I Pitch

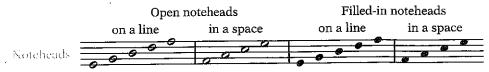
Lesson 1: Staff

In this lesson you will learn about the five-line staff, pitches and notes, noteheads, ascending and descending motion, steps and leaps, ledger lines.

Music is written on a five-line staff: five parallel lines separated by four spaces.



A pitch is a musical sound at some particular point along the continuum from the lowest to the highest audible sound. A pitch is written as a note placed either on a line or in a space on the five-line staff. A notehead, which specifies where on the staff a note is to occur, is an oval shape that may be either open or filled in.



Use the staves that follow to practice writing noteheads. They should be oval (not round) in shape, and tilted to the right. Noteheads in a space should just touch the lines above and below; noteheads on a line should fill half the spaces above and below.

Too small		Too big	Wrong shape	Just right
• •	0	• • • •	0 0	
	Write fift	een filled-in noteh	eads on the lines and s	paces of this staff
riting reheads	Write fifteen open noteheads on the lines and spaces of this staff			

To move from a note to a *higher-sounding* note, you *ascend* on the staff. To move from a note to a *lower-sounding* note, you *descend*.