

Born: 1770, Bonn, Germany

Died: 1827, Vienna, Austria

Learnt the violin as a child

Started losing his hearing aged 25

Worked for several princes (patronage)

Three periods of composition:

Early – getting established in Vienna

Middle – Heroic, overcoming difficulty

Late – highly intense music

SYMPHONY – piece of music for orchestra

Beethoven wrote 9 symphonies

Symphony No. 6 was his 'Pastoral' - about the countryside

PIANO SONATA – piece of music for solo piano. Beethoven wrote 32 piano sonatas



Ludwig van Beethoven
German Composer



Conductor



Pianist



Performance Pieces

Ode to Joy

From Symphony No. 9
First symphony to involve an orchestra and a choir
Ode to Joy is sung

Theme from Symphony No. 5

Famous four note pattern
'Fate knocking at the door'
Played by an orchestra

Fur Elise

Composed for a girl called Elise
('For Elise')
Played on the piano

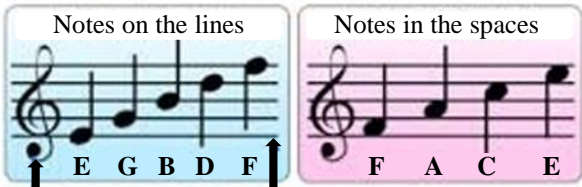
Moonlight Sonata

Played on the piano
named (after his death)
Moonlight Sonata after a music critic
described the effect of the music as
moonlight shining on the lake

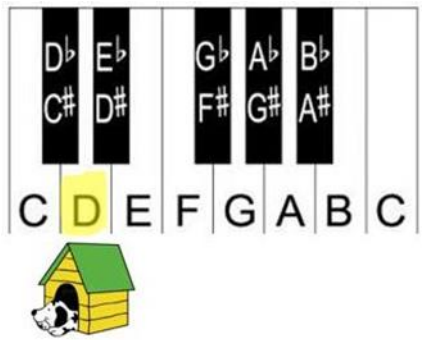
Learning to Read Music



The notes are either on the line or in the space



Treble Clef Stave (the 5 lines)



Finding the notes on the
KEYBOARD
The dog is in the kennel
(D is between two black notes)

Musical ELEMENTS
(to describe and build music)

PITCH
(high/low notes)

RHYTHM
(long/short notes)



	Semibreve	4 beats
	Minim	2 beats
	Crotchet	1 beat
	Quaver	1/2 beat
	Semiquaver	1/4 beat

Pitch	High / low
Rhythm	Long / short
Tempo	Speed
Dynamics	Volume
Texture	Layers of sound
Timbre	Type of sound
Tonality	Major / minor