

# Elementary

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# Musictheory

FOR BEGINNERS AND ADVANCED STUDENTS



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# Introduction

The traditional notation is the “language” of music. Having a command of this language is of inestimable value for musicians and those interested in music. It brings not only a deeper understanding of musical processes, but also greatly stimulates the development of individual creativity.

This book serves as an introduction to the rudimentary **principles** of the traditional theory of music. It is intended both for those interested in music as well as musicians at the beginning or more advanced stage, but who up to now have given a wide berth to the theoretical side.

For all that, this *Elementary Theory of Music* cannot and is not meant to deal fully and in complete detail with all aspects of this subject. Rather for those interested in music, this book provides a simple introduction to this wide branch of music. If the interest is keen, further studies can be continued as desired to gain a deeper understanding of the theory of music.

After studying this book, the reader should be able to read and understand the essential symbols and musical processes of any piece written in traditional notation.

For quick reference, the *Elementary Theory of Music* contains an appendix summarizing all the subject matter contained in this book. Some subjects, which in the book itself, for the sake of clarity, are given only exemplary mention (for example, the various types of measures and the clefs), are listed in greater detail in the appendix. This method has been chosen to prevent the student from being stressed with superfluous learning material. To gain a better understanding, examples have, however, been added to some chapters.

Particularly important facts are highlighted in grey.

Have fun!

Norbert Opgenoorth / Jeromy Bessler

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