

# Fundamentals of Music Theory

Music Theory · Answer Key · 18 Questions

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**1. How many notes are in a standard Western musical scale before the pattern repeats?**

- A) 5
- B) 7**
- C) 10
- D) 12

**2. Which of these symbols indicates that a note should be played one half-step higher?**

- A) Flat
- B) Sharp**
- C) Natural
- D) Fermata

**3. What is the Italian term for playing music softly?**

- A) Forte
- B) Staccato
- C) Piano**
- D) Legato

**4. Which clef is commonly used for higher-pitched instruments like the violin or flute?**

- A) Bass clef
- B) Treble clef**
- C) Alto clef
- D) Tenor clef

**5. A 'quarter note' receives how many beats in a standard 4/4 time signature?**

- A) 1 beat**
- B) 2 beats
- C) 3 beats
- D) 4 beats

**6. Which of these is the term for the speed at which a piece of music is played?**

- A) Pitch
- B) Rhythm
- C) Tempo**
- D) Volume

7. What does the 'f' in musical notation stand for?

**A) Forte**

B) Fast

C) Fine

D) Flat

8. Which note typically follows A in the musical alphabet?

A) C

**B) B**

C) G

D) D

9. What is the distance between two different notes called?

A) Octave

**B) Interval**

C) Scale

D) Chord

10. Which of these is a group of three or more notes played simultaneously?

A) Melody

B) Scale

**C) Chord**

D) Beat

11. In a 4/4 time signature, what does the top number represent?

A) The tempo

**B) The number of beats per measure**

C) The type of note that gets the beat

D) The volume

12. What is the term for a smooth, connected style of playing notes?

A) Staccato

**B) Legato**

C) Accent

D) Pause

13. Which symbol tells a musician to lower a note by one half-step?

A) Sharp

B) Natural

**C) Flat**

D) Coda

**14. What is the term for the 'home' note or tonal center of a piece of music?**

**A) Key**

B) Rest

C) Clef

D) Bar

**15. Which instrument is traditionally used to provide a steady beat or 'click' for practice?**

**A) Metronome**

B) Tuner

C) Microphone

D) Amplifier

**16. What does the term 'staccato' mean?**

A) Playing notes long and sustained

**B) Playing notes detached and short**

C) Playing as loud as possible

D) Playing very slowly

**17. What is the term for a short, silence in music?**

**A) Rest**

B) Beat

C) Note

D) Key

**18. How many eighth notes equal one quarter note?**

A) 1

**B) 2**

C) 3

D) 4