




# MUSICAL WORDS AND SIGNS

## Tempos (Speeds)

- "allegro" Play at a fast, lively speed.  
 "allegretto" Play lively, but not as fast as allegro.  
 "moderato" Play at medium speed.  
 "andante" Play moderately slow and smooth.
-  = 92 Indicates the number of quarter notes (beats) per minute.
- "ritard", "rit.", "ritardando" play gradually slower and slower.




## Dynamics - Degrees of Loud/Soft

- pp* "pianissimo" Play very softly  
*p* "piano" Play soft.  
*mp* "mezzo piano" Play medium soft.  
*mf* "mezzo forte" Play medium Loud.  
*f* "forte" Play Loud.  
*ff* "fortissimo" Play very loud.
-  "crescendo" Play gradually louder.  
 "decrescendo" Play gradually softer.

## Styles

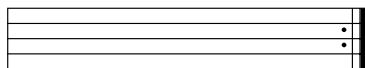
- "Legato" Smooth, connected.  
 "Accented" Play beginnings of tones with extra energy.  
 "Maestoso" Majestic, dignified.  
 "Staccato" Play tones short, detached.  
 "Marcato" Emphasized, distinct, prominent.

## Other Words and Signs

-  "fermata" Hold tone longer than written
- "slur" Smoothly connect different tones by using tongue for just the first tone of each group.
-  "tie" Connect two or more tones of the same pitch into one tone for the total number of beats.
-  "unison" All instruments play the same pitch.
- "harmony" Combination of two or more pitches played at the same time.
- "scale" A series of tones arranged in upward or downward steps.
- "major scale" A scale with eight different tones in a specific arrangement of whole-steps and half-steps.  
 (whole, whole, half, whole, whole, whole, half)
- "chromatic scale" A scale containing half-steps between every tone.

## Repeat Signs

- "Repeat Dots" Go back and play the music a second time.



- "D.C. al Fine" (da capo al Fine)  
 Go back to the beginning and play until "Fine" which means "end."

- "D.S. al Fine" (dal segno al Fine)  
 Go back to the "Sign" and play until "Fine" which means "end."