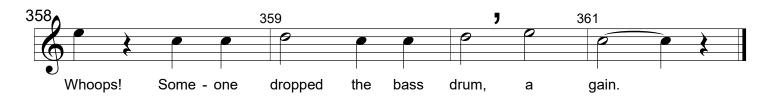




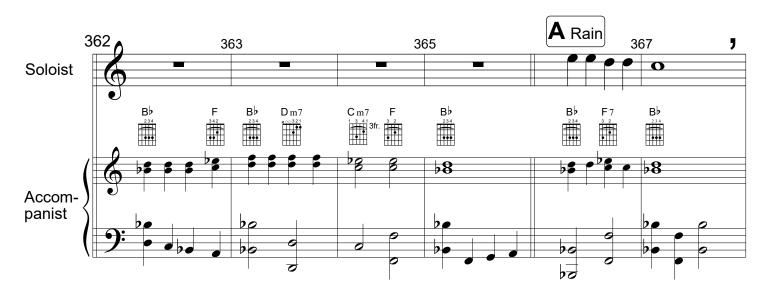


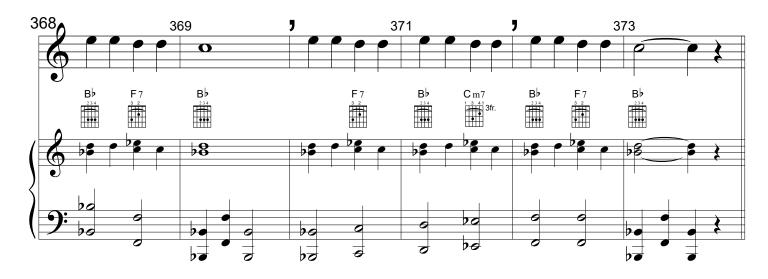


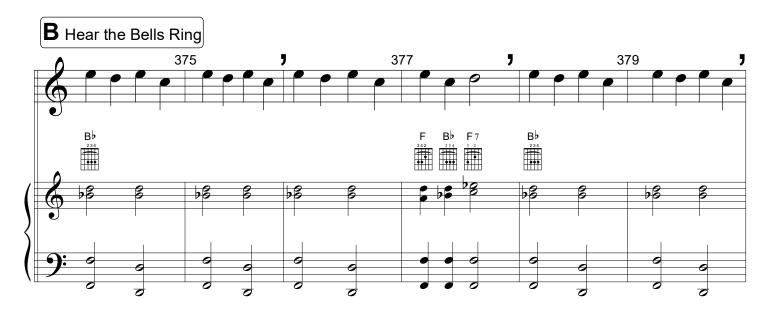


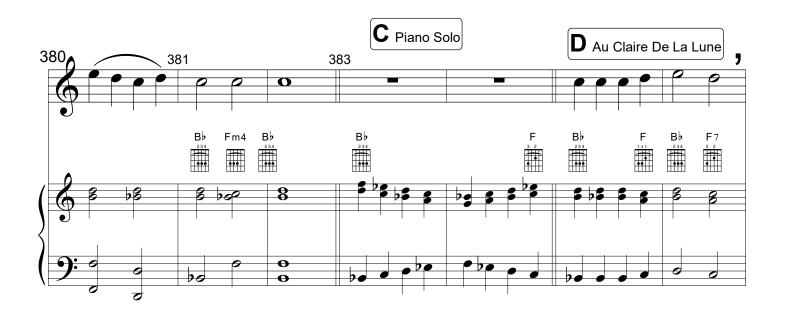


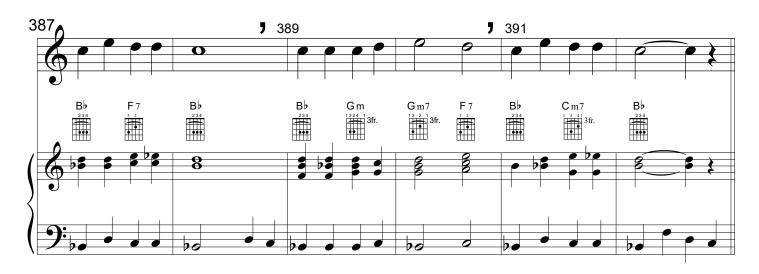
SOLO THREE (First Concert Medley No. 2) NO. 3.25 - Solo Medley with Piano Accompaniment Rain is falling down, Hear the Bells, Au De Claire, Here Comes the Band

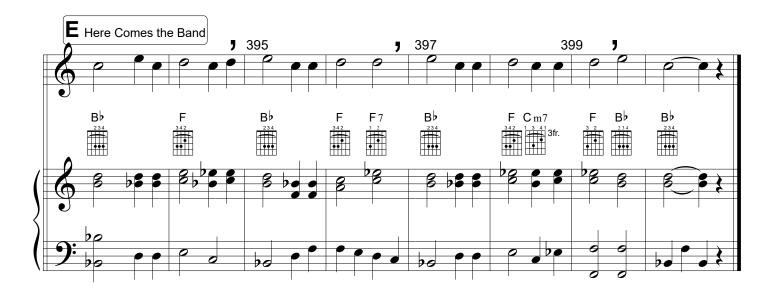










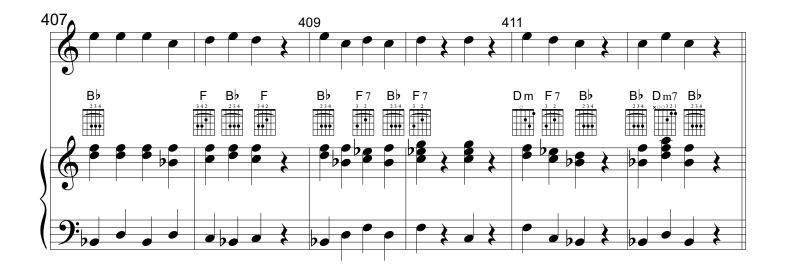


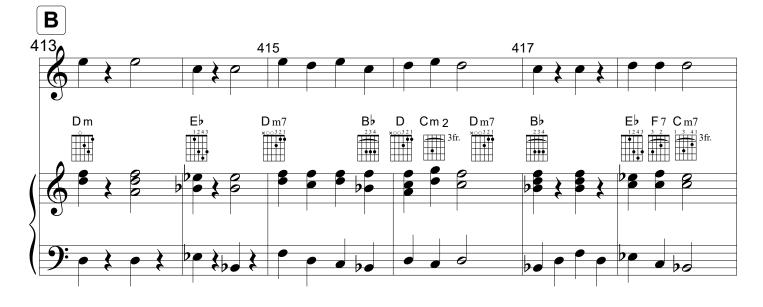
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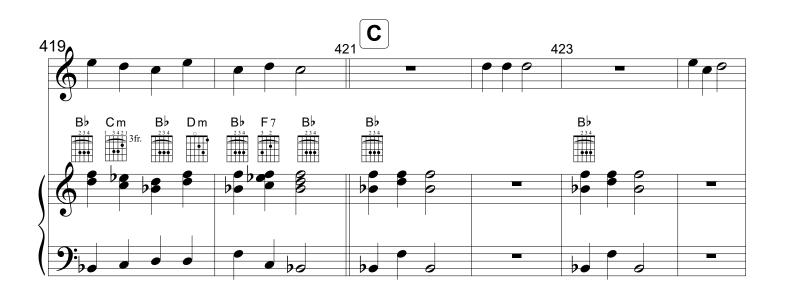
SOLO FOUR

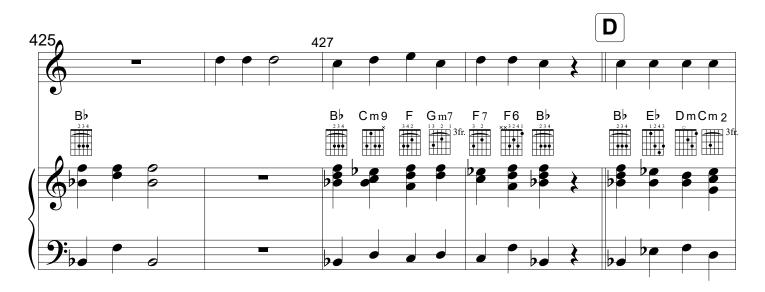
NO. 3.26 - Solo with Piano Accompaniment 4 **MARCHING OUT**

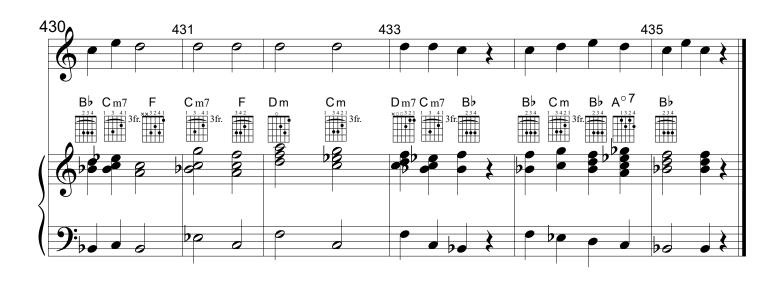












Page 30 WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT? NO. 3.27 - (you give it a title) Using the notes you know, create your own composition - remember, exactly 4 counts to a bar. 436 439 KNOWLEDGE CHECK. (A) Name the following shapes (i) (iii) (iv) (vii) (viii) Tacet Tutti (xiv) (xiii) Solo (B) Below the following notes, write their names and, its no of counts.

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	2								 	

(C) PERFORMANCE & COMPOSITION(i) As a soloist, perform a smooth stable note for 6 se

(i) As a soloist, perform a smooth stable note for 6 seconds

(ii) As a soloist, perform No.3.23, 3.25 or 3.26

(iii) Posture, arm and hand positions

(iv) Composition at No. 3.27 above (v) Care of instrument

CONGRATULATIONS

YOU HAVE COMPLETED STAGE THREE OF YOUR FIRST CONCERT PREPARATION.
NOW LET'S FINISH THE OTHER STAGES!