



MAKING NOTES / NOTATION



Name _____

MAKING NOTES

Now that you have used rhythm syllables and symbols, it is time to utilize regular notation in the reading of rhythm. Notating rhythm involves the following symbols:

- a **notehead** that is placed on a line or space of the staff.
- a **stem** for all notes except the whole note.
- **flags** that join the stem at the opposite end from the notehead.
- **beams** are often used instead of flags to join similar notes together.

Noteheads can be filled in or left open, depending on the value of the note. **Stems** can point either up or down, depending on the placement on a staff. If stems are on notes placed above the third line of the staff, they go on the left side, extending downward. If the note is below the third line, the stem is on the right side, extending upward. Stems on notes placed on the third line may extend either way. Stems are made long enough to pass through three lines or three spaces on the staff, wherever placed.

From one to five **flags** indicate change in the value of the note; the more flags, the shorter the sound. Flags pass through two spaces or lines of the staff. The flag is always on the right side of the note stem, extending upward if the stem does down  and downward if the stem goes up .



Label the parts of the notes in the examples above on the lines provided.

Below are the most commonly used notes. Each note in succession represents a duration length half as long as the note that precedes it in this order.

WHOLE



HALF



QUARTER



EIGHTH



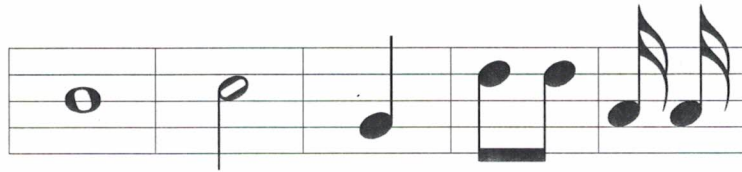
SIXTEENTH



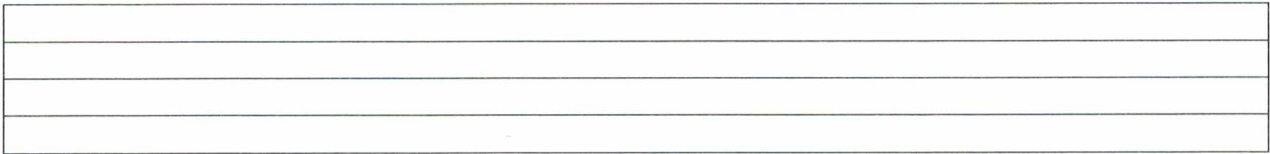
Practice making several of each of these commonly used notes in the boxes below.

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In this example, notes are placed on a music staff. Putting notes on a staff is a precise task because the accuracy of the melodic line depends on it.

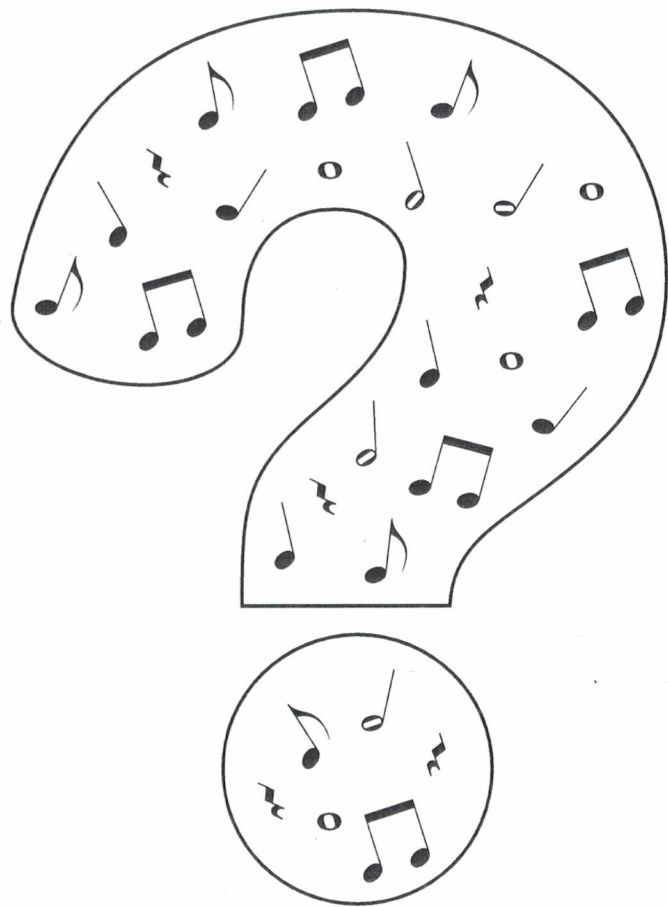
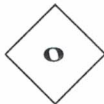


Practice making several of each commonly used notes on the staff below.



MAKE A MUSIC MOSAIC

Draw a circle around all quarter notes, a square around all eighth notes, a triangle around all half notes, and a diamond around all whole notes. Using markers, colored pencils or crayons, add some color to your mosaic design.



BONUS QUESTIONS

1. What would a note with three flags be called? _____
2. How do you join four sixteenth notes together? _____
3. Which notes never have flags or beams? _____

X