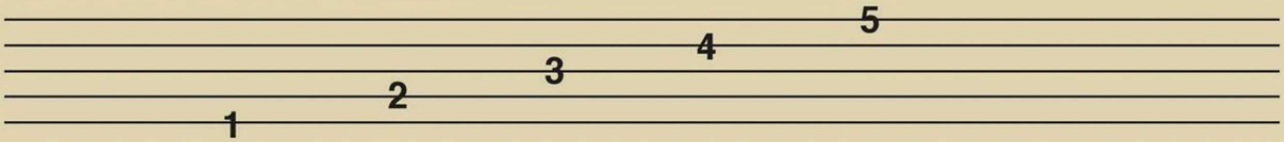
Orientation to the Staff

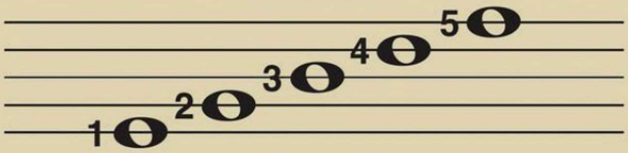
The Staff

Music is written on a five-line staff.

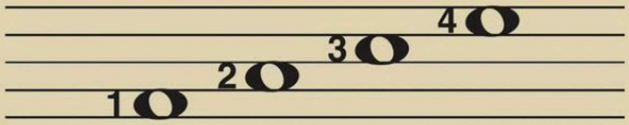


Notes are written on **lines** (line notes) or in **spaces** (space notes).

5 Line Notes



4 Space Notes

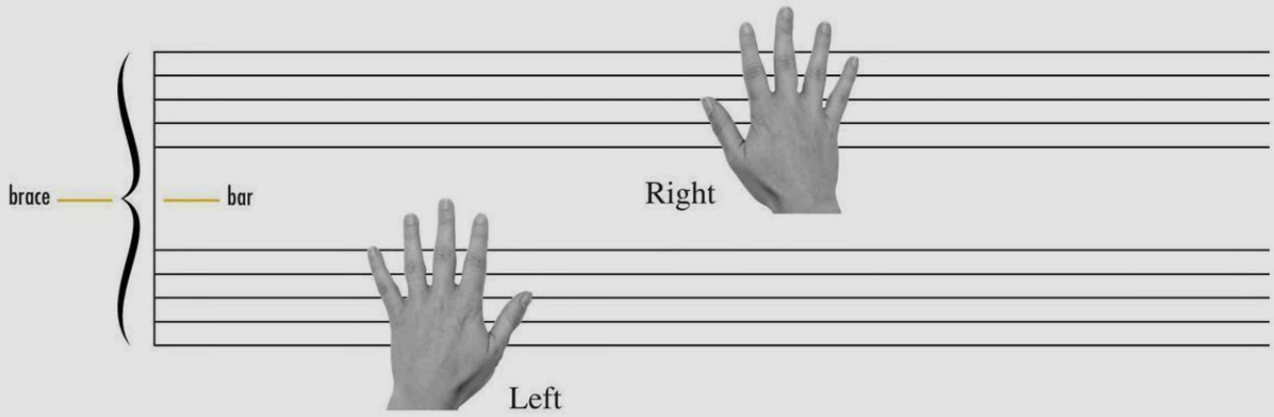


- Identify each note as a *line note* or *space note* on the following pages: 33 and 38.

The Grand Staff

Piano music uses two staves (staffs) which are connected by a brace and beginning bar line. Together we call them the **GRAND STAFF**.

The R.H. plays the notes in the *upper* staff.



The L.H. plays the notes in the *lower* staff.

Bass Clef and Treble Clef

This is a **Bass Clef** sign.
Bass refers to *low* sounds.

This is a **Treble Clef** sign.
Treble refers to *high* sounds.

The bass clef shows notes *below* Middle C.

Bass Clef Orientation

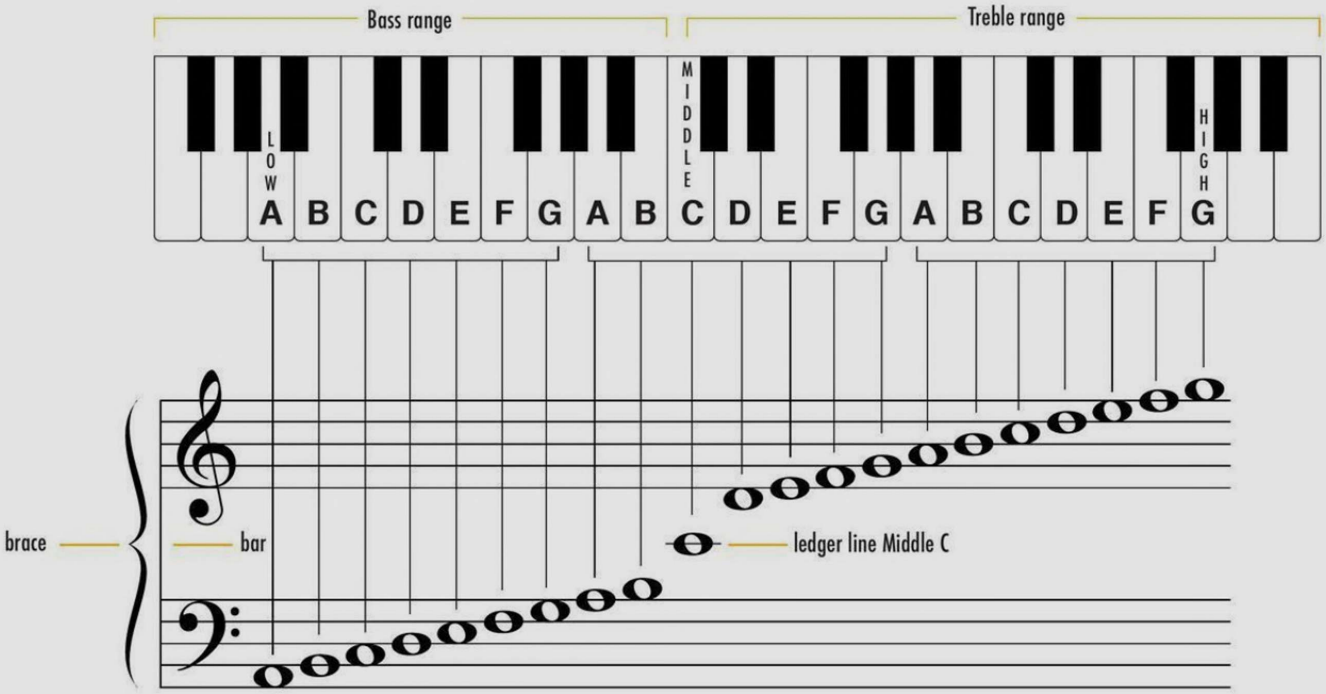
- With L.H. finger 2, play Middle C and all the keys below while naming them aloud. These are in the *bass clef* range.

The treble clef shows notes *above* Middle C.

Treble Clef Orientation

- With R.H. finger 2, play Middle C and all the keys above while naming them aloud. These are in the *treble clef* range.

Note: Middle C is written on a *ledger line* (short line) between the treble and bass staves.

The Alphabet on the Staff

- As notes on the staff move from a **space** to the next **line** to the next **space**, etc., they move by **2nds** (steps) on the keyboard. (See page 34.)
- How many times can the music alphabet be written on the grand staff? Begin at the bottom and count up. _____