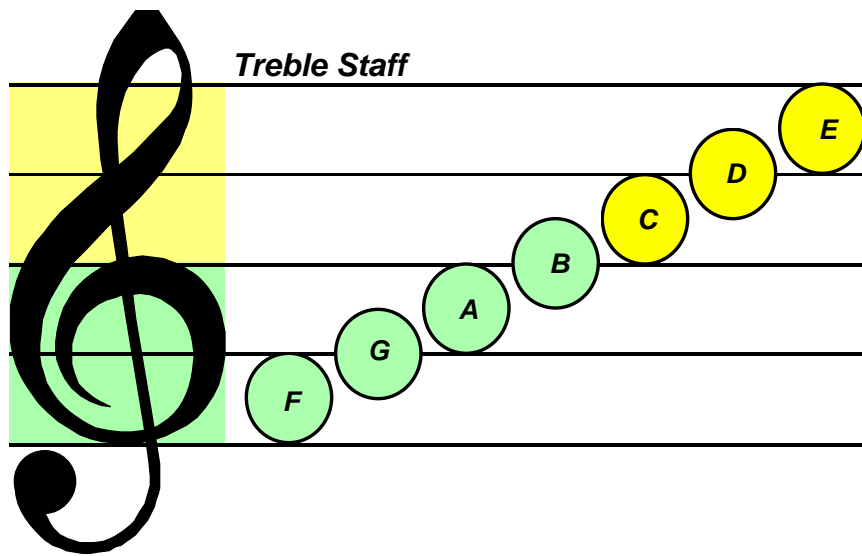


About the Grand Staff Notes

PG-05s

Violet A thru Orange E



THE NOTE COLORS - The notes are colored to show which octave group each note is to be played in.

**From the Music
Innovator's Workshop**

About This Unit.

This unit exists to help you learn the names of the traditional grand staff notes. These names are essential tools for anyone who has a serious interest in learning to play the piano or any other keyboard instrument. Knowing these names is one of the most basic tools of the musician and is the most essential tool for being able to "read music."

Learning these names well enough so that one can instantly recognize any note is one of the most difficult tasks that faces the keyboard student. It's not that learning the names is complicated. There really is nothing to figure out. You simply must be able to attach the names to the notes. It's the MEMORIZING that's so difficult.

Attaching the names to the notes is simply a matter of remembering which note is which. The letter names of the notes are fixed and not complicated. There are only 7 letters of the alphabet to attach: A B C D E F and G.

Part of the problem of remembering the names of the notes is that there are 52 white keys on the keyboard, and there is a different note for each of these keys -- so there are 52 notes to name. Sharps

This unit points out many note patterns that relate to the keys on the piano. These patterns can be helpful in several ways. The patterns break the problem of remembering the note names into smaller pieces, which can be dealt with one at a time. The patterns can help you remember the names more easily, because each pattern has some logical relationships to itself and to the keyboard.

The notes in this unit are colored the colors of the octave groups in which they belong. This will help you set up a mental map of where each of the many repetitions of each letter name belongs on the keyboard. (There are 8 A's, B's, and C's -- and 7 of each of the other letter names on the piano keyboard.) You need to know not only the name of each note but must also know WHICH key to play the named note on, because there are so many keys that match each letter name.

Students that can learn the names of the notes easily without paying attention to these patterns are welcome to do so. After all, these patterns are a scaffolding designed to help the you eventually learn to recognize the notes names WITHOUT any conscious thinking at all. This scaffolding is to be cast aside when no longer needed - when you can look at a note and know its

**Treble and Bass Staves With Notes Arranged by Octave Groupings
Middle of the Keyboard**


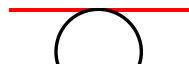
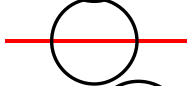











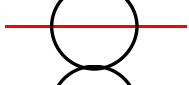
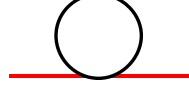

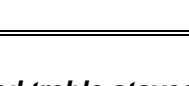
The diagram illustrates the middle of the keyboard on a grand staff. The Treble Staff (top) is divided into two octave groups: a yellow group (C-G) and a green group (A-B). The Bass Staff (bottom) is divided into two octave groups: a cyan group (C-G) and a purple group (A-B). Notes are placed on staff lines and ledger lines. A treble clef is on the left of the Treble Staff, and a bass clef is on the left of the Bass Staff. A 'Middle C' label is placed near the C note on the Treble Staff.

The colors of the notes and staves in this unit match the colors of the octave groups of the keyboard. (As explained in the first book of this series, these are the seven colors of the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.)

The next few pages will show you some patterns formed by these notes on the staff and on the ledger lines.

These patterns can help you learn to name (and thus, recognize) most of the notes more easily and quickly.

The Names of the Lines and Spaces of the Traditional 5-line Staff

Note Position	And so on ...	Note Position
	<u>Ledger Line 2 (above the staff)</u>	
	Space 2 (above the staff)	
	<u>Ledger Line above the staff</u>	
	Space above the staff	
	Line 5 (or top line)	
	Space 4 (or top space)	
	Line 4	
	Space 3	
	Line 3 (or middle line)	
	Space 2	
	Line 2	
	Space 1 (or bottom space)	
	Line 1 (or bottom line)	
	Space below the staff	
	<u>Ledger Line below the staff</u>	
	Space 2 (below the staff)	
	<u>Ledger Line 2 (below the staff)</u>	
	And so on ...	

The Five-Line Staff

Piano music is written on two identical 5-line staves, the treble staff for the right hand and the bass staff for the left hand. The treble and bass staves are identical in spacing, even though the notes on them are named differently. On this page, we are looking at the structure of this single 5-line staff, which is the same for either hand.

The lines of this staff are always evenly spaced. The notes are round and take up exactly the amount of space between 2 lines of the staff, as you can see above.

The lines of the staff are always numbered the same way: from 1 to 5, starting at the bottom of the 5 lines.

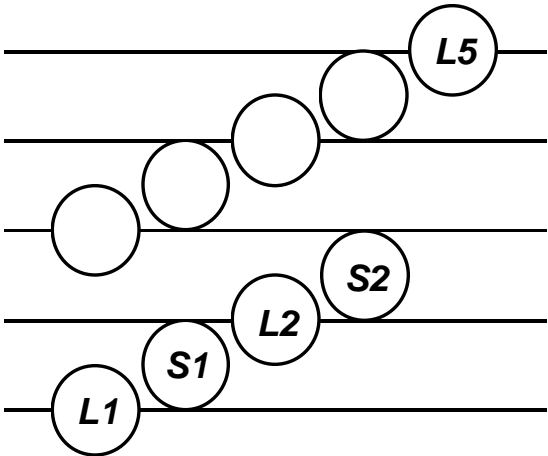
There are only two places for a musical note, it's either on a line (straddles the line) or it's in a space as the examples above show.

Because the bass and treble staves together don't provide places for the very low or very high notes or for notes between the bass and treble staves we have to add more lines to make places for these notes.

These extra lines are called "ledger lines." They are added above or below the staff only when there are notes requiring them. Middle C is a note on a ledger line between the treble and bass staves. It's on the first ledger line below the treble staff and also on the first ledger line above the bass staff. That ledger line appears only when there is a C to be played, otherwise the line is not shown.

When a note is on, for example, the third ledger line above the staff, the two ledger lines below it also are shown, so that we can see that it is the third line.

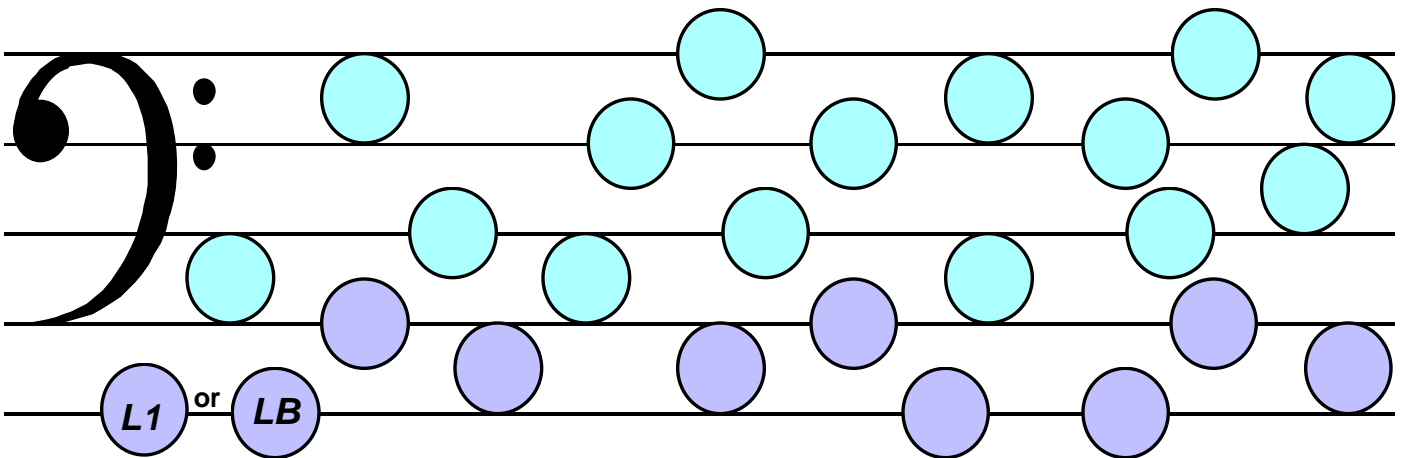
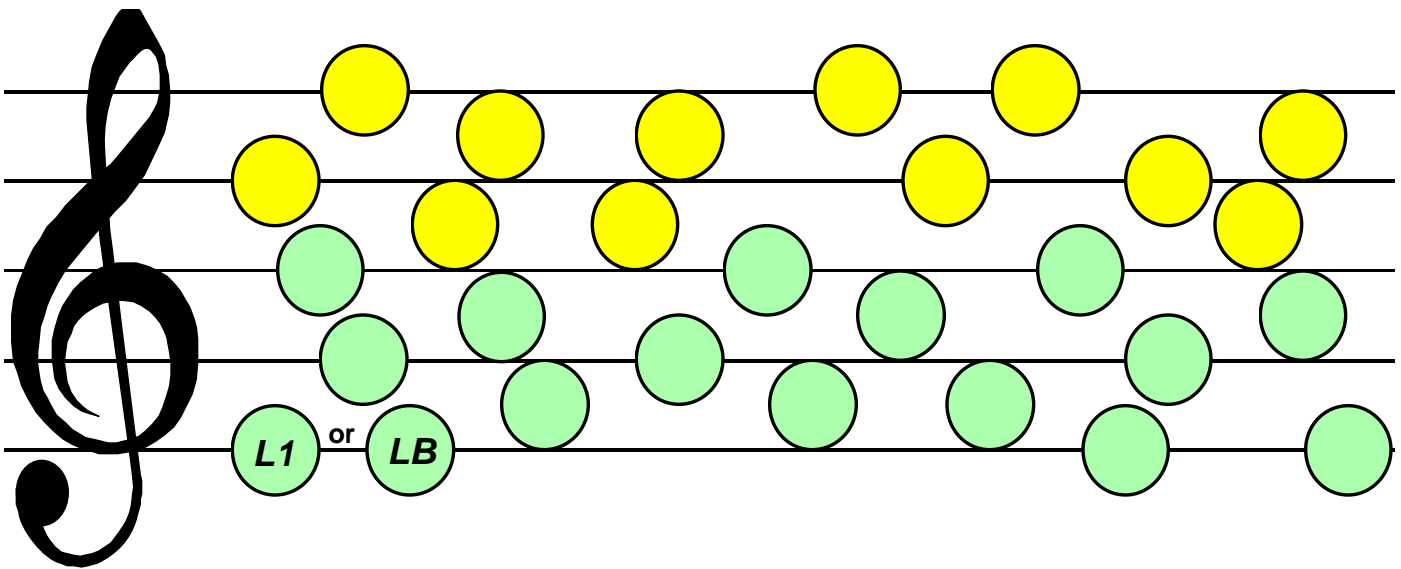
Practice Worksheet for Identifying the Lines and Spaces of the Staff



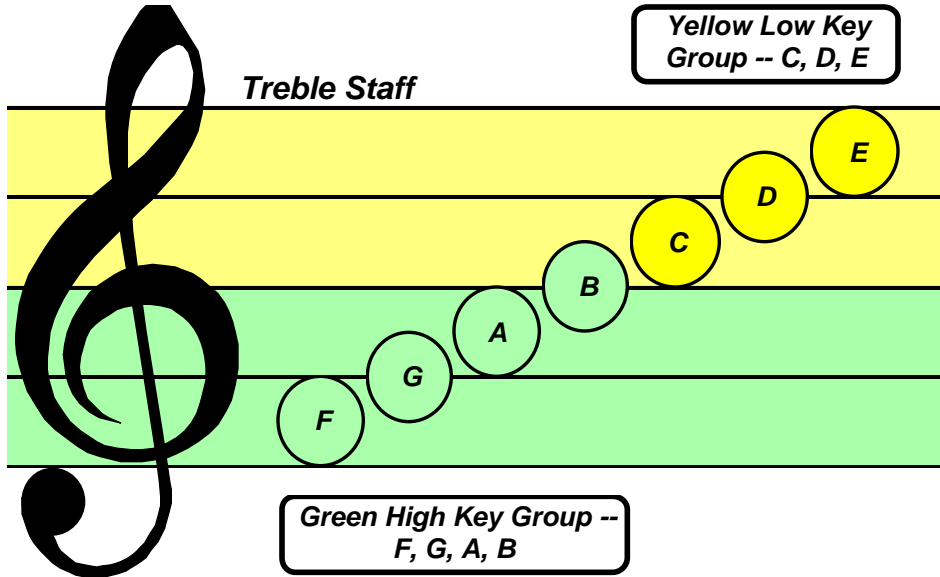
Numbering the lines and spaces is very easy to do, and a little practice is all you need. But it is also **VERY** important! You need to know which line or space you are looking at when you are reading a note because the **LOCATION** of the note on a line or space **GIVES IT ITS IDENTITY!** Remember, you always count **UP**, never down when numbering the lines and spaces.

Here are some notes to practice on. Simply write L or S and the number of the line or space on the note. Remember that the numbering for the bass staff is **THE SAME** as the numbering for the treble staff - 1 thru 5 from the bottom up.

You may want to use these alternatives for remembering and marking the lines and spaces -
LINES: Bottom, Middle, and Top (LB, LM, and LT)
SPACES: Bottom and Top (SB and ST)



Inside the Treble Staff -- Complete Musical Alphabet Starting With F



See how the inside of the treble staff contains the notes of one complete musical alphabet of ABCDEFG (starting with F).

See how the notes are arranged so that they start with the complete high key group of the green octave and end with the complete low key group of the yellow octave.

Notes Between the Treble Staff and Bass Staff -- Short Alphabet Group -- ABCDE

The diagram illustrates the Grand Staff with five staves. The top two staves are yellow and labeled 'Notes on the Grand Staff'. The middle two staves are light blue and labeled 'Notes for the Right Hand'. The bottom staff is light purple and labeled 'Notes for the Left Hand'. A red line connects the notes A, B, C, D, and E, which are placed on the staves as follows: A on the bottom line of the bass staff, B on the first space, C on the middle line (labeled 'Middle C'), D on the first space of the treble staff, and E on the bottom line of the treble staff. A box labeled 'Short Alphabet -- ABCDE' is positioned between the right-hand and left-hand diagrams.

See how the notes at the middle of the grand staff with its short alphabet group, ABCDE, form a visual connecting link between the bass and treble parts of the staff. The Middle C line is shown in red for emphasis. Notice that Middle C is at the middle of the grand staff.

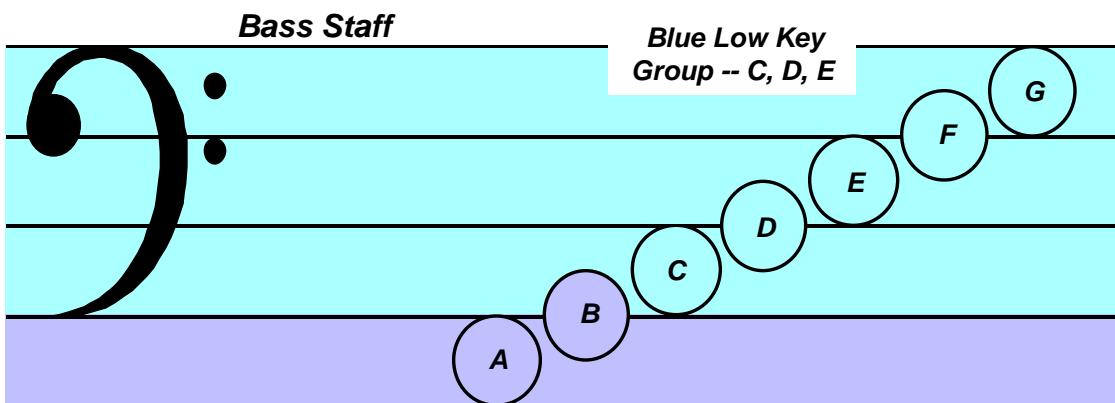
The ABCDE pattern forms a visual connection between the top line of the bass staff and the bottom line of the treble staff.

Be sure to notice the diagram at the right. You need to know that **THE SAME SET OF KEYS ON THE KEYBOARD** is played by both sets of notes. Can you explain why? Look at the diagram of the grand staff at the left for the answer.

Inside the Bass Staff -- Complete Alphabet Starting With A

See how the bass staff contains the notes of one complete musical alphabet starting with the first letter of the alphabet.

Notice that the *Blue Low Key Group* is at the very center of the staff, with the *miDDle* note of the group (*D*) on the *miDDle* line of the staff.



Complete Set of Notes for the Bass Staff

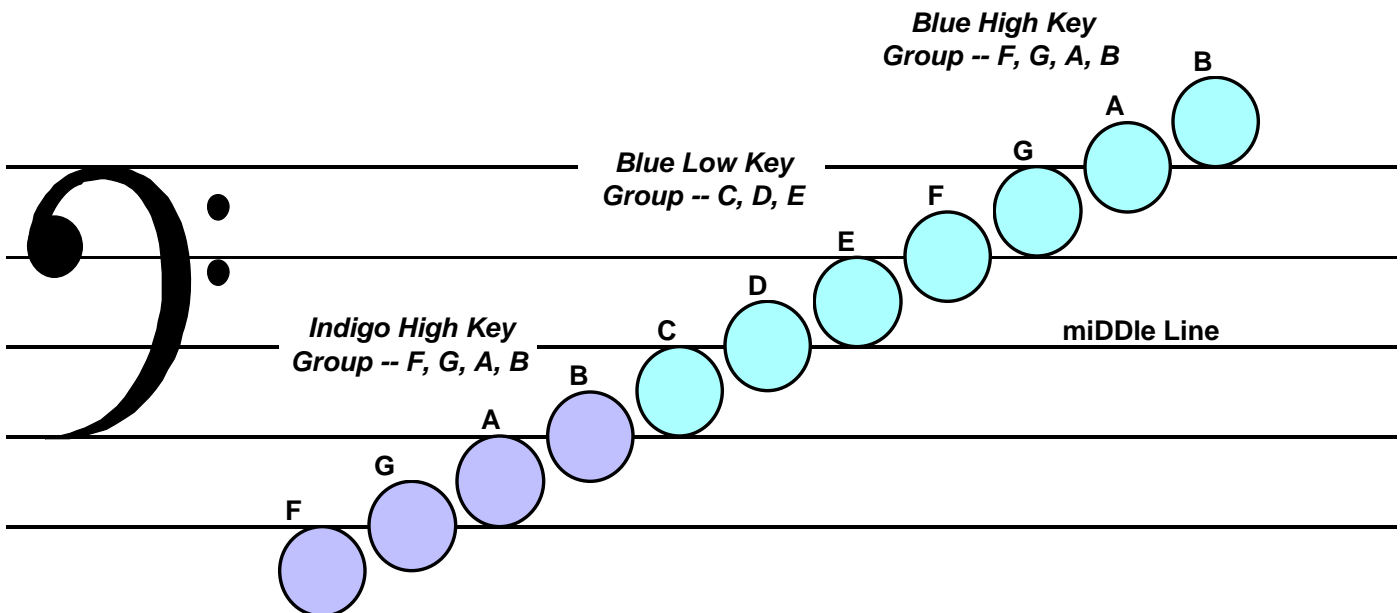
Notice the interesting symmetrical arrangement of the notes of the complete key groups in this set:

- >> Indigo High Key Group
- >> Blue Low Key Group
- >> Blue High Key Group

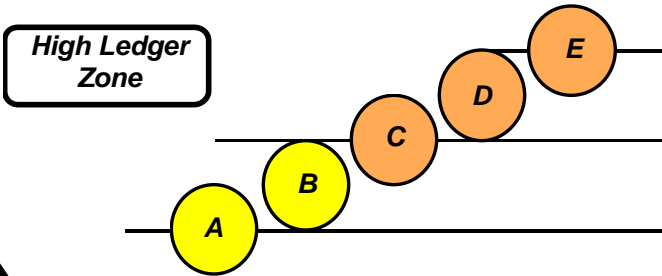
Notice that the complete set begins and ends with lowest and highest notes touching the outside lines of the staff.

Notice that the Low Key Group is at the very center of the staff, with the miDDle note (D) of the group on the miDDle line of the staff.

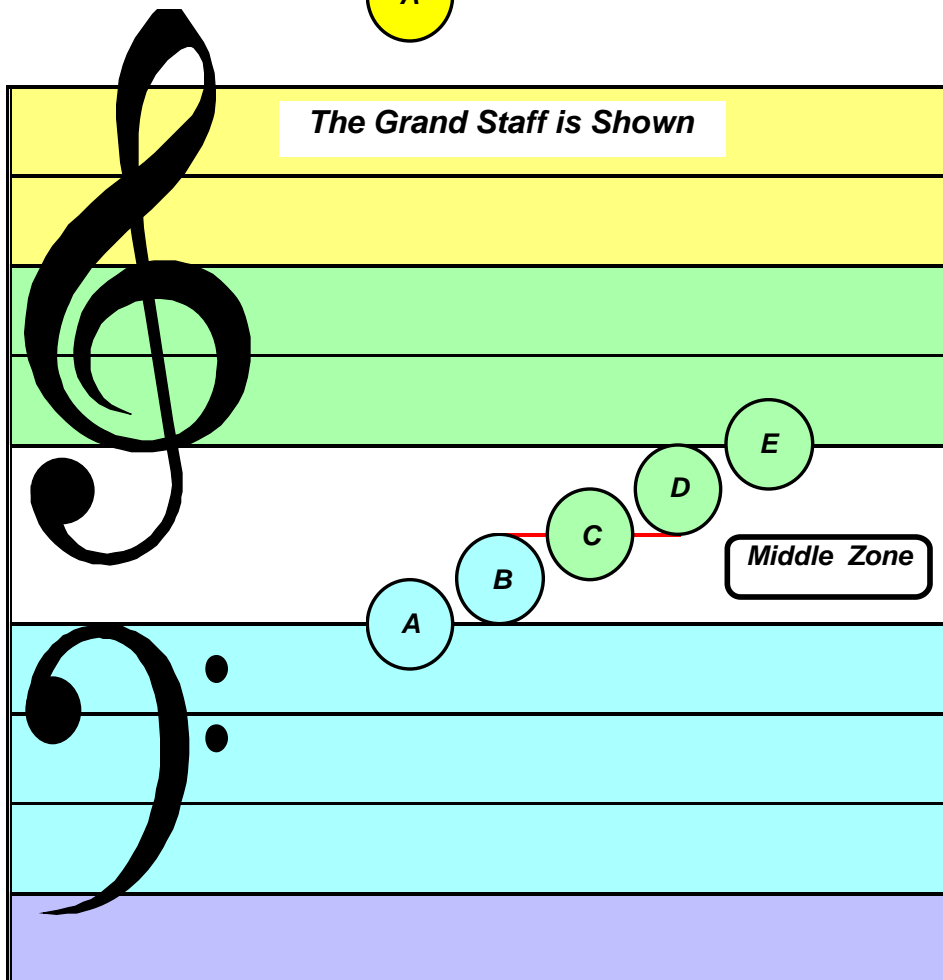
Bass Staff



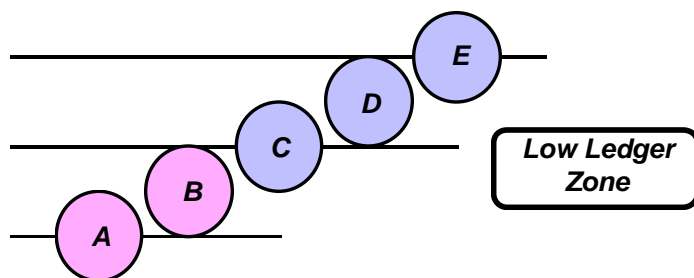
The High Ledger Zone and the Low Ledger Zone Patterns



These high and low ledger zones are on the 3 ledger lines just above and below the grand staff. They provide places for the most commonly used notes above and below the grand staff.



Notice that they have the same notes as the middle zone -- the short 5 note alphabet.



Memorable Symmetrical Patterns Formed with the Letters ACE

When memorized, these patterns will help you figure out the names of the other keys until you learn to read their names by sight.

Complete Pattern of 5 ACE's

Staff and ledger lines for the 5 ACE's

For practice, copy the complete pattern of 5 ACE's onto each blank card.

The image displays a 3x3 grid of nine identical blank musical cards. Each card is designed for practicing the pattern of five A-C-E notes on a grand staff. The grand staff consists of a treble clef (top) and a bass clef (bottom). The staff lines are color-coded: orange (top), yellow, green, cyan, purple, and pink (bottom). On the left side of each staff, a treble clef is positioned on the yellow line and a bass clef on the cyan line. On the right side, there are three horizontal lines in the orange, green, and purple sections, representing the notes A, C, and E respectively. The cards are intended for copying the pattern of five A-C-E notes across the grand staff.

Note Summary with ACE Patterns

The Grand Staff is Shown

ACE's

The diagram illustrates the ACE patterns for the Grand Staff. The central Grand Staff is divided into four colored regions: yellow (top), green (middle), cyan (bottom), and purple (bottom-most). Each region contains a sequence of notes A through G. Above and below the Grand Staff are smaller staves showing the ACE patterns for each region. To the right, a vertical column shows the ACE notes (A, C, E) for each region.

Region	Notes (Left to Right)	ACE's (Top to Bottom)
Orange	A, B, C, D, E	E, C, A
Yellow	A, B, C, D, E, F, G	E, C, A
Green	A, B, C, D, E, F, G	E, C, A
Cyan	A, B, C, D, E, F, G	E, C, A
Purple	A, B, C, D, E, F, G	E, C, A

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