

# NOTE FINDER!

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TO BE ABLE TO READ MUSIC AT GRADE 1 LEVEL, YOU'LL NEED TO BE ABLE TO READ ANY NOTE THAT SITS WITHIN THE STAVE IN BOTH THE BASS AND THE TREBLE CLEFS. YOU ALSO NEED TO BE ABLE TO FIND IT ON THE PIANO IN THE CORRECT OCTAVE.

HERE'S HOW:

## THE MUSICAL LADDER - THE STAVE

HERE ARE ALL THE NOTES YOU NEED FOR GRADE 1, IN ASCENDING (GOING UP) ORDER ON THE STAVE. LABEL THEM WITH THEIR LETTER NAME AND PLAY EACH ONE ON THE PIANO AFTER YOU HAVE WRITTEN IT.

REMEMBER, EVERY NOTE ON THE STAVE (THE 5-LINES IN WRITTEN MUSIC) TELLS YOU THE EXACT KEY TO PLAY ON THE KEYBOARD. NOT JUST THE LETTER NAME OF THE NOTE, BUT EXACTLY WHICH OCTAVE THE NOTE IS PLAYED IN.



LEARNING AND REMEMBERING ALL THE NOTES ON THE STAVE CAN BE TRICKY. LUCKILY THERE ARE WAYS TO LEARN THEM THAT MAKE IT A LOT EASIER.

## TACKLE THE TREBLE CLEF

BY JUST REMEMBERING TWO LITTLE PHRASES (CALLED MNEMONICS), YOU CAN READ ANY NOTE ANYWHERE WITHIN THE STAVE IN THE TREBLE CLEF.

- TREBLE CLEF: NOTES ON THE LINES. THE FIRST LETTER OF EACH WORD IS THE LETTER NAME OF THE NOTE.



PLAY EACH ONE ON THE PIANO, NAMING THEM OUT LOUD LIKE THIS: "EVERY - E, GOOD - G, BOY - B, DESERVES - D, FOOTBALL - F"

REMEMBER THE FIRST E IS THE E TWO WHITE NOTES ABOVE MIDDLE C.

ALSO REMEMBER, WHEN PLAYING THE LINES GOING UPWARDS LIKE THIS, EACH TIME THERE IS A NOTE IN THE SPACE THAT YOU MUST SKIP TO FIND THE NEXT NOTE ON A LINE.

- TREBLE CLEF: NOTES IN THE SPACES. THE NOTE NAMES OF THE NOTES IN THE SPACES SPELL OUT A WORD THAT RHYMES WITH SPACE:



SPELL OUT FACE LIKE THIS ON THE PIANO.

THE F IS JUST NEXT TO THE E WHERE YOU STARTED FOR THE LINES.

AGAIN, DON'T FORGET TO SKIP THE NOTES ON THE LINES.

PRACTICE THE TREBLE CLEF

HERE IS A NOTE TO FIND ON THE PIANO:



FOLLOW THESE EASY STEPS TO FIND THIS ON THE PIANO BY USING WHAT WE'VE JUST LEARNT.

1. IS THE NOTE ON A LINE OR IN A SPACE? (LOOK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE FOR ANSWER)
2. WHAT IS THE MNEMONIC YOU NEED? (LOOK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE FOR ANSWER)
3. PLAY THE FIRST NOTE IN THE MNEMONIC – AN E WITH YOUR RIGHT HAND AND SAY “EVERY”. AT THE SAME TIME, WITH YOUR LEFT HAND POINT AT THE 1<sup>ST</sup> (BOTTOM) LINE OF THE MUSICAL SYSTEM ABOVE.
4. POINT WITH YOUR LEFT HAND AT EACH LINE IN TURN AS YOU SAY EACH WORD OF THE MNEMONIC AND PLAY IT WITH YOUR RIGHT HAND.
5. WHEN YOUR LEFT HAND IS POINTING AT THE LINE ON WHICH THE NOTE IS WRITTEN, **STOP!!**
6. YOU'VE FOUND IT!

REPEAT THESE STEPS FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:



NOW TRY THESE IN THE SAME WAY. YOU'LL NEED YOUR MNEMONIC FOR THE TREBLE CLEF SPACES.



HERE ARE SOME RANDOMLY CHOSEN NOTES. NAME EACH ONE OUT LOUD AND PLAY IT ON THE PIANO.



NOW PLAY ALL THE NOTES YOU HAVE BEEN PLAY IN ORDER, NAMING EACH ONE AS YOU GO.



TO FINISH, TRY PLAYING THEM BACKWARDS! NAME EACH ONE AS YOU GO.



Q: WHAT IS THE MNEMONIC TO REMEMBER THE LINES IN THE TREBLE CLEF?

Q: WHAT IS THE MNEMONIC TO REMEMBER THE SPACES IN THE TREBLE CLEF?

- Answers
1. On a line
  2. Every Good Boy Deserves Football

## BE BRILLIANT AT THE BASS CLEF

THE BASS CLEF IS MOSTLY FOR NOTES LOWER (TO THE LEFT OF) MIDDLE C.

REMEMBER, EACH LINE AND SPACE IS A DIFFERENT LETTER NAME/NOTE TO THE TREBLE CLEF.

SO WE NEED TWO MORE MNEMONICS TO FIND EACH NOTE. THEY WORK IN EXACTLY THE SAME WAY.

- BASS CLEF: NOTES ON THE LINES



GRANNY'S BOOTS DON'T FIT AUNTY

PLAY EACH ONE ON THE PIANO,  
NAMING THEM OUT LOUD.

- BASS CLEF: NOTES IN THE SPACES



ALL COWS EAT GRASS

PLAY EACH ONE ON THE PIANO,  
NAMING THEM OUT LOUD.

## PRACTICE THE BASS CLEF

REPEAT EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID TO FIND THE NOTES IN THE TREBLE CLEF FOR THESE NOTES ON THE LINES IN THE BASS CLEF...



... AND THESE IN THE SPACES.



NOW TRY THESE RANDOMLY CHOSEN NOTES IN THE BASS CLEF.



PLAY ALL OF THE NOTES YOU'VE JUST LEARNT IN ORDER. NAME THEM OUT LOUD AS YOU GO.



NOW TRY PLAYING THEM BACKWARDS! NAME THEM OUT LOUD AS YOU GO.

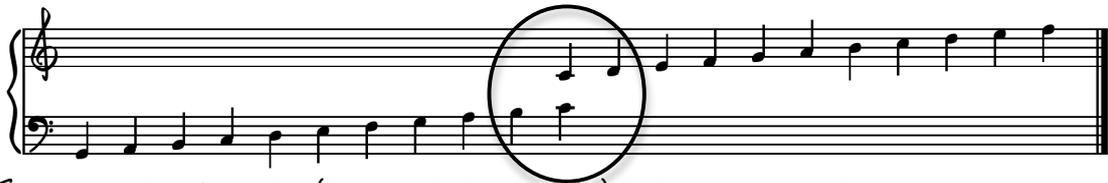


Q: WHAT IS THE MNEMONIC TO REMEMBER THE LINES IN THE BASS CLEF?

Q: WHAT IS THE MNEMONIC TO REMEMBER THE SPACES IN THE BASS CLEF?

### THE MIDDLE BIT

HERE ARE THE NOTES YOU'VE BEEN LEARNING, WITH THE BASS CLEF NOTES FIRST, AND THEN THE TREBLE CLEF NOTES.



THERE ARE JUST A FEW NOTES (THE ONES THAT ARE RINGED) THAT WE STILL NEED TO LEARN.

WHAT IS THE NOTE ON THE TOP LINE OF THE BASS CLEF? PLAY THIS AND HOLD IT WITH YOUR LEFT HAND WHILE YOU FIND THE NOTE ON THE LOWEST LINE IN THE TREBLE CLEF WITH YOUR RIGHT HAND.

THERE ARE THREE NOTES IN BETWEEN THESE TWO. THESE ARE THE ONES THAT ARE CIRCLED THAT WE NEED TO LEARN NOW.

### MIDDLE C

HERE IS MIDDLE C IN THE TREBLE CLEF:



AND HERE IT IS IN THE BASS CLEF:



THESE ARE BOTH THE SAME NOTE ON THE PIANO.

THERE ARE JUST TWO MORE NOTES TO LEARN:

### D ABOVE MID C (TREBLE CLEF)



### B BELOW MID C (BASS CLEF)



AND THAT'S IT....

PLAY THROUGH THE NOTES AT THE TOP OF THIS PAGE WITH YOUR LEFT HAND, POINTING TO EACH ONE AND NAMING THEM OUT LOUD AS YOU GO.

HERE ARE THE NOTES IN REVERSE ORDER.



TURN OVER THE PAGE FOR SOME PRACTICE ON EVERYTHING YOU'VE LEARN'T.

**PRACTICE PAGE**

USE THIS PAGE TO PRACTICE WHAT YOU'VE LEARNT.  
SPEND JUST A LITTLE TIME EACH DAY PRACTICING NOTE READING.

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



## SPEEDING THINGS UP

WORKING OUT NOTES WITH THE MNEMONICS IS GREAT FOR FINDING YOUR STARTING POSITION IN A PIECE OF MUSIC BUT IT TAKES TIME TO DO THIS FOR EVERY NOTE. HERE'S A FASTER WAY OF READING MUSIC ONCE YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR STARTING NOTE IS.

### NEXT-DOOR NOTES

WORK OUT THESE TWO NOTES USING YOUR MNEMONICS. PLAY THE FIRST WITH YOUR LH THUMB AND THE SECOND WITH YOUR RH THUMB.



WHAT DO YOU NOTICE?

THESE NOTES ARE NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOURS.

NOW LOOK AT THE NOTES ON THE PAGE. THE FIRST IS IN THE FIRST SPACE AND THE SECOND IS ON THE SECOND LINE. THIS IS THE SMALLEST GAP YOU CAN GET BETWEEN TWO NOTES ON THE MUSICAL LADDER – YOU CAN'T FIT ANY MORE NOTES IN BETWEEN THEM.

IF THE TWO NOTES WERE PUT TOGETHER AS A CHORD IT WOULD LOOK LIKE THIS.



IF TWO NOTES ARE NEXT-DOOR TO EACH OTHER ON THE MUSICAL LADDER, THEY ARE ALSO NEXT-DOOR NOTES ON THE PIANO. FOR THIS TO HAPPEN, ONE OF THEM HAS TO BE ON A LINE, AND THE OTHER HAS TO BE IN A SPACE.

WORK OUT THE FIRST OF THE FOLLOWING TWO NOTES USING YOUR MNEMONICS. THEN LOOK AT SECOND NOTE. IS IT NEXT-DOOR TO THE FIRST?



IT IS ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> LINE JUST ABOVE THE FIRST NOTE, WHICH IS IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SPACE. SO THE SECOND NOTE IS JUST ONE STEP HIGHER THAN THE FIRST. THIS MEANS YOU NEED TO PLAY THE VERY NEXT KEY UP (TO THE RIGHT) TO MOVE FROM THE FIRST TO THE SECOND NOTE. YOU SHOULD HAVE PLAYED E BELOW MIDDLE C AND THEN F JUST ABOVE THIS. DID YOU GET IT RIGHT?

### REPEATING NOTES

HAVE A LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING TWO SETS OF NOTES:



THE FIRST TWO ARE BOTH IN THE FIRST SPACE IN THE TREBLE CLEF. THE SECOND TWO ARE ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> LINE IN THE BASS CLEF. THIS MEANS THESE NOTES REPEAT.

PLAY BOTH SETS OF NOTES ON THE PIANO. YOU SHOULD HAVE PLAYED TWO FS ABOVE MIDDLE C AND TWO DS BELOW MIDDLE C.

HERE ARE TWO TUNES THAT USE EITHER A STEP UP OR REPEATING NOTES. WORK OUT YOUR STARTING POINT EACH TIME WITH YOUR MNEMONICS AND THEN PLAY THE REST OF THE TUNE BY FIGURING OUT IF THE MUSIC STAYS ON THE SAME NOTE OR STEPS UP.



**STEPS DOWN**

LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING TWO NOTES.



THE FIRST IS IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SPACE AND THE SECOND IS ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> LINE, JUST BELOW IT. USE YOUR MNEMONIC TO FIND THE FIRST AND THEN PLAY THE KEY THAT IS ONE BELOW THIS. (WHAT KEY HAVE YOU PLAYED? USE YOUR MNEMONIC TO FIND THE LETTER NAME OF THE SECOND NOTE. IF YOU HAVE GOT IT RIGHT, IT SHOULD BE THE SAME ONE THAT YOU HAVE JUST PLAYED!)

THE FOLLOWING TUNES USE EITHER A STEP UP, A STEP DOWN OR REPEATED NOTES. FIND THE FIRST NOTE WITH THE MNEMONIC AND THEN PLAY THE REST VERY SLOWLY, STEPPING UP OR DOWN OR REPEATING A NOTE ON THE PIANO.



### NOTES APART



THE FIRST TWO NOTES ARE IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> SPACES. THE SECOND TWO NOTES ARE ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> LINES. THIS MEANS THAT IN BOTH CASES, THERE IS A LINE OR SPACE BETWEEN THE TWO NOTES – A NOTE ON THE PIANO THAT YOU HAVE TO *SKIP* TO GET FROM THE FIRST TO THE SECOND NOTE IN EACH PAIR.

FIND THE FIRST NOTE OF EACH WITH YOUR MNEMONIC. THEN SKIP A NOTE, EITHER UP OR DOWN, TO FIND THE SECOND.

HERE ARE SOME TUNES TO PRACTICE PLAYING IN SKIPS.



### MIX 'N MATCH

HERE ARE THREE NOTES:



THE FIRST IS ON THE SECOND LINE.

THE SECOND IS IN THE SECOND SPACE. IT IS THE *NEXT KEY* UP FROM THE FIRST. THESE TWO ARE IN STEP.

THE THIRD IS IN THE THIRD SPACE. THERE IS A LINE BETWEEN THE SECOND AND THIRD NOTES. THIS MEANS THERE IS A NOTE THAT HAS TO BE *SKIPPED* BETWEEN THESE TWO.

FIND THE FIRST NOTE USING THE MNEMONIC. THEN PLAY THE OTHER TWO BY EITHER STEPPING UP OR SKIPPING A NOTE.

TRY THE SAME THING WITH THE FOLLOWING GROUPS OF NOTES.



**PRACTICE PAGE**

HERE ARE SOME TUNES TO PRACTICE ON. YOU WILL NEED TO USE YOUR MNEMONIC IN EACH CASE TO FIND THE STARTING NOTE. THE NOTES AFTERWARDS MOVE EITHER IN STEPS, A SKIP OF ONE NOTE, OR REPEATING A NOTE.



STRETCHING FURTHER



THESE TWO NOTES HAVE A GAP BETWEEN THEM, LARGER THAN THE ONE NOTE SKIP THAT WE HAVE DONE UP UNTIL NOW.

TRY TO COUNT ALL OF THE LINES AND SPACES IN BETWEEN THE NOTES. (BUT NOT THE LINE AND SPACE WHERE THE NOTES THEMSELVES ARE WRITTEN.)

THERE IS ONE LINE AND ONE SPACE IN BETWEEN THEM. THIS MEANS THAT THERE IS A GAP OF TWO NOTES IN BETWEEN THE TWO THAT ARE WRITTEN.

FIND THE FIRST NOTE USING THE MNEMONIC, PLAYING IT ON THE PIANO. THEN SKIP THE TWO KEYS JUST ABOVE (TO THE RIGHT OF) IT, AND PLAY THE NEXT KEY ON. NOW WORK OUT THE SECOND NOTE AS IT IS WRITTEN ABOVE USING THE MNEMONIC. IF YOU HAVE GOT IT RIGHT, THIS SHOULD BE THE NOTE YOU HAVE JUST PLAYED.

HERE ARE FOUR GROUPS OF NOTES, EACH ONE STARTING FROM THE SAME NOTE, AND MOVING FIRST TO A REPEAT OF THE NOTE, THEN TO A STEP UP, THEN A SKIP OF ONE NOTE, THEN A SKIP OF TWO NOTES. PLAY EACH ONE IN TURN.



TRY A FEW OF THESE PAIRS OF NOTES THAT ALSO INVOLVE SKIPPING TWO NOTES TO GET FROM THE FIRST TO THE SECOND.

