

MUSIC SPEED READING

by
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MUSIC SPEED READING is a systematic method used to train the eye in the reading of music. The method is based on principles similar to that of the speed reading of words. Rather than allowing the eye to focus on individual notes or symbols, the eye should scan ahead taking in an entire group of notes.

The use of a tachistoscope may be of great value in the eye training process. A tachistoscope is an electronic machine which can flash an image on a screen in various minute durations. By flashing images of objects (such as a car, bicycle, hat, etc.), words or word groups, or musical notes or note groupings, the eye can be systematically trained to recognize these images in speeds so rapid that one without such training might not perceive anything but a burst of light on the screen.

This same eye perception process can be applied to the written page of music. Through the systematic lessons contained in this book the reader will be able to recognize grouped patterns of notes and symbols, thus enhancing the speed and accuracy of music reading.

PART I Lessons 1 through 10

Dot Notes

"Dot notes" are random notes without stems or flags. By eliminating the stems and flags, various rhythmic groupings may be assigned to the dot notes, systematically increasing speed and accuracy.

Lessons contained in Part I each have 24 dot notes per line, allowing the use of several rhythmic groupings. By perceiving larger groupings of notes the ultimate speed of each note will increase. The use of the metronome is invaluable in these studies.

Dot Notes:



example:

Assigned Rhythmic Groups:




Played:



Lesson 1

Play the entire page of dot notes as fast and accurately as possible employing the assigned rhythmic groupings. Keep a record of metronome speeds. For further development utilize several of the suggested variations on page 3.

Assigned Rhythmic Groups: 



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Lesson 6

Assigned Rhythmic Groups: 



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Etude 1

Allegro

The musical score for Etude 1 consists of 12 staves of music. The tempo is marked 'Allegro'. The score includes various dynamics such as *mf*, *f*, *mp*, *cresc.*, *dim.*, and *f*. There are several triplet markings (3) throughout the piece. The music is written in a single melodic line on a grand staff. A large watermark 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid diagonally across the middle of the page.



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Etude 2

Allegro

The musical score consists of 12 staves of music. The first staff begins with a *pp* dynamic. The second staff has a *mf* dynamic. The third staff has a *ff* dynamic. The fourth staff has a *mf* dynamic. The fifth staff has a *f* dynamic. The sixth staff has a *sfz* dynamic. The seventh staff has a *f* dynamic. The eighth staff has a *ppp* dynamic. The ninth staff has a *mp* dynamic. The tenth staff has a *cresc.* dynamic. The eleventh staff has a *mp* dynamic. The twelfth staff has a *ff* dynamic.

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Etude 4

Moderato

mf

f *mf*

p *p-f*

mf



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Duet 1

Allegro moderato

First system of musical notation for Duet 1. It consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The bottom staff also begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and contains a triplet in the second measure.

Second system of musical notation for Duet 1. It consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The bottom staff also begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and contains a triplet in the second measure.

Third system of musical notation for Duet 1. It consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The bottom staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and contains a quintuplet in the first measure, and triplets in the second and fourth measures.

Fourth system of musical notation for Duet 1. It consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The bottom staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and contains a quintuplet in the second measure.

Fifth system of musical notation for Duet 1. It consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The bottom staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and contains a triplet in the second measure and a quintuplet in the fourth measure.

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First system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamic markings include *mf* and *sfz*. Fingerings 3, 5, and 3 are indicated. Trills (*tr*) are present over the final two notes of the system.

Second system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamic markings include *sfz*. Trills (*tr*) are present over several notes. Fingerings 3 and 5 are indicated.

Third system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamic marking *sfz* is present. Fingerings 3, 3, and 6 are indicated. Trills (*tr*) are present over several notes.

Fourth system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamic marking *f* is present. Fingerings 3 and 3 are indicated. Trills (*tr*) are present over several notes.

Fifth system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamic marking *mf* is present. Fingerings 5 and 3 are indicated. Trills (*tr*) are present over several notes.

Sixth system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings 3 and 5 are indicated. Trills (*tr*) are present over several notes.



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