

Note Mnemonics

Mnemonic: A word to intended to assist the memory. (*from Greek -> related to Memory*).

In starting to remember the note pitch **on** or **between** the staff lines we can use various mnemonics. Here a few:

Grand Staff

The diagram shows a grand staff with two staves. The top staff (treble clef) has the following words and letters: 'Every' on the first space, 'Good' on the first line, 'Boy' on the second space, 'Does' on the second line, 'Fine' on the third space, 'F' on the third line, 'A' on the fourth space, 'C' on the fourth line, and 'E' on the fifth space. The bottom staff (bass clef) has the following words and letters: 'Good' on the first space, 'Boys' on the first line, 'Do' on the second space, 'Fine' on the second line, 'Always' on the third space, 'All' on the third line, 'Cars' on the fourth space, 'Eat' on the fourth line, and 'Gas' on the fifth space.

The diagram shows a musical staff with two staves. The top staff (treble clef) has notes on the first space (F), first line (A), second space (C), and second line (E). The bottom staff (bass clef) has notes on the first space (All), first line (Cars), second space (Eat), and second line (Gas). Below the staves, the words 'Every Good Boy Does Fine' are written above the top staff, and 'All Cars Eat Gas Good Burritos Don't Fall Apart' are written below the bottom staff.

The diagram consists of four musical staves, each with a label on the left and a mnemonic below the notes:

- Staff 1:** Treble clef, labeled "Line notes". Notes are on the lines: E, G, B, D, F. Mnemonic: **E**very **G**ood **B**oy **D**eserves **F**ootball. Illustration: Soccer ball.
- Staff 2:** Treble clef, labeled "Space notes". Notes are in the spaces: F, A, C, E. Mnemonic: **F**, **A**, **C**, **E**. Illustration: Smiley face.
- Staff 3:** Bass clef, labeled "Line notes". Notes are on the lines: G, B, D, F, A. Mnemonic: **G**reedy **B**ig **D**og's **F**all **A**sleep. Illustration: Dog.
- Staff 4:** Bass clef, labeled "Space notes". Notes are in the spaces: A, C, E, G. Mnemonic: **A**ll **C**ows **E**at **G**rass. Illustration: Cow.

Keep in mind that mnemonics *should only be used in the beginning* and be replaced by the *direct spotting of the note* regarding its *relative position on* or *between* the staff lines. This is because of the *reading speed*. A good reading speed for decent *Sight Reading* needs direct spotting of the notes.

Also remember that there are additional notes above or below the staff lines on the so called *Ledger Lines* for which mnemonics don't usually exist.

Sight Reading: To perform written music while reading it for the first time without practicing it.