

Notation: Rhythm



WHILE **PITCH** IS PRETTY CLEARLY NOTATED ON A VERTICAL AXIS, **NOTE LENGTH** IS INDICATED USING A SOMEWHAT ARCANE SYSTEM INVOLVING **NOTEHEADS, STEMS AND FLAGS**.

BREVE

SEMIBREVE

MINIM

CROTCHET

QUAVER

SEMQUAVER

DEMISEMQUAVER

HEMIDEMISEMQUAVER

SEMIHEMIDEMISEMQUAVER

IN THIS CHART, EACH SUCCESSIVE TYPE OF NOTE IS **HALF AS LONG** AS THE NOTE TO ITS LEFT. NONE OF THESE NOTES HAS A **STANDARD LENGTH**; A MINIM IN ONE PIECE MAY BE THE SAME LENGTH AS A QUAVER IN A DIFFERENT PIECE.

NOTE LENGTHS IN A PIECE ARE INDICATED BY THE **TEMPO MARKING** AT THE BEGINNING OF A PIECE OR SECTION.

BREVE REST

SEMIBREVE REST

MINIM REST

CROTCHET REST

QUAVER REST

SEMQUAVER REST

DEMISEMQUAVER REST

HEMIDEMISEMQUAVER REST

SEMIHEMIDEMISEMQUAVER REST

A **REST** IS A PERIOD OF **SILENCE** THAT A LENGTH WHICH CORRESPONDS TO A PARTICULAR NOTE.



USUALLY RESTS ARE PLACED ON THE STAFF AT A PARTICULAR VERTICAL POSITION AS SHOWN HERE.

THE **AUGMENTATION DOT** IS A DOT PLACED TO THE RIGHT OF A NOTEHEAD. THOUGH SMALL, THIS DOT WIELDS SOME **SERIOUS POWER**: IT ADDS HALF OF THE ORIGINAL NOTE'S LENGTH!

MULTIPLE DOTS CAN ALSO BE ADDED, EACH ONE ADDING HALF OF THE PREVIOUSLY ADDED VALUE.



ACK!
GET IT OFF!
GET IT OFF!

TIES ARE CURVED MARKS WHICH CONNECT TWO NOTES TOGETHER TO CREATE A **SINGLE, EXTENDED SOUND**.

TO TIE **MORE THAN TWO** NOTES TOGETHER, DRAW TIES BETWEEN **EACH NOTE**; DO NOT USE A SINGLE, EXTENDED TIE.

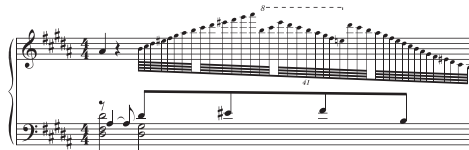


A **TUPLET** IS ANY NON-STANDARD DIVISION OF A NOTE. THESE ARE USUALLY WRITTEN AS A GROUP OF NOTES DELINATED WITH A **BRACKET** AND A **NUMBER** SHOWING THE DIVISION BEING MADE.

MOST TUPLETS ARE SIMPLE DIVISIONS, LIKE THE **TRIPLETS** TO THE LEFT. BUT ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE! **CHOPIN**, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD OFTEN **GO TO TOWN** WITH THESE THINGS.



FOR EXAMPLE, THESE AREN'T EXACTLY **CROTCHETS**; THEY ARE EACH A **THIRD** AS LONG AS A **MINIM**.



WHA... GAH!
CHOPIN, NO!
DOWN, BOY!