



The clefs are musical symbols placed at the beginning of the music staff.

There are 3 music clefs: the G clef (treble clef) , the F clef (bass clef) , the C clef (alto clef, tenor clef) .


The clefs are placed very precisely on one of the five lines of the staff. They are setting the name but also the pitch of the music notes.


The G Clef on the Second Line of the Staff (Treble Clef)

The G clef  is the most used. It is placed on the second line of the staff. So the music note placed on the second line of the staff is a G.


The Treble clef (G clef)  is used on sheet music for piano (right hand), guitar, violin, flute, oboe, clarinets, saxophones, horn, trumpet... For the singers, the Treble clef is used with the following voices: tenor, contralto, alto, mezzo-soprano, soprano.

The F Clef on the Fourth Line of the Staff (Bass Clef)

The F clef  located on the fourth line of the staff is called Bass Clef. If the F key is placed on the fourth line, the music note on the fourth line of the music staff will be an F.

The Bass clef (F clef)  is used on sheet music for piano (left hand), cello, double bass, bass guitar, bassoon, trombone, tuba, timpani... Baritone and bass voice use the Bass clef too.

The C Clef on the First, Second, Third, or Fourth Line of the Staff

The C clef  can be placed on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th line of the staff. If it is placed on the first line of the staff, the music note written on the first line will be a C, etc.

The C clef on the first line is no longer used now except for orchestral transposition. The C clef on the second line of the staff is used by horn players. The C clef on the third line is used with viola and viola da gamba. The C clef on the fourth line of the music staff is the most played: it is used for bassoon, cello, and trombone scores.

Music Clefs and Music Theory

Music Staff (or Stave)

The music staff (or stave) is made by five parallel horizontal lines.

Music Notes – Name of Notes (A B C or Do Re Mi)

Seven notes of music and two systems to name them.

7 Note Values (Whole Note Half Note Quarter Note...)

The type (shape) of musical notes fixes the note values (duration).

Music Rests (Half Rest Whole Rest Quarter Rest...)

There is a rest of different value for each music note of different value.

Rest Symbols:

— Whole Rest

— Half Rest

♩ Quarter Rest

♪ Eighth Rest

♫ Sixteenth Rest

♫ Thirty-second Rest

♫ Sixty-fourth Rest

♫ One Hundred Twenty-eighth Rest

Note Symbols:

♩ Whole Note

♪ Half Note

♩ Quarter Note

♪ Eighth Note

♫ Sixteenth Note

♫ Thirty-second Note

♫ Sixty-fourth Note


♫ One Hundred Twenty-eighth Note


Clef Symbols:

♩ G Clef

 G Clef Ottava Alta

 G Clef Ottava Bassa

 C Clef

 F Clef

 F Clef Ottava Alta

 F Clef Ottava Bassa