

# Tone. Tempo and Touch

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We use a lot of Italian words to tell us how to play a piece of music.

Some tell us about speed - whether to play fast, or slow.

Some are about loudness, whether **loud**, or **soft**.

Some are about the smoothness or "harshness" of a piece.

Let us look at a few of these foreign words, or "terms".

Piano

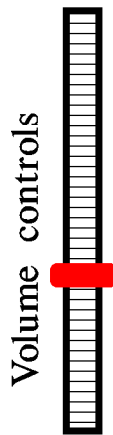
Forte

Mezzopiano

Mezzoforte

Pianissimo

Fortissimo



*Soft.*

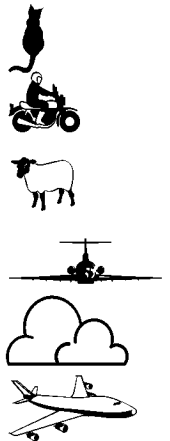
*Loud.*

*Moderately Soft.*

*Moderately Loud.*

*Very Soft.*

*Very Loud.*



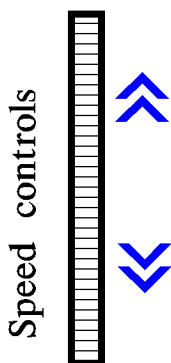
Lento

Allegro

Andante

Moderato

Presto



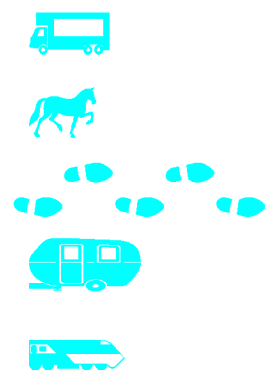
*Slowly.*

*Lively.*

*At a moderate pace.*

*Moderately.*

*Very Quick.*



Cantabile

Dolce

Legato

Staccato



*In a singing style.*

*Sweetly.*

*Smoothly.*

*Short, detached.*

