



Get started on

pBone^b
mini[®]




Bass Clef Edition

www.pbone.co.uk

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The stuff you need to know.





Welcome to your pBone mini!

Here are some resources and activities to enable you to take your first steps into the world of the pBone, an enjoyable and exciting adventure.

You'll find enough games and activities to get you through the first few months of learning to play your pBone, why not try singing the tunes before you play them? We have made it in easy to follow steps which you can use as you wish. If you want to do the first 4 steps all at once, that's great, or if you want to take a more laid back approach, feel free. Use the pictures and videos to help you along your journey, the important thing is to go at your own pace and enjoy yourself.

Throughout this book we will refer you to audio tracks and videos that you will need to listen to, watch and play along with. You'll find them at: www.pbone.co.uk/resource/ and you'll know when to use them because we've included symbols:

for tracks  this for videos  and  where there is more information available.

Right, if you're ready, off you go!

Get it together!

Step 1



Take the three parts of your pBone out of the case.

Step 2



Insert the bell section into the slide section as shown. Ensure a tight fit.

Step 3



Insert the mouthpiece into the other hole in the slide section.

Step 4



Make sure your pBone looks like this, and you're ready to go!

Check out the video which shows you how to put your pBone together and explains all of the different parts of the instrument.



www.pbone.co.uk/resource/

Looking after your pBone mini



Remember, the more you play your pBone the better your slide will be.



Clean the coloured parts of your pBone with a soft cloth.



Wipe the inner slide each time you use it at first, then every couple of weeks.



Don't clean your pBone with **HOT** water or detergents, just warm water.



For more advice go to www.pbone.co.uk

Blow it!

Breathing is important at any time, we'd be in trouble without it. But when we're playing a brass instrument we have to think about how we do it and how we can improve it. Try some of these top tips to see how good your breathing is.

Top Tip 1

Try not to raise your shoulders when you breathe in.



Top Tip 2

If you don't get lots of air into your lungs you can't blow lots out.



Top Tip 3

When you breathe in it should be quiet, no raspy noises.



Top Tip 4

Breathe in right to the bottom of your lungs a bit like you are yawning.



Blowing games...



Time Yourself

Take a deep breath in and time how long you can blow for using a stopwatch.

You could even challenge someone to beat you!

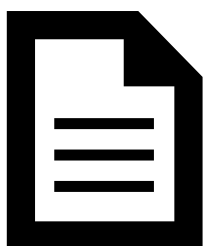
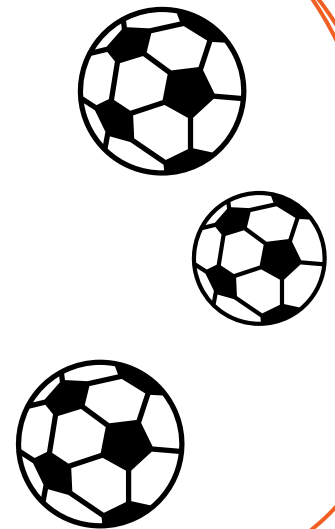
Table Football

Find a partner and grab some maltesers chocolates...

Stand at opposite ends of a table and put your mouth in line with the table top.

Grab a malteser and blow it across the table, trying to aim to get it in to the mouth of your partner at the other end.

Keep a tally of your scores – the first to five gets to keep the rest of the packet of chocolates!



Paper Game

Try holding a small piece of paper against a wall. Start to blow on to it.

Can you keep it there just by blowing?

Buzz Off!


To make a sound on any brass instrument you have to do something called '**buzzing**'.

This is where you put your lips together, tense the muscles around them and blow air through them. You'll need to blow quite hard!

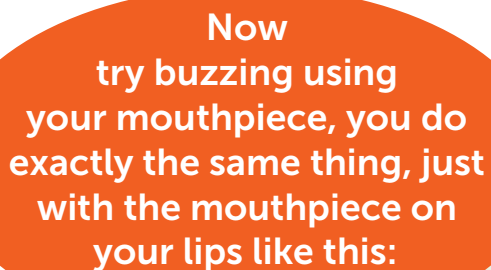
It can sound a bit silly at first but this is how the sound is made!



Can you buzz your favourite TV theme tune? Get someone to guess what it is!



Try buzzing your lips. What does it sound like? A bee? A raspberry?



Now try buzzing using your mouthpiece, you do exactly the same thing, just with the mouthpiece on your lips like this:




Copy Me!




Check out the tracks for this page at:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/



Listen to the tracks
and copy what they
are playing. Remember
practice makes
perfect!



We will always count
you in by saying "Are
you ready? Now off
we go!"



Try them a few
times does it always
sound good? Did
you find it easy?



The Beat

This beat is the heartbeat
of the music and keeps the
speed steady.

What's that sound?

Now we can put everything together that we've learnt so far to get a sound. Take a deep breath, and remembering to buzz your lips, BLOW!



Check out the video to see how it is done:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/

Now that you can play a note are you wondering what it's called? There are two notes that most people get as their first note, Bb or F. It doesn't matter which you got, but can you tell listening to this sound clip?

What kind of sound did you make? Was it good? Try again. The more you do it the better you will get.

Now listen to the tracks again, we've already copied using our buzzing, lets try it now with the sound.

Remember the higher note is F and the lower note is Bb. It doesn't matter if you play a higher or lower sound, just practice how it is done.

T t t tonguing...



Check out the video to see how it is done:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/

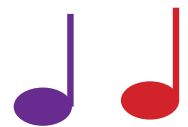
Tonguing the sounds that you make are really important.

Imagine saying 'Tommy Tucker tried to tap dance' without pronouncing any of the 't's.

Sounds a bit silly doesn't it. Tonguing notes on your pBone just helps to tidy everything up.

Step 1

Sing - too, too, too,
too with no gaps



Step 2

Do the same thing but
this time with no sound,
you should still be able
to hear the t and the air.



Step 3

Do the same thing with your
mouthpiece and then try to
do it while buzzing. It's quite
tricky to get the hang of it,
but just keep trying.

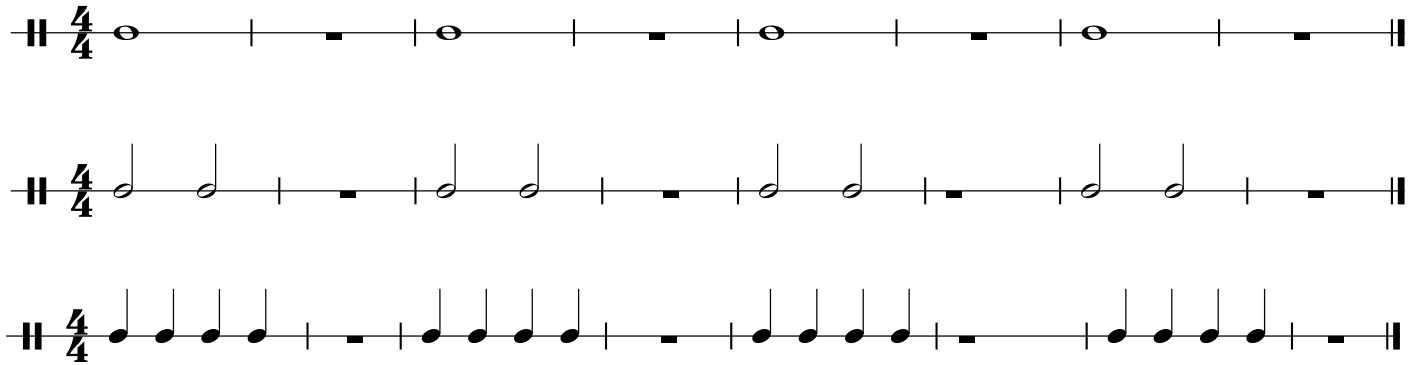


Here's what you can play!

Have a look at these patterns:



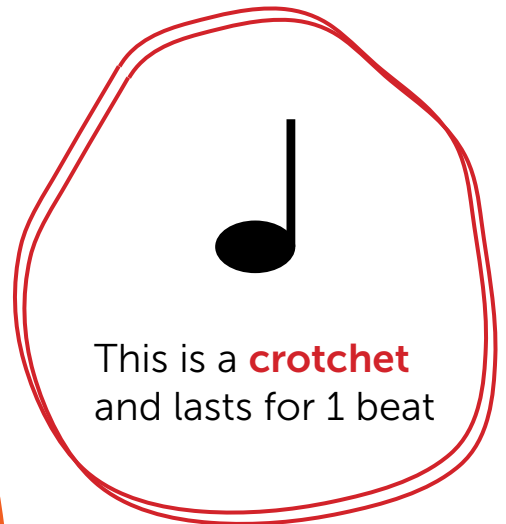
Check out the tracks for this page at:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/



Musical patterns are called **Rhythms**

These are the patterns that you have already played, when copying the sounds. This is how they look when you write them down in musical notes.

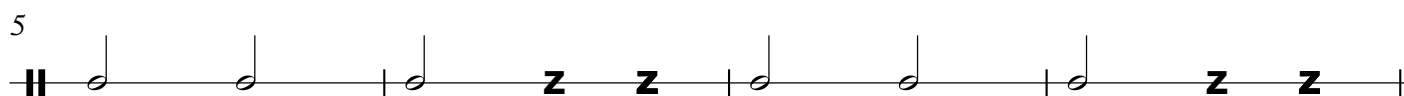
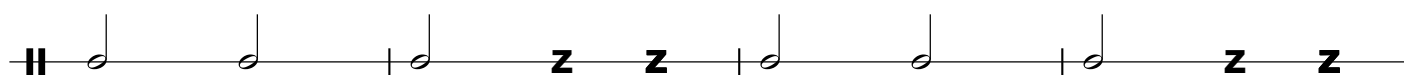
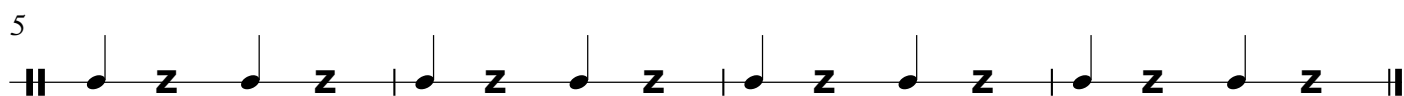
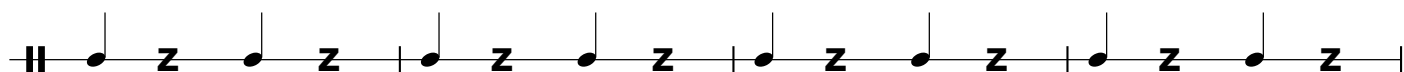
Now try the tracks again, following the rhythms.



Have a Rest!

Music is made up of sounds and silences. We have already played some musical patterns (rhythms) and now we'll put some rests in...

A rest is when you are not making a sound. It looks like a 'z' so you know you can have a little sleep! But remember it's only for 1 beat.



 Check out the video to see how it is done:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/

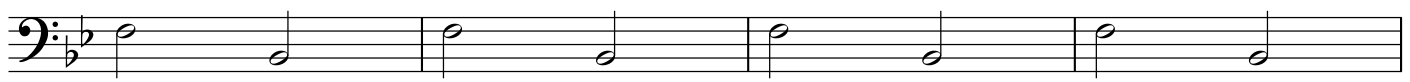
Up and Down!

Up to now we have only used 1 line for our music. Now we want to play more notes and we need to use a staff to write on. A staff is made up of 5 lines and the notes can be written in a space or on a line.




Check out the tracks for this page at:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/

Listen to each part first and then try to play it yourself, we have written the notes' name under each one.



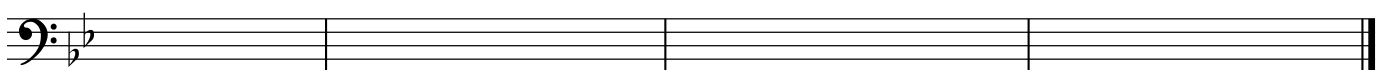
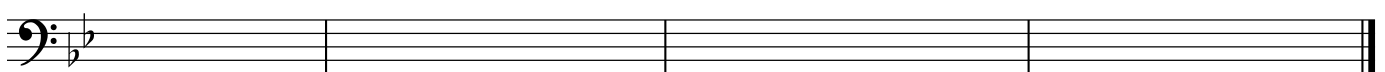
Listen *Play* F Bb F Bb

5



Listen *Play* Bb F Bb F

Now have a go at making some of your own up, using the higher and lower sounds. Why not write them down on the blank staff below:



More

So far we have learned to play **Bb** and **F**, but there are more notes in between. There are **C**, **D** and **Eb**.

To play a C you need to move your slide out to near the end (6th position), probably about the length of your arm. Be careful it doesn't fall off!!

Check out the tracks for this page at: www.pbone.co.uk/resource/

Try these pieces of music using your new note and the notes you already know.



Two Note Try Out

Musical notation for 'Two Note Try Out' in bass clef, 4/4 time. The notes are: Bb, C, Bb, Bb, C, followed by rests and a final Bb.

Bb C Bb Bb C

Two Note Twist

Musical notation for 'Two Note Twist' in bass clef, 4/4 time. The notes are: C, C, Bb, Bb, followed by a sequence of eighth notes.

C C Bb Bb

Two Note Tango

Musical notation for 'Two Note Tango' in bass clef, 4/4 time. The notes are: Bb, Bb, Bb, Bb, followed by a sequence of eighth notes.

Bb Bb Bb Bb

Eb...

Eb is a little bit easier to find. Your fingers need to be level with the bell. Try these pieces of music using your new note and the notes you already know.



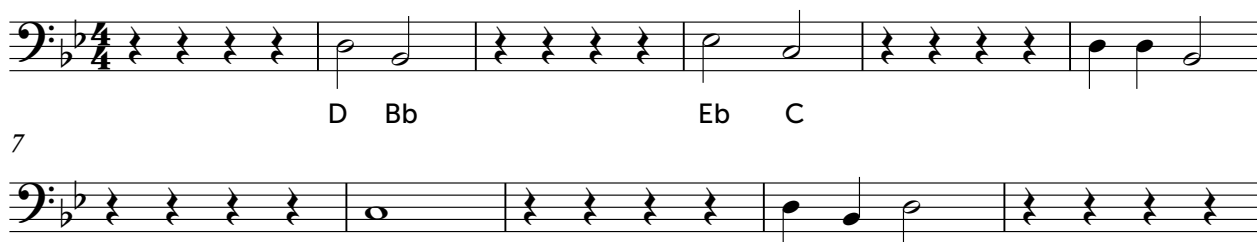
Check out the tracks for this page at:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/




Q and A

7

D Bb Eb C

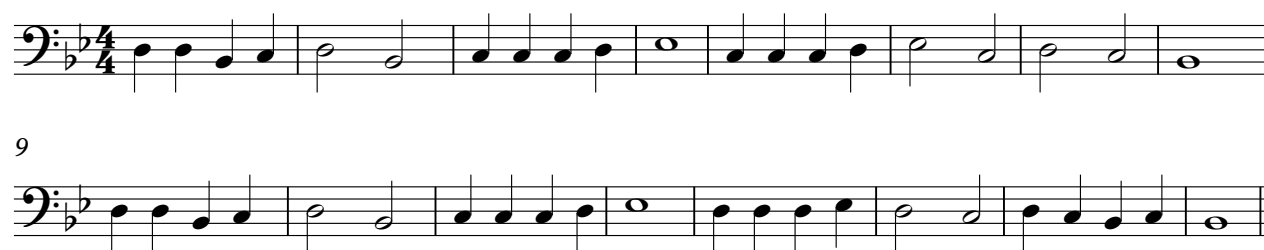


12



Mix and Match

9



Hill Climb

8

12



Look what you can do!

Here are some well-known tunes that use all 5 notes that we know. See what you can do and play along.

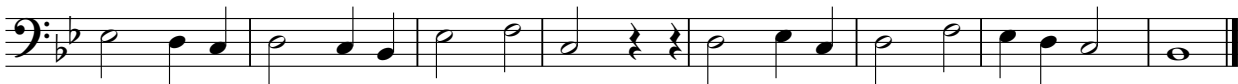


Check out the tracks for this page at:
www.pbone.co.uk/resource/

Run Around



9



Lightly Row



9



Ode to Joy



7



13



Oh When the Saints



8



14



Where you see these, you repeat the music that comes between them.

Teacher's Guide

This is a guide for teachers and/or parents who wish to guide the user of these materials. Here we will explain our thinking behind each part.

Firstly, these resources are designed for use by individual or small group learners. It can be used in a lesson situation or at home, it's up to you. We have given an overview of all of the basics of playing a brass instrument. This is by no means in depth, it is meant to be a starter guide. Included is also enough theory to understand the basics. This can be learnt or used to refer to, whichever you choose.

We have given you the option to use either bass or treble clef. We have done this for a number of reasons:

- In our version of bass clef the learner reads as if playing a tenor trombone; i.e. the second line up on the staff is played in 1st position and is called a Bb, even though it will sound an Eb. This is to aid transition between alto and tenor trombone, they read the same and do the same, even though the note produced is different.
- Some teachers already have a preference for teaching trombone so can choose this.
- If the learner is focused on wanting to play in a brass band then they can use the treble clef. Or if they want to play in more varied ensembles they can choose bass clef.

Either way all resources can be used with backing tracks.

We have included materials that can be used after the initial learning has taken place. These resources use the 5 notes learnt, either C D E F G or Bb C D Eb F

Lastly this is designed to be a fun way to begin a journey into brass playing so we hope you enjoy it!

If you have any questions or comments please contact us on education@warwickmusic.com

Music Theory

The following terms and symbols will help you understand the way music is written.

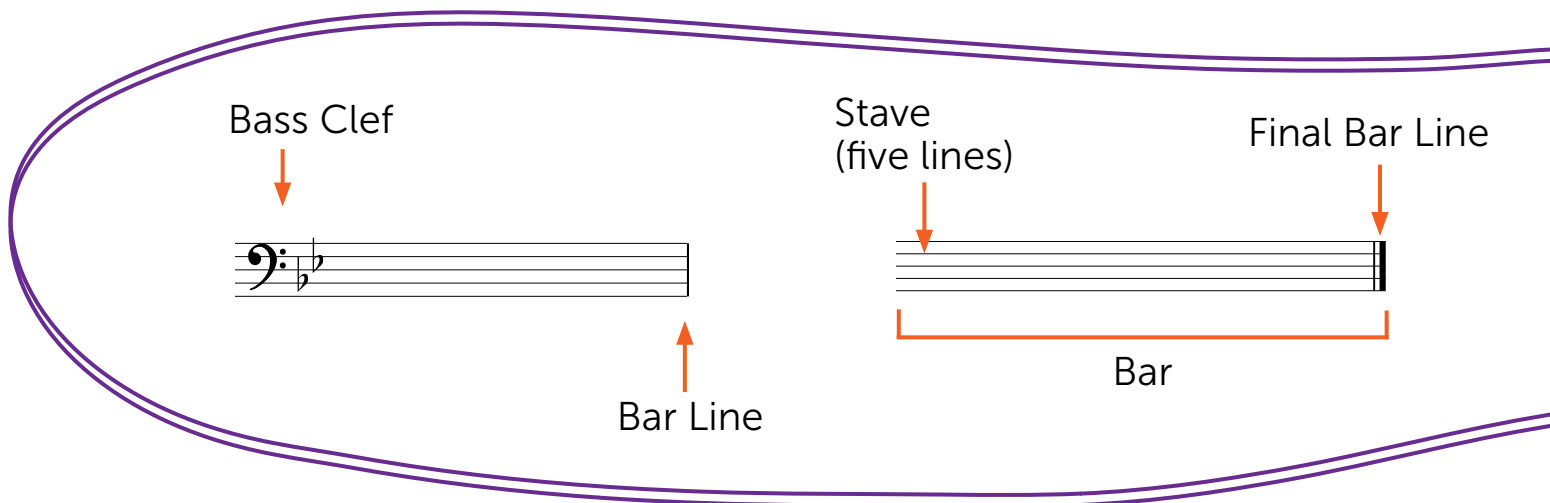
Bass Clef Dictates where the notes are placed on the stave.

Staff the lines on which the notes are placed.

Bar lines divides the staves into sections (bars).

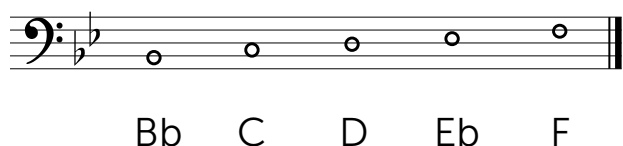
Bar the distance between two bar lines.

Final Bar line used at the end of a piece of music.



Notes are placed on the staves in spaces or through lines.

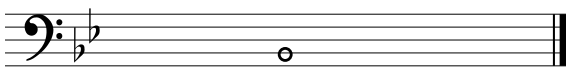
You've been introduced to these notes throughout the book!



Rhythm, Beat and Time Signatures

Rhythm is dictated by the length of the notes. The most common note values are listed below:

Semibreve - Lasts 4 beats



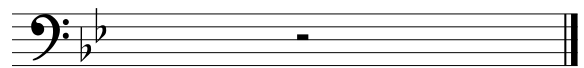
Semibreve Rest - Lasts 4 beats



Minim - Lasts 2 beats



Minim Rest - Lasts 2 beats



Crotchet - Lasts 1 beat



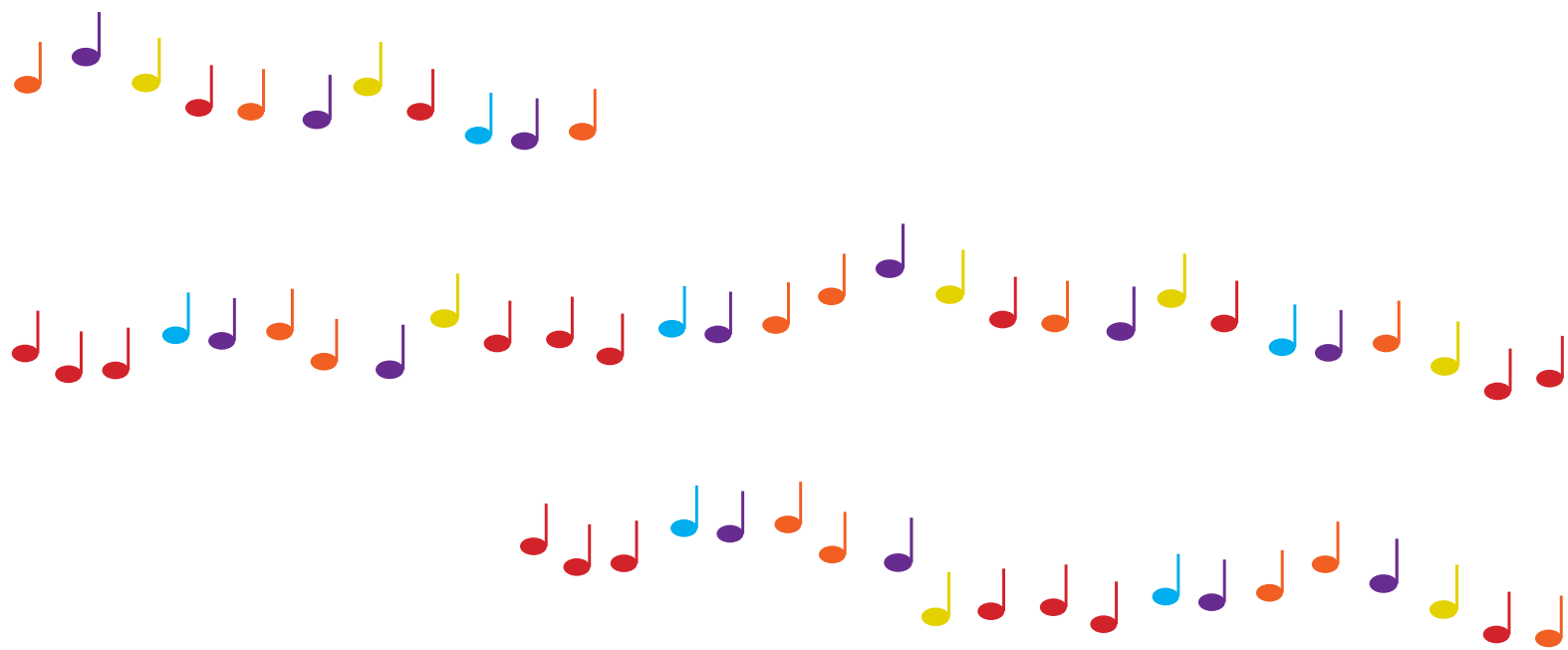
Crotchet Rest - Lasts 1 beat



The beat keeps the speed of the music steady. The rhythm may change but the beat stays the same.

Time Signatures set the number of beats in each bar.

In this book we only use: 4/4 = four crotchets in each bar.



Produced by Becca Pope on behalf of pBone.

Acknowledgments

U Play Brass - Stephen Roberts

Brass Mania - Steve Legge

Designed by Clarke Associates

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