

## Musical style: Motifs

Using Roman mosaics to explore musical motifs.



### Vocabulary

**Motif** A short repeated pattern of notes.

**Ostinato** A repeating musical pattern.

**Riff** A short repeated phrase in pop music and jazz.

**Rhythm** A pattern of long and short sounds (and silences) within a piece of music.

**Backing track** A recorded musical accompaniment.

**Transpose** Move a whole tune or piece of music up or down in key by starting it on a different note.

#### Sharp notes



Notes that sound a semitone higher than notes that appear on the lines and spaces of a musical staff.

#### Flat notes



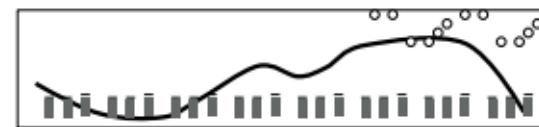
Notes that sound a semitone lower than notes that appear on the lines and spaces of a musical staff.

### Notation

The way that music is written so that others can play it.

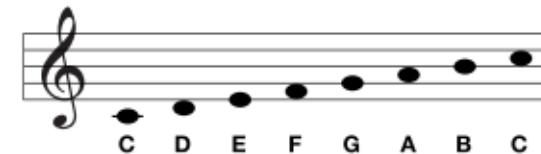
#### Graphic score

A way of writing music down using pictures or symbols, rather than standard music notation.



#### Letter notation

Writing the notes in a melody using letters.



#### Rhythmic notation

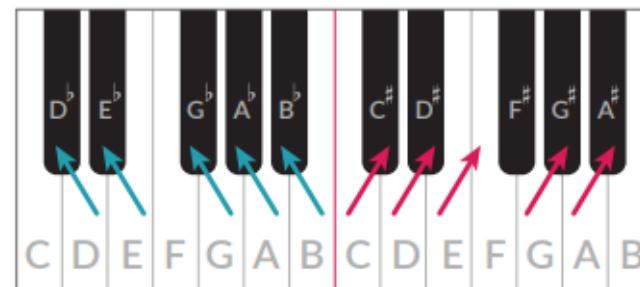
A way of writing musical notes so that the duration of each note is clear.



**Did you know?** The sharp and flat keys are the black keys on a piano and the top row of keys on a glockenspiel.

#### Sharp keys

# A sharp indicates a higher pitch in the music.



#### Flat keys

b A flat indicates a lower pitch in the music.