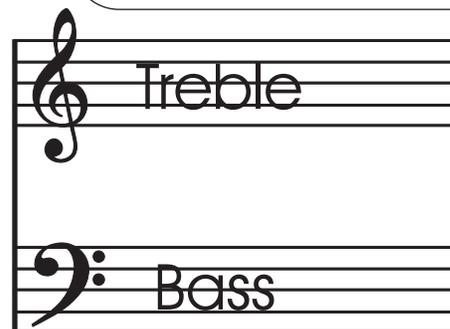


Clef Palette

Name: _____

Date: _____

We use written language to communicate what we speak, but how do we write down music? Guido D'Arezzo is the father of the modern staff, he used his five fingers to create a way of keeping track of notes. Today we have a much wider range of notes, so we have to use two staves, treble and bass. Treble is higher so it goes on the top, and the bass below.



Drawing the clefs

Treble: - the treble clef is also called the G clef because it twirls around the second line from the bottom which happens to be the G. The treble clef can be drawn in four steps.

- 1 - Draw a nearly vertical line sloping slightly to the left.
- 2 - Add a little hook that goes back and up slightly
- 3 - Start at the top of the nearly vertical stick and draw a small loop to the right connecting to the stick one third the way down. (second line from the top)
- 4 - Continue the line looping larger to the left and down to the bottom and curl around the second line from the bottom (G)



Bass - the bass clef is also called the F clef because the two dots are on either side of the F line. The bass clef can be drawn in only three steps.

- 1 - Draw a small dot on the second line from the top (the F)
- 2 - Continue the line to the left, up towards the top line, then swooping to the right and down towards the bottom line
- 3 - Add two dots next to the clef on either side of the second line from the top (F)

Practice

Take a piece of staff paper and practice writing treble and bass clefs. Take your time forming each of the clefs perfectly. Practice drawing until you have 15 perfect and identical treble and 15 perfect and identical bass clefs. Circle the clefs you want considered. Any messy, imperfect or clefs done in anything but pencil will be handed back and redone until satisfactory.

Extension

Two more widely used clefs, the Alto and Tenor clefs. These clefs look the same, but are placed on the staff in different places. The clef is drawn first with a single thick line, then another thinner line. Next draw two outward curves that go up to one line above and below. Continue an additional half bubble. The Alto clef puts middle C on the centre line. The Tenor clef, drawn exactly the same but on the line above the Alto clef.

