










Thesaurus Musicarum Latinarum

Table of Codes for Noteshapes, Rests, Ligatures, Mensuration Signs, Clefs, and Miscellaneous Figures (30.IV.09)

Noteshape codes are placed between **brackets** and must appear in the **order** given in this table. Each group of symbols under N, P, L, or M appears together with no spaces or punctuation; each noteshape, rest, ligature, mensuration sign, clef, or miscellaneous figure is separated from the following one by a **comma**.

<u>Noteshapes (N)</u>			
	<u>N1. Multiples¹</u>		<u>N6. Flags⁵</u>
Quadruplex	4		
Triplex	3		
Duplex	2		
	<u>N2. Shapes</u>		
Maxima	 MX	sinistre	sn
Longa	 L		
Brevis	 B	vexilla [preceded by number ⁶]	vx
Semibrevis	 S	retorta	vxrt
Minima	 M	dextre	vxdx
Semiminima	 SM	sinistre	vxsx
Addita	 A		
Fusa	 F		
	<u>N3. Coloration</u>		<u>Rests (P)</u>
nigra ²	b		<u>P1. Multiples (optional)</u>
vacua	v	Quadruplex	4
rubea	r	Triplex	3
semivacua	sv	Duplex	2
semirubea	sr		
	<u>N4. Tails³</u>		<u>P2. Shapes</u>
cauda	c	Maxima	MXP
plica	p	Longa	LP⁷
cauda yrundinis	cy	Brevis	BP
	<u>N5. Direction and Side⁴</u>	Semibrevis	SP
sursum	s	Minima	MP
deorsum	d	Semiminima	SMP
oblique	o	Addita	AP
dextre	dx	Fusa	FP
			<u>Ligatures (L)⁸</u>
			Ligatures are indicated by " Lig " followed (in this order and as applicable) by: (1) the number of notes in the ligature; (2) coloration (see N3 above); ⁹ (3) cs or cd and the side on which the tail appears (see N4–5 above); and (4) the intervals in order, with " a " for ascending and " d " for descending, with additional tails indicated in the order in which they appear. ¹⁰ If a subsequent note in a ligature is turned back over the preceding note (as in the podatus, porrectus, liquescent neumes, plicas, etc.), the letter indicating the interval is followed by " rt ." For example:
			
			would equal [M,M,M,M,S,B,pt,Lig2cssnod,Lig4cssnaodacddx,pt,Lig5aadd,MX]

Mensuration and Proportion Signs (M)

M1. Shape

Circle	O
Semicircle open on the right	C
Semicircle open on the left	CL
Semicircle open on the top	CT
Semicircle open on the bottom	CB
Rectangle	R
Triangle	TR

M2. Internal Marks

Dot (preceded by a number if more than one)	d
Descending vertical line (preceded by a number if more than one)	r ^{vd}
Ascending vertical line (preceded by a number if more than one)	r ^{vs}
Horizontal line extending right (preceded by a number if more than one)	r ^{hdx}
Horizontal line extending left (preceded by a number if more than one)	r ^{hsn}

M3. Proportions

The presence of the line of *diminutio* is indicated by “**dim**” following the symbols of M1 and M2. Fractional proportions are simply indicated by the two numbers separated by a virgule (e.g., 3/2).

Clefs

If the clef is shown on a staff, a number is appended indicating the line on which the clef appears (counting from the bottom of the staff), with two numbers separated by a hyphen indicating that the clef appears in the space between the two lines (for example, **ClefG2** or **ClefC3-4**).

C clef	ClefC
F clef	ClefF
G clef	ClefG
etc.	

Miscellaneous

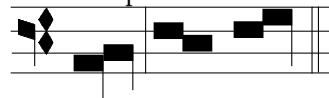
square b	sqb
round b	rob
punctus (of whatever type)	pt
a small line extending above and below a staff line not functioning as a rest	r
letters set one above the other (e.g., ^e e) are entered side by side (e.g., ee).	

a vacant staff is indicated by “**staff**,” followed by a number indicating the number of lines in the staff (e.g., **staff4** or **staff5**); “**on staff**” following a set of notation codes indicates that all the

preceding notation appeared on a staff; if additional codes follow, this indicates that the staff ended while the notation continued.

Barlines or Multiple Examples on a Single Staff

If several illustrative passages appear in a single example, a semicolon (;) followed by a space indicates the presence of a single or double bar separating one passage from another. If a single passage includes barlines, these may also be indicated by a semicolon followed by a space. Here is an example of such a case:



encoded as: [**ClefF3,Lig2MXcddxaMXcddx;Lig2MXdMX,Lig2MXaMXcddx on staff4**]

¹ Optional. May only be applied to the maxima and longa.

² The symbol “**b**” is to be used only in ligatures exhibiting more than one color as specified in n. 9 *infra*. In all other cases, black is the color assumed unless otherwise noted.

³ Indicated only if the tail varies from the basic shape pictured in N2.

⁴ Always indicated in ligature codes; otherwise, only if direction differs from the basic shape pictured in N2.

⁵ Flags are assumed to be drawn on the oblique to the right side of the tail, unless otherwise indicated. In this section, **dx** and **sn** mean that the flag appears at a right angle to the tail and points left or right.

⁶ Indicated by numeral only if greater than one.

⁷ If the context calls for differentiating between perfect and imperfect longa rests, this may be done by using **2LP** and **3LP**.

⁸ All notes are assumed to be square, unless the reference to the interval is preceded by “**o**” (for oblique) or “**cu**” (for *conjuncturae* or *currentes*).

⁹ If the ligature exhibits more than one color, “**r**,” “**v**,” or “**b**” precede the codes of (3) and (4) to indicate the point at which the color changes.

¹⁰ Except in the case of a longa or a maxima **within** a ligature (this exception does not apply to the **final** note of the ligature), which is indicated as “**L**” or “**MX**” following the interval that precedes it or following the codes of (1), (2), and (3) if it is the first note of the ligature. In ligatures, **MX** is assumed to refer only to the extended rectangular notehead; if it also has a tail, the location and direction are indicated. Note the example under “Barlines or Multiple Examples on a Single Staff.”