






DEAN GILES MUSIC EDUCATION

Study Sheet Four - Dynamic & Tempo Markings

<i>fff</i> Forte Possible – Loudest Possible	>	Accent	Louder
<i>ff</i> Fortissimo Very Loud	◡	Fermata	Hold
<i>f</i> Forte Loud	Fine	“Fee-Nay”	The End
<i>mf</i> Mezzo Forte Moderately Loud	  	Repeat Markings	
<i>mp</i> Mezzo Piano Moderately Quiet	D. C.	da capo	To The Top
<i>p</i> Piano Quiet	D. S.	dal segno	To The Sign
<i>pp</i> Pianissimo Very Quiet		The Sign	A Place To Return To
<i>ppp</i> Piano Possible – Quietest Possible		Coda	Ending Section

In addition, there are words used to indicate gradual changes in volume. The two most common are *crescendo*, sometimes abbreviated to *cresc.*, meaning "get gradually louder"; and *decrescendo* or *diminuendo*, sometimes abbreviated to *decresc.* and *dim.* respectively, meaning "get gradually softer". Signs sometimes referred to as "hairpins" are also used to stand for these words (See image). If the lines are joined at the left, then the indication is to get louder; if they join at the right, the indication is to get softer. The following notation indicates music starting moderately loud, then becoming gradually louder and then gradually quieter.



Tempo

Italian terms and beats per minute as suggested by modern metronomes.

Prestissimo	200 +	bpm
Presto	168 – 200	bpm
Allegro	120 - 168	bpm
Moderato	108 – 120	bpm
Andante	76 – 108	bpm
Adagio	66 – 76	bpm
Larghetto	60 – 66	bpm
Largo	40 – 60	bpm

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