

# ELEMENTS of MUSIC

## TIMBRE

The different types sounds made by instruments.

It is caused by the different materials instruments are made of, and the way they are played.

## RHYTHM

The mix of long and short sounds put together.

Rhythm includes the length of sound, silence, beat, and tempo.

## PITCH

The height of the sound.

The sounds can be high or low.

## DYNAMICS

The volume of sound you can hear.

Pianissimo (*pp*) = very soft

Piano (*p*) = soft

Forte (*f*) = loud

Fortissimo (*ff*) = very loud

## TEXTURE

The layers of sound.

The music can be thin or thick.

Monophonic = one layer of melody

Polyphonic = two or more layers

Homophonic = melody with accompaniment

## FORM

The structure of sections in music.

Examples include ternary form, ostinato, canon, or call and response.