

## YOUR “NEED TO KNOW” GUIDE!



Hello and welcome to your very own “Need to Know” guide to the first steps in recorder playing.

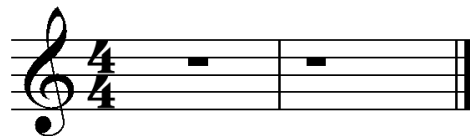
This will help you understand what is in the lessons so that you can practise on your own.

Remember – practising means playing something many times, so you never get it wrong! A little every day, perhaps 10 minutes, will help you learn very quickly.



Let’s begin .....

Music is written on a STAVE – 5 lines and 4 spaces.



The ‘curly thing’ at the beginning is a TREBLE CLEF. This means a musical instrument with a high pitch/sound.

The ‘fraction’ means 4 counts, or beats, in every bar (the top number tells us how many to count). A bar is marked by a vertical line called

the bar line. Music is divided into bars of equal length to make it easy to read. The final lines mean 'the end'.

## NEED TO KNOW INFORMATION!

ALWAYS have your LEFT hand at the top.

Thumb on the single hole at the back.

Right hand supports the recorder.

Start each note with a "D".

Remember the butterfly?

Don't blow too hard – a squeaky recorder is not pleasant to hear!



## FIRST NOTES

MUSIC USES THE LETTERS A B C D E F G

B is Bang in the Middle! Use your thumb and first finger. LEFT HAND!



A is in the space underneath B. Thumb, first and second fingers.



G is the line under A. Thumb, first, second and third fingers.



## NOTE VALUES

Here are two CROTCHETS and two crotchet rests. Crotchets are ONE beat long.



This is a MINIM and a minim rest.

Minims are TWO beats long.

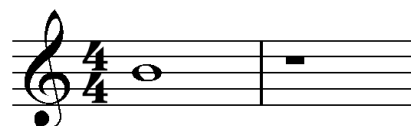
The rest 'floats' on the line.



This is a SEMIBREVE and a semibreve rest.

Semibreves are FOUR beats long.

The rest 'sinks' under the line.



Good Luck and enjoy playing your recorder 😊

