

Music Notation for Guitar

E F G A B C D E F G A B C D E F G A B C D E F

F# G# A# C# D# F# G# A# C# D# F# G# A# C# D#

Bb Ab Bb Db Eb Gb Ab Bb Db Eb Gb Ab Bb Db Eb

whole note (4 beats) half notes (2 beats) quarter notes (1 beat)

eighth notes (2 in a beat) sixteenth notes (4 in a beat)

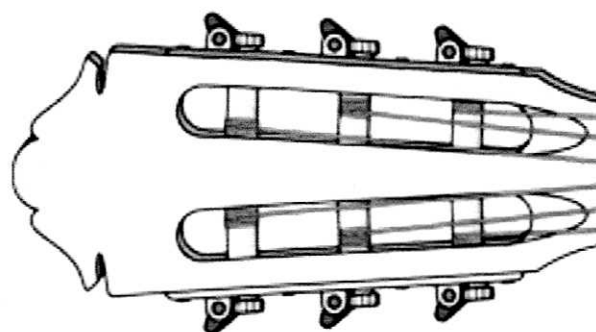
dotted half = 3 quarters dotted quarter = 3 eighths dotted eighth = 3 sixteenths

whole rest (4 beats) half rest (2 beats) quarter rest (1 beat)

eighth rest (2 in a beat) sixteenth rest (4 in a beat)

Frets:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



E	F	F [#] /G ^b	G	G [#] /A ^b	A	A [#] /B ^b	B	C	C [#] /D ^b	D	D [#] /E ^b	E
B	C	C [#] /D ^b	D	D [#] /E ^b	E	F	F [#] /G ^b	G	G [#] /A ^b	A	A [#] /B ^b	B
G	G [#] /A ^b	A	A [#] /B ^b	B	C	C [#] /D ^b	D	D [#] /E ^b	E	F	F [#] /G ^b	G
D	D [#] /E ^b	E	F	F [#] /G ^b	G	G [#] /A ^b	A	A [#] /B ^b	B	C	C [#] /D ^b	D
A	A [#] /B ^b	B	C	C [#] /D ^b	D	D [#] /E ^b	E	F	F [#] /G ^b	G	G [#] /A ^b	A
E	F	F [#] /G ^b	G	G [#] /A ^b	A	A [#] /B ^b	B	C	C [#] /D ^b	D	D [#] /E ^b	E

1st string

2nd string

3rd string

4th string

5th string

6th string

Open

Musical notation for guitar strings 1 through 6. The notation shows the fret positions and accidentals for each string. The 1st string starts with an 'Open' label. The 2nd string starts with a sharp sign. The 3rd string starts with a sharp sign. The 4th string starts with a sharp sign. The 5th string starts with a sharp sign. The 6th string starts with a sharp sign. The notation shows the fret positions and accidentals for each string.

Treble & Bass Clef Notes

The Grand Staff



The Treble Clef



Every Good Boy Does Fine



"Face"

The Bass Clef



Good Boys Do Fine Always

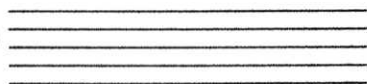


All Cows Eat Grass

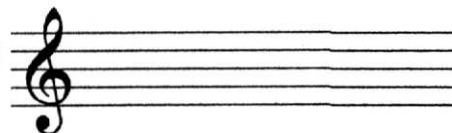
MUSICAL SYMBOLS

Music is written in **notes** on a **staff**. The staff has five lines and four spaces between the lines. Where a note is written on the staff determines its **pitch** (highness or lowness). At the beginning of the staff is a **clef sign**. Guitar music is written in the treble clef.

STAFF



TREBLE CLEF

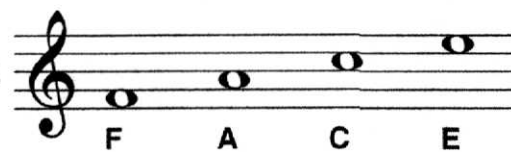


Each line and space of the staff has a letter name. The **lines** are, (from bottom to top) E - G - B - D - F, which you can remember as Every Guitarist Begins Doing Fine. The **spaces** are, (from bottom to top) F - A - C - E, which spells "Face."

LINES

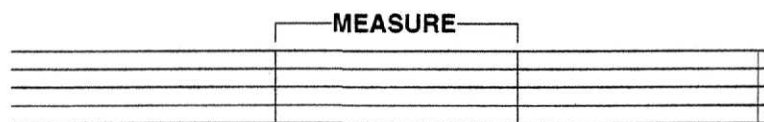


SPACES



The staff is divided into several parts by bar lines. The space between two bar lines is called a **measure** (also known as a "bar"). To end a piece of music a double bar is placed on the staff.

BAR LINES



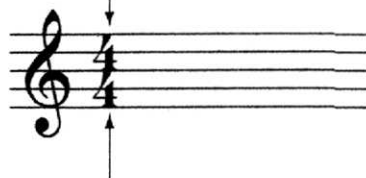
BAR LINE

BAR LINE

DOUBLE BAR


Each measure contains a group of **beats**. Beats are the steady pulse of music. You respond to the pulse or beat when you tap your foot.

TIME SIGNATURE



The two numbers placed next to the clef sign are the time signature.
The top number tells you how many beats are in one measure.

The bottom number of the time signature tells you what kind of note will receive one beat.

FOUR BEATS PER MEASURE
QUARTER NOTE () GETS ONE BEAT

Notes indicate the length (number of counts) of musical sound.

NOTES

WHOLE NOTE = 4 beats

HALF NOTE = 2 beats

QUARTER NOTE = 1 beat

When different kinds of notes are placed on different lines or spaces, you will know the pitch of the note and how long to play the sound.

Tablature = TAB

Lines = Strings

Big Numbers = Frets

Little Numbers = Fingers

Each 'column' is a moment in time.

When numbers are stacked on top of one another, these tones are played at the same time. They are **strummed**.

Play Each of These...

1 string played
open, alone

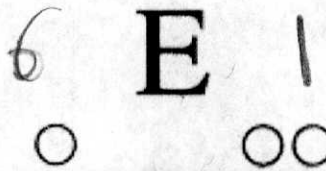
Diagram illustrating guitar tablature notation and strumming patterns. The diagram shows a six-string guitar with strings labeled T (top), A, B, and three unlabeled strings at the bottom. The fret numbers (0, 1, 2, 3) are placed on the lines representing the strings. Arrows indicate the strings being played in each column.

Columns and corresponding string/fret information:

- Column 1: 6 string played open, alone (0)
- Column 2: 4 string, fret 2, alone (2)
- Column 3: 2 string, open, alone (0); 3 string, open, alone (0)
- Column 4: 1 string, fret 1, alone (1); 2 string, fret 3, alone (3)
- Column 5: Strum all strings open (0)
- Column 6: Strum E minor chord. Use 1 & 2 fingers for the 2's. (0, 0, 0, 2, 2, 0)
- Column 7: 'Strum' the 6 & 5 strings together. (0, 0, 0, 2, 2, 0) use 1 finger

Chord name

Indicates open string



Indicates fretted note

Nut

Fret

String

2 3 1

Left-hand fingering
(1=index; 2=middle;
3=ring; 4=little)

