

Sight-reading Cheat Sheet:

1-Title

2-Composer

3-Time Signature (Beginning, Any changes)

4-Tempo Markings, Latin Words (see list)

5-Form: Repeats, Fermatas, D.C., D.S.,

Fine, Coda

6-Key Signature (Beginning, Any changes)

7-Accidentals

8-Unfamiliar notes

9-Unfamiliar rhythms

10-Questions

Accelerando	(accel.) Gradually faster
Adagio	Slowly, leisurely
Ad Libitum	(ad lib) Freely without restraint by time
Affrettando	(affret.) Quickening, hurrying
Allargando	Gradually slower, louder and broader
Allegretto	Light and cheerful, faster than moderato, slower than Allegro
Allegro	Lively, brisk, rapid
Andante	In moderately slow time, flowing easily and gracefully
Animato	With life and animation
Appassionato	With passion and intense feeling
Assai	Very
Bravura	Brilliantly, boldly
Brio	Vigor, life, spirit
Brioso	Lively, spiritedly
Crescendo	(cres.) A gradual increase in loudness
Da Capo	(D.C.) Repeat from beginning
Dal Segno	(D.S.) Repeat from sign
Decrescendo	(decre.) Gradual decreasing in loudness
Diminuendo	(dim.) Gradually softer
Dolce	Softly, sweetly, delicately
Dolore	Sorrow, sadness, grief
Energico	Forceful, energetic
Espressivo	With expression
Fine	The end; the conclusion
Forte	(f) Loud, strong
Forte-piano	(fp) Accent strongly, diminishing immediately to piano
Fortissimo	(ff) Very loud
Fortzando	(fz) Intensity on one note
Fuoco	Fiery, with passion

Grandioso	Grand, stately, noble
Grave	Slow, solemn
Grazioso	In a graceful manner
Gusto	Expression, appreciation, taste
Jubiloso	Exulting
Larghetto	Slowly like andantino
Largo	Broadly, slowly
Legato	Smoothly, evenly
Leggiero	Easily, lightly, delicately
Lento	Slow, between andante and largo
L' Istesso	The same
Maestoso	Majestically, stately, dignified
Ma non troppo	But not too much
Marcato	(marc.) Marked, accented
Marziale	Martial, in march style
Meno Mosso	Less motion, slower
Mezzo-Forte	(mf) Moderately loud
Mezzo-Piano	(mp) Moderately soft
Moderato	Moderately; in moderate time
Molto	Much, very
Morendo	Dying away in tone and time
Ossia	Or, otherwise; indicating an easier way
Pesante	Heavy ponderous; with weight
Piacere	Pleasure; without restraint
Pianissimo	(pp) Extremely soft
Piano	(p) Soft
Piu	More
Poco a poco	Little by little
Pomposo	Pompous, majestic, grand
Prestissimo	As quickly as possible
Presto	Quickly; faster than allegro
Quasi	As if; in the style of
Rallentando	(rall.) Gradually slower
Risoluto	With bold, energetic resolve
Ritard	(rit.) Gradually slackening the pace
Ritenuto	(riten.) Kept back at once, without gradual slowing
Rubato	Robbing or taking from the notes their strict value: (ad lib.)
Sforzando	(sfz.) With sudden emphasis
Smorzando	(smorz.) Extinguished; gradually dying away
Sostenuto	(sost.) Sustained; prolonged; holding the notes for full duration
Sotto Voce	In a quiet, subdued tone
Stringendo	(string.) Pressing or accelerating
Subito	Immediately, at once
Tacet	Be silent, not involved
Vivace	With vivacity; lively, quick
Volti Subito	(V.S.) Turn over quickly