

Music Representation: Overview

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What do systems of music representation represent?

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System 1	System 2	System 3	System 4	
	key signature		key name, key signature	
ticks/minute	meter signature	ticks/minute	meter signature	
ticks/quarter note				
key number continuum	pitch name continuum	frequency number	pitch name class (A..G)	
	inflection implied by key signature; exceptions noted		octave number	
			inflection explicit for every note	
absolute time on	duration (relative to meter signature)	time on	stated duration	implied duration
absolute time off		time off		
velocity	dynamics (as labels)	user-controlled dynamics	dynamics labels	dynamics (scope)
instrument (channel)	instrument label	instrument number	instrument label	articulation type (normal, legato, plucked etc.)
		absolute amplitude		
		relative amplitude of harmonics		
	articulation marks	duration modifiers for simulated articulation		
	ornament signs	realized ornaments	ornament signs	ornament realization formula

	stems, beams, slurs, marks generated by software (or ignored)		stem direction
			beam type
			slur orientation