Precomposed notes in this range may be used for placing notes on a staff. In fonts intended for text-based applications, these characters may be set up as ligatures with the control characters in the Combining staff positions range to allow them to be moved up and down to different positions on a staff (e.g. using characters from the Staves range).

However, scoring applications should draw all notes by combining notehead glyphs — e.g. noteheadBlack for quarter notes (crotchets) and shorter notes, noteheadHalf for half notes (minims) — with stems drawn using primitives.

It is recommended that the characters in this range should have full-length stems, i.e. a minimum length of 3.5 spaces.

Characters suitable for mixing with characters from a regular text font, e.g. as part of a metronome mark, tempo equations, *l’istesso tempo* marking, etc., are found in the Metronome marks range (where it is recommended that stems should be shortened to provide a more pleasing balance between the note and the surrounding text characters).