

Music Basics Vocabulary

Allegro	Quick and lively
Andante	Moderate speed
Moderato	Moderately slow
Tie	A curved line that connects notes of the same pitch
Da Capo	Go back to the beginning
Slur	A curved line that indicates notes to be played without tonguing or in one bow
Ritard	Gradually slow the tempo
Solo	One person plays
Ensemble	A group usually playing different parts
Fine	Finish or end
Chromatic	Music that moves in half steps
Interval	The distance between two notes
Simile	Continue in the same manner
Tempo	The speed of a piece
Crescendo	To gradually play louder
Diminuendo	To gradually play softer
Flat	Lowers a note a half step
Sharp	Raises a note a half step
Natural	Cancel a sharp or a flat
Etude	A piece of music written specifically to present certain technical difficulties to the player
Theme	A melody that is an important part of a larger work.