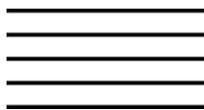


Lines

Staff



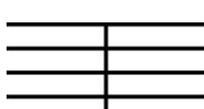
The staff is the fundamental latticework of music notation, upon which symbols are placed. The five staff lines and four intervening spaces correspond to pitches of the diatonic scale— which pitch is meant by a given line or space is defined by the clef. In British usage, the word "stave" is often used.

Ledger or leger lines



Used to extend the staff to pitches that fall above or below it. Such ledger lines are placed behind the note heads, and extend a small distance to each side. Multiple ledger lines can be used when necessary to notate pitches even farther above or below the staff.

Bar line



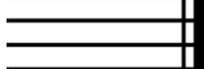
Used to separate measures (see time signatures below for an explanation of *measures*). Also used for changes in time signature. Bar lines are extended to connect multiple staves in certain types of music, such as keyboard, harp, and conductor scores, but are omitted for other types of music, such as vocal scores.

Double bar line



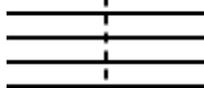
Used to separate two sections of music or placed before a change in key signature.

Final bar line



Used to indicate the conclusion of a movement or an entire composition.

Dotted bar line



Subdivides long measures of complex meter into shorter segments for ease of reading, usually according to natural rhythmic subdivisions.

Bracket



Connects two or more lines of music that sound simultaneously. In general contemporary usage the bracket usually connects the staves of separate instruments (e.g., flute and clarinet; 2 trumpets; etc.) or multiple vocal parts in a choir or ensemble, whereas the *brace* connects multiple parts for a *single* instrument (e.g., the right-hand and left-hand staves of a piano or harp part).

Brace



Connects two or more lines of music that are played simultaneously in keyboard, harp, or some pitched percussion music. Depending on the instruments playing, the brace, (occasionally called an "accolade" in some old texts), will vary in designs and styles.