

Dynamics

from Soft to Loud



ViolinSchool
MusicLand

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Dynamic instructions tell you how loud or soft to play.

Music traditionally uses Italian names or words to describe dynamics.

Some of the most common dynamics appear in the music below!

The musical score is written for a violin in 2/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains the first four measures of the piece, and the second staff contains the next four measures. The lyrics are written below the notes. Dynamics are indicated by letters below the notes: *p* (piano) at the start of the first staff, *mp* (mezzo piano) at the start of the second staff, *mf* (mezzo forte) at the start of the third staff, and *f* (forte) at the start of the fourth staff. Above each measure, there is a 'V' symbol indicating a bow stroke.

Gus - sie is my bot - tom string, Next is Do - ra who can sing,
p *mp*

5 Up to Al - fie now we hop, E - nid is the one on top!
mf *f*

The dynamics used in the music are written below with both their **Italian** and **English** names:

Symbol	Italian	English
p	piano	soft
mp	mezzo piano	medium soft
mf	mezzo forte	medium loud
f	forte	loud
	crescendo	getting louder
	diminuendo	getting softer

Activities

- 1) Now play all the pieces you have already learnt, starting with *Gussie Is My Bottom String*, but this time **use the bow!**
- 2) Add some **loud** and **soft** dynamics.