


A Slur, — a curved line connecting two notes of different pitch, and generally indicating that the same word or syllable is to be sung to the two notes.




A Pause  placed over a note or rest indicates that the note or rest is to be prolonged indefinitely at the will of the performer or conductor.



Repeat marks, — the passage between these signs is to be repeated.


D.C. or Da Capo; — go back to the beginning of the music and conclude at **Fine**, — the end.

D.S. or Dal Segno; — go back to the sign  and conclude at **Fine**.

Metronome Mark indicates the exact speed at which a piece of music is to be performed by giving the number of beats to a minute; e.g., —

M. M.  = 100.

M. M. stands for Maclzel's Metronome, the recognised standard form of machine by which any number of beats to the minute can be measured;

 = 100, there are to be one hundred quarter notes to the minute.

Accelerando, — accelerating, more and more quickly.

Accidental, — a sharp, flat, or natural that does not occur in the signature; an accidental is effective to the end of the measure.

Adagio, — Slowly.

Ad libitum, — At will. The passage may be rendered at the will of the performer.

Alla marcia, — In the style of a march.

Allegro, — Happily, brightly.

Allegretto, — diminutive of Allegro; brightly, but not so much so as Allegro.

Alto, — the lower part sung by female or unchanged voices, sometimes sung by an adult male voice.

Andante, — Going, or walking, a quiet movement.

Andantino, — diminutive of Andante; the use of this word is ambiguous, generally it is used for a slower movement than Andante, but by some writers it is taken to mean a faster movement.

Animato, — With animation.

A poco a poco, — More and more, gradually.

Assai, — Very.

A tempo, — In the original time.

Bass, — the lower part sung by male voices.

Ben, — Well.

Bis, — Twice.

Brillante, — Brilliantly.

Calando, — Becoming softer and slower.

Cantabile, — In a flowing, singing manner.

Chromatic, — Literally "coloured"; chromatic notes are those affected by accidentals and which do not belong to the regular diatonic scale; D \sharp is a chromatic note in the key of C Major;