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| Field | Examples | Explanation |
| A: area |  |  |
| B: book |  |  |
| C: composer |  |  |
| D: discography |  |  |
| E: elemskip |  |  |
| F: file name |  |  |
| G: group |  | Group together tunes |
| H: history |  |  |
| I: information |  |  |
| K: key | F# lydian | Letter, accidental, mode |
| L: default note length | A2: hold down note A for twice as long the default note length  A/2: hold down note A for half the default note length | If M < 0.75, L = 1/16  If M >= 0.75, L = 1/8 |
| M: meter |  |  |
| N: notes | C: Middle C  C,: Lower C  C,,: Lower lower C  c: Upper C  c’: Upper upper C |  |
| O: origin |  |  |
| P: parts | P:ABABCDCD | Used in the header to state order in which tune parts are played |
| Q: tempo |  | notes per minute  Default tempo = 100 |
| R: rhythm |  |  |
| S: source |  |  |
| T: tune title |  | One tune can have multiple titles. |
| W: words |  |  |
| X: reference number |  |  |
| Z: transcription note |  |  |
| z: rest |  |  |
| H-Z |  |  |
| Chords | [CEG]  [DD] | There should be no spaces within a chord  If a chord contains two notes both of the same length and pitch, it is a UNISON SOUND. |
| Guitar chords |  |  |
| V |  |  |
| Global accidentals |  | Modify the key |
| Accidentals |  | Modify the notes |
| Broken rhythms | >: previous note is dotted, next note is halved  >>: previous note is double dotted, next note is quartered  >>>: previous note is triple dotted, next note is divided by 8  <: previous note is halved, next note is dotted  <<: previous note is quartered, next note is double dotted  <<<: previous note is divided by 8, next note is triple dotted |  |
| Duplets/triplets/quadruplets | (2ab for a duplet  (3abc for a triplet  (4abcd for a quadruplet | If the time signature is compound (3/8, 6/8, 9/8, 3/4 etc) then n is 3. Otherwise, n is 2.  (2: 2 notes in the time of 3  (3: 3 notes in the time of 2  (4: 4 notes in the time of 3  (5: 5 notes in the time of n  (6: 6 notes in the time of 2  (7: 7 notes in the time of n  (8: 8 notes in the time of 3  (9: 9 notes in the time of n |
| Beams |  | To group notes together under one beam, they should be grouped together without spaces |
| Repeat/bar symbols |  | | bar line  |] thin-thick double bar line: end of song  || thin-thin double bar line: indicate key/tempo change  [| thick-thin double bar line: start of song  :| left repeat: repeat the section of which the start is marked by right-repeat  |: right repeat: where you should start the section repeat  :: left-right repeat: repeat both left and right side of the bar |
| First and second repeats |  | Refer to volta brackets (check google) |
| Ties and slurs | abc-|cba: Slur c  (DEFG): puts slur over four notes | Tie two notes together either across or within a bar  Spaces within slurs are ok but there should not be a space between brackets and notes |
| Gracings | {GdGe} | Grace notes have no time value. |
| Accents | (3.a.b.c  vAuBvA | Staccato: dot before the note  For fiddlers: u denotes up-bow, v denotes down-bow |
| Comments | %comment |  |

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| Modes |  |
| **Minor** |  |
| **Major** |  |
| Lydian |  |
| Ionian |  |
| Mixolydian |  |
| Dorian |  |
| Aeolian |  |
| Phrygian |  |
| Locrian |  |

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| Accidentals | Explanation |
| \_\_ | Double flat |
| \_ | Flat |
| = | Natural |
| ^ | Sharp |
| ^^ | Double sharp |