

Free Video Tutorials and
Reproducible PDF Worksheets
www.stephenhillcomposer.com

Basic Elements of Reading and Writing Music

Stephen Hill

K-12 Band and Orchestra

Whittier Christian Schools and California High School


SARAHTIM Music Publishing




This series of 40 videos and accompanying worksheets was designed to introduce my students to the basic vocabulary and fundamental elements of reading and writing music. It is not intended as an in-depth study of all that Music Theory entails.

Though written with my students in mind and from the perspective of how I presented the concepts, the videos and worksheets are available to anyone who may find them helpful.

You can view the video tutorials and download the PDF worksheets from my website at www.stephenhillcomposer.com under *Resources*. The videos are also viewable on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@stephenhillcomposer>.

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About the Composer...**Stephen Hill** (b. 1958) was born and raised in Southern California. He studied composition with Philip Westin at Cerritos College (CA), W. Francis McBeth at Ouachita Baptist University (Arkansas), and Byong Kon Kim at California State University, Los Angeles. Stephen's studies with these composers connect him to a lineage that includes their teachers, Roy Harris, Ingolf Dahl, Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, Bernhard Heiden, and Howard Hanson. Stephen composes for the simple joy of it.

For over 40 years, Stephen taught K-12 instrumental music in the Private Christian School (Whittier Christian) and Public School (California High School) settings. Although semi-retired, Stephen continues to work with students by teaching part-time at California High School and maintaining his private music studio, where he plays and teaches Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, and Piano. Stephen also plays with the church orchestra where he attends. When teaching full-time, he was primarily a "summer" composer. No longer teaching full-time, Stephen has the privilege of composing beyond just the summer months and publishes through his company, SARAHTIM — a title that comes from simply combining the names of his daughter, Sarah, and son, Timothy. (*Notes by Dr. John Burdett, Azusa Pacific University*)

“Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence.” J.S.Bach

“The Lord is my shepherd...” (Psalm 23)

*To listen to Stephen's music, view pdf and video scores visit:
www.stephenhillcomposer.com*


SARAHTIM Music Publishing


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Basic Elements of Reading and Writing Music

23.

Composing Your Own Melodies

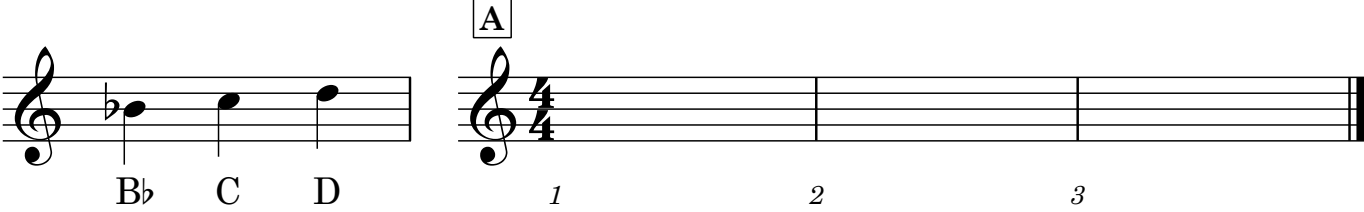
Stephen Hill
K-12 Band and Orchestra
Whittier Christian Schools and California High School


SARAHTIM Music Publishing


Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

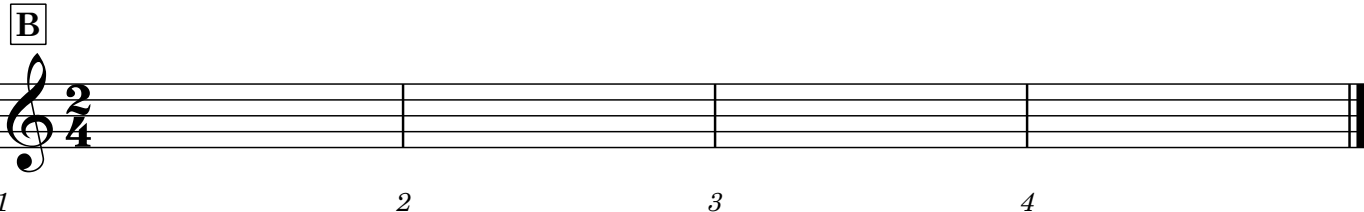
Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 5 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A



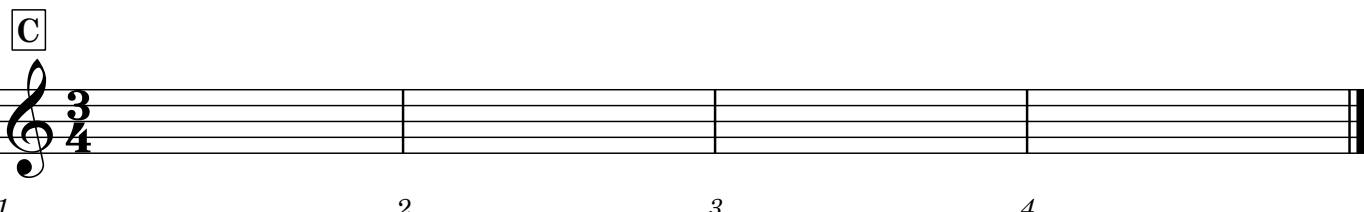
B $\flat$ C D 1 2 3

B



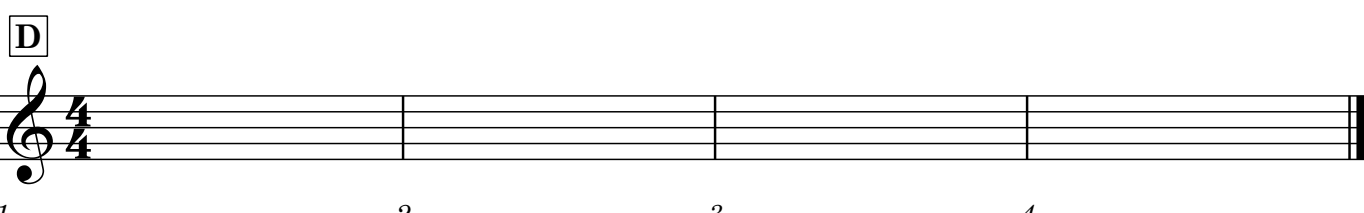
1 2 3 4

C



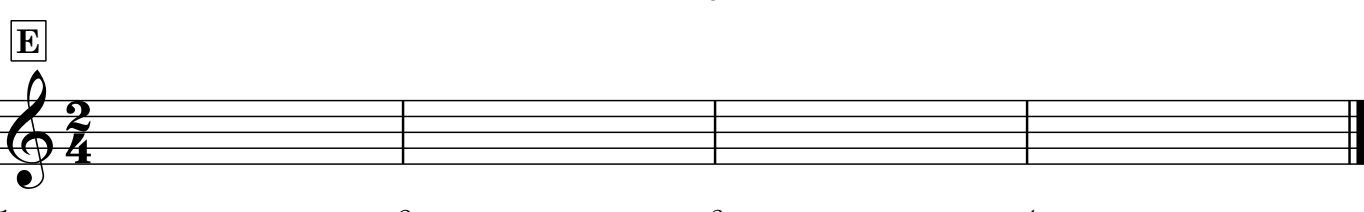
1 2 3 4

D



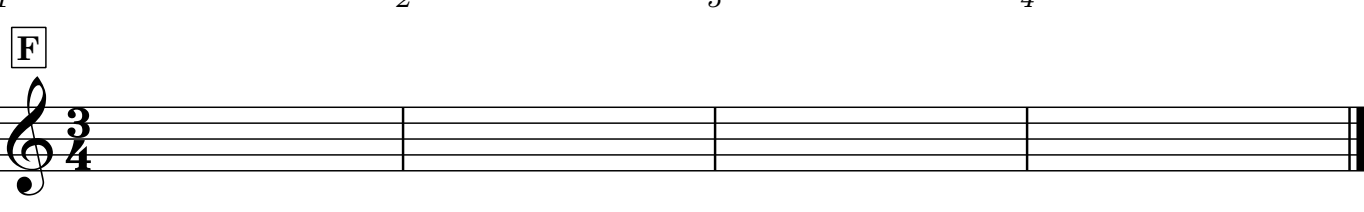
1 2 3 4

E



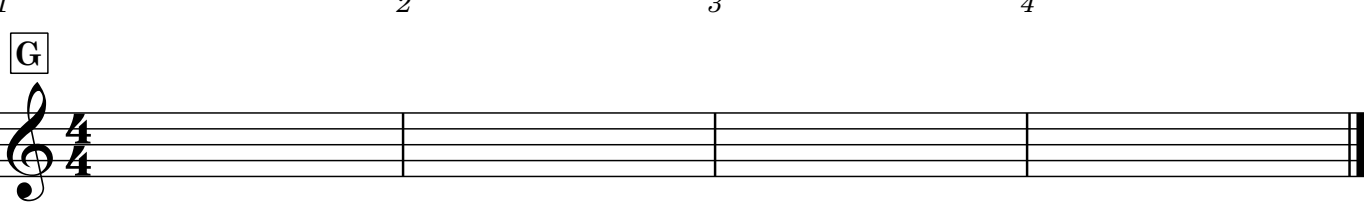
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

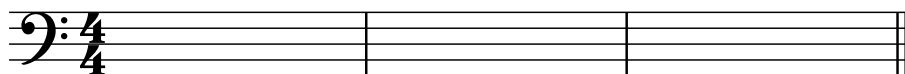
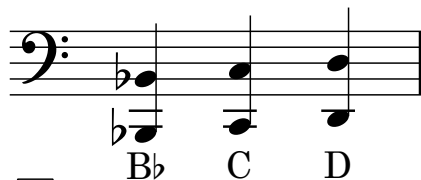


1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 5 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A

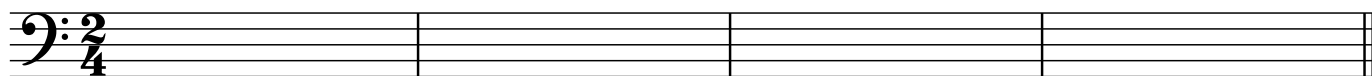


1

2

3

B



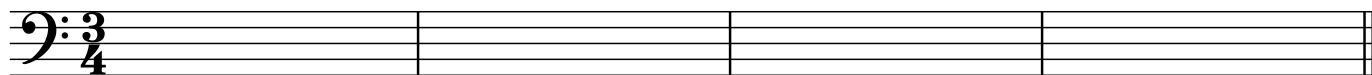
1

2

3

4

C



1

2

3

4

D



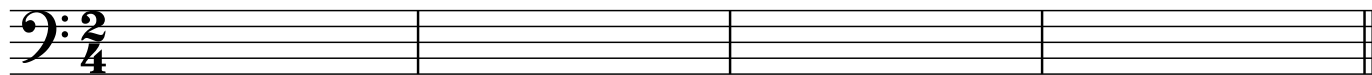
1

2

3

4

E



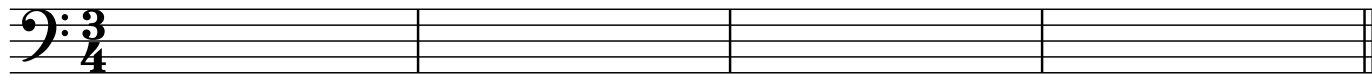
1

2

3

4

F



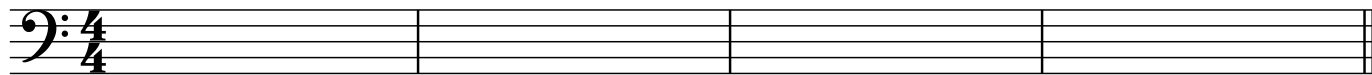
1

2

3

4

G



1

2

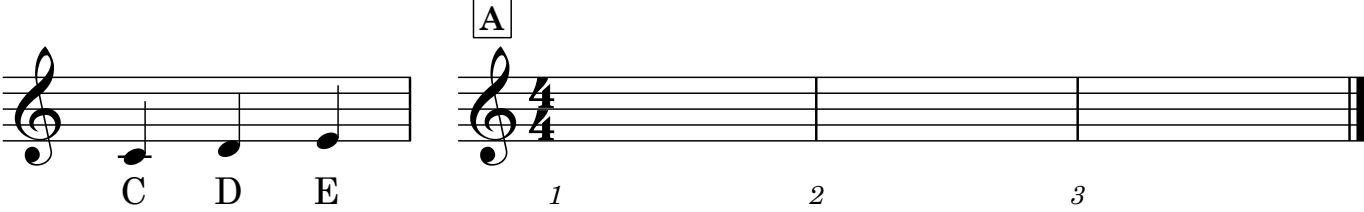
3

4

Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

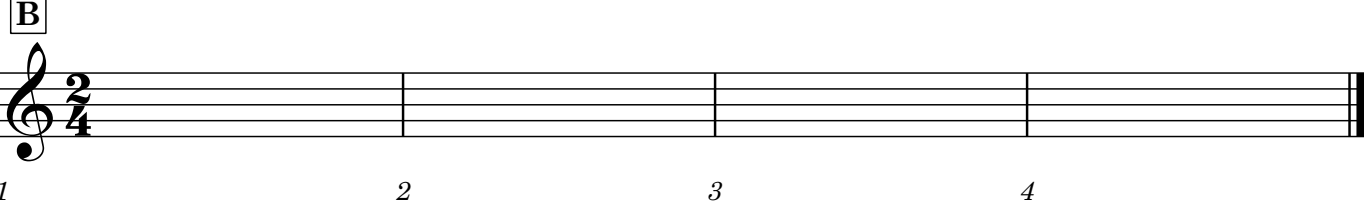
A



C D E

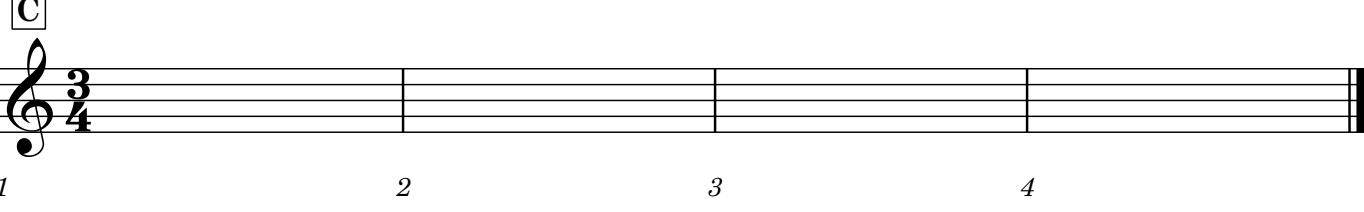
1 2 3

B



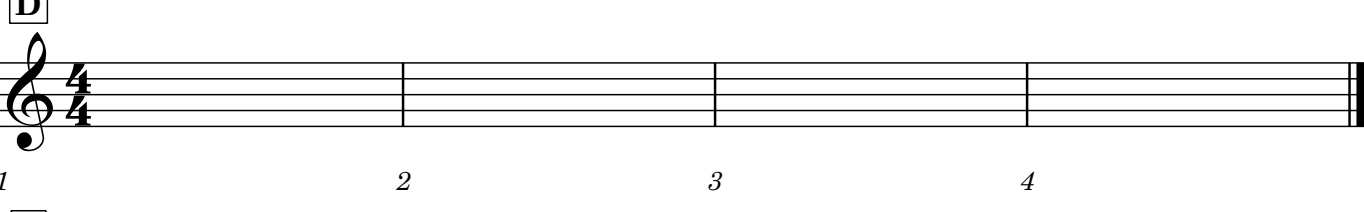
1 2 3 4

C



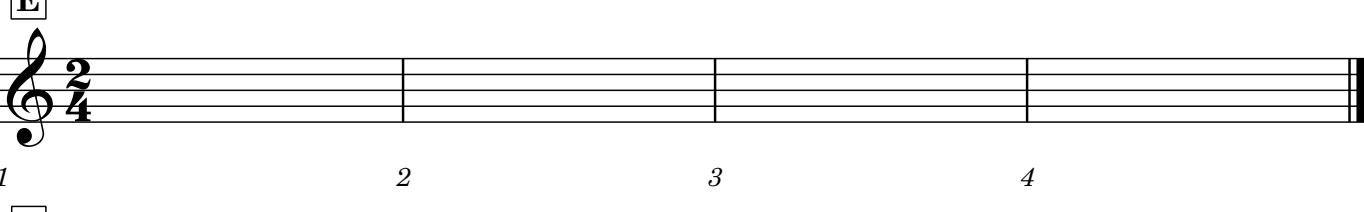
1 2 3 4

D



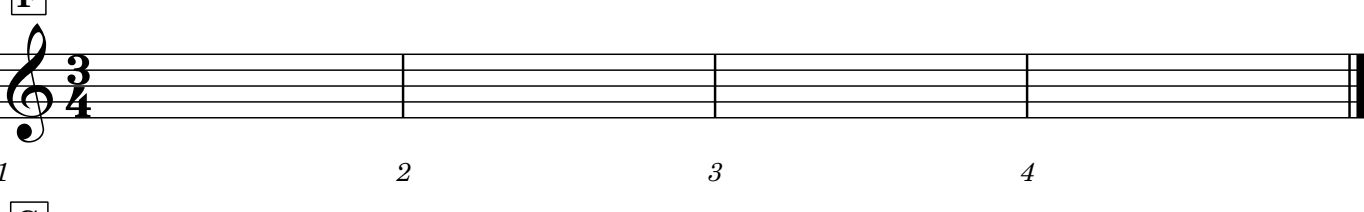
1 2 3 4

E



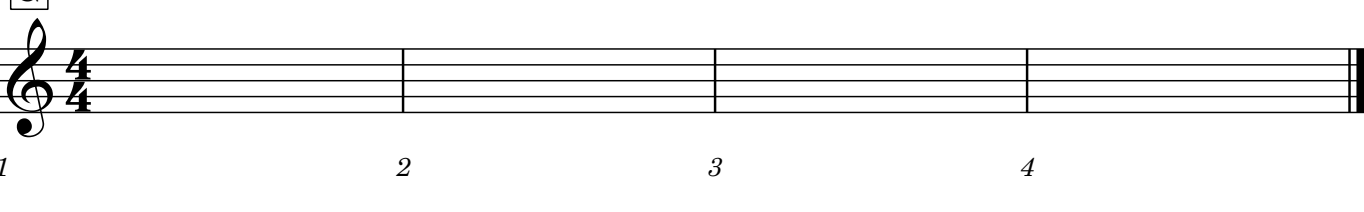
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

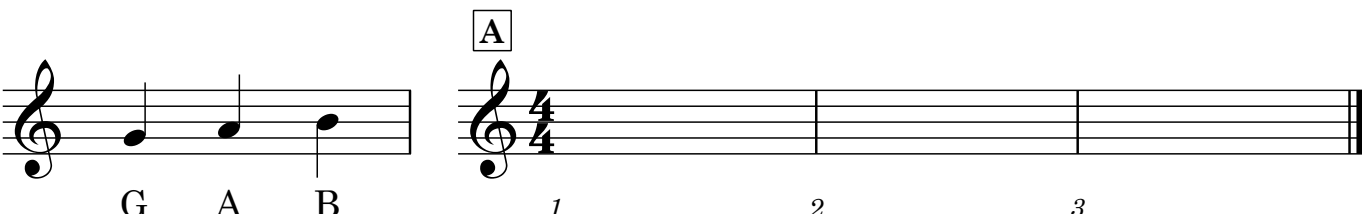


1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

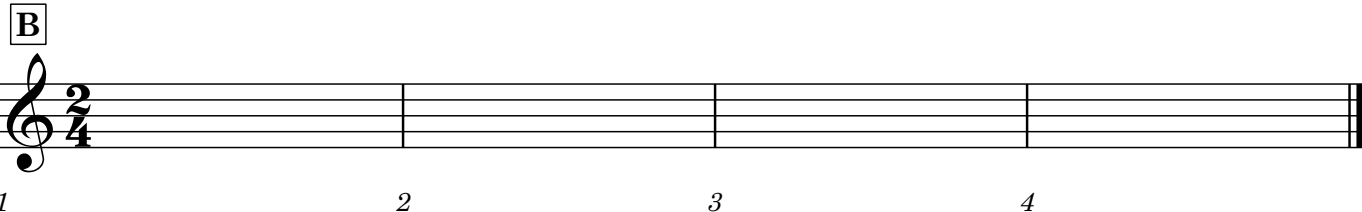
A



G A B

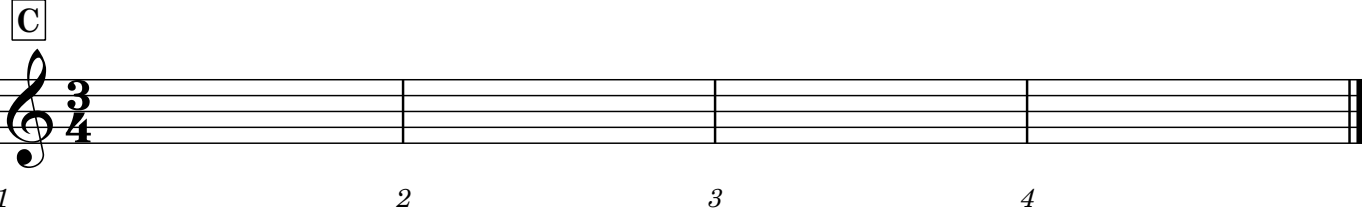
1 2 3

B



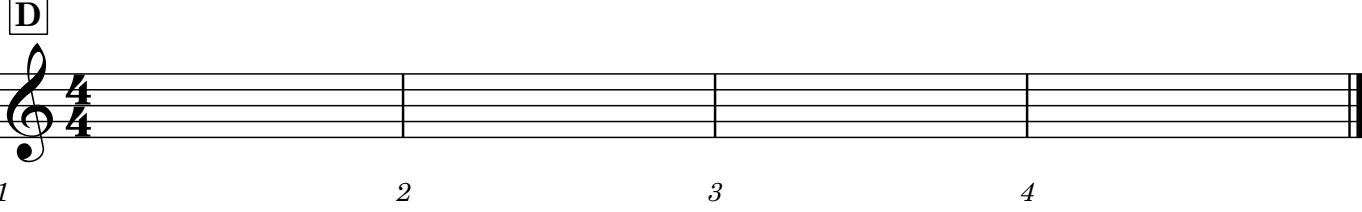
1 2 3 4

C



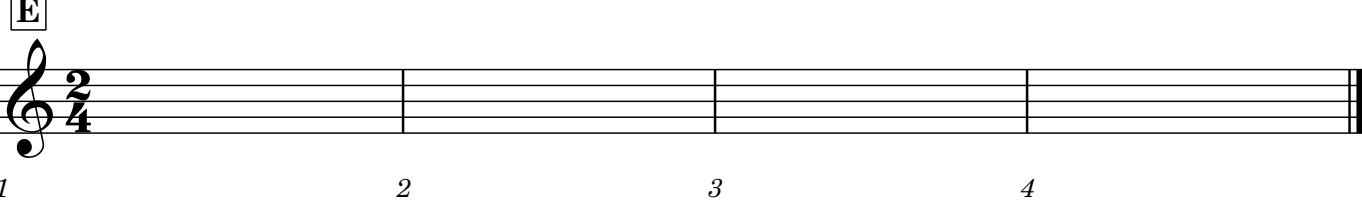
1 2 3 4

D



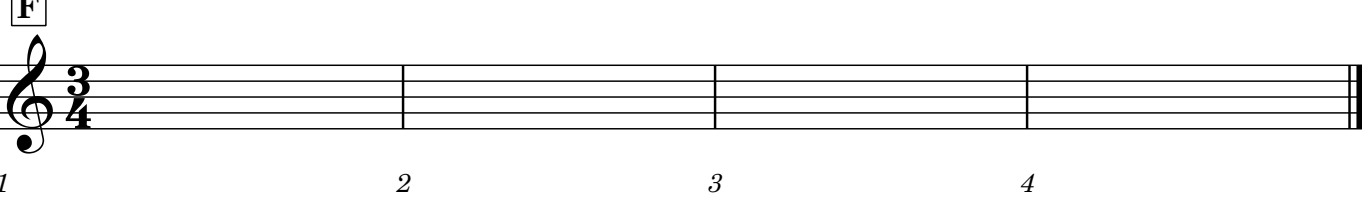
1 2 3 4

E



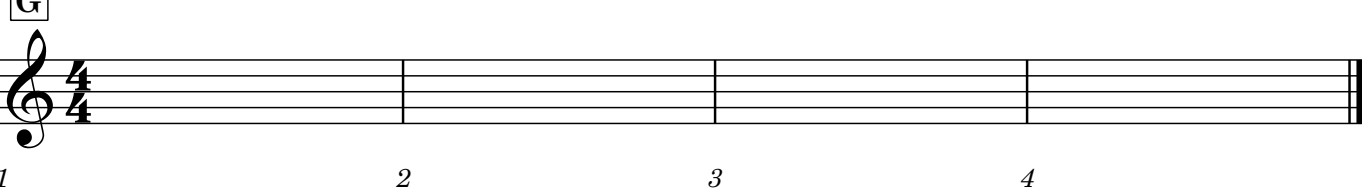
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

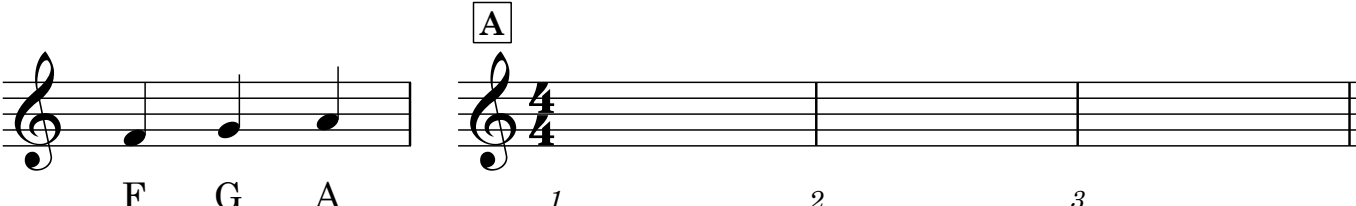


1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

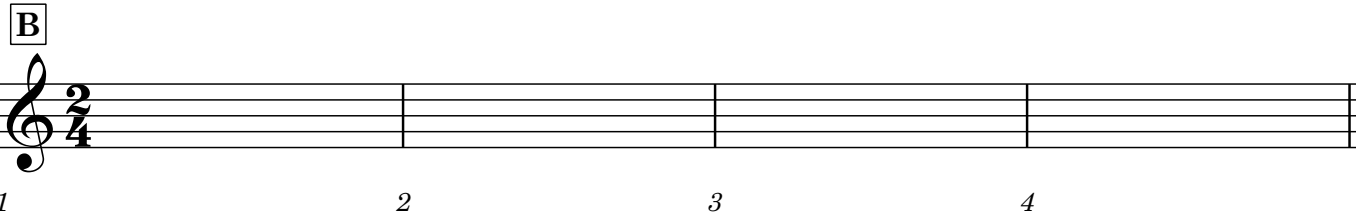
Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A



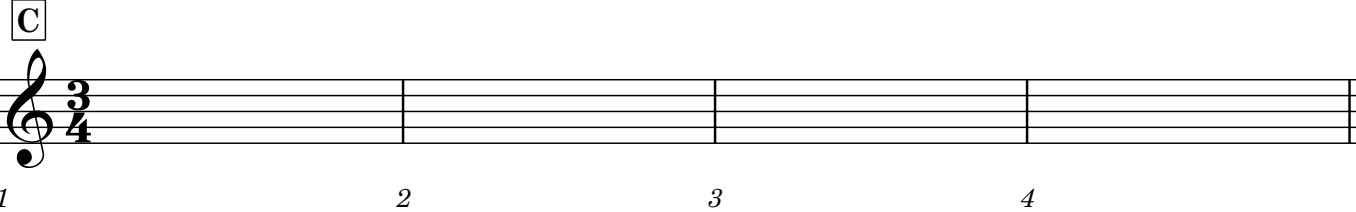
F G A 1 2 3

B



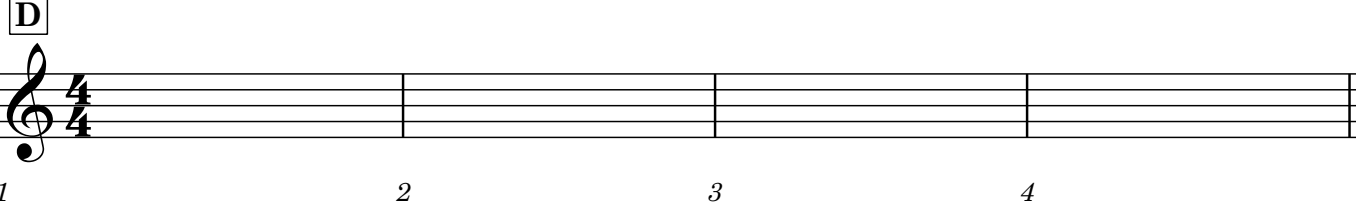
1 2 3 4

C



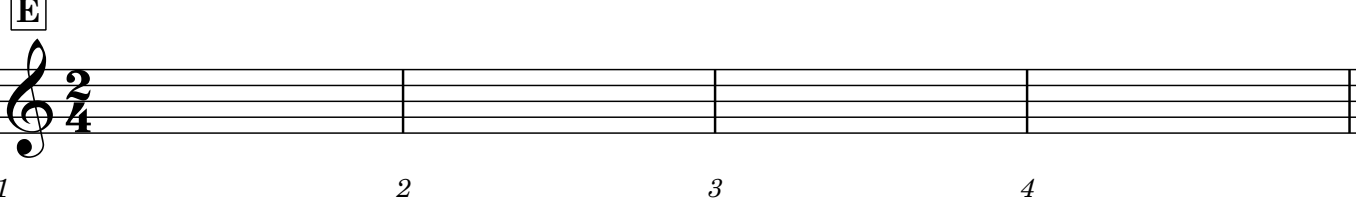
1 2 3 4

D



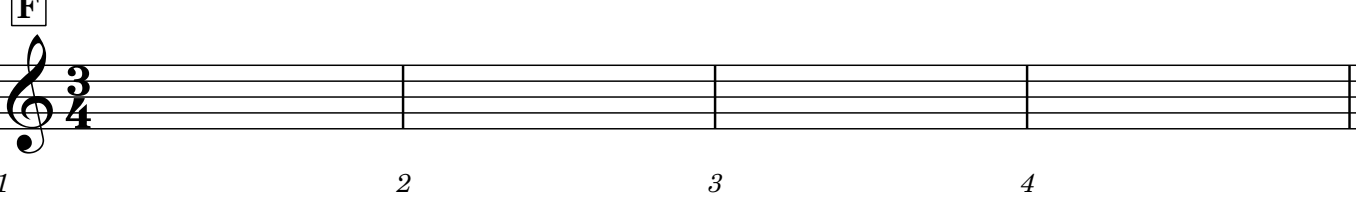
1 2 3 4

E



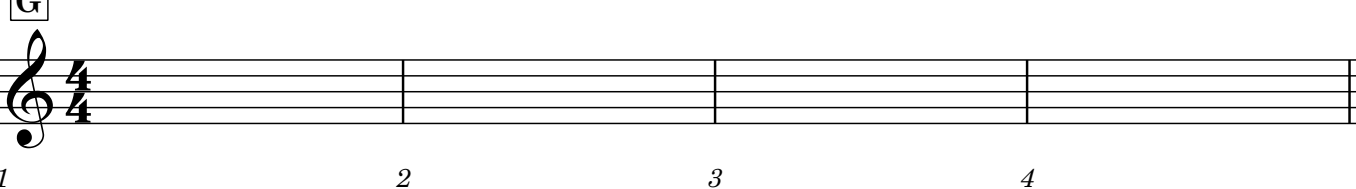
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

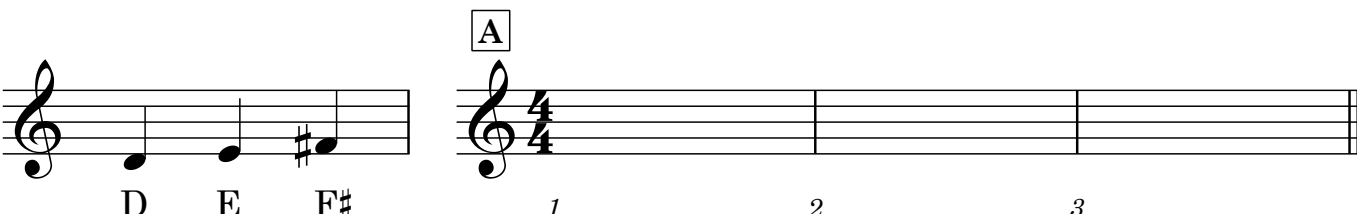


1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♫, ♮, compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

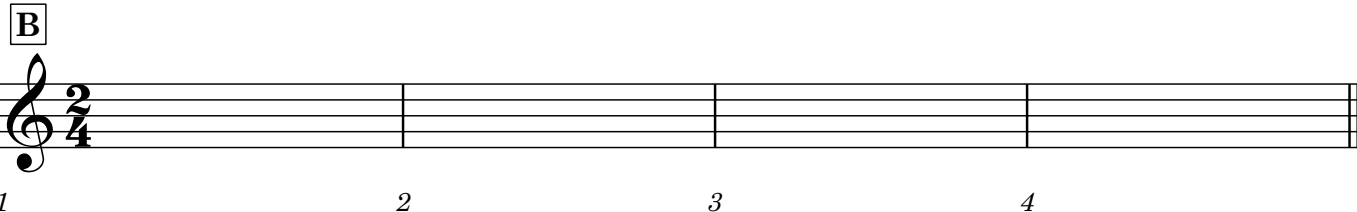
A



D E F#

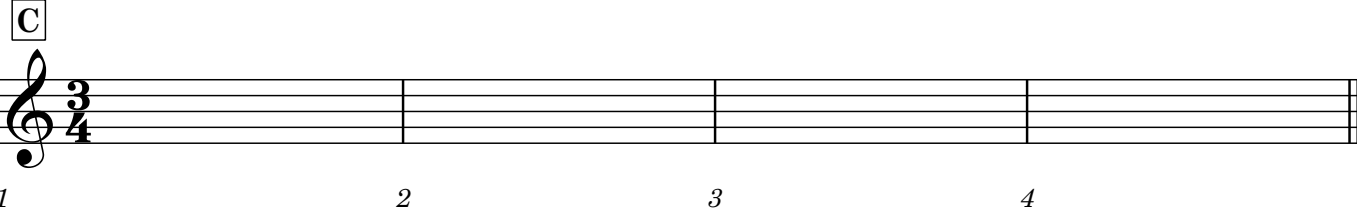
1 2 3

B



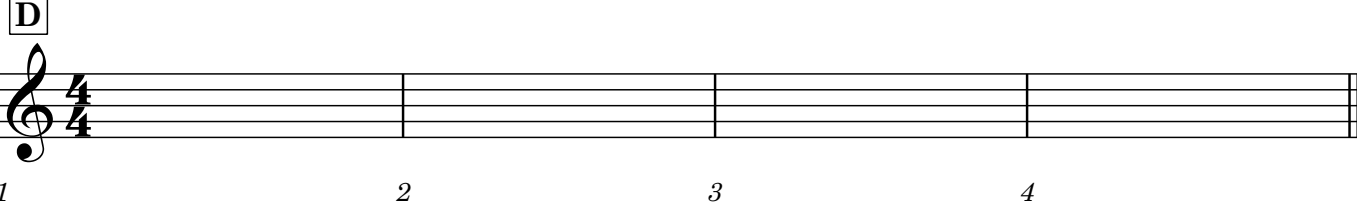
1 2 3 4

C



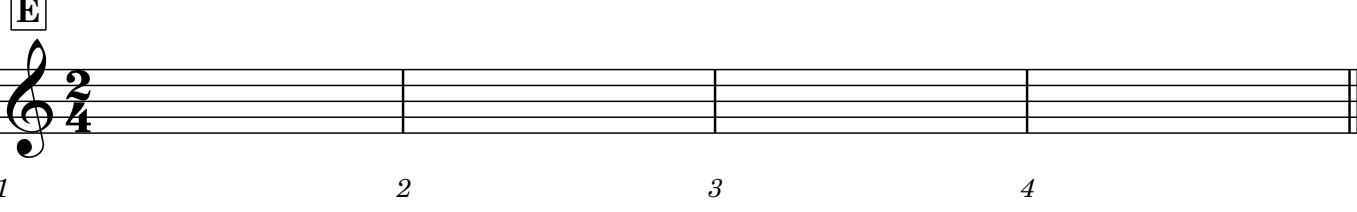
1 2 3 4

D



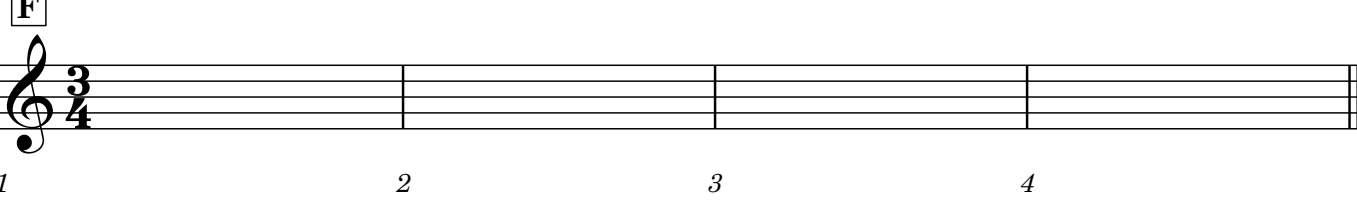
1 2 3 4

E



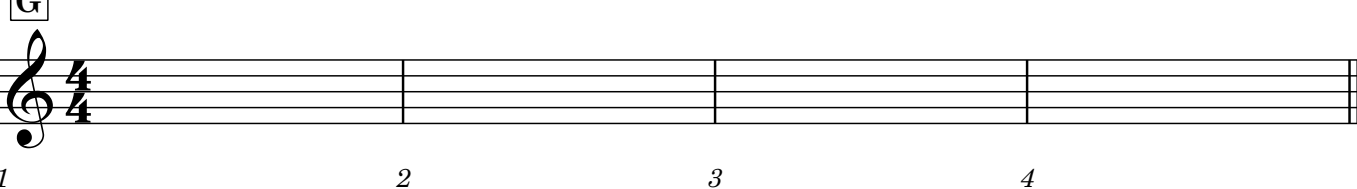
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

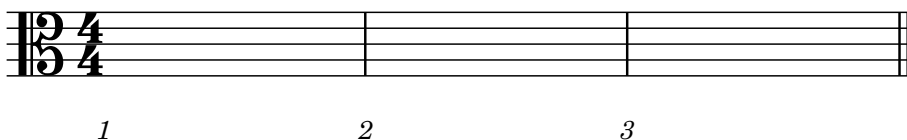
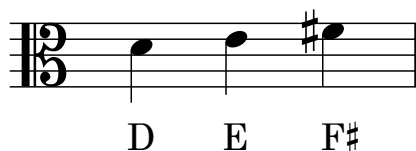


1 2 3 4

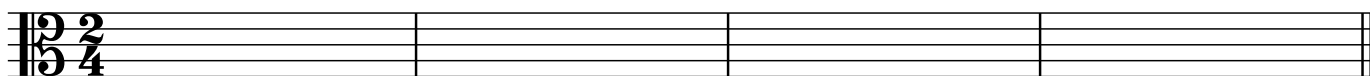
Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

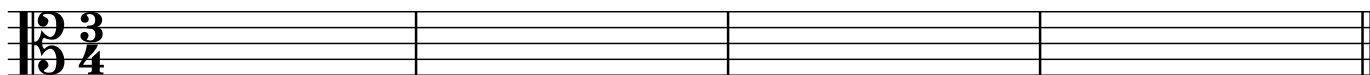
A



B



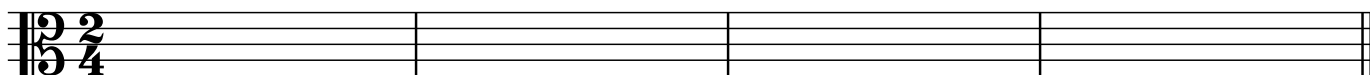
C



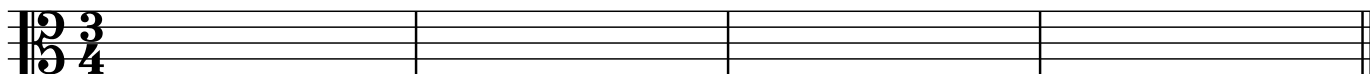
D



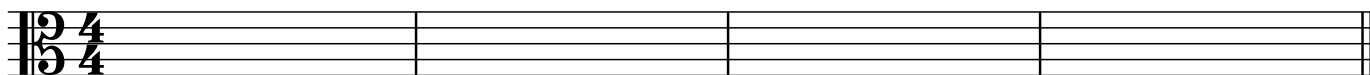
E



F



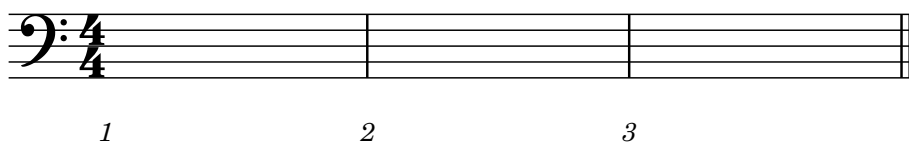
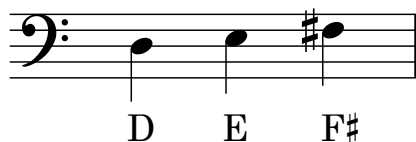
G



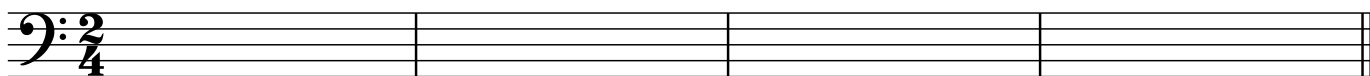
Compose Your Own 3 Note Melodies

Using only these 3 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

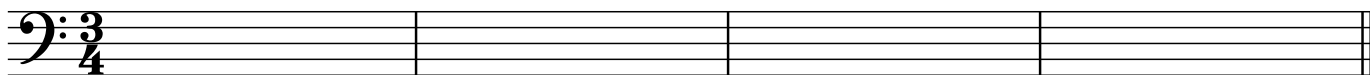
A



B



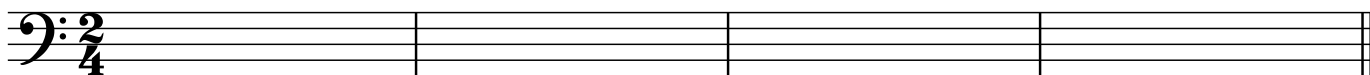
C



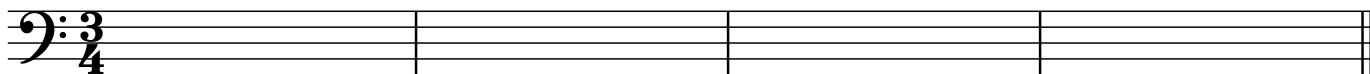
D



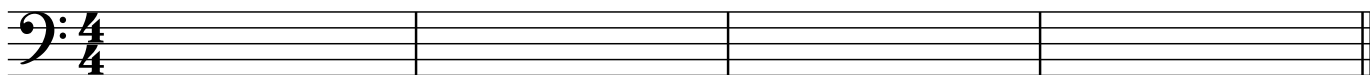
E



F



G



Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ∅, compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A

B $\flat$ C D E $\flat$

1 2 3

B

1 2 3 4

C

1 2 3 4

D

1 2 3 4

E

1 2 3 4

F

1 2 3 4

G

1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A

1 2 3

B

1 2 3 4

C

1 2 3 4

D

1 2 3 4

E

1 2 3 4

F

1 2 3 4

G

1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A

C D E F

1 2 3

B

1 2 3 4

C

1 2 3 4

D

1 2 3 4

E

1 2 3 4

F

1 2 3 4

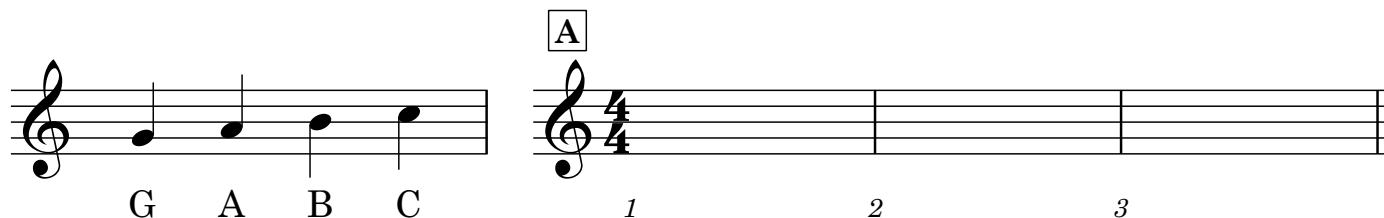
G

1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

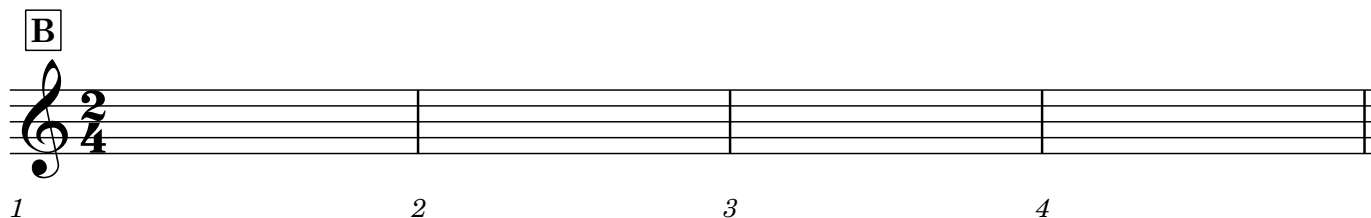
A



G A B C

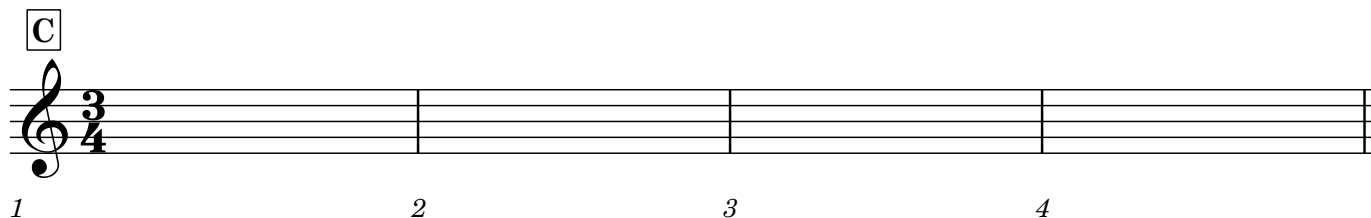
1 2 3

B



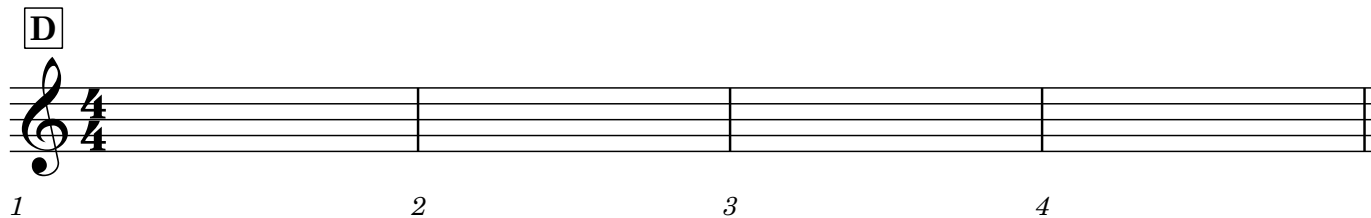
1 2 3 4

C



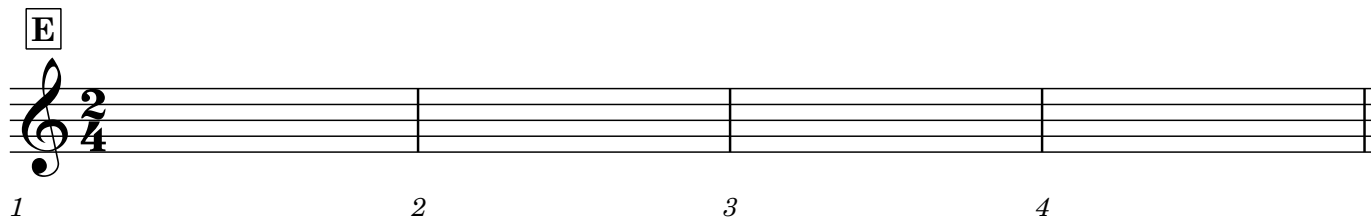
1 2 3 4

D



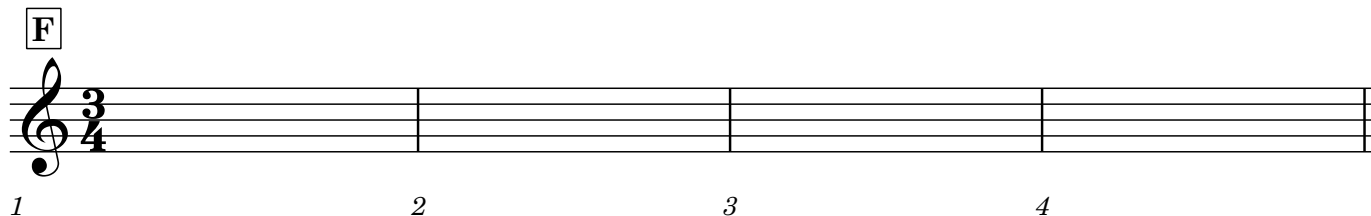
1 2 3 4

E



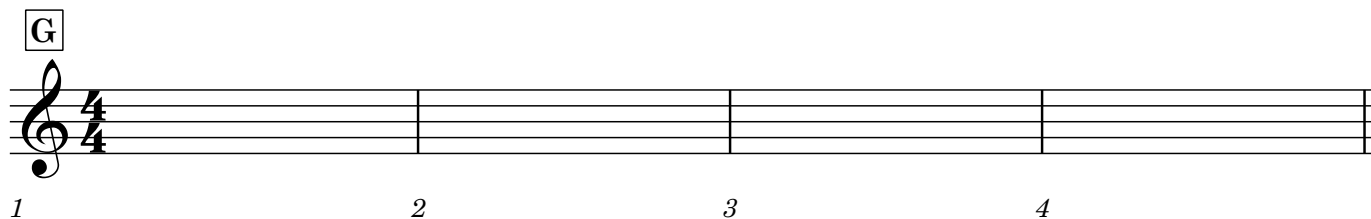
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

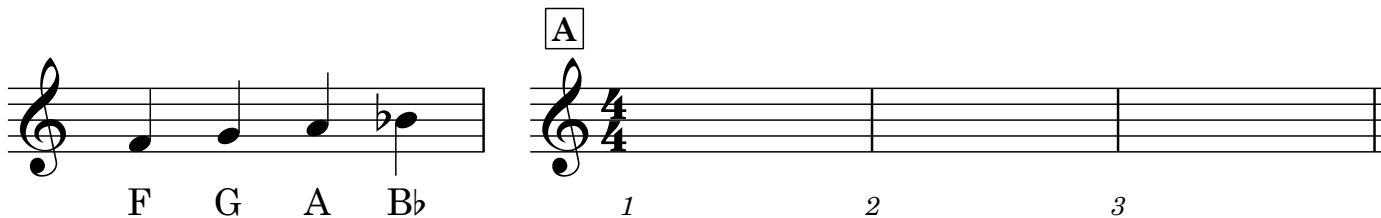


1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

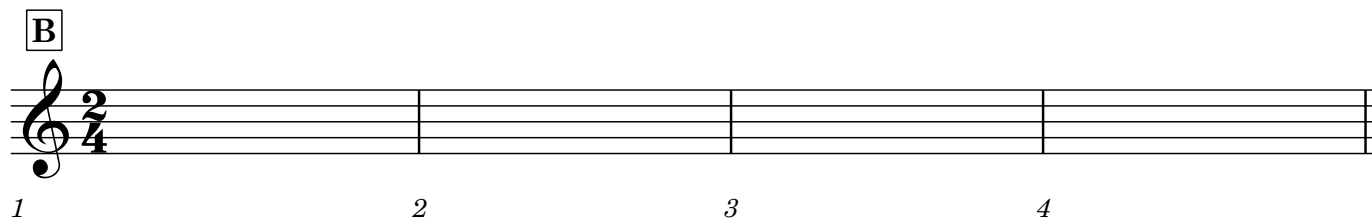
A



F G A B $\flat$

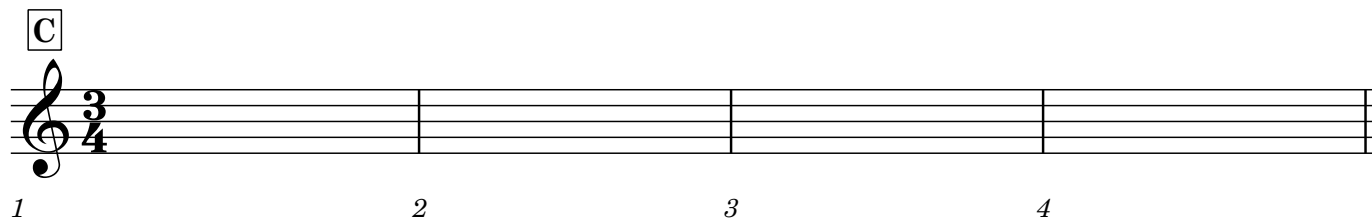
1 2 3

B



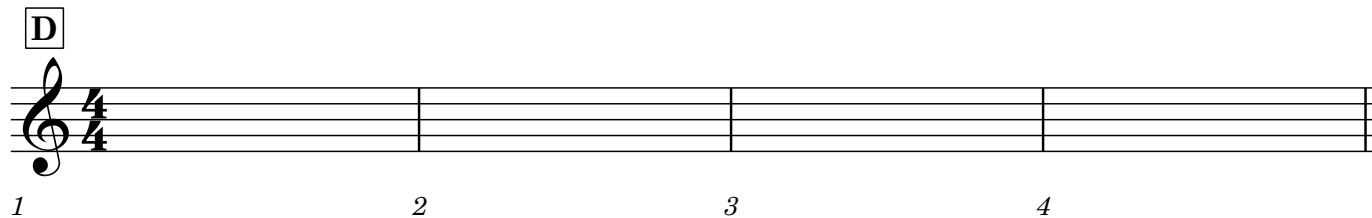
1 2 3 4

C



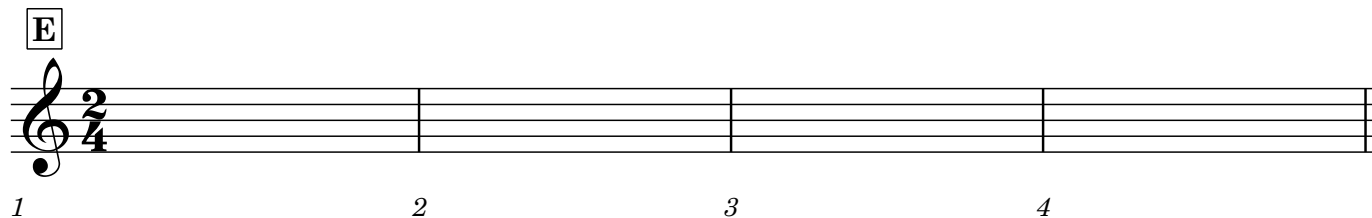
1 2 3 4

D



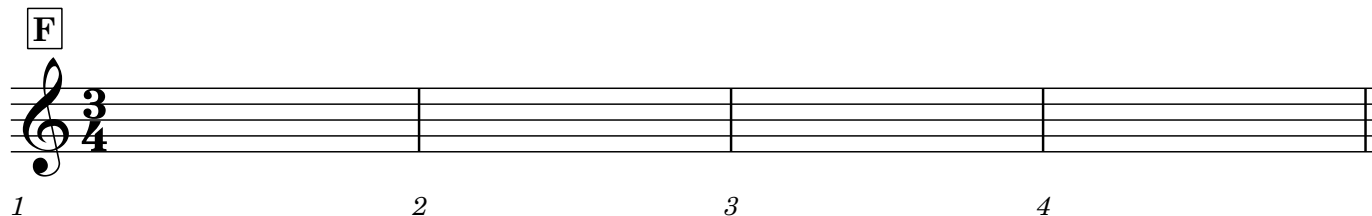
1 2 3 4

E



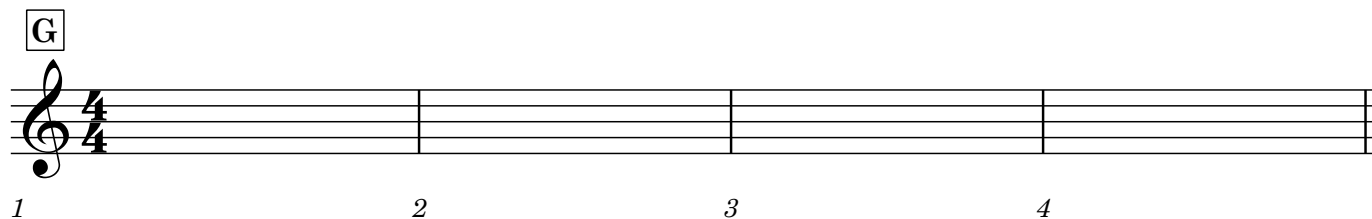
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

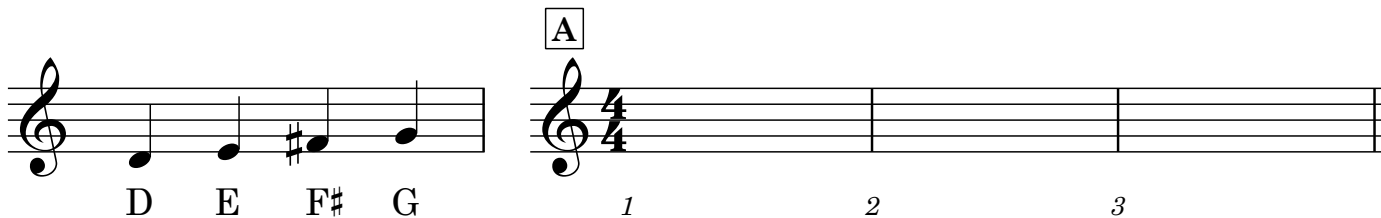


1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

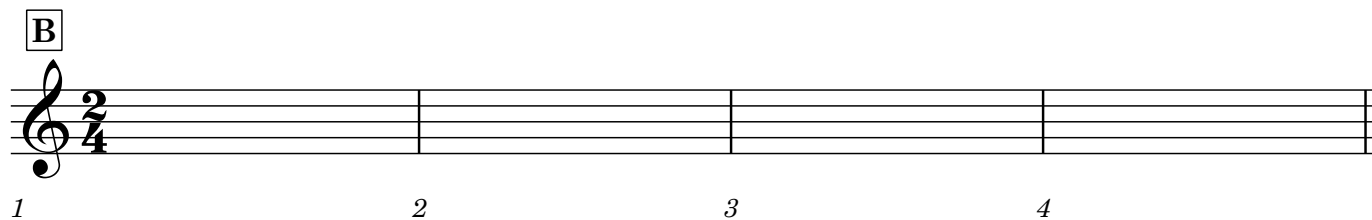
A



D E F# G

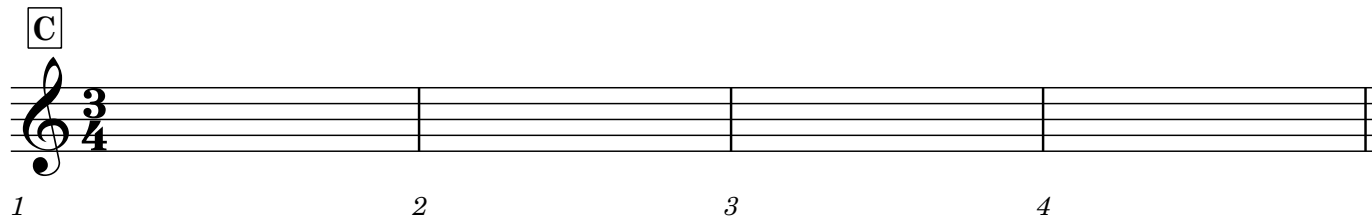
1 2 3

B



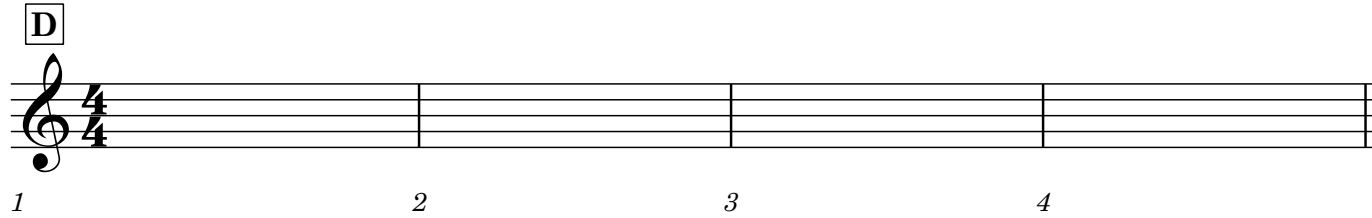
1 2 3 4

C



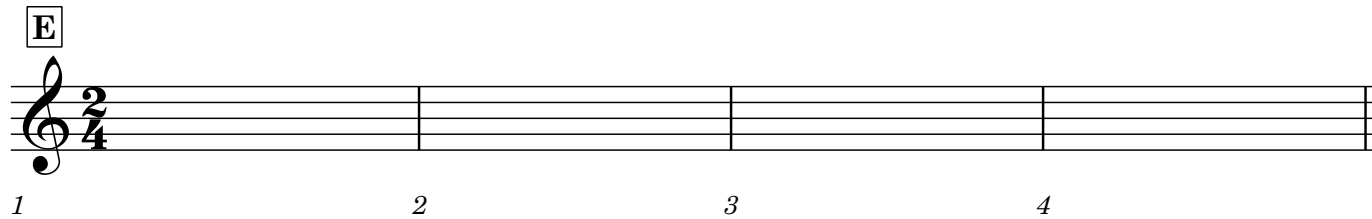
1 2 3 4

D



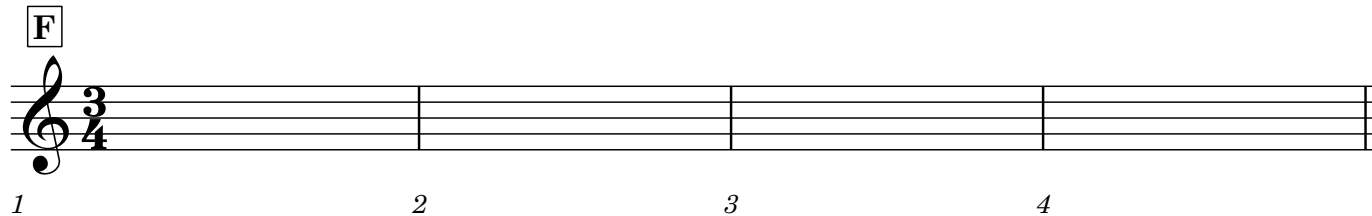
1 2 3 4

E



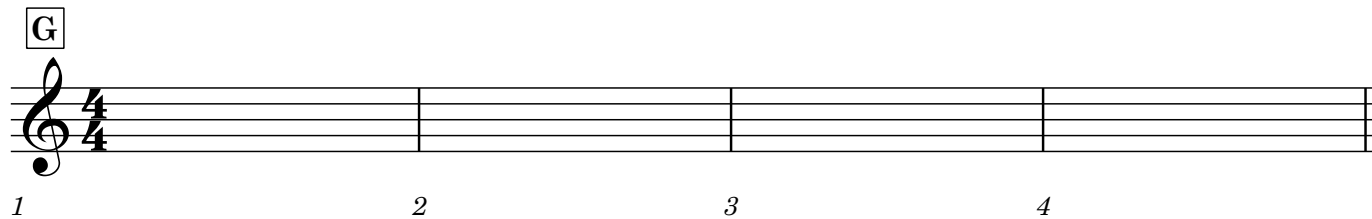
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G



1 2 3 4

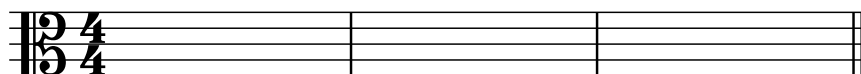
Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A

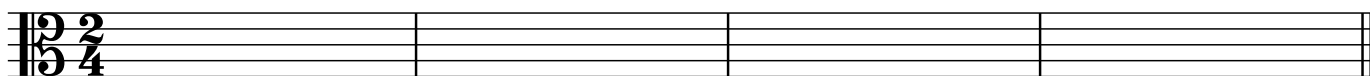


D E F# G



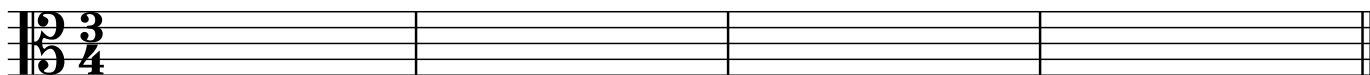
1 2 3

B



1 2 3 4

C



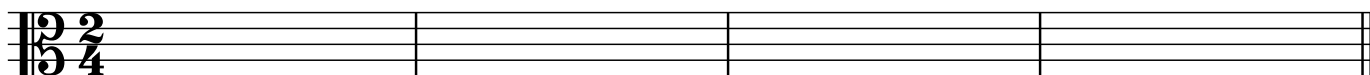
1 2 3 4

D



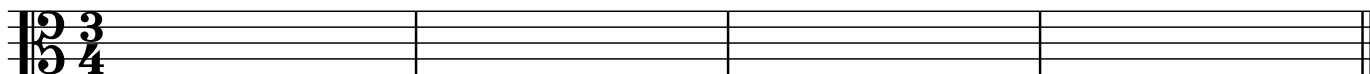
1 2 3 4

E



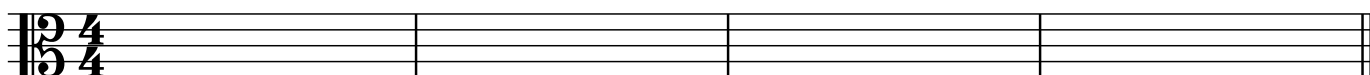
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

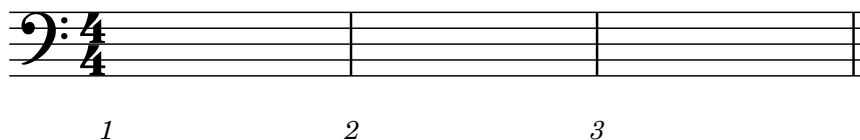
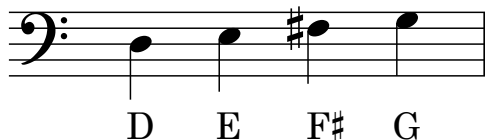


1 2 3 4

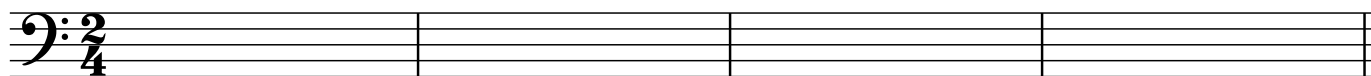
Compose Your Own 4 Note Melodies

Using only these 4 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

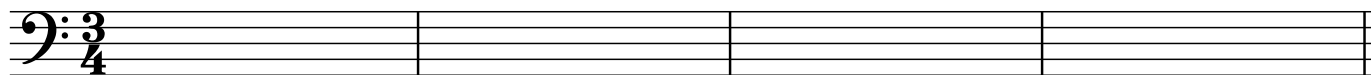
A



B



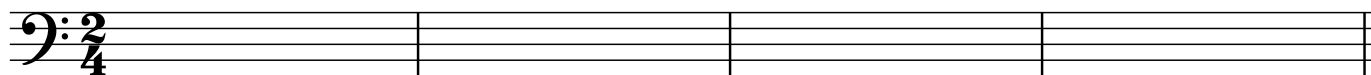
C



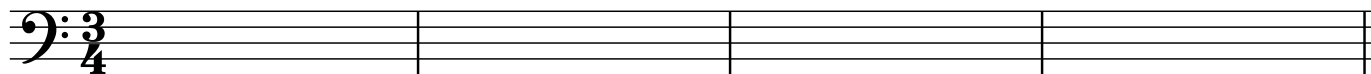
D



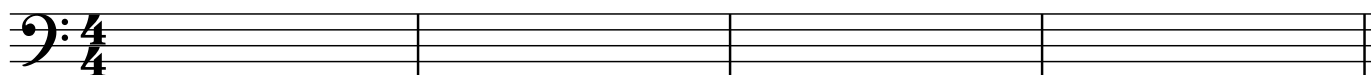
E



F



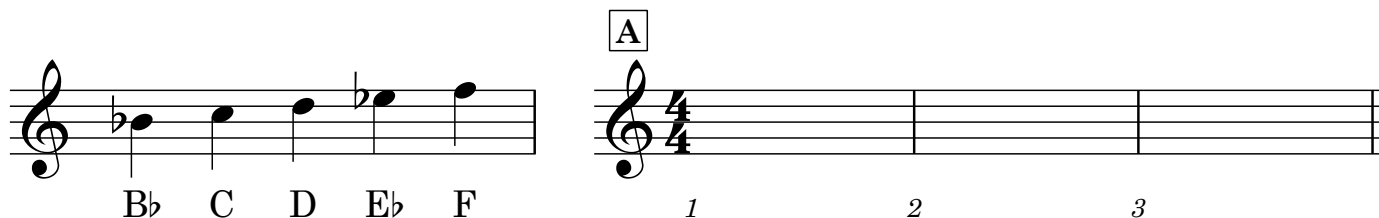
G



Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

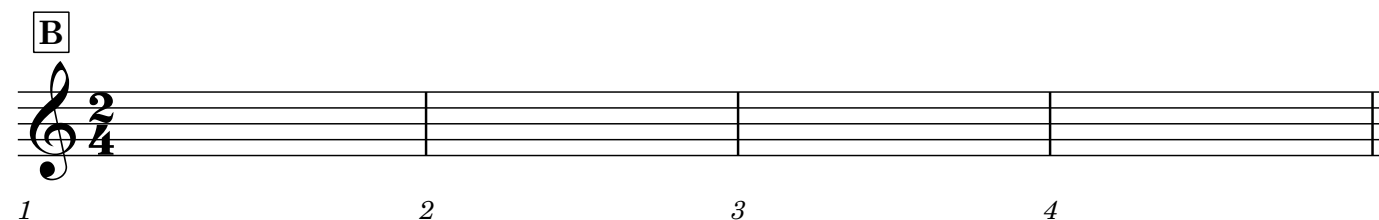
A



B $\flat$ C D E $\flat$ F

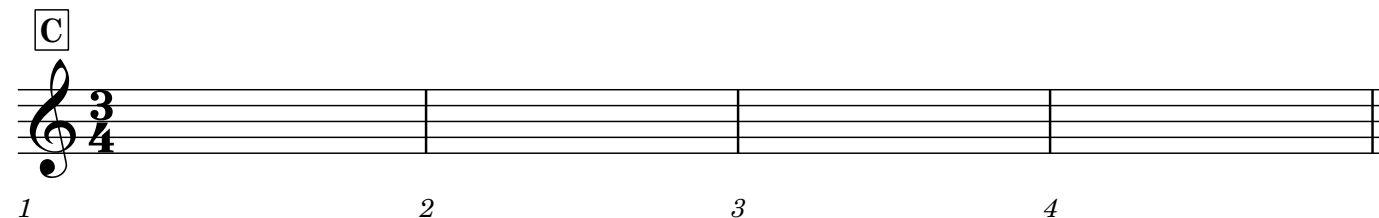
1 2 3

B



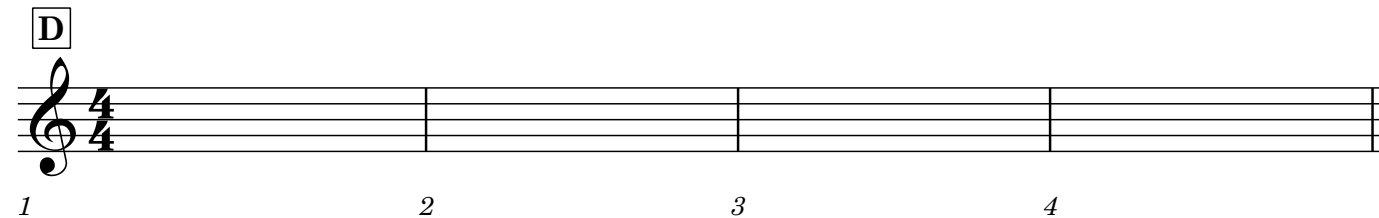
1 2 3 4

C



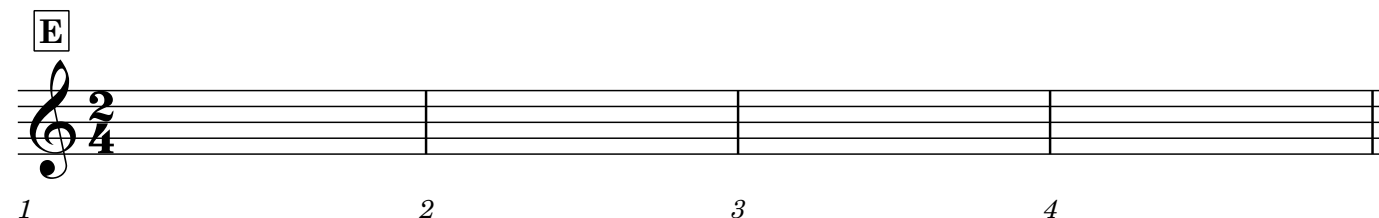
1 2 3 4

D



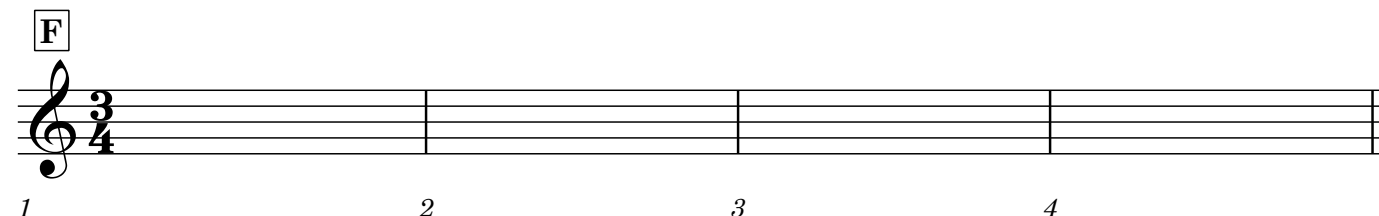
1 2 3 4

E



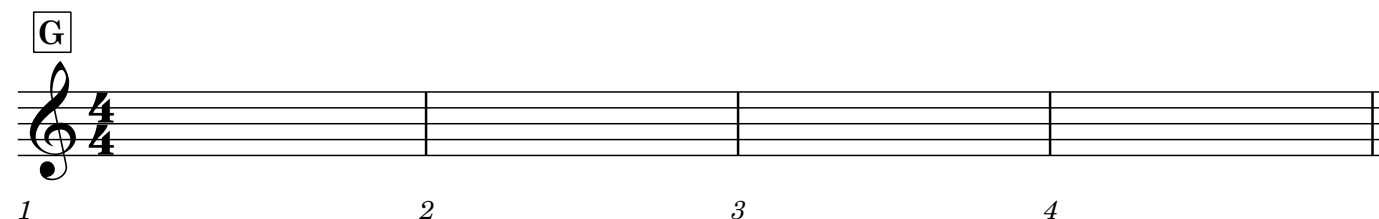
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G



1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A

B $\flat$ C D E $\flat$ F

1 2 3

B

1 2 3 4

C

1 2 3 4

D

1 2 3 4

E

1 2 3 4

F

1 2 3 4

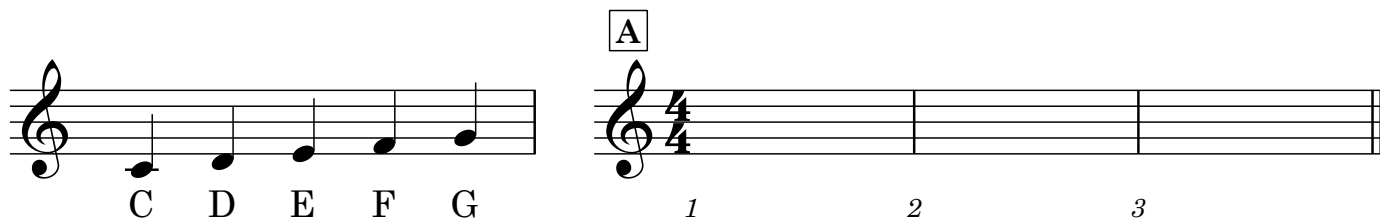
G

1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

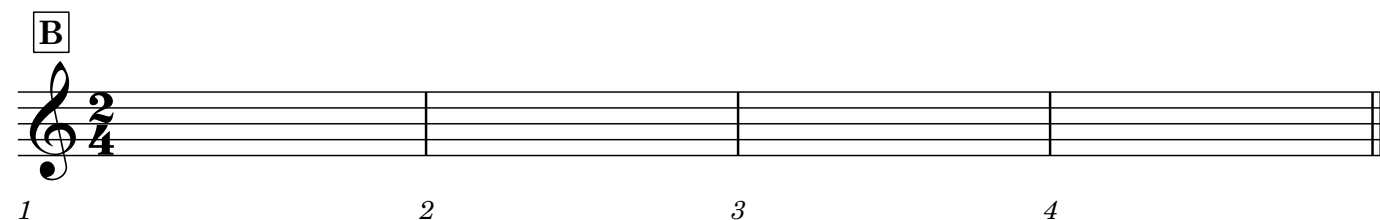
A



C D E F G

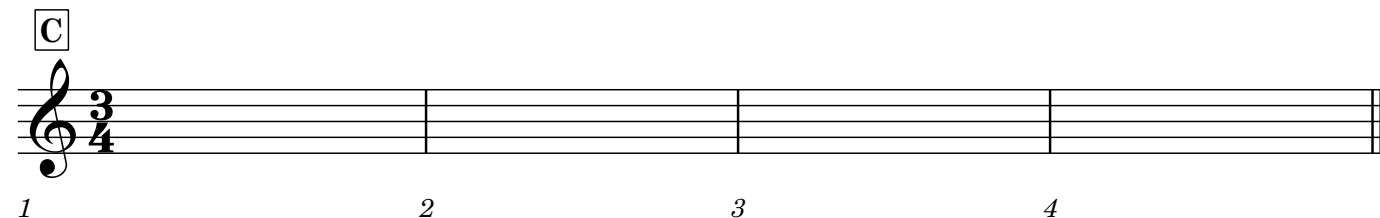
1 2 3

B



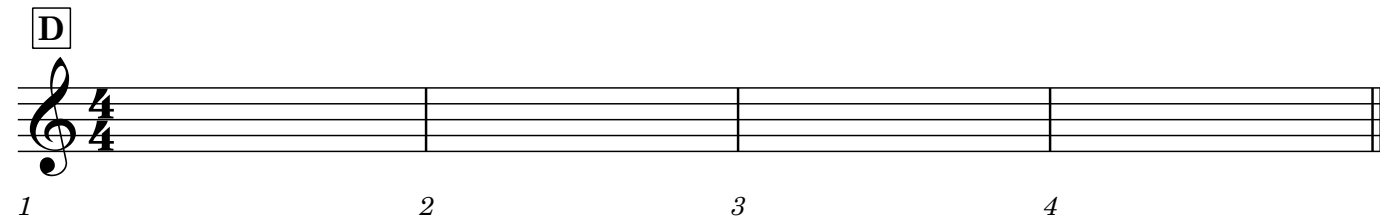
1 2 3 4

C



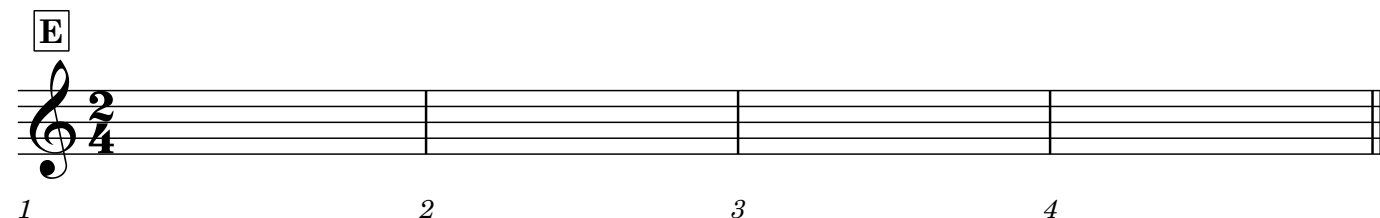
1 2 3 4

D



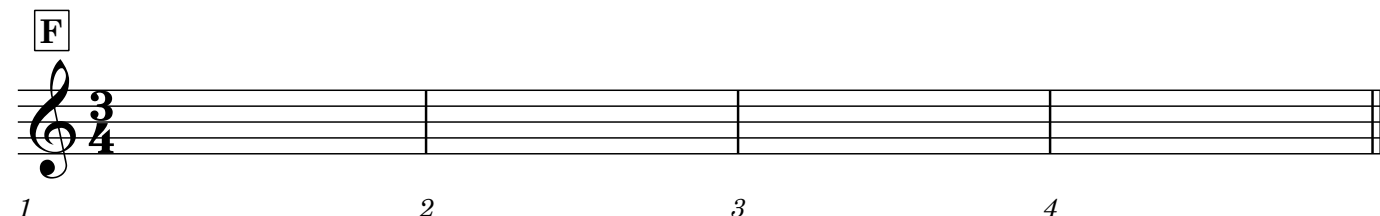
1 2 3 4

E



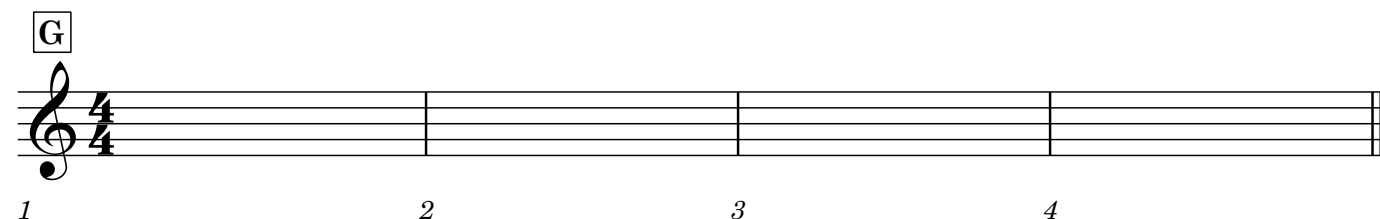
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G



1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

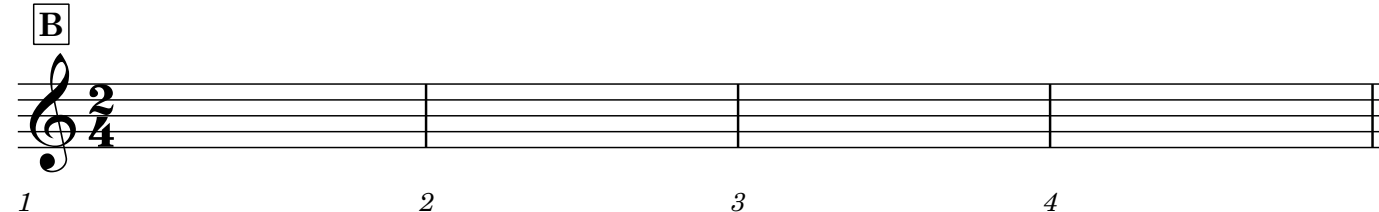
A



G A B C D

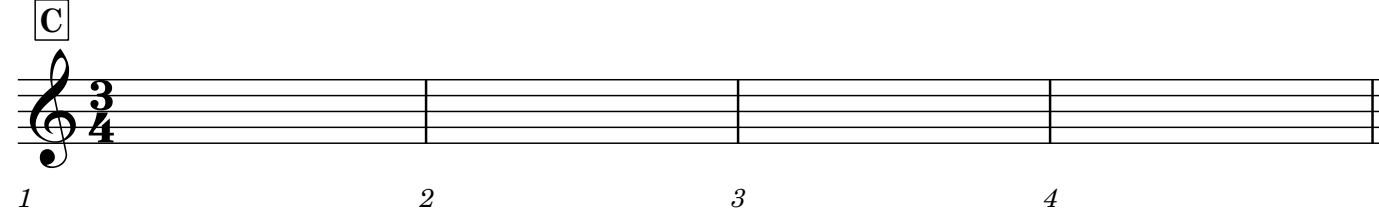
1 2 3

B



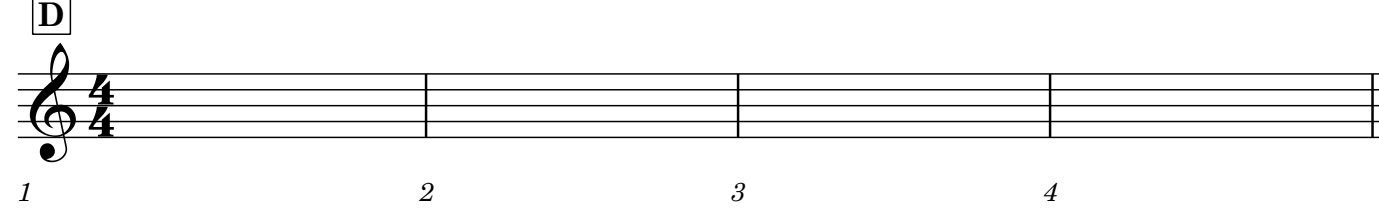
1 2 3 4

C



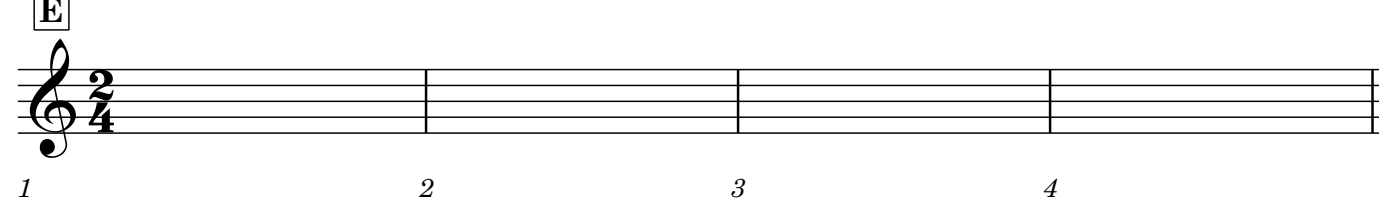
1 2 3 4

D



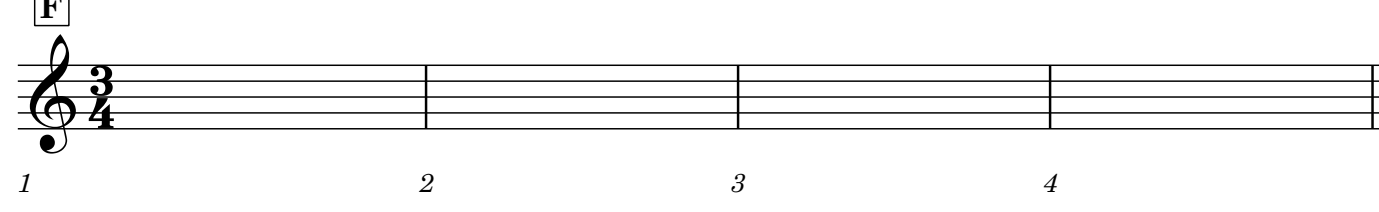
1 2 3 4

E



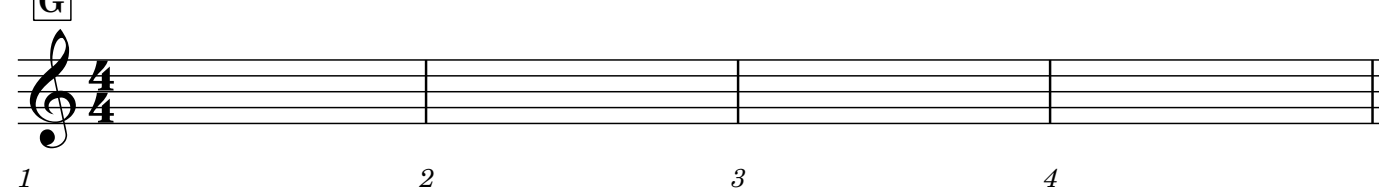
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G

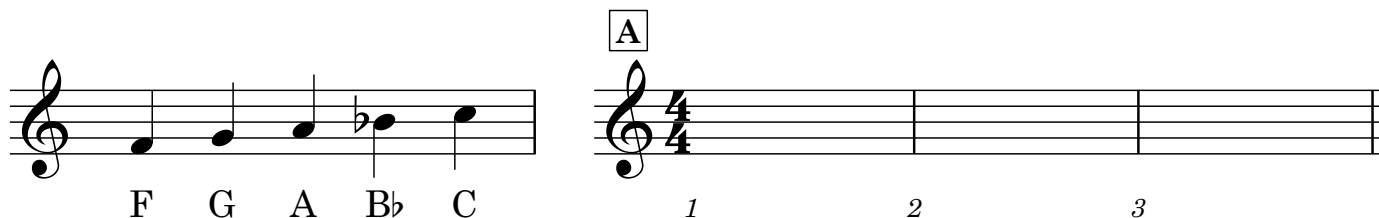


1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

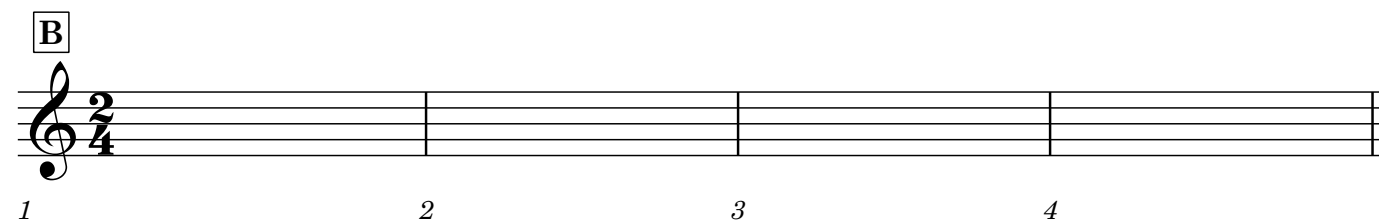
A



F G A B $\flat$ C

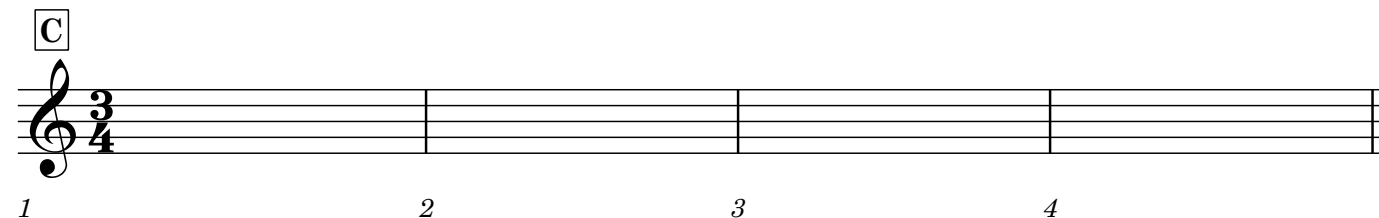
1 2 3

B



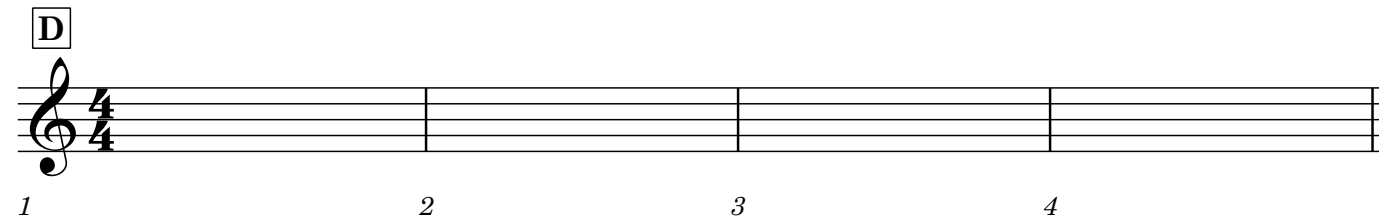
1 2 3 4

C



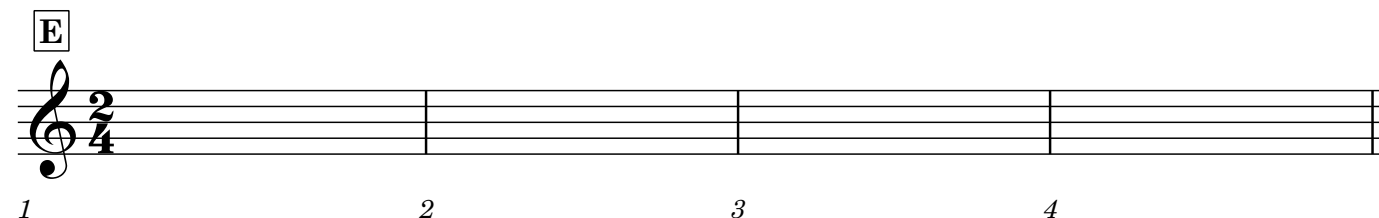
1 2 3 4

D



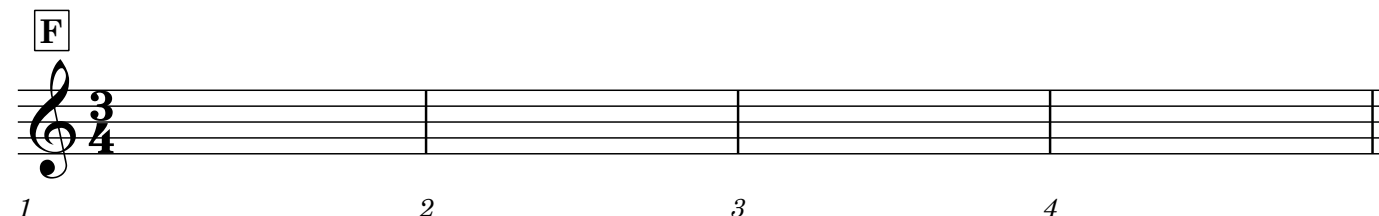
1 2 3 4

E



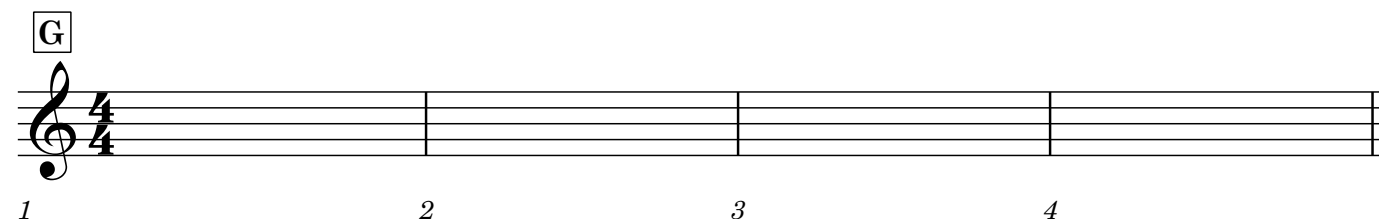
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G



1 2 3 4

Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

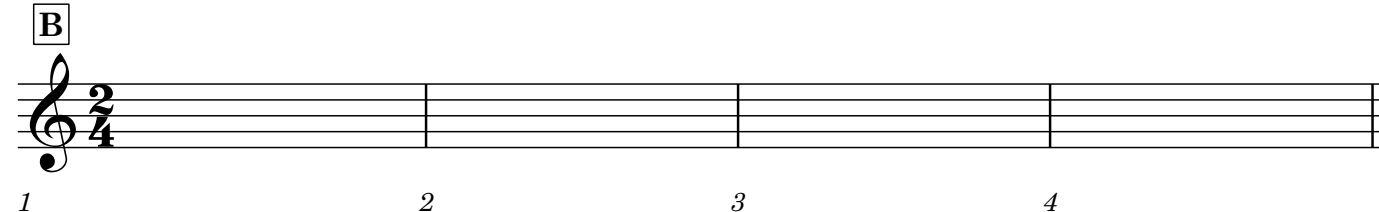
A



D E F# G A

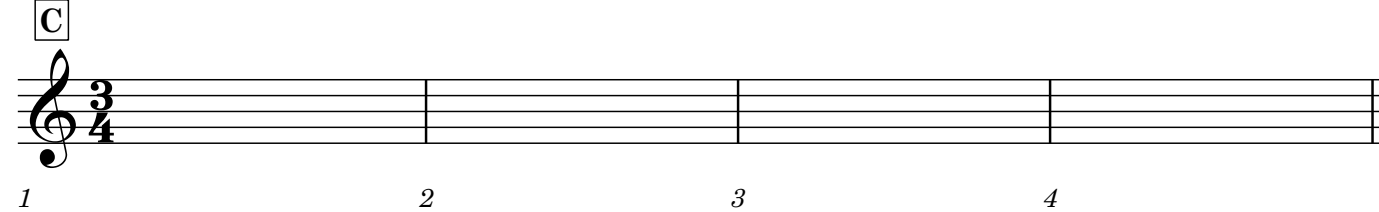
1 2 3

B



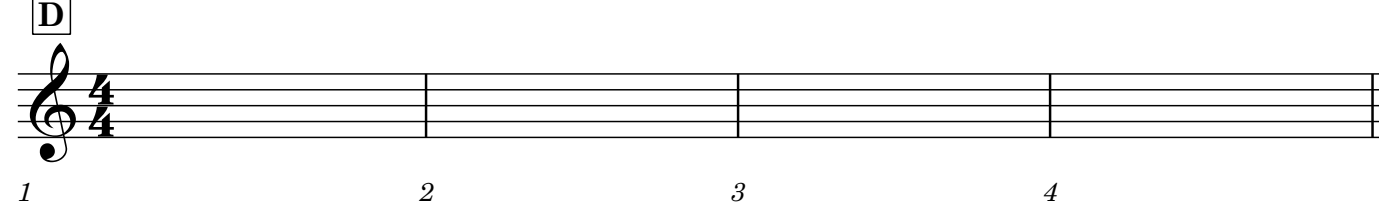
1 2 3 4

C



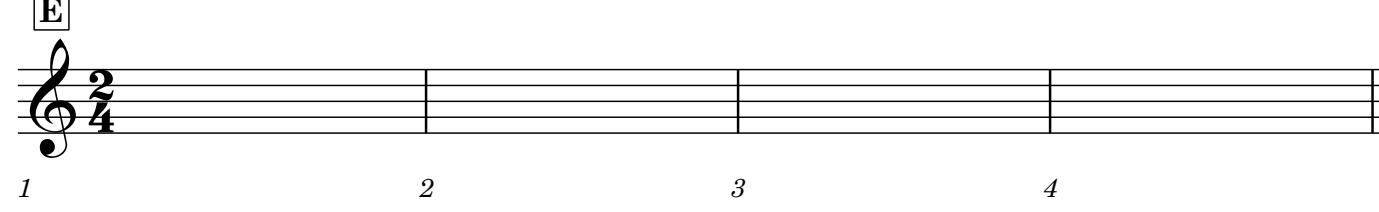
1 2 3 4

D



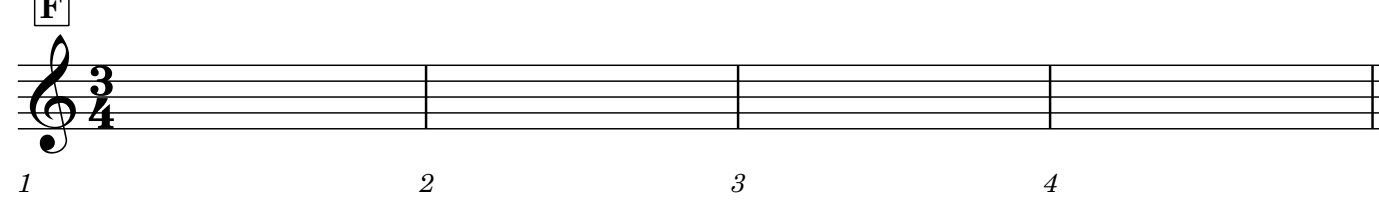
1 2 3 4

E



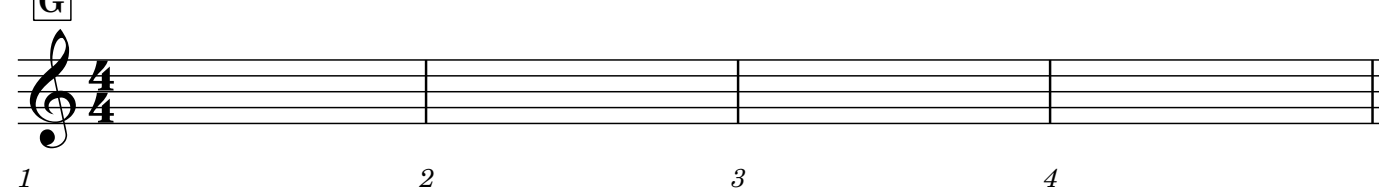
1 2 3 4

F



1 2 3 4

G



1 2 3 4

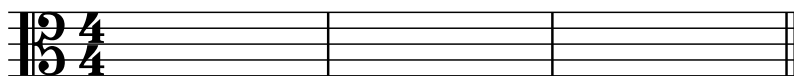
Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values , , , , compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

A



D E F# G A

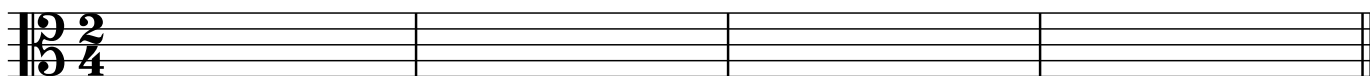


1

2

3

B



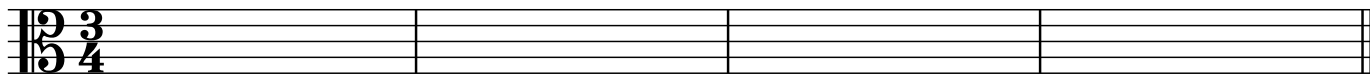
1

2

3

4

C



1

2

3

4

D



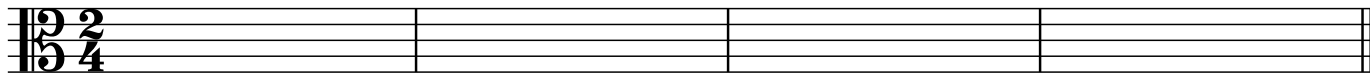
1

2

3

4

E



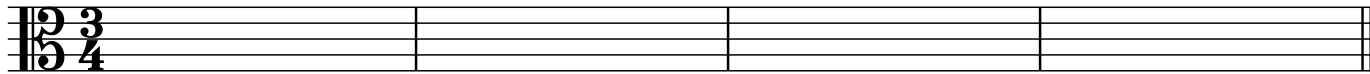
1

2

3

4

F



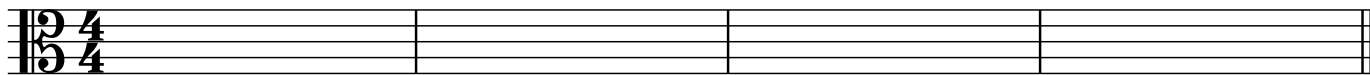
1

2

3

4

G



1

2

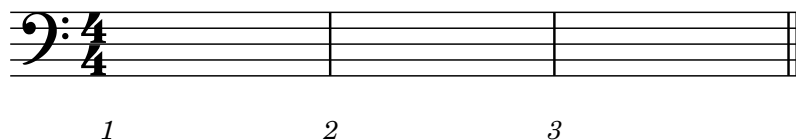
3

4

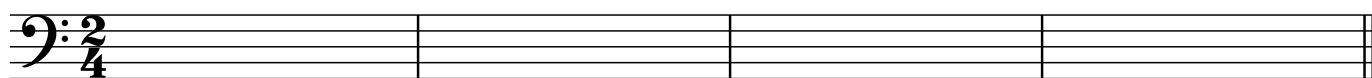
Compose Your Own 5 Note Melodies

Using only these 5 notes, the given Time Signatures and these 4 note values ♩, ♪, ♪., ♩., compose your own music. Then play them on your instrument.

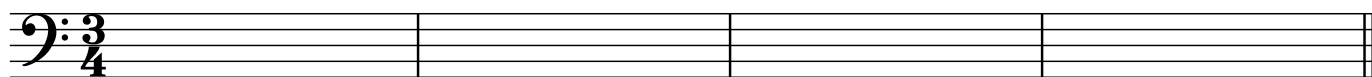
A



B



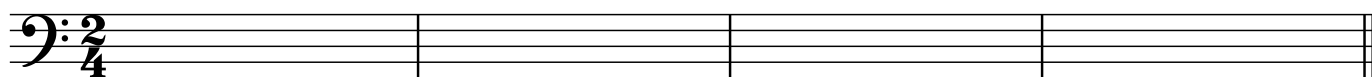
C



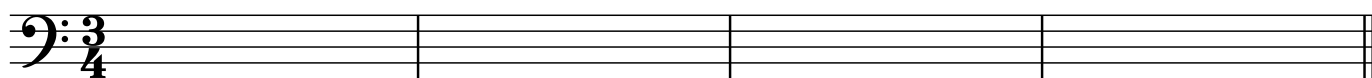
D



E



F



G

