

# AP Music Theory Summer Prep Work

## 24-25 School Year

I'm so glad you'll be taking AP Music Theory with me next year! While it is a fun and satisfying class (for music nerds), it is intense. The material we must cover in 8 months is stuff I learned in 4 different college classes. To come to class prepared to succeed, you should work on the following 5 things this summer. I believe in taking breaks from school (and summer is the best one of those breaks), so I didn't want to give you a ton, but these 5 tasks hopefully shouldn't feel too much like work. Then if you come in on Day 1 with a solid grasp of each area you will be ready to ace this class.

### 1. Staff Note Identification

Know the note names in treble and bass clef COLD. You should be able to instantly (within 1 second) identify any line or space (up to 2 ledger lines) on both staves. You likely know one of the staves pretty well already – now learn the other just as well. Then learn them both even better.

Need Help? Review all the basics here	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/10">https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/10</a>
Test Yourself - Treble Clef	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/rwyrybynnyyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/rwyrybynnyyyy</a>
Test Yourself - Bass Clef	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/nrwyrybynnyyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/nrwyrybynnyyyy</a>
Test Yourself - Grand Staff	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/oyayrybynnyyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/oyayrybynnyyyy</a>

### 2. Keyboard Note Identification

Know the note names on the keyboard so you can instantly identify any black or white key. There are only 12 notes here, so this should be easier to learn than the staff note ID.

Keyboard Note Identification	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keyboard/9999bynbyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keyboard/9999bynbyyy</a>
Reverse Keyboard Identification	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keyboard-reverse/oyayrybbnnyyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keyboard-reverse/oyayrybbnnyyyy</a>

### 3. Interval Ear-Training

Learn to identify major and minor 2<sup>nds</sup> and 3<sup>rds</sup> by ear both melodically and harmonically with 85% accuracy or better. Start by learning to hear the difference between major and minor seconds (whole steps and half steps). Then work on thirds. Then practice all 4 intervals together.

What is an Interval?	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/30">https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/30</a>
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Specific Intervals	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/31">https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/31</a>
Major and Minor 2nds - Harmonic and Melodic Intervals	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-interval/gyy8yyngneyyyyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-interval/gyy8yyngneyyyyyy</a>
Major and Minor 3rds - Harmonic and Melodic Intervals	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-interval/ayy8yyngneyyyyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-interval/ayy8yyngneyyyyyy</a>
Major and Minor Melodic and Harmonic 2nds and 3rds Interval Ear Training	<a href="https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-interval/6yy8yyngneyyyyyy">https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/ear-interval/6yy8yyngneyyyyyy</a>

4. **Circle of Thirds**

Memorize this sequence of letters: C E G B D F A (C E...)

Be able to say it quickly starting on any letter (ex: ACE, DFA, EGB, etc.)

5. **Inversion Hotline**

Memorize this phone number: 664-765-4342. But don't you dare call it.