

- Octave**, — The interval of an eighth; that is, the interval from any note in the scale to the same note on its next recurrence, Do to Do, or Re to Re, etc.
- p, Piano**, — Soft.
- pp, Pianissimo**, — Very soft.
- Piu**, — More.
- Poco**, — A little.
- Presto**, — Fast.
- Prestissimo**, — Very fast.
- Quartet**, — A composition for four voices, or four performers.
- Quasi**, — As if, in the manner of.
- Quintet**, — A composition for five voices, or five performers.
- Rall., Rallentando**, — Getting gradually slower.
- Recit., Recitando**, — In the manner of a recitative, as if reciting.
- rf, Rinforzando**, — Reinforcing, strengthening the power.
- Rit., Ritardando**, — Getting gradually slower.
- Riten., Ritenuto**, — Holding back, taking and maintaining a slower pace.
- Segue**, — Follows, comes after.
- Sempre**, — Always, continually.
- Sentimentale**, — With feeling.
- Septet**, — A composition for seven voices, or seven performers.
- Sextet**, — A composition for six voices, or six performers.
- sf, Sforzando**, — Forced; a strong emphasis.
- Soprano**, — The higher part sung by female or unchanged voices.
- Sostenuto**, — Sustaining, in a sustained manner.
- Sotto Voce**, — In an undertone.
- Spirito**, — With spirit.
- Staccato**, — Detached, cutting the note off short.
- Stringendo**, — Urging on the speed.
- Syncopation**, — The misplacing of an accent, often occasioned by tying a weak beat to a strong one.
- Tempo**, — Time.
- Tempo primo**, — In the first, or original, time.
- Tenor**, — The higher part sung by male voices.
- Tenuto**, — Held on, sustained for the full time.
- Tranquillo**, — Tranquilly, quietly.
- Transposition**, — A change of key, to write out or perform a composition in some key different to the original.
- Treble**, — The higher part sung by female or unchanged voices, same as Soprano.
- Trio**, — A composition for three voices, or three performers.
- Tutti**, — All.
- Unison**, — Literally "one sound," where all the voices or instruments sound the same note.
- Vivace, } — In a lively manner.**
Vivo, }
- Voce**, — Voice.
- N.B.** Nearly all the expressions used in music are Italian, and should be pronounced accordingly. The "a" is hard, "e" is ā, "i" ee, "u" is oo; initial "c" is hard, k, in the middle of a word, chay; "z" is tz.