

The music puzzle pack

Eleven puzzles built out of the things you already practise — note names, intervals, key signatures, rhythms, Italian terms. Nothing here needs an instrument. A pencil and a rubber will do.

WHAT IS INSIDE

GRADED FROM EASIEST TO HARDEST

PAGE	PUZZLE	WHAT IT DRILLS	LEVEL
1	How this pack works	Contents, and how the puzzles are graded	—
2	Odd one out	Grouping by rule, not by look	Beginner
3	Theory crossword	Terms, signs and their spellings	Beginner–Grade 1
4	Notation sudoku · rhythm arithmetic	Note values and how bars add up	Beginner–Grade 2
5	Note-name cryptogram · enharmonic pairs	Reading pitches; sharps against flats	Grade 1–2
6	Interval maze · circle of fifths wheel	Counting intervals; key signatures	Grade 2–3
7	Composer logic grid	Periods, works and instruments	Grade 2–4
8	Melody jigsaw · Italian wordsearch	Phrase shape; vocabulary	Grade 3–4
9	Answer key	For marking, once you have finished	—

HOW TO USE IT

PENCIL, NOT PEN

WORK IN ORDER

The pages are graded. Anything on page 2 or 3 can be done before you have sat a grade; the logic grid and the jigsaw assume a few years of theory.

SAY WHY

Several puzzles ask for a reason as well as an answer. Write it — naming the rule is what makes the answer stick.

MARK AT THE END

Every puzzle has exactly one solution, and they are all printed on the last page. Do not read it early: a wrong turn found by yourself teaches more.

Three belong, one does not

Cross out the odd one in each set, then write why on the line beneath. The reason matters more than the answer — a right word with a wrong reason has not been solved.

1 crotchet · minim · quaver · treble

WHY

2 C major · A minor · G major · D major

WHY

3 forte · piano · allegro · mezzo-forte

WHY

4 violin · viola · cello · flute

WHY

5 $\frac{2}{4}$ · $\frac{3}{4}$ · $\frac{6}{8}$ · $\frac{4}{4}$

WHY

6 perfect 4th · perfect 5th · major 3rd · octave

WHY

7 Haydn · Mozart · Brahms · Beethoven

WHY

8 staccato · legato · tenuto · ritardando

WHY

9 timpani · snare drum · triangle · woodblock

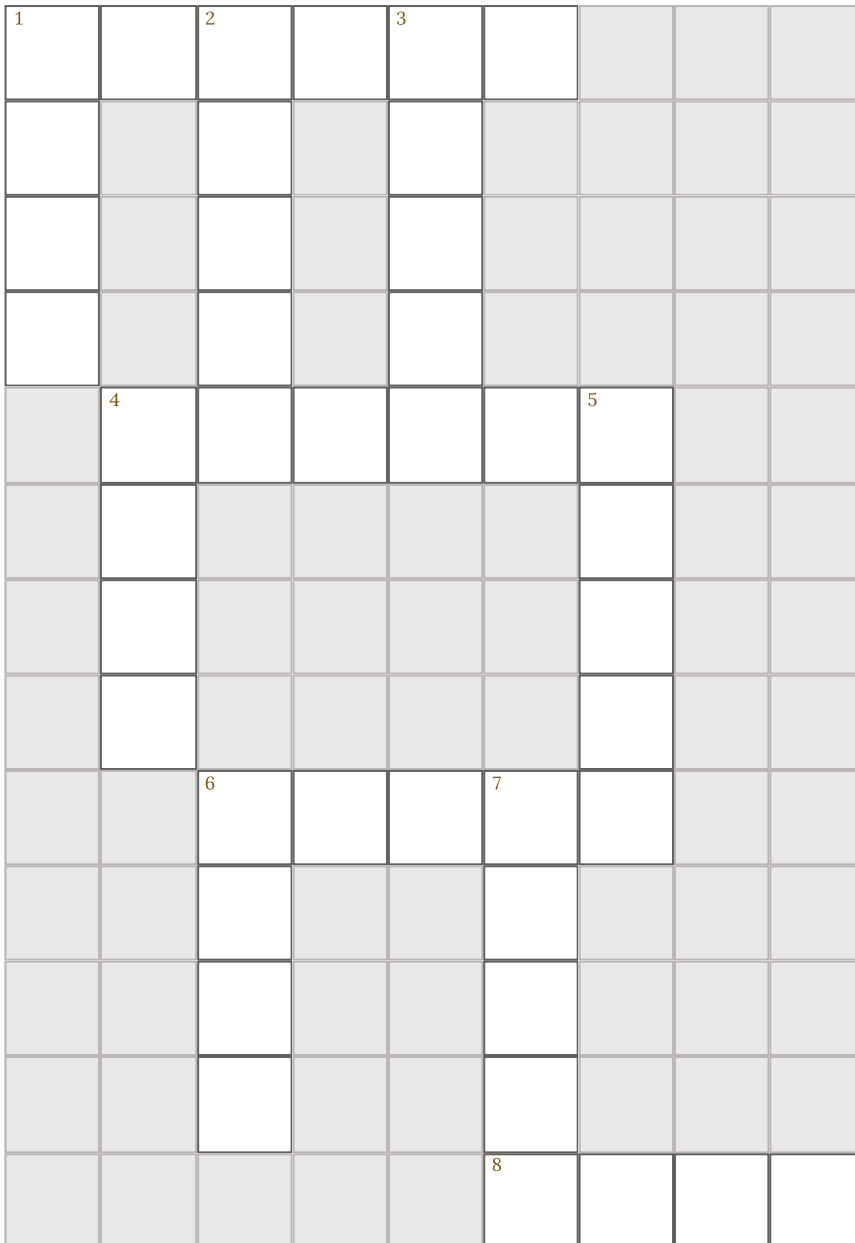
WHY

10 C-E-G · F-A-C · G-B-D · D-F-A

WHY

Words on the page

One letter to a square. Ignore accents and write everything in capitals. Numbers sit in the top-left corner of the square where the answer starts.



ACROSS

- 1 Eight notes apart — the same letter, higher or lower (6)
- 4 Composer of *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* (6)
- 6 Three or more notes sounded together (5)
- 8 Double-reed woodwind that gives the orchestra its tuning A (4)

DOWN

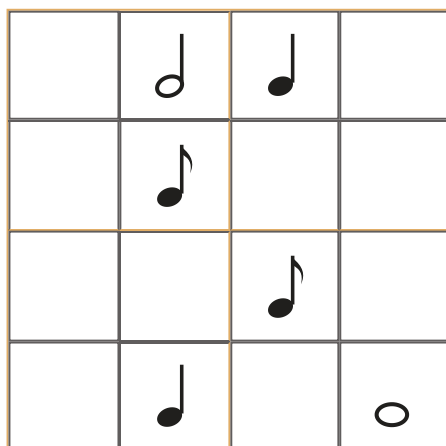
- 1 See 8 across — it plays first, everyone else follows (4)
- 2 The speed of the music, given in Italian at the top (5)
- 3 String instrument between the violin and the cello (5)
- 4 A brass player's gadget for damping the tone (4)
- 5 A three-note chord built in thirds (5)
- 6 The sign at the start that fixes the pitch of a line (4)
- 7 Form in which the main tune keeps returning: A B A C A (5)

Two answers are the same word. That is not a mistake — 1 down and 8 across are the same instrument, once as the answer and once as the clue.

Notation sudoku · rhythm arithmetic

PUZZLE THREE · NOTATION SUDOKU

FOUR VALUES, FOUR BY FOUR



Every row, every column and every two-by-two box must hold each of the four values once. Draw the notes in – no letters.

NOTE	NAME	BEATS IN 4/4
	Semibreve	4
	Minim	2
	Crotchet	1
	Quaver	½

PUZZLE FOUR · RHYTHM ARITHMETIC

WORK IN BEATS, THEN NAME THE NOTE

Each line is one complete bar with a piece missing. Work out how many beats are left, then write the single note or rest that fills the gap.

- | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-------|----|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | 4/4 · minim + ? | _____ | 7 | 6/8 · dotted crotchet + quaver + ? | _____ |
| 2 | 3/4 · crotchet + crotchet + ? | _____ | 8 | 4/4 · four quavers + crotchet + ? | _____ |
| 3 | 4/4 · dotted minim + ? | _____ | 9 | 3/8 · quaver + quaver + ? | _____ |
| 4 | 2/4 · crotchet + quaver + ? | _____ | 10 | 4/4 · dotted crotchet + quaver + ? | _____ |
| 5 | 3/4 · minim + ? | _____ | 11 | 2/2 · minim + ? | _____ |
| 6 | 4/4 · crotchet rest + crotchet + ? | _____ | 12 | 9/8 · dotted minim + ? | _____ |

In 6/8 and 9/8 count in quavers, not crotchets: 7 and 12 are asking how many quavers are missing.

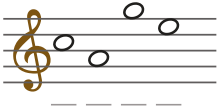
Note-name cryptogram · enharmonic pairs

PUZZLE FIVE · CRYPTOGRAM

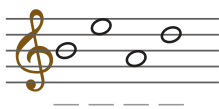
TREBLE CLEF · EVERY NOTE IS A LETTER

Read each note, write its letter on the line beneath it, and a word appears. Only the seven letters A to G are possible, so a wrong letter shows up quickly.

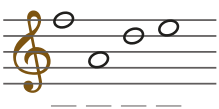
1



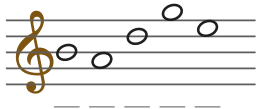
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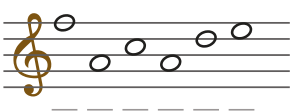
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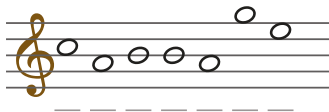
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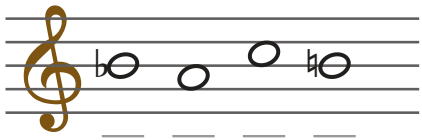


6



BONUS · THE COMPOSER'S SIGNATURE

German musicians name the note B $\flat$ as *B* and B $\sharp$ as *H*. That gives one composer a four-note motif spelling his own surname — and he used it in his last unfinished fugue. Write the German letters under these four notes.



PUZZLE SIX · ENHARMONIC PAIRS JOIN EACH NOTE TO THE SAME SOUND SPELLED DIFFERENTLY

Draw a line from each note on the left to its enharmonic equivalent on the right. Every note is used once. Three of the answers need no accidental at all — those are the ones to do first.

C $\sharp$	G $\flat$
D $\sharp$	A $\flat$
F $\sharp$	C $\sharp$
G $\sharp$	B $\flat$
A $\sharp$	F
E $\sharp$	D $\flat$
B $\sharp$	A
F $\flat$	E $\sharp$
B $\flat\flat$	E $\flat$
A $\flat\flat$	G

Interval maze · the circle of fifths

PUZZLE SEVEN · INTERVAL MAZE

MOVE ONLY BY THIRDS

D IN	D	G	C	E	F
B	E	E	D	G	B
G	B	G	A	E	C
A	D	E	B	A	A
E	F	C	E	G	C
G	A	D	F	E	G OUT

Start at the top-left square and reach the bottom-right one. You may move up, down, left or right — never diagonally — and only when the two letters are a **third apart**: C to E, C to A, G to B, B to D, and so on. A second, a fourth or a fifth is a wall.

Count the letters, including both ends: C–D–E is a third, so the letters are two apart in the alphabet, wrapping round from G back to A.

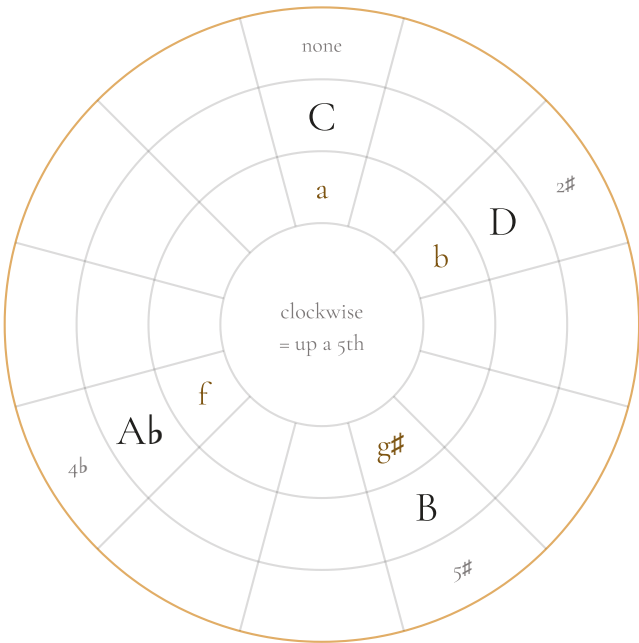
There is exactly one way through. Shade the squares you use.

THEN ANSWER

How many squares long is your path, counting both ends? _____

PUZZLE EIGHT · THE CIRCLE OF FIFTHS

FILL THE EIGHT EMPTY SEGMENTS



Four segments are filled in. Complete the other eight. Each segment holds three things, reading from the outside in: the number of sharps or flats, the major key in capitals, and its relative minor in small letters.

RING	WHAT GOES THERE
Outer	Key signature — how many sharps or flats
Middle	Major key, in capitals
Inner	Relative minor, in small letters

Going clockwise adds a sharp each time; going anticlockwise adds a flat. The relative minor is always three semitones below the major — a minor third down.

The segment at the bottom can be written two ways. Give both.

Four composers, four of everything

Each composer belongs to one period, played one instrument and wrote one of these works. Nothing is shared. Put a cross in a square you have ruled out and a tick in one you are sure of – a tick fills its row and column with crosses.

	INSTRUMENT				WORK			
	violin	harpsichord	piano	organ	The Four Seasons	The Surprise Symphony	the Nocturnes	Quartet for the End of Time
Vivaldi								
Haydn								
Chopin								
Messiaen								
Baroque								
Classical								
Romantic								
Twentieth century								

CLUES

- 1 Vivaldi is the earliest of the four – he is the Baroque one.
- 2 The Baroque composer earned his living as a violinist.
- 3 The violinist wrote a set of four concertos about the year turning.
- 4 Haydn's keyboard had strings that were plucked, not struck.
- 5 The harpsichordist wrote the symphony with the loud chord in the slow movement.
- 6 Whoever wrote the Nocturnes was a pianist.
- 7 The Nocturnes belong to the century after the Classical period – the Romantic one.
- 8 Chopin never held a church post and wrote nothing for the organ.
- 9 The twentieth-century composer was an organist.
- 10 The organist's best-known piece is a quartet, written in a prison camp.

WRITE YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Vivaldi _____
Haydn _____
Chopin _____
Messiaen _____

The lower half of the grid – periods against instruments and works – is where the puzzle is really solved. Clue 4 gives you a tick straight away; start there.

Melody jigsaw · Italian wordsearch

PUZZLE TEN · MELODY JIGSAW

FOUR TWO-BAR PIECES, ONE EIGHT-BAR TUNE

These four fragments make one eight-bar melody in C major, printed in the wrong order. Put them back. The tune must open on the tonic, reach a resting point on the dominant halfway through, and close on the tonic.

A



B



C



D



Write the order here, bars 1-2 first:

The four fragments fall into two pairs, and each pair is ordered by a different test. One pair opens with the same four notes but ends differently: whichever leaves you hanging on the dominant comes earlier than the one that settles on the tonic. The other pair opens differently: whichever begins on the tonic comes first, and the other is its sequence, the same climb moved up a step.

PUZZLE ELEVEN · ITALIAN WORDSEARCH

TWELVE TERMS, ANY DIRECTION

P	I	A	N	O	W	L	D	H	F	X	R	W	R
R	I	T	A	R	D	A	N	D	O	P	R	S	Y
V	Y	F	O	R	T	E	V	P	H	Q	B	T	P
L	J	L	E	L	D	J	M	T	J	L	X	A	V
E	B	V	I	V	A	C	E	Q	N	L	C	C	K
O	O	O	C	O	D	N	E	C	S	E	R	C	Y
M	T	O	I	T	C	V	L	A	R	G	O	A	K
S	W	A	E	V	J	Z	V	R	R	Z	A	T	I
D	A	M	G	T	A	L	L	E	G	R	O	O	M
R	P	O	D	E	N	X	Z	J	S	R	S	A	O
O	A	R	O	P	L	A	Z	O	W	X	L	H	F
D	D	U	L	H	O	X	D	I	U	M	X	X	K
L	K	X	C	F	L	Y	F	N	M	T	C	E	X
O	I	B	E	B	S	T	I	H	A	U	G	Y	H

Words run across, down, diagonally, and backwards. Ring each one, then write what it means on the line beside it.

Allegro

Andante

Largo

Vivace

Tempo

Forte

Piano

Crescendo

Ritardando

Legato

Staccato

Dolce

Answers

Mark in pencil. Where a puzzle asks for a reason, the reason is the answer — a right word with a wrong reason has not been solved.

ONE · ODD ONE OUT

1 treble — a clef, the rest are note values. **2** A minor — the only minor key. **3** allegro — a speed, the rest are dynamics. **4** flute — woodwind, the rest are strings. **5** 6/8 — compound time, the rest are simple. **6** major 3rd — the rest are perfect intervals. **7** Brahms — a Romantic, the rest are Classical. **8** ritardando — a change of speed, the rest are articulation. **9** timpani — pitched, the rest are unpitched. **10** D-F-A — a minor triad, the rest are major.

TWO · CROSSWORD

Across 1 OCTAVE · 4 MOZART · 6 CHORD · 8 OBOE.
Down 1 OBOE · 2 TEMPO · 3 VIOLA · 4 MUTE · 5 TRIAD · 6 CLEF · 7 RONDO.

THREE · NOTATION SUDOKU

Writing 1 for the semibreve, 2 minim, 3 crotchet, 4 quaver, the grid reads:
 1 2 3 4 · 3 4 1 2 · 2 1 4 3 · 4 3 2 1.

FOUR · RHYTHM ARITHMETIC

1 minim. **2** crotchet. **3** crotchet. **4** quaver. **5** crotchet. **6** minim. **7** crotchet (two quavers). **8** crotchet. **9** quaver. **10** minim. **11** minim. **12** dotted crotchet (three quavers). A rest of the same value is equally correct anywhere here.

FIVE · CRYPTOGRAM

1 CAGE. **2** BEAD. **3** FADE. **4** BADGE. **5** FACADE. **6** CABBAGE.
Bonus B $\flat$ -A-C-B $\sharp$ spells B-A-C-H in German: Bach, who wrote the motif into the unfinished last fugue of *The Art of Fugue*.

SIX · ENHARMONIC PAIRS

C $\sharp$ -D $\flat$ · D $\sharp$ -E $\flat$ · F $\sharp$ -G $\flat$ · G $\sharp$ -A $\flat$ · A $\sharp$ -B $\flat$ · E $\sharp$ -F · B $\sharp$ -C $\flat$ · F $\flat$ -E $\natural$ · B $\flat\flat$ -A · A $\flat\flat$ -G. The three answers written with no accidental are F, A and G.

SEVEN · INTERVAL MAZE

Down, down, right, right, down, down, right, right, down, right. The letters passed are D B G B G E C E G E G — eleven squares, counting both ends.

EIGHT · CIRCLE OF FIFTHS

Clockwise from the top: C (a, none) · G (e, 1 $\sharp$) · D (b, 2 $\sharp$) · A (f $\sharp$, 3 $\sharp$) · E (c $\sharp$, 4 $\sharp$) · B (g $\sharp$, 5 $\sharp$) · F $\sharp$ or G $\flat$ (d $\sharp$ or e $\flat$, 6 $\sharp$ or 6 $\flat$) · D $\flat$ (b $\flat$, 5 $\flat$) · A $\flat$ (f, 4 $\flat$) · E $\flat$ (c, 3 $\flat$) · B $\flat$ (g, 2 $\flat$) · F (d, 1 $\flat$).

NINE · LOGIC GRID

Vivaldi — Baroque, violin, *The Four Seasons*.
Haydn — Classical, harpsichord, *The Surprise Symphony*.
Chopin — Romantic, piano, the *Nocturnes*.
Messiaen — twentieth century, organ, *Quartet for the End of Time*.

TEN · MELODY JIGSAW

C · A · D · B. C opens on the tonic and climbs; A closes on the dominant, which is the halfway resting point; D is C's opening climb moved up a step — a sequence; B repeats A's first bar note for note, then closes on the tonic instead of the dominant.

ELEVEN · WORDSEARCH

Allegro fast and cheerful. **Andante** at a walking pace.
Largo broad and slow. **Vivace** lively. **Tempo** the speed.
Forte loud. **Piano** soft. **Crescendo** growing louder.
Ritardando gradually slowing. **Legato** smoothly joined.
Staccato short and detached. **Dolce** sweetly.