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## **Musical Notation**

This book makes use of standard musical notation; if you're comfortable reading music, skip this part. If you don't know how to read, or feel rusty at it, here's a brief refresher course.

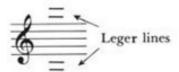
Music is expressed by means of symbols called notes. These notes are placed on a staff of five lines and four spaces; in this book we will only use the treble, or G clef, so called because it encircles the second line from the bottom and establishes the note G.



The rest of the notes on the staff are:



Particularly astute readers will notice that the letters for the spaces, when read from bottom to top, spell FACE. (Those readers should also notice that the letters for the lines don't spell anything at all, unless, of course, you're Welsh.) Some crafty music teacher from eons ago devised a sentence to help the beginner remember the notes on the lines of the treble clef; that deathless prose is: "Every Good Boy Does Fine." To extend the limits of the treble clef, leger lines are added above or below it.



The duration, or time value, of a note is indicated by its shape. A whole note is sounded twice as long as a half note; a half note is sounded twice as long as a quarter note, etc. Rests are intervals of silence during which you do not play. Each note and its corresponding rest are equal in duration.

Types of notes and rests:



A dot placed after and alongside a note increases its time value by one half.



A dotted half note equals three quarter notes.