

Repetition and codas



Tremolo

A rapidly repeated note. If the tremolo is between two notes, then they are played in rapid alternation. The number of slashes through the stem (or number of diagonal bars between two notes) indicates the frequency at which the note is to be repeated (or alternated). As shown here, the note is to be repeated at a demisemiquaver (thirty-second note) rate.



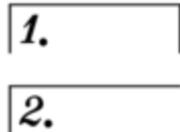
Repeat signs

Enclose a passage that is to be played more than once. If there is no left repeat sign, the right repeat sign sends the performer back to the start of the piece or the nearest double bar.



Simile marks

Denote that preceding groups of beats or measures are to be repeated. In the examples here, the first usually means to repeat the previous measure, and the second usually means to repeat the previous two measures.



Volta brackets (1st and 2nd endings, or 1st- and 2nd-time bars)

A repeated passage is to be played with different endings on different playings; it is possible to have more than two endings (1st, 2nd, 3rd ...).

D.C.

Da capo

(lit. "From top") Tells the performer to repeat playing of the music from its beginning. This is usually followed by *al fine* (lit. "to the end"), which means to repeat to the word *fine* and stop, or *al coda* (lit. "to the coda (sign)"), which means repeat to the coda sign and then jump forward.

D.S.

Dal segno

(lit. "From the sign") Tells the performer to repeat playing of the music starting at the nearest *segno*. This is followed by *al fine* or *al coda* just as with *da capo*.



Segno

Mark used with *dal segno*.



Coda

Indicates a forward jump in the music to its ending passage, marked with the same sign. Only used after playing through a *D.S. al coda* (Dal segno al coda) or *D.C. al coda* (Da capo al coda).