Clefs

A clef is a musical symbol which is used to determine the pitch of written notes. There are three types of clefs used in modern music notation: G clefs, F clefs and C clefs.



When it is not placed on five lines, this symbol is NOT called a treble clef! It is called a G clef, because it evolved from a stylized letter "G", and once it is placed on the staff will determine where G is located.

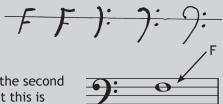
In early use (pre 1750) it could be found written on different lines of the staff.



The only modern use of the G clef is where it is placed surrounding the second line up of the staff, and then it is called a **treble clef**.



Once again, until it is placed on the staff this symbol is not a bass clef. It is called an F clef, because it it supposed to represent a stylised capital "F"





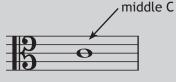
Once placed on the staff the two dots surround the second line from the top, and therefore determines that this is where F is located.



The third type of clef used in modern music is a **C clef**, and this clef determines where middle **C** is located through the use of two curves.



The most common C clef used is the Alto Clef, where it is placed surrounding the middle line of the staff. This clef is used for the Viola and other instruments that require notes equally above and below middle C.



Hand drawn C clefs do not require such elaborate curves as the printed ones have, and as long as the two curves surround the intended line and there is a thick line and a thin line, alto clefs may be drawn like this:



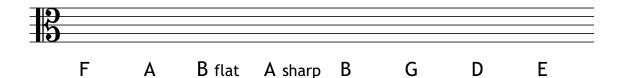
Practice drawing alto clefs:

Using The Alto Clef

Name these notes in alto clef:



Write the notes on the staff above each of the names provided in alto clef:

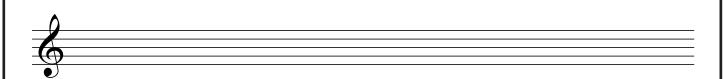


Rewrite the following music into alto clef:



Rewrite the following into treble clef:





Rewrite the following line of music into alto clef:

