



The keyboard

The keyboard has groups of black and white notes, which form a repeating pattern. The **black notes** are grouped in twos and threes. The **white notes** are named after the first seven letters of the alphabet: A B C D E F G. The distance between each note, black and white, is called a **semitone** (half-step).

Middle C is the C closest to the centre of the keyboard. On the staff, middle C has its own line (called a **ledger line**). In the treble clef, it looks like this:



Activities

1 Can you find and play middle C on the keyboard?

top tip If you are absolutely centred at the keyboard, middle C should be in front of you.

2 Find and play all the Cs on the keyboard.

3 Find and play all the As on the keyboard.

4 Listening to 1, play four bars of ♩Cs. Use either the right or the left hand.

5 Now play four bars of ♩Cs to 1.

top tip Always keep relaxed and don't forget to breathe!

E minor **New notes:**

F G A G

Sunday morning

61

Spanish eyes

fact file This piece is in E minor.

Con fuoco (with fire)

did you know?

The note B can also be called C flat, and that another name for C is B sharp? These are called **enharmonics**: every note has another enharmonic name.