

SINGING GAMES

GLOSSARY

Accelerando

Getting faster.

Accent

A single pitch played or sung with more emphasis than those around it.

Accompaniment

Music that supports the sound of the featured performer or performers. / The underlying sounds used to support a melody line.

Allegro

Fast.

Articulation

Clear rhythm and enunciation words in singing.

Body percussion

Sounds that can be made using parts of the body, eg clapping, tapping knees ...

Bar

A group of beats.

Bass

Low-pitched man's voice or lower pitched instruments.

Beat

A repeating pulse that can be felt in some music.

Chant

Words spoken to a steady beat.

Conductor

The person elected to lead the group.

Crescendo

Getting louder.

Diminuendo

Getting quieter.

Downward

Moving from a higher note to a lower note.

Duration

The word used in music to refer to the length of a sound or silence.

Dynamics

The volume of the music, usually described in terms of loud/quiet.

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Fast

Moving quickly.

Form

The overall plan of a piece of music.

Forte (*f*)

Loud.

Fortissimo (*ff*)

Very loud.

Graphic score

Notation using picture or symbols other than conventional music notation.

Half note

See note values.

Hand jive

Hand and arm gestures used to accompany a song.

High

A sound notated near the top of the staff.

Introduction

In a song, music played before the singing begins. Most songs on the music recordings begin with an instrumental introduction.

Long

A sound that is not as short as others around it

Loud

Not Quiet

Low

A sound notated near the bottom of the staff.

Lyrics

The words of a song.

Melodic phrase

A small unit of a melody, a phrase often corresponds to a line of a song.

Melody

A line of single notes that move upward, move downward or repeat. It has an organised and recognisable shape (tune).

Metre

The grouping of beats into stronger and weaker beats.

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Mezzo forte (mf)

Fairly loud.

Mezzo piano (mf)

Fairly quiet.

Mood

The feeling that a piece of music gives.

No beat

Giving no feeling of a repeated pulse

Non-pitched percussion

Percussion instruments which do not produce a specific pitch, e.g. tambourine.

Note

A symbol for sound in music.

Note values

Duration of notes:

1 x o = 2 x o = 4 x o = 8 x J

Notation

Ways of writing music down.

Orchestra

Group of instrumentalists, usually in groups of strings, woodwind, brass and percussion.

Ostinato

A short rhythmic or melodic pattern that is repeated over and over.

Percussion

Instruments that are played by striking with beaters or by shaking.

Phrase

A musical 'sentence' that expresses one musical thought.

Pianissimo (pp)

Very quiet.

Piano (p)

Quiet

Pitch

(1) A single musical sound.

(2) The highness or lowness of sound.

(3) Refers to the complete range of sounds in music from the lowest to the highest.

Pitched percussion

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Percussion instruments which produce a specific pitch or pitches, e.g. chime bar.

Pulse and beat

Pulse and beat are often used synonymously. Both refer to the regular heartbeat of the music – the 'steady beat'.

Quarter note

See 'notes values'.

Refrain

The part of a song that repeats, with the same melody and words.

Repetition

Music that is the same, or almost the same, as music that was heard earlier.

Rest

Silence between musical sounds.

Rhythm

The organisation of beat, no beat, long and short sounds, metre, tempo, etc.

Rhythm pattern

A group of long and short sounds, even or uneven sounds.

Score

All the parts of a piece written down.

Solo

Music for a single performer, often with an accompaniment.

Steady beat

Regular pulses. The children clap 'in time'.

Strong beat

Usually the first beat in a bar.

Structure

The overall plan of a piece of music. Most music is underpinned by a structure which may be as simple as beginning, middle and end.

Tempo

The speed of the beat in music, usually described in terms of fast/slow.

Time signature

Figures at beginning of staff indicating the metre of the music, e.g. $\frac{3}{4}$ = three quarter notes in a bar.

Tuned percussion

See 'pitched percussion'.

The family of instruments which includes chime bar, glockenspiel, hand chime, metallophone, tubular bell, xylophone.

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Unison

Everyone singing or playing the same melody together.

Untuned percussion

Percussion instruments which make sounds of indefinite pitch.

See 'non-pitched percussion'

Verse

(1) One of the parts into which a song is divided. (Catalan: 'estrofa')

(2) *Verse and chorus*: The part of a song that repeats, with the same melody but different words.

Vocal line

The part of a song which is sung.

Whole note (o)

See 'note values'.