

# Musicians' Union Practice Diary

**ADVICE FOR MEMBERS WHO TEACH**

This diary belongs to:

.....




















[www.musiciansunion.org.uk](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk)  
[teachers@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:teachers@musiciansunion.org.uk)



**musicians  
union**

# Note values

A note value does not stand for any absolute duration, but can only be understood in relation to other note values. In the table below, each symbol is exactly twice as long in duration as the symbol below it.

Note	Rest	Name
		longa
		breve
		semibreve
		minim
		crotchet
		quaver
		semiquaver
		demisemiquaver
		hemidemisemiquaver
		quarter demisemiquaver

## ADVICE FOR MEMBERS WHO TEACH

Email: [teachers@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:teachers@musiciansunion.org.uk) Website: [www.musiciansunion.org.uk](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk)



**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**



**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**



**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**



**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**



**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**

**PRACTICE NOTES**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

..... **Parent's signature:**

**Date of lesson** ..... **Next lesson** .....

**Teacher's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Homework**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's comments**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Parent's signature:**





A large rectangular area with a red border, containing 25 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the page.







A large rectangular area with a red border, containing 25 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the red-bordered area.









A large rectangular area with a red border, containing 25 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the page.







NOTES

Three large rectangular boxes with horizontal lines, intended for writing notes. Each box contains 15 horizontal lines. The boxes are arranged vertically and are enclosed within a red rounded rectangular border.



NOTES

Three large rectangular boxes with horizontal lines, intended for writing notes. Each box contains 15 horizontal lines. The boxes are arranged vertically and are enclosed within a red rounded rectangular border.



NOTES

Three large rectangular boxes with horizontal lines, intended for writing notes. Each box contains 15 horizontal lines.





NOTES

Three large rectangular boxes with horizontal lines, intended for writing notes. The boxes are arranged vertically and are enclosed within a red rounded rectangular border.



## TEMPO

<i>Tempo</i> (time)	The speed of a piece of music
<i>Largo</i> (broad)	Slow and dignified
<i>Larghetto</i> (a little bit broad)	Not as slow as <i>largo</i>
<i>Lento</i> (slow)	Slow
<i>Adagio</i> (adagio, at ease)	Slow, but not as slow as <i>largo</i>
<i>Adagietto</i> (little adagio)	Faster than adagio; or a short <i>adagio</i> composition
<i>Andante</i> (walking)	Moderately slow, flowing along
<i>Moderato</i> (moderately)	At a moderate speed
<i>Allegretto</i> (a little bit joyful)	Slightly slower than <i>allegro</i>
<i>Allegro</i> (joyful)	Moderately fast
<i>Fermata</i> (stopped)	Marks a note to be held or sustained
<i>Presto</i> (ready)	Very fast
<i>Prestissimo</i> (very ready)	Very very fast, as fast as possible
<i>Accelerando</i> (accelerating)	Accelerating
<i>Affrettando</i> (becoming hurried)	Accelerating
<i>Rallentando</i> (becoming progressively slower)	Decelerating
<i>Rubato</i> (robbed)	Extending a note or phrase, compensated by shortening another one nearby
<i>Tenuto</i> (sustained)	Holding or sustaining a single note
<i>Accompagnato</i> (accompanied)	The accompaniment must follow the singer who can speed up or slow down at will
<i>Alla marcia</i> (as a march)	In strict tempo at a marching pace (e.g. 120 bpm)

## DYNAMICS - VOLUME

<i>Calando</i> (quietening)	Becoming softer
<i>Crescendo</i> (growing)	Becoming louder
<i>Decrescendo</i> (shrinking)	Becoming softer
<i>Diminuendo</i> (dwindling)	Becoming softer
<i>Forte</i> (strong)	Loud
<i>Fortissimo</i> (very strong)	Very loud
<i>Mezzo forte</i> (half-strong)	Moderately loud
<i>Piano</i> (gentle)	Soft
<i>Pianissimo</i> (very gentle)	Very soft
<i>Mezzo piano</i> (half-gentle)	Moderately soft
<i>Sforzando</i> (strained)	Suddenly accented

## MOODS

<i>Affettuoso</i> (with feeling)	Tenderly
<i>Agitato</i> (agitated)	Excited and fast
<i>Animato</i> (animated)	Animated
<i>Bruscamente</i> (brusquely)	Brusquely
<i>Cantabile</i> (singable)	In a fashion suggesting singing
<i>Comodo</i> (easily)	Unrestrainedly
<i>Con amore</i> (with love)	With love
<i>Con fuoco</i> (with fire)	With fiery manner
<i>Con brio/spirito</i> (with spirit)	With spirit
<i>Con moto</i> (with movement)	With movement
<i>Dolce</i> (sweetly)	Sweet
<i>Grazioso</i> (graciously or gracefully)	With charm
<i>Maestoso</i> (majestic)	Stately
<i>Misterioso</i> (mysteriously)	Mysteriously, secretly, enigmatic
<i>Scherzando</i> (playfully)	Playfully
<i>Sotto</i> (subdued)	Subdued
<i>Vivace</i> (vivacious)	Lively

## MUSICAL EXPRESSION (GENERAL)

<i>Molto</i> (very)	Used with other terms, such as <i>molto allegro</i>
<i>Assai</i> (very)	Used with other terms, such as <i>allegro assai</i>
<i>Più</i> (more)	Used with other terms, such as <i>più mosso</i>
<i>Poco</i> (little)	"A little". Used with other terms, such as <i>poco diminuendo</i>
<i>Poco a poco</i> (little by little)	"Little by little", "slowly but steadily".
	Used with other terms, such as <i>poco a poco crescendo</i>
<i>Ma non troppo</i> (but not too much)	But not too much, such as <i>allegro ma non troppo</i>
<i>Meno</i> (less)	Used with other terms, such as <i>meno mosso</i>

## ADVICE FOR MEMBERS WHO TEACH

Email: [teachers@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:teachers@musiciansunion.org.uk) Website: [www.musiciansunion.org.uk](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk)



musicians  
union



**musicians  
union**

[www.musiciansunion.org.uk](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk)

## CONTACTING US

The Union is the representative organisation for musicians working in every area of the profession and this is one of a series of fact sheets and guidance notes being produced to assist members in their work as teachers. For further details please contact your nearest regional office.

---

### London

33 Palfrey Place, London SW8 1PE  
Tel: 020 7840 5504. Fax: 020 7840 5599  
[london@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:london@musiciansunion.org.uk)

### East & SE England

1a Fentiman Road, London SW8 1LD  
Tel: 020 7840 5537. Fax: 020 7582 9805  
[eastsoutheast@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:eastsoutheast@musiciansunion.org.uk)

### Midlands

Unit A, 98-104 Lombard Street,  
Birmingham B12 0QR  
Tel: 0121 622 3890. Fax: 0121 622 5361  
[birmingham@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:birmingham@musiciansunion.org.uk)

### Wales & SW England

199 Newport Road, Cardiff CF24 1AJ  
Tel: 029 2045 6585. Fax: 029 2045 1980  
[cardiff@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:cardiff@musiciansunion.org.uk)

### North of England

40 Canal Street, Manchester M1 3WD  
Tel: 0161 236 1764. Fax: 0161 236 0159  
[manchester@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:manchester@musiciansunion.org.uk)

### Scotland & N Ireland

1 Woodside Terrace, Glasgow G3 7UY  
Tel: 0141 341 2960. Fax: 0141 332 8709  
[glasgow@musiciansunion.org.uk](mailto:glasgow@musiciansunion.org.uk)