

The Common Time, of two beats in a Bar, is marked $\frac{2}{4}$, and beaten thus: $\begin{smallmatrix} 2 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}$.



The Compound Time $\frac{6}{8}$ has but two beats in a Bar.



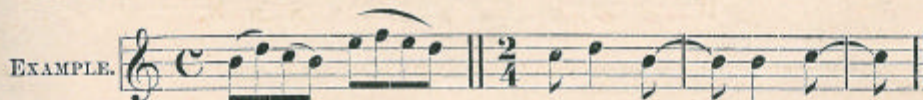
The Compound Time $\frac{12}{8}$ has four beats, and is therefore a double $\frac{6}{8}$. The Compound Time $\frac{3}{8}$ has but one beat, and is but one half of the $\frac{6}{8}$. However, the $\frac{3}{8}$, in slow movements, is beaten on each quaver, which give three beats in a bar.

The figure 3 placed over three notes denotes that they fill up only one beat, and are called Triplets.



The Slur is used in gliding gently over two or more notes.

The Tie is used to unite two notes together.



Dots marked over the notes mean that they must be distinctly articulated. It is called Staccato.



The Sharp, \sharp , affixed to a note raises it a semitone higher; the Flat, \flat , depresses it a semitone lower; and the Natural, \natural , contradicts a preceding \sharp or \flat .

Thus used, the \sharp and \flat affect the note but in the bar in which it happens.

Besides the above use of the \sharp and \flat they are also placed at the beginning of a piece of music to determine the Key; thus used, all notes placed on the degrees occupied by the \sharp or \flat become affected.



In this case the \sharp before the note affects it in the bar where it occurs only. There are as many \sharp 's and \flat 's as there are notes, and are likewise placed on the lines or in the spaces, according to the position of the Clef. The \sharp 's are always placed on ascending fifth or descending fourth, the first \sharp being on F. The \flat 's are placed on descending fifth or on ascending fourth, the first \flat being placed on B.

There are also two other signs; one called Double Sharp, $\sharp\sharp$ or $\sharp\sharp$, which raises the note a whole tone higher; and the other called Double Flat, $\flat\flat$, which depresses the note a whole tone lower.

When written in a regular ascent of degrees, the seven notes and the Octave note, or repetition of the first, give five tones and two semitones.

The first semitone is always between the third and fourth degrees, and the second semitone between the seventh and eighth degrees.