23-1: Basic Terms - Tempo



Press the speaker to hear it.



Tempo Markings: Commonly written in the Italian language, tempo terms can be found above the staff at the beginning of the music.

Metronome: A device sounding the number of beats per minute (bpm) to determine musical tempo.



Tempo Markings

		<u> </u>
Term	K	Meaning
a tempo	Press to hear metronome markings	return to the original tempo
largo	40-60 bpm	very slow
larghetto	64-68 bpm	not as slow as largo
adagio	68-78 bpm	slow tempo
lento	52-108 bpm	slow tempo
andante	78-110 bpm	moderately slow, walking
andantino	approx. 112 bpm	a little faster than andante
moderato	110-122 bpm	moderate tempo
allegretto	approx. 100 bpm	fairly fast tempo
allegro	122- 176 bpm	fast tempo
presto	178-210 bpm	very fast tempo
prestissimo	210-244 bpm	as fast as possible
rallentando (rall.)		slowing down
ritard (rit.)		slowing down gradually
tempo primo (tempo 1)		return to original tempo

23-2: Basic Terms - Style & Expression, Score Instruction



Musical Terms: The terms below are categorized by:

1. Style, 2. Expression 3. Notation and 3. Score Instructions

Style Markings

Term	Meaning	
cantabile	in a singing style	
dolce	sweet, gentle	
legato	smoothly	
maestoso	majestic	
marcato	marked or stressed	

Expression Markings

Term	Symbol	Meaning
crescendo		becoming louder
decrescendo		becoming softer
diminuendo		becoming softer
forte	f	loud
fortissimo	ff	very loud
mezzo forte	mf	moderately loud
mezzo piano	тр	moderately soft
piano	p	soft
pianissimo	pp	very soft

Notation Markings

Term	Symbol	Meaning
accent	>	a stressed note
slur		two or more different pitches legato, or no tonguing
staccatto	ė	sharply detached

Score Instruction Markings

Term	Symbol	Meaning
ottava	8 va⁻⁻┐	one octave, one octave above written pitch
mano destra		right hand (Piano)
fermata	$\overline{}$	pause, hold the note longer than written
mano sinistra		left hand (Piano)
tie		hold the note for the combined value of the tied notes
repeat	\$	repeat the music within the double bars
con pedale	Led.	with pedal (Piano)
da capo		from the beginning
dal segno	%	from the sign, sign

NAME:	CLASS:		
SCORE:	/15		



TIME: 2 MINUTES

1a: Basic Terms - Fab Fifteen Terms



Written: Enter numbers beside the Meaning column to match meanings to the terms.

	Term		
1	a tempo, tempo primo, (tempo 1)		
2	largo		
3	adagio, lento		
4	andante		
5	moderato		
6	allegro		
7	presto		
8	prestissimo		
9	rallentando (rall.)		
10	ritard (rit.)		
11	forte f		
12	mezzo forte mf		
13	mezzo piano mp		
14	piano p		
15	fortissimo ff		

#	Meaning	
	very loud	
	fast tempo	
	loud	
	very fast tempo	
	moderately loud	
	as fast as possible	
	slowing down gradually	
	slow tempo	
	moderately soft	
	return to the original tempo	
	soft	
	slowing down	
	moderate tempo	
	very slow	
	moderately slow, walking	

NAME:	CLASS:		
SCORE:	/15		



TIME: 2 MINUTES

1b: Basic Terms - More Fab Fifteen Terms



Written: Complete the chart below.

	Term	#	Meaning
1	legato		a stressed note
2	marcato		becoming louder
3	accent		sweet, gentle
4	slur		from the sign, sign
5	staccatto		marked or stressed
6	crescendo		sharply detached
7	decrescendo		smoothly
8	fermata		two or more different pitches legato, or no tonguing
9	tie		becoming softer
10	cantabile		from the beginning
11	dolce		majestic
12	maestoso		pause, hold the note longer than written
13	alla breve		hold the note for the combined value of the tied notes
14	dal segno 🔏		in a singing style
15	da capo		cut time