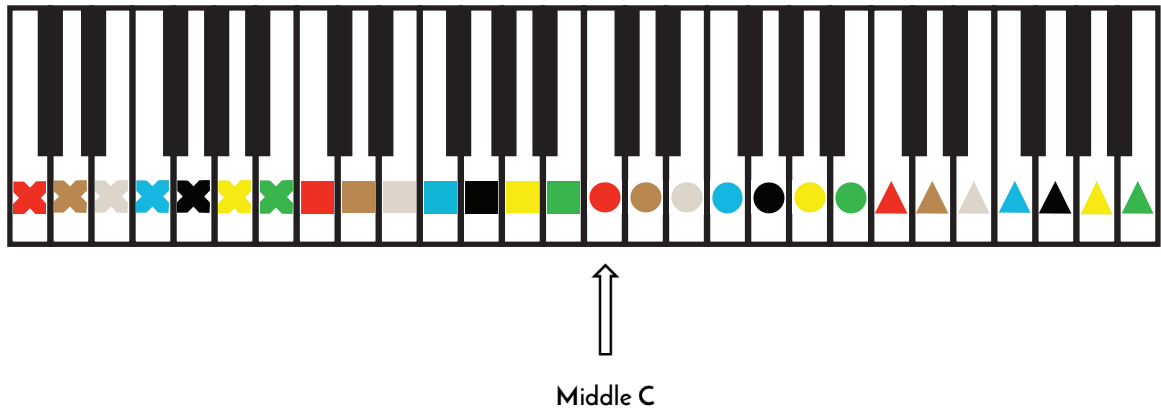




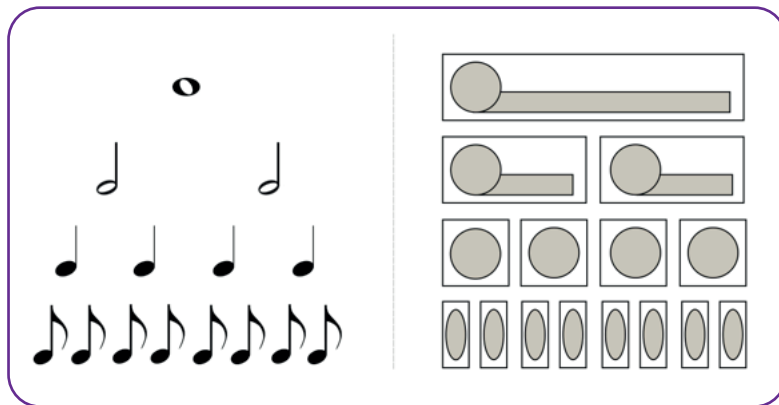
Introducing Figurenotes

Figurenotes is a way of notating music, which uses colour and shape to show pitch and rhythm.

This method was developed at the Resonaari music school in Finland and is now used world-wide. Drake Music Scotland produces Figurenotes resources, including software to make your own parts. We have partnered with Aldeburgh Music to create these resources for their Friday Afternoons project. For more information on Figurenotes, visit www.figurenotes.org



Each note has a colour. Each octave has a shape.
The colours repeat, even as the shape changes..

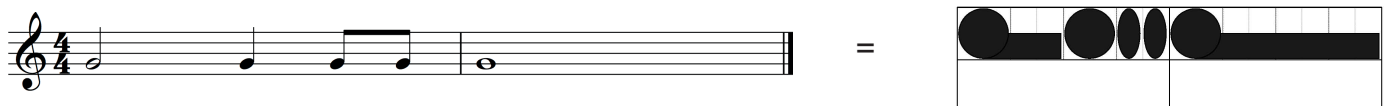


All the bars within a piece are the same size (unless there is a time signature change)

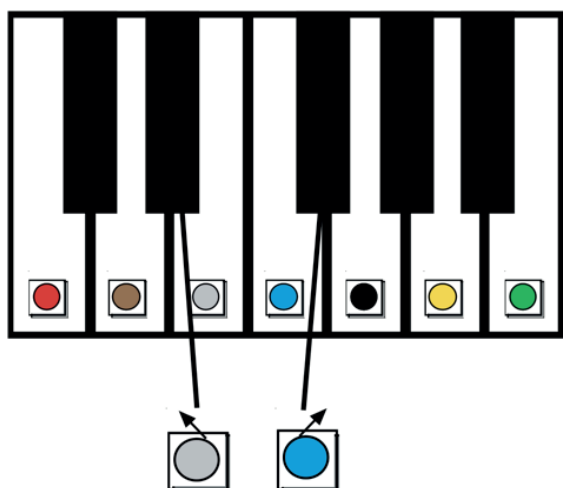
The note is as long as it looks.

Each Figurenotes symbol is 1 beat long. We add a tail to sustain the sound for the required number of beats. If the note is shorter than 1 beat, we squash the symbol into that space.

If there is no note, there is no sound. This makes rests much easier to understand quickly.



Rhythm becomes much clearer and less abstract.



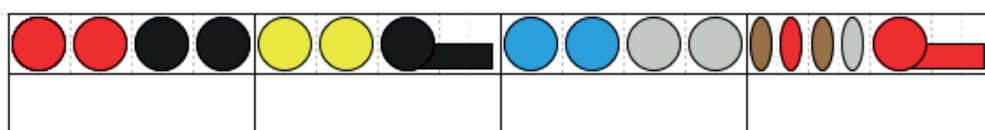
Sharps and flats are shown by adding an arrow to the note.

A forward facing arrow shows a sharp and
a backwards facing arrow shows a flat.
Think of it like moving your hand on a keyboard.

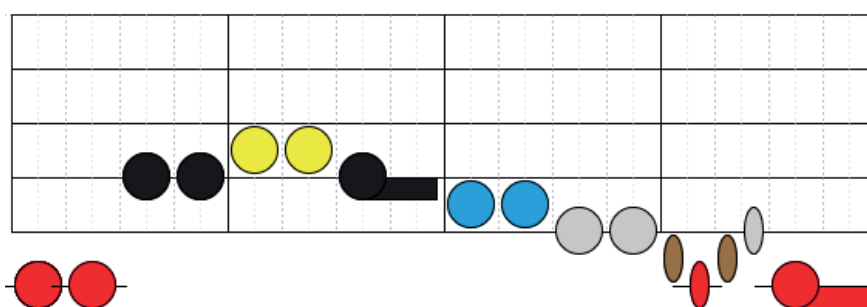
This gives a clearer representation of
what the player needs to do.
In time you will progress onto the # and b symbols.

Progress to standard notation using 3 simple stages of reading

Stage 1 - *Melody in one line*



Stage 2 - *Now put it on a staff*



Stage 3 - *Coloured noteheads*



Tip: try adding coloured beads to a piece of string. Put a knot between beads for the semitones between the Figurenotes shapes. This is a great prop for leading vocal work.

For more tips, follow Figurenotes on social media.

Twitter: @figurenotes Facebook: /figurenotes