

# CHORAL VOCABULARY



Staff: 5 horizontal lines and 4 spaces



G Clef or Treble Clef



Measure: space between 2 adjacent bars



Letters of lines of Treble Clef



Letters of spaces of Treble Clef



F Clef or Bass Clef



Letters of lines of Bass Clef



Letters of spaces of Bass Clef



Double Bar: end of a section or piece



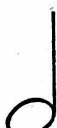
Repeat: a section to be repeated



Whole Note: longest note in use



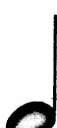
Whole Rest: pause equal in value to whole note



Half Note: half the time of whole note



Half Rest: pause equal in time to half note



Quarter Note: one-quarter value of whole note



Dotted Quarter Note: dot increases length of note by one-half



Quarter Rest: pause equal to quarter note



Eighth Note: one-eighth value of whole note



Eighth Rest: pause equal to eighth note



Sixteenth Note: one-sixteenth value of whole note



Sixteenth Rest: pause equal to sixteenth note



Sharp: raises note one-half tone



Double Sharp: raises note one full tone



Natural: cancels effect of sharp or flat



Flat: lowers note one-half tone



Double Flat: lowers note one full tone



Hold: duration of note or rest should be extended



Tie: to be played as one note



Triplet: played in time of two notes of same value



Slur: transition should be smooth



Staccato: distinct, disconnected



Legato: very smooth and connected



Accent: emphasize by stress or touch



Four-Four Time: four quarter notes to a measure



Common Time: same as four-four time



Six-Eight Time: six eighth notes to a measure

*p*

Piano: soft

*pp*

Pianissimo: very soft

*mp*

Mezzo-Piano: moderately soft

*f*


Forte: loud, powerful

*ff*

Fortissimo: very loud

*mf*

Mezzo-Forte: moderately loud



First Ending: repeat and take second ending

*a tempo*

In Time: return to regular tempo

*rit.*

Ritardando: gradually slower

*D.C.*

Da Capo: repeat from the beginning

*al Fine*

*cresc.*

Crescendo: increasing in loudness

*dim.*

Diminuendo: diminishing gradually in loudness

*D.S.*

Dal Segno: repeat from the sign :S:



Grand Staff: Treble and Bass Clefs

# Chorus Vocabulary

A CAPPELLA - To sing without instrumental accompaniment

ALTO - The lower female singing voice (second highest) in a typical 4 part chorus

ARPEGGIO - The notes of a chord played or sung in succession, either ascending or descending

BALANCE - Blending your voice with the group in a way that makes the music more effective to listen to

BASS - The lowest male singing voice in a typical 4 part chorus

CHOIR - A smaller organized group of singers

CHORUS - A large organized group of singers

CLEF SYMBOL - A music symbol located at the beginning of the staff; It is used to indicate pitch represented by one line of a staff in relation to the other lines on the staff

CODA - A short segment of the music located at the end of the piece

CRESCENDO - To gradually increase in volume

DECRESCENDO - To gradually decrease in volume

DUET - When two singers perform together, each having their own unique part

DYNAMICS - Music symbols that represent levels of sound (volume) and expression

FALSETTO - A method of vocal production used by male singers to sing notes higher than their normal vocal range

FORTISSIMO - To sing or play a piece of music very loud

HARMONY - A consistent, orderly, or pleasing arrangement of parts

MEZZO PIANO - A dynamic marking that indicates a piece of music should be played or sung medium soft

NOTES - Music symbols that help you to identify pitch and understand their value

PIANO - The instrument most often used to accompany a choral group

PIANO (p) - To sing or play a piece of music softly

PITCH - The highness or lowness of a vocal tone

PRACTICE - Is necessary in order to improve your singing

RANGE - The span (distance) of notes that a singing voice can encompass

SOLO - When one person sings alone

SOPRANO - The highest female singing voice in a typical 4 part chorus

STACCATO - To sing notes in a short and detached manner

TEAM - Working together in order to be successful

TEMPO - How fast or slow a piece of music is performed

TENOR - The highest male singing voice in a typical 4 part chorus

TIME SIGNATURE - This music symbol is located just after the key signature and represents the number of beats in each measure and the type of note that is worth one beat

TONE - The overall quality of a musical or vocal sound

VOCALIZATION - The act or process of producing sounds with the voice