

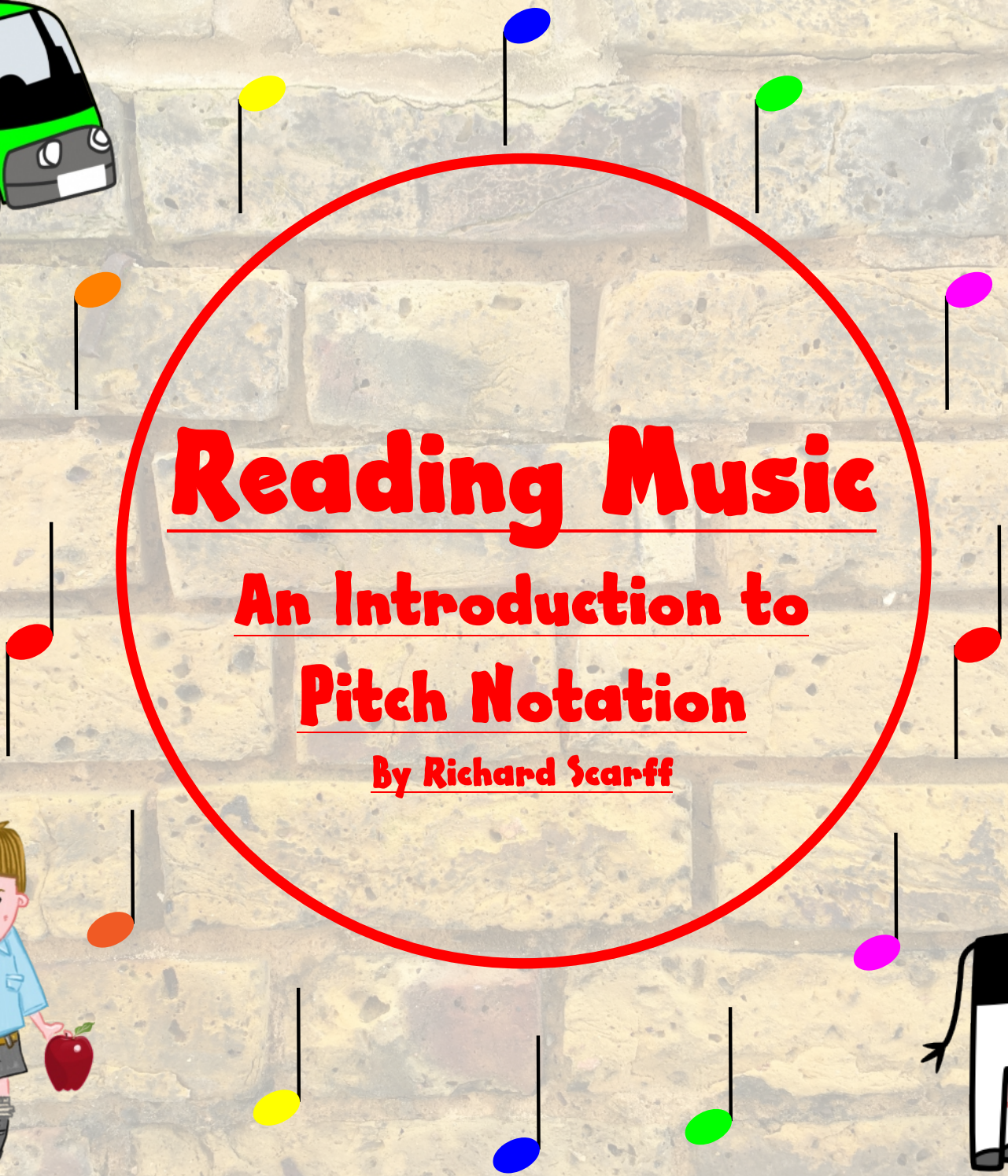
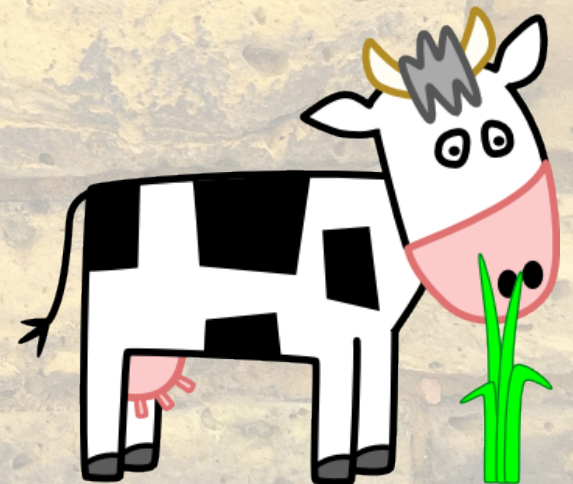
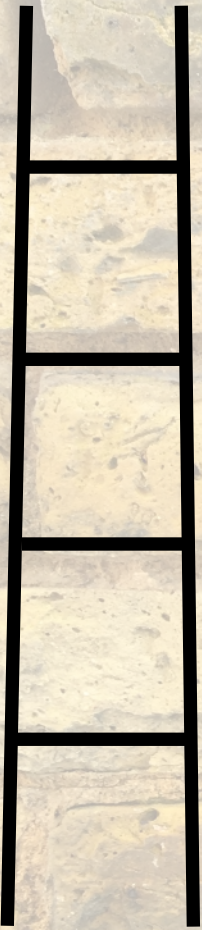


# Reading Music

An Introduction to

Pitch Notation

By Richard Scarff





# Index

## Section One - The Stave

The Stave, [Page 4](#)

Space and Line notes, [Page 7](#)

Exercise 1, Space notes and line notes, [Page 10](#)

Section One Key Points, [Page 14](#)

## Section Two - Positions of Notes

Positions of notes, [Page 18](#)

Spaces and lines on a stave, [Page 19](#)

Exercise 2, Describing position of notes on stave, [Page 26](#)

Section Two Key Points, [Page 41](#)

## Section Three - High and Low

High and Low, [Page 43](#)

Exercise 3, Which note is higher and which is lower? [Page 51](#)

Section Three Key Points, [Page 67](#)

## Section Four - Pitch Distance

Pitch Distance, [Page 68](#)

Exercise 4, Distance between notes, [Page 79](#)

Section Four Key Points, [Page 85](#)

## Section Five - Note Pitch Shape

Note Pitch Shape, [Page 86](#)

Exercise 5, Note pitch shape, [Page 97](#)

Section Five Key Points, [Page 128](#)

## Section Six - The Musical Alphabet

The Musical Alphabet, [Page 130](#)

The Musical Alphabet on the keyboard, [Page 131](#)

Black and White notes, [Page 132](#)

Positions of some notes to use as reference, [Page 133](#)

Exercise 6, What is the name of the coloured notes? [Page 134](#)

Section Six Key Points, [Page 153](#)

## Section Seven - Learning Note Pitches

Space notes, FACE, [Page 155](#)

Line notes, [Page 156](#)

Note chart, C to C, [Page 158](#)

Exercise 7, What is the pitch of the note? [Page 159](#)

Section Seven Key Points, [Page 244](#)

## **Section Eight - Clefs**

The Treble Clef, [Page 246](#)

The Bass Clef, [Page 247](#)

Section Eight Key Points, [Page 253](#)

## **Section Nine - The Bass Clef Note Pitches**

The Bass Clef Note Pitches, [Page 255](#)

The Bass Clef Space Notes, [Page 256](#)

The Bass Clef Line Notes, [Page 257](#)

Exercise 9, What is the pitch of the note? [Page 261](#)

Section Nine Key Points, [Page 342](#)

## **Section Ten - The Grand Stave**

The Grand Stave, [Page 345](#)

The Right Hand and Left Hand, [Page 347](#)

Exercise 10, Which hand should play the notes? [Page 348](#)

Section Ten Key Points, [Page 358](#)

## **Section Eleven - Ledger Lines**

Ledger Lines, [Page 359](#)

Exercise 11, Ledger line note pitches, [Page 367](#)

Section Eleven Key Points, [Page 376](#)

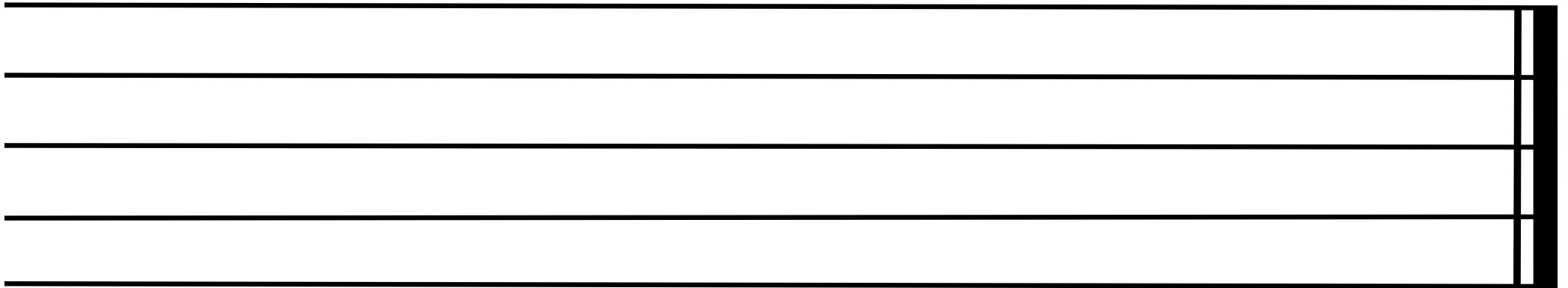
## **Appendix**

Answers, [Page 378](#)

Cutout Keyboard Note Strips, [Page 379](#)

## **Section One - The Stave**

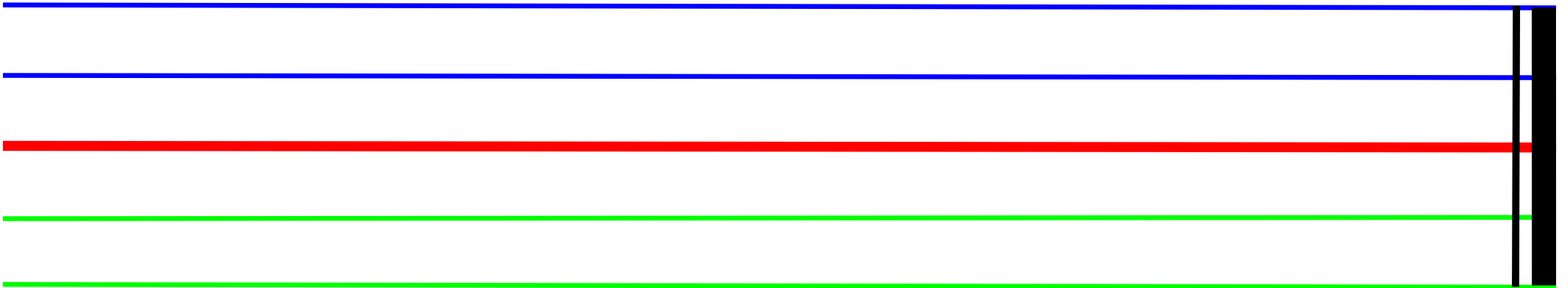
Music is written on **five lines** called the **Stave**.



↑  
**The Stave**

It has a **middle line,**

two **lines above**



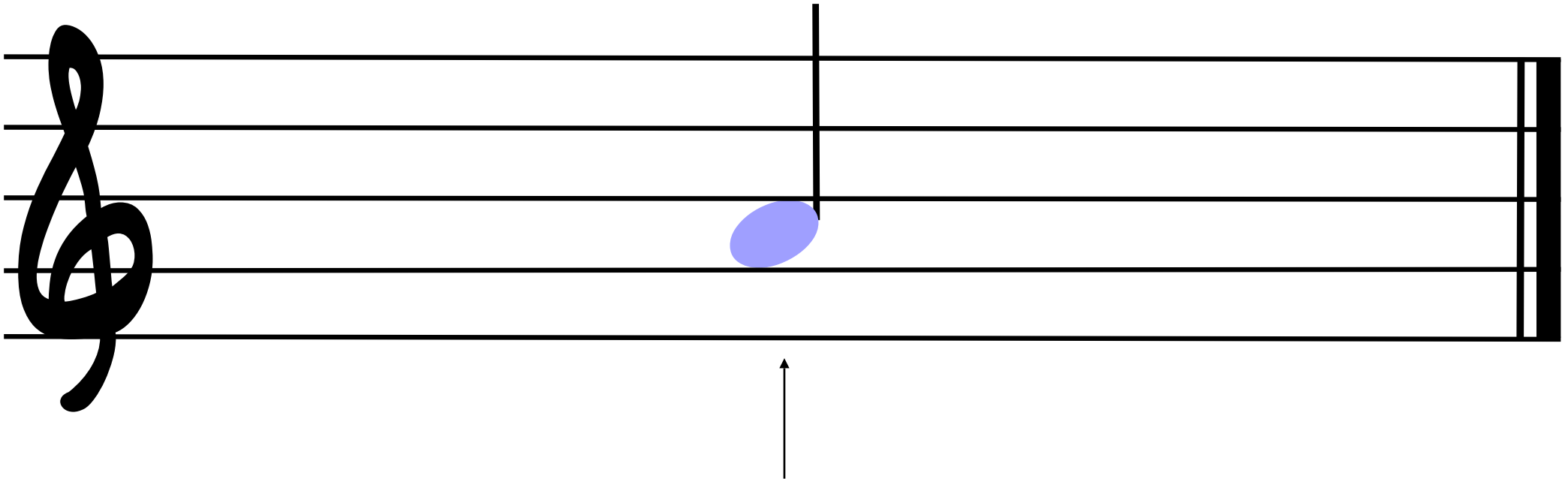
and two **lines below.**

The Stave is made up of **lines** and **spaces**.



If a note sits in the **space** between two lines it is called a

## SPACE NOTE

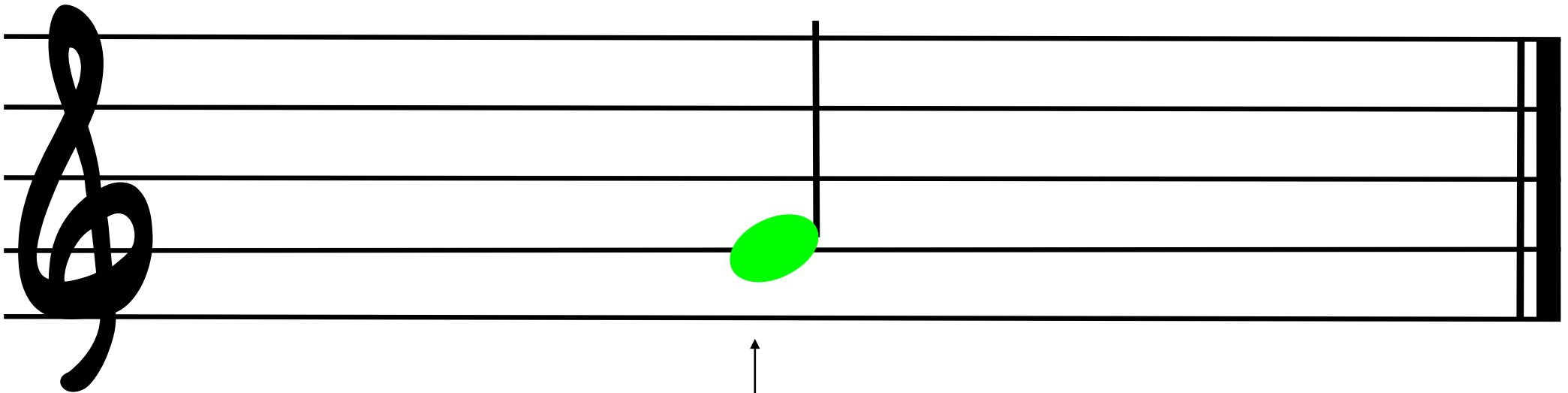


A **Space Note**.



If a note sits over a **line**, covering part of it up, it is called a

## **LINE NOTE**

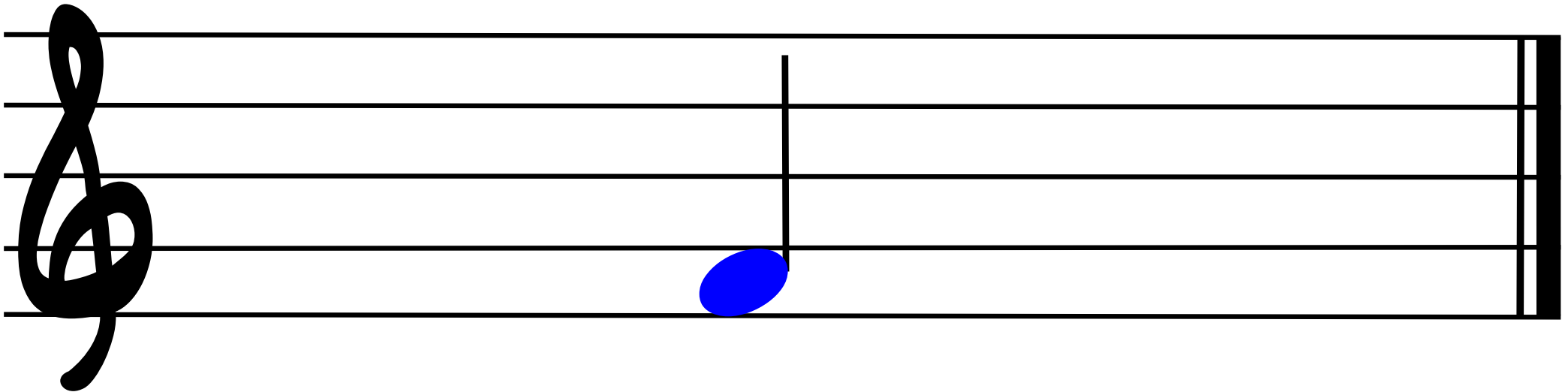


A **Line Note**.

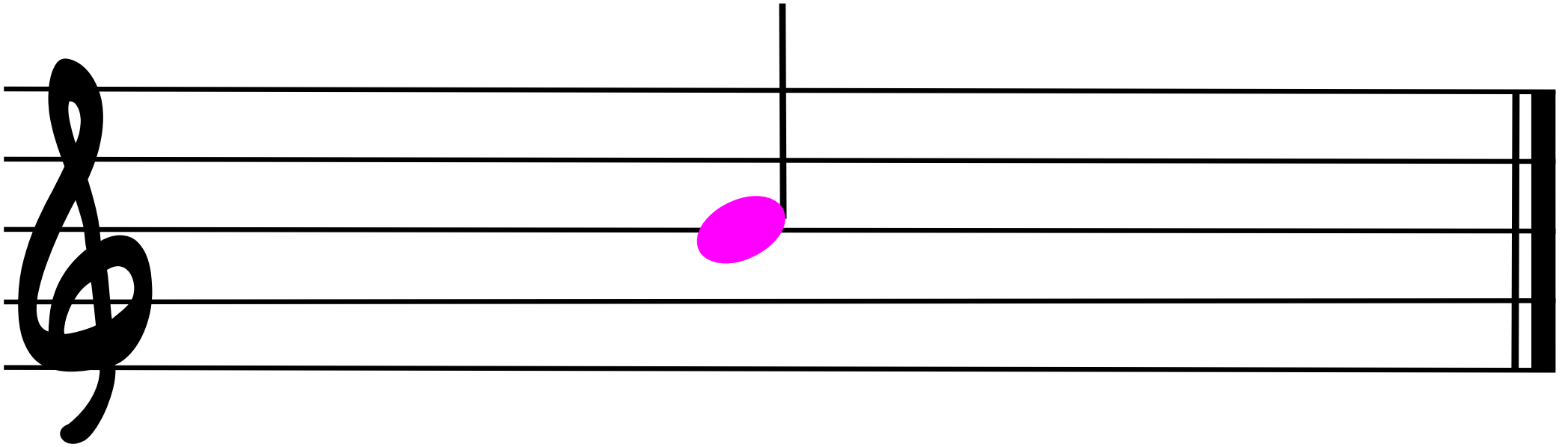
## **Exercise 1**

Work through the next few pages and try to work out if the notes are space notes or line notes.

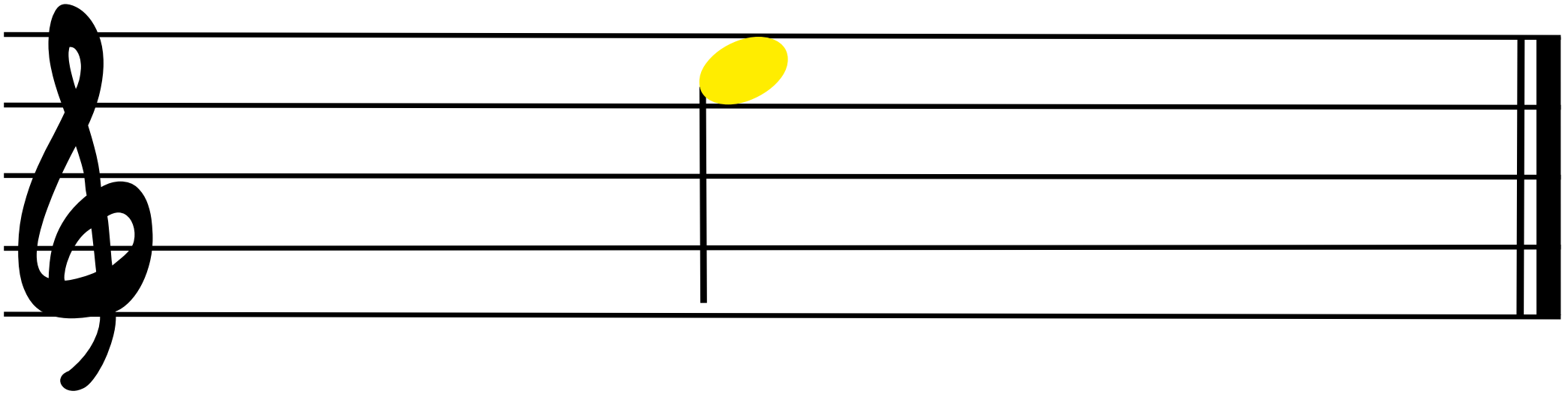
Ex 1a - Space note or line note?



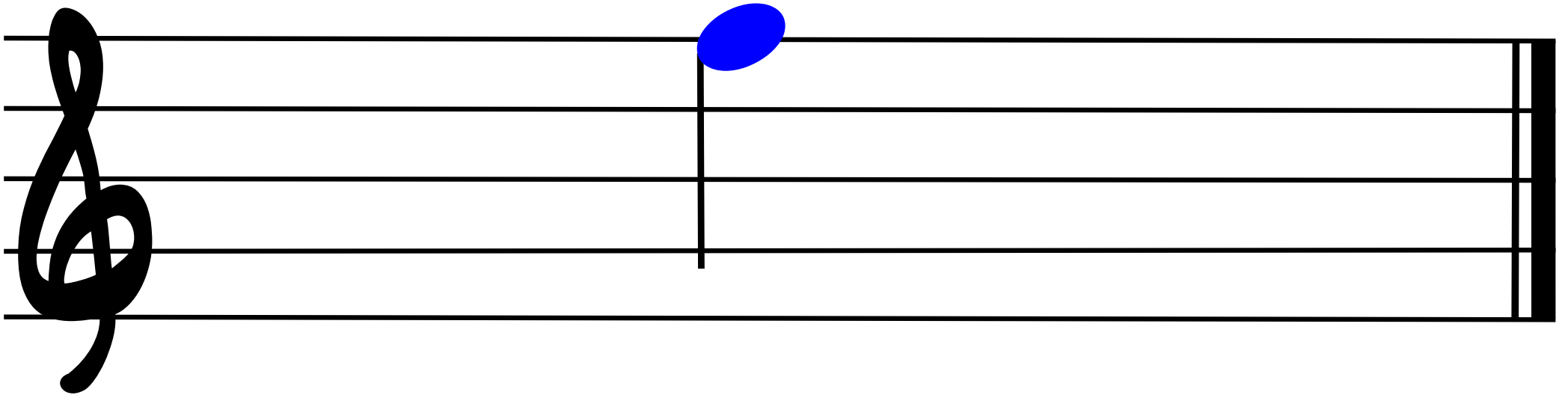
Ex 1b - Space note or line note?



Ex 1c - Space note or line note?

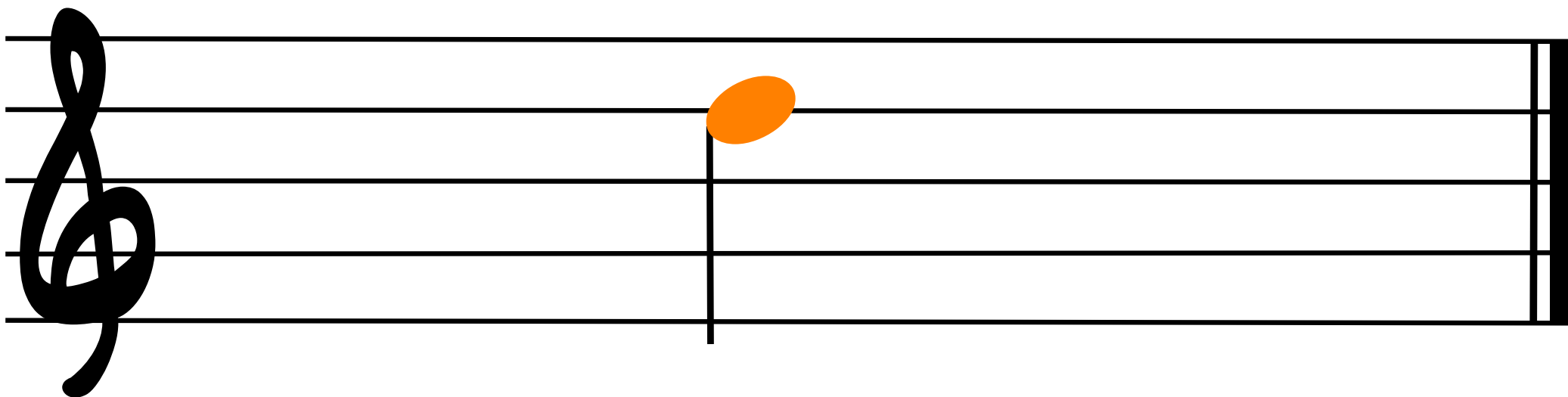


Ex 1d - Space note or line note?





Ex 1e - Space note or line note?



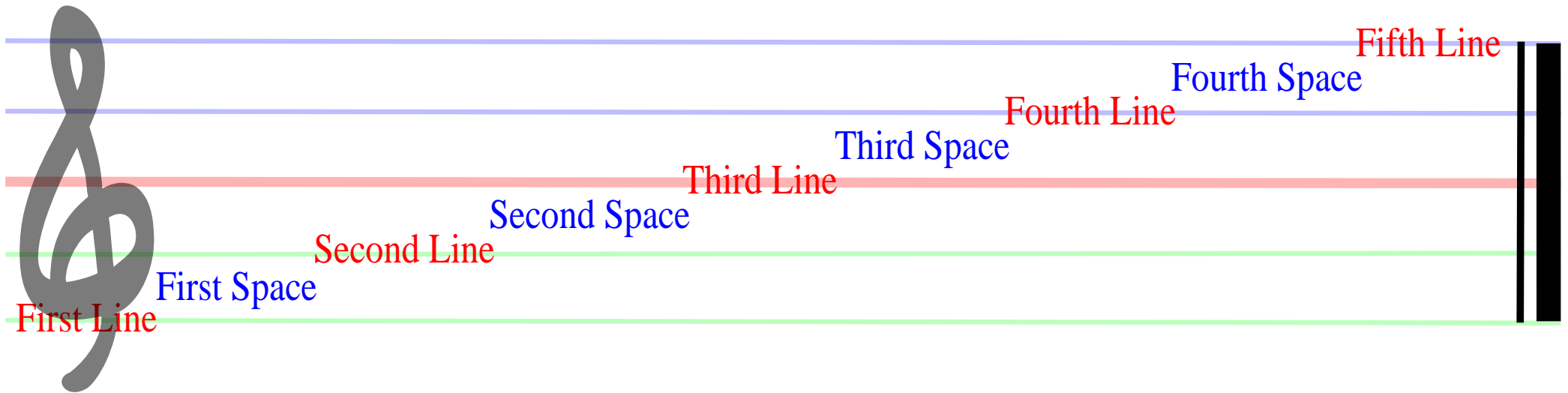
## Section One - Key Points

Music is written on five lines called the **Staff**.

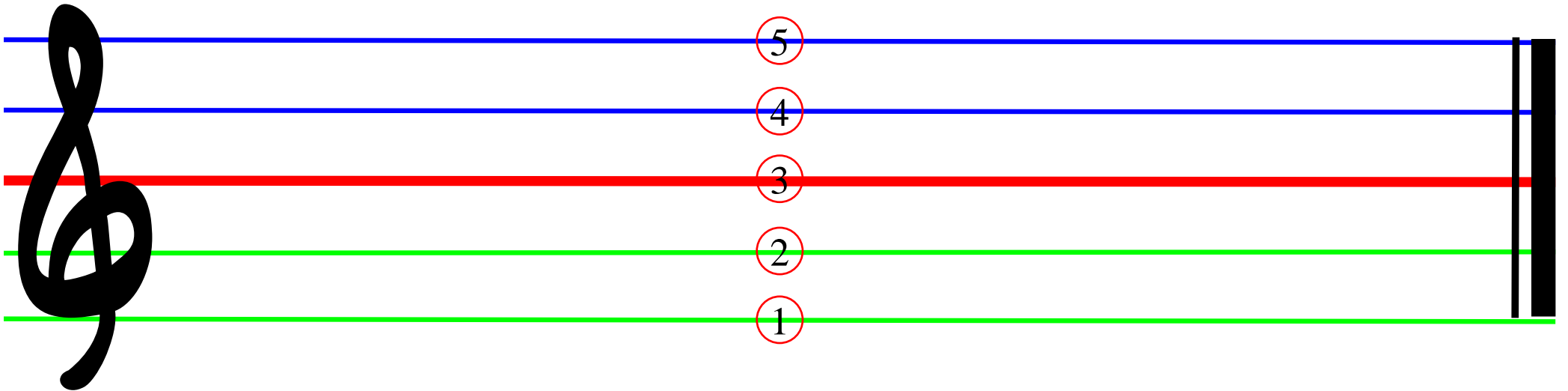
Notes are either **Line Notes** or **Space Notes**.

## **Section Two - Positions Of Notes**

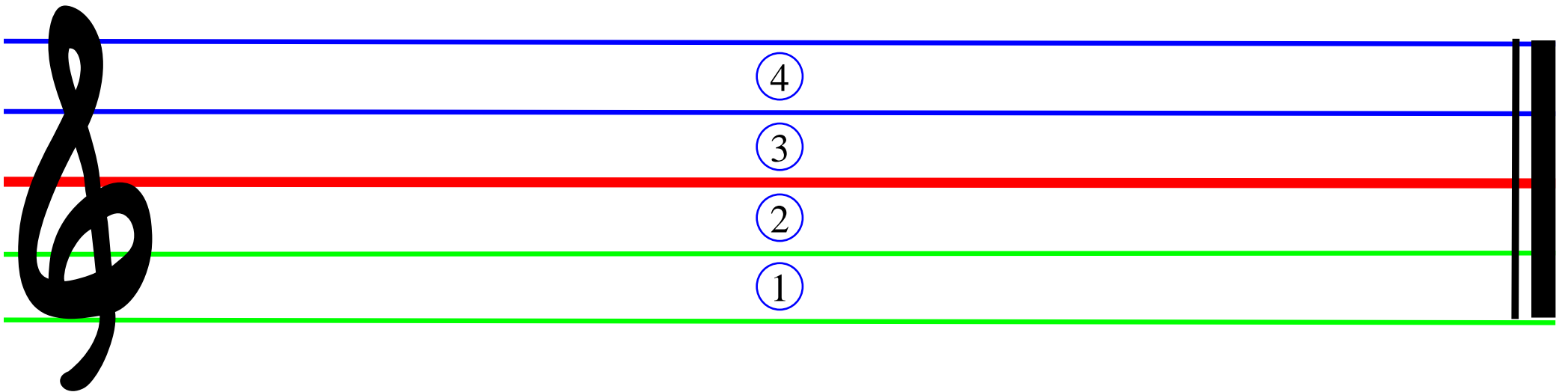
You need to be able to identify  
and describe where the notes are on the staff.



# Lines

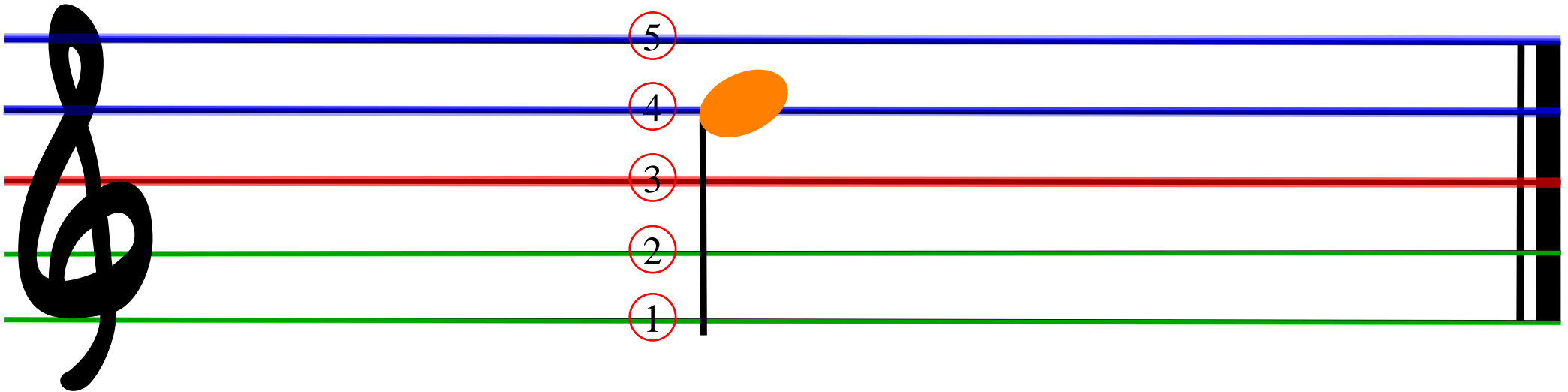


# Spaces

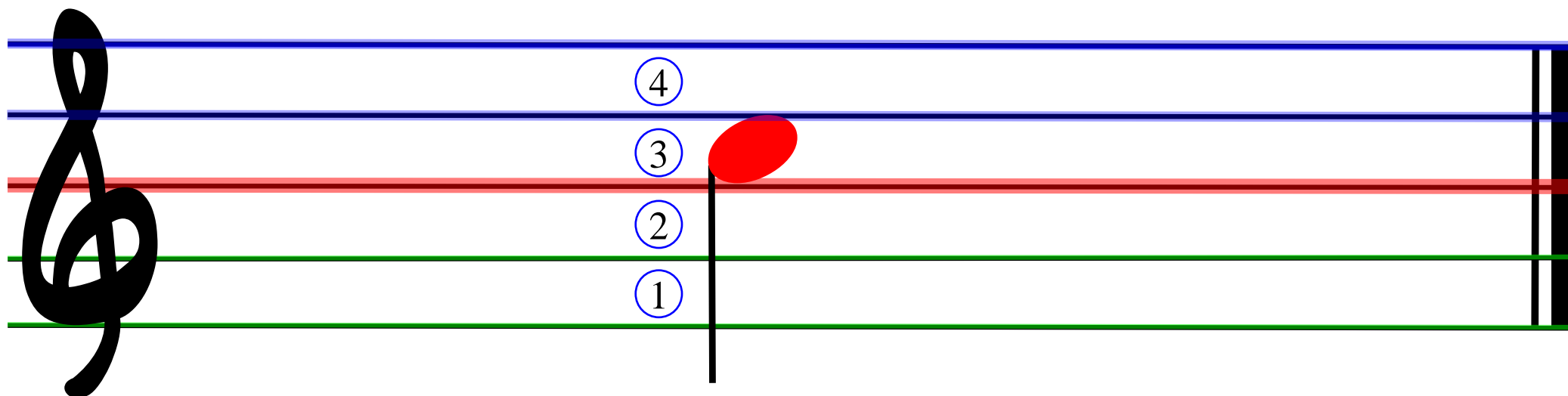




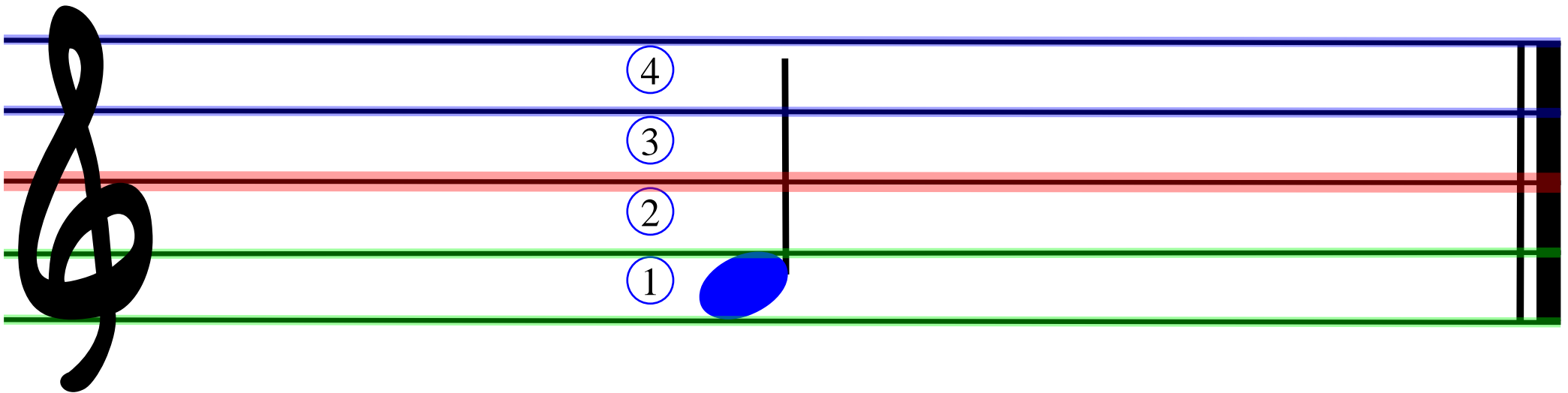
The note below is on the **fourth line**.



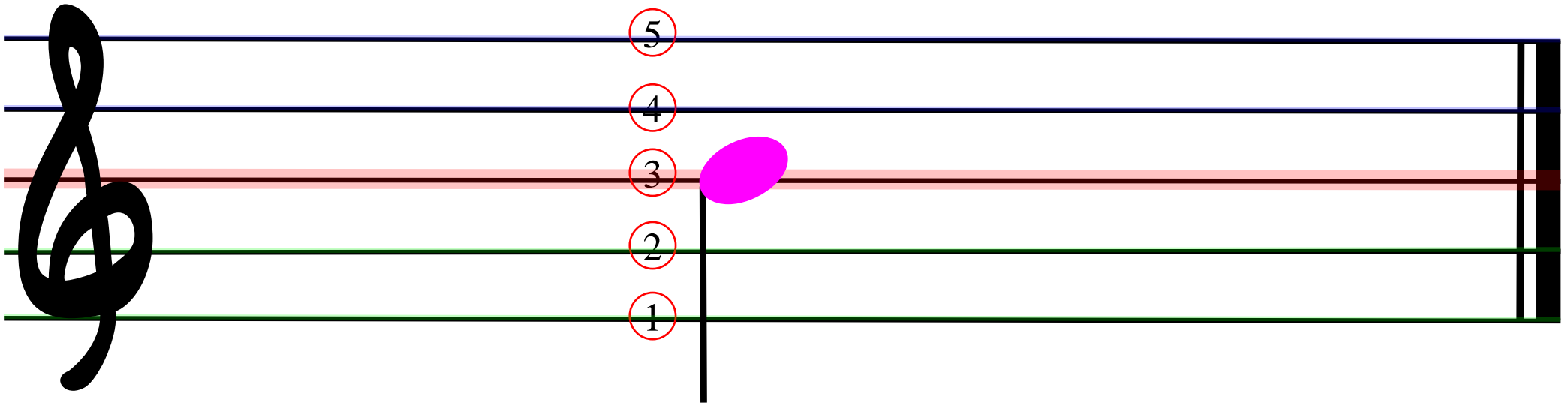
This note is in the **third space**.



This note is in the **first space**.



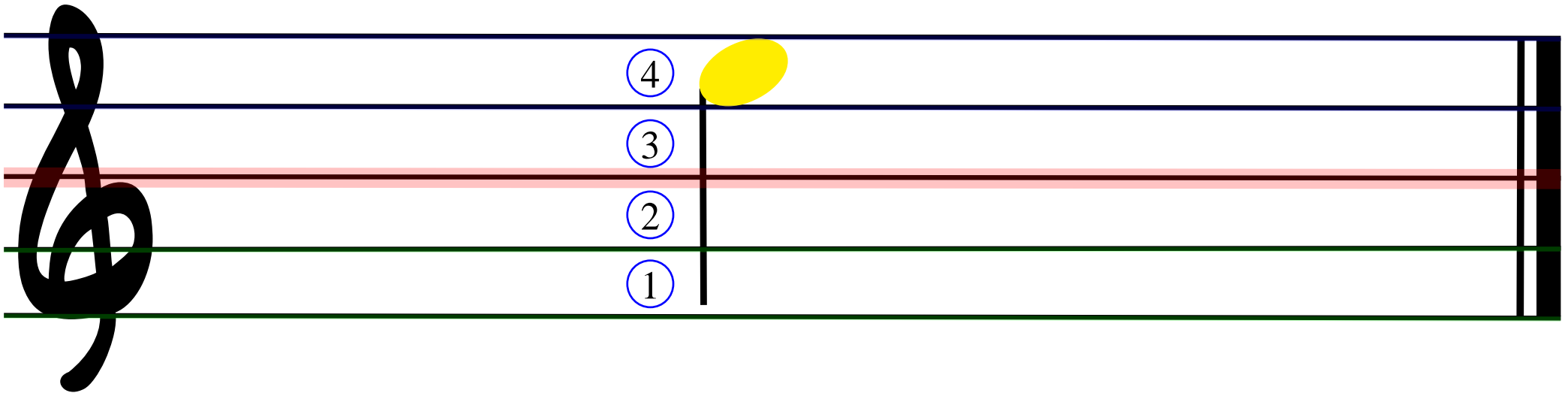
This note is on the **third line**.



## **Exercise 2**

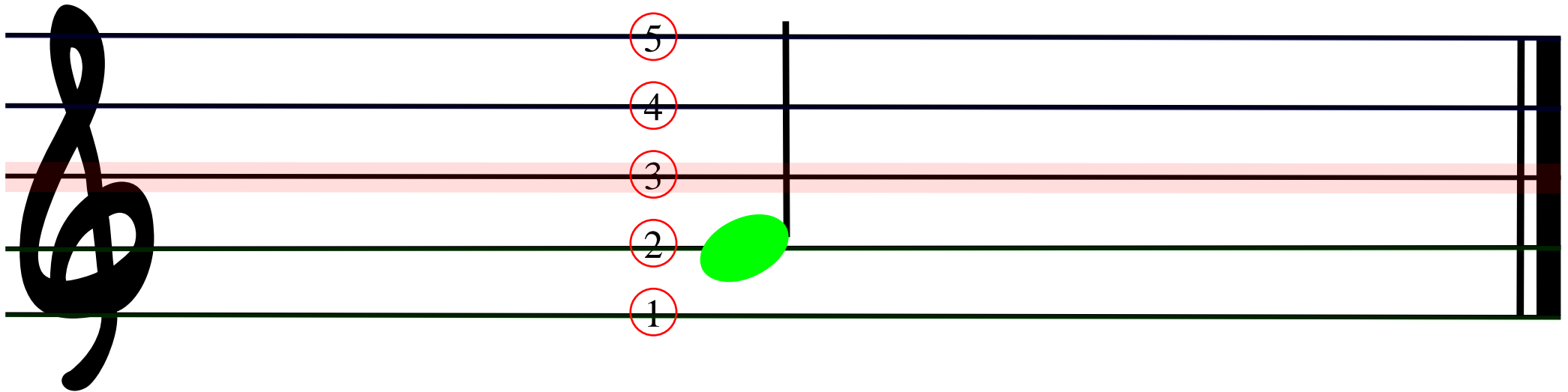
Work through the following pages  
and try to describe where the notes are on the stave.

Ex 2a - Where is the note on the staff?

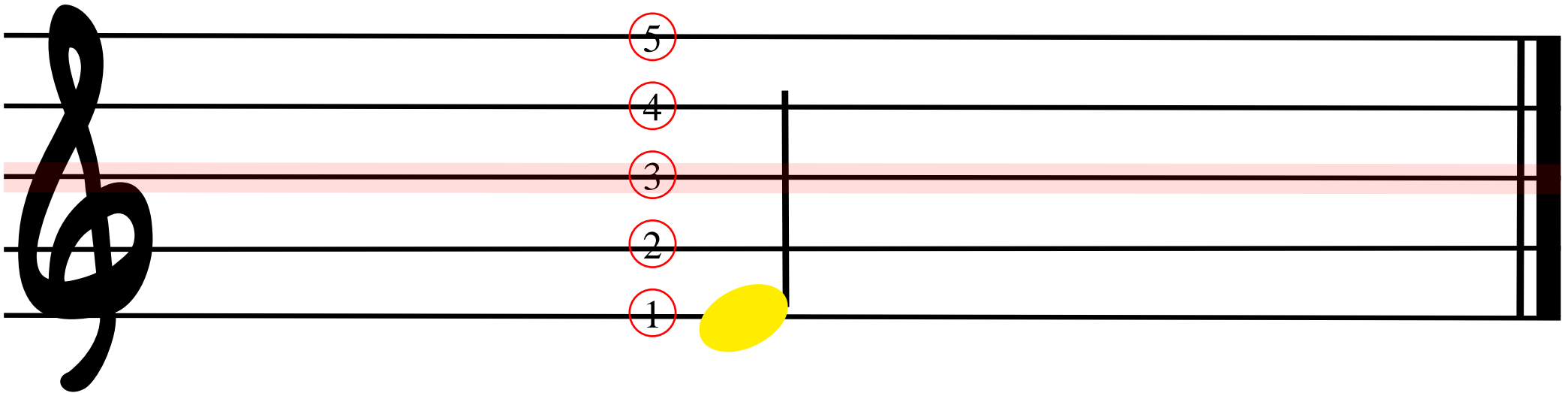




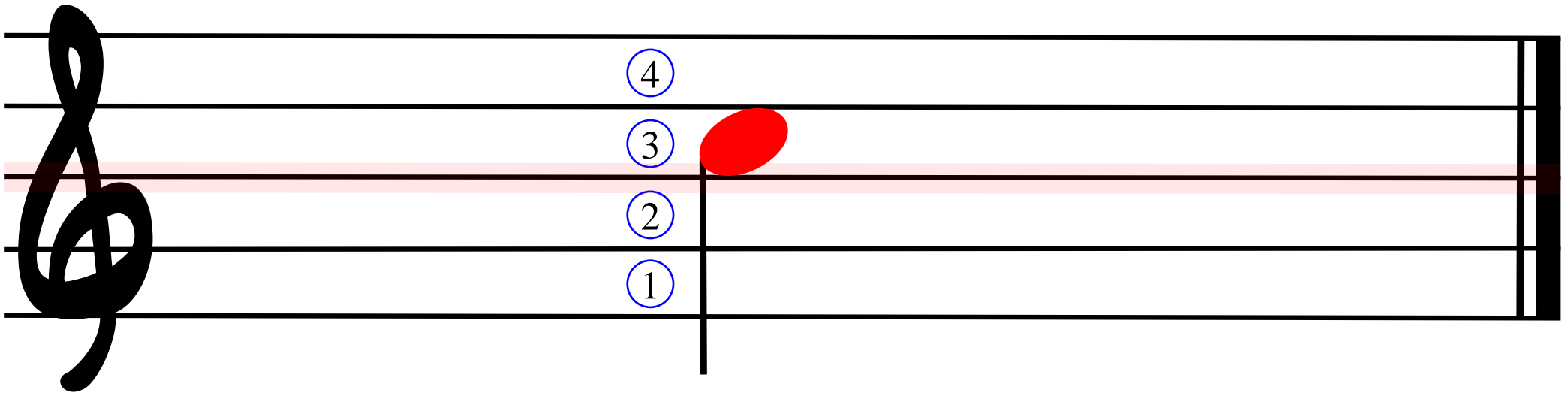
Ex 2b - Where is the note on the staff?



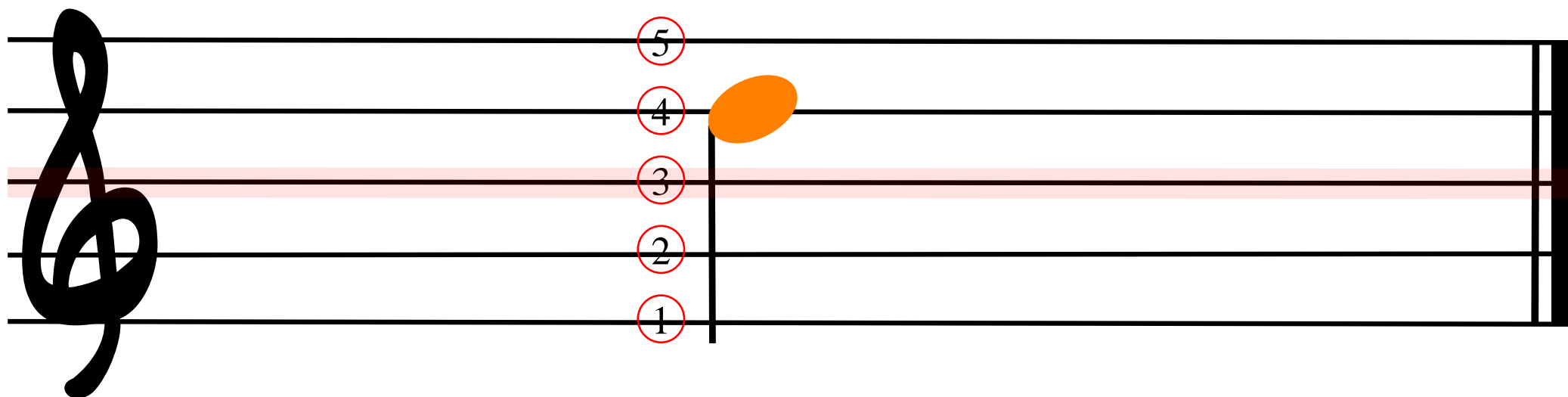
Ex 2c - Where is the note on the staff?



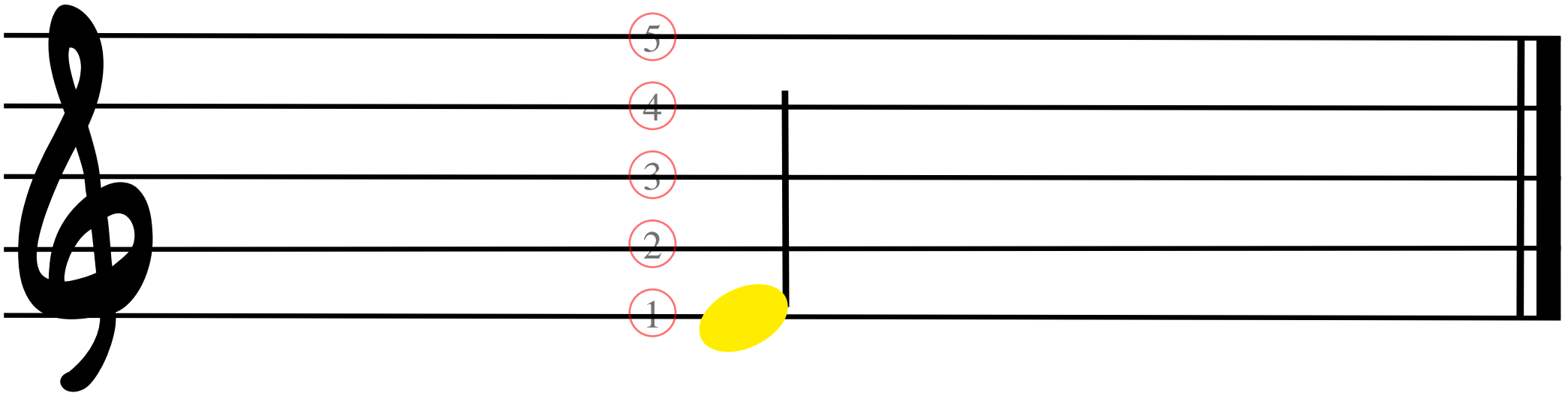
Ex 2d - Where is the note on the staff?



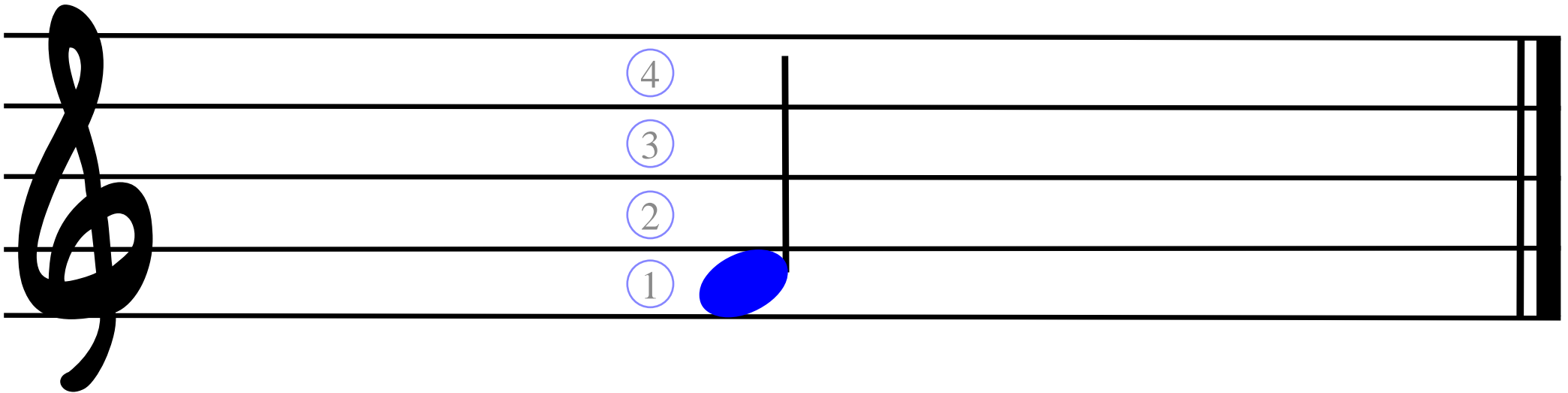
Ex 2e - Where is the note on the staff?



Ex 2f - Where is the note on the staff?

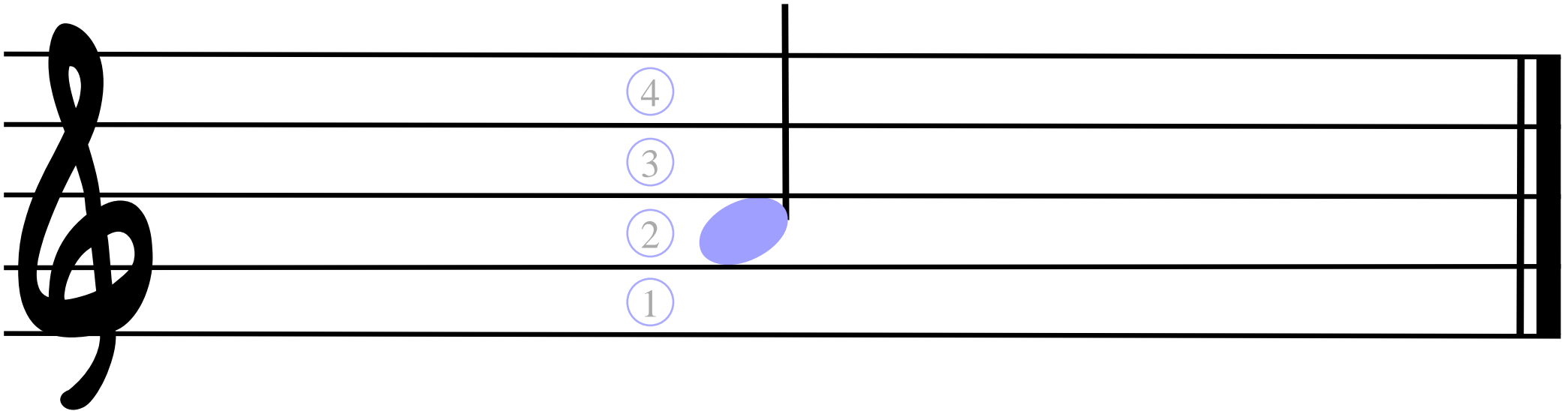


Ex 2g - Where is the note on the staff?

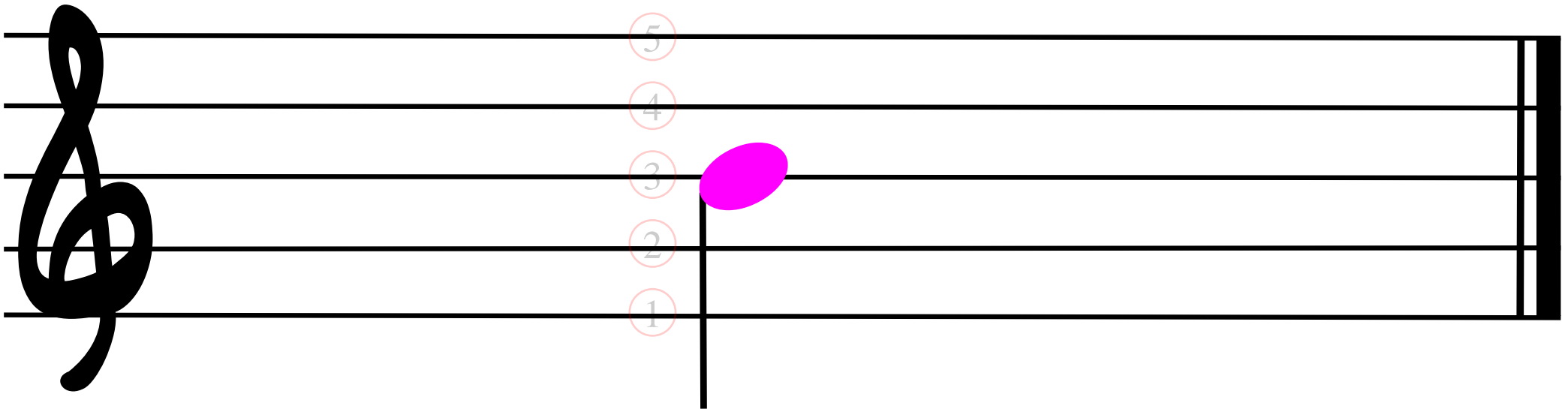




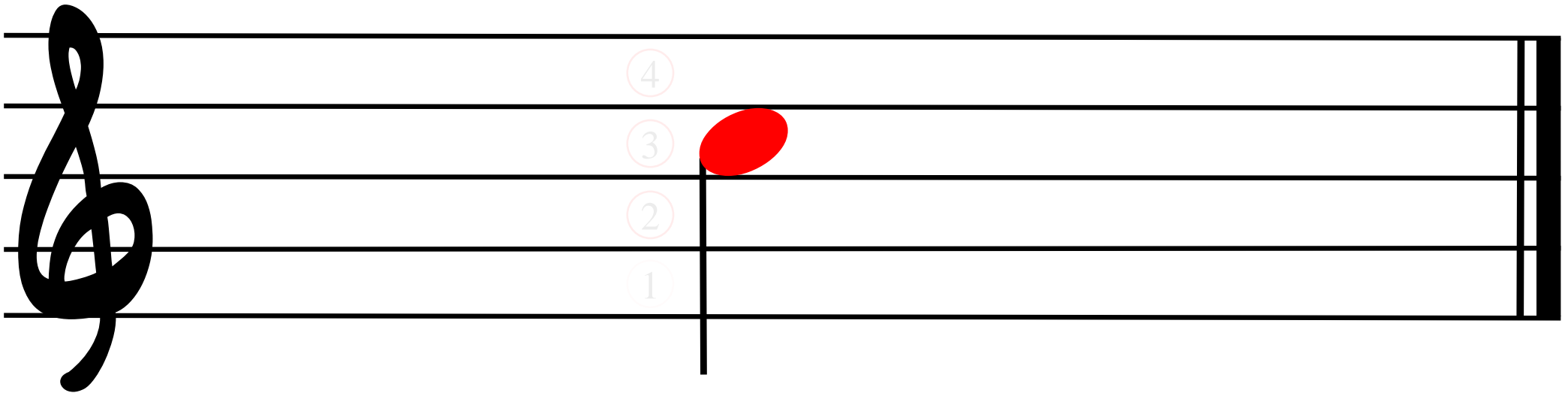
Ex 2h - Where is the note on the staff?



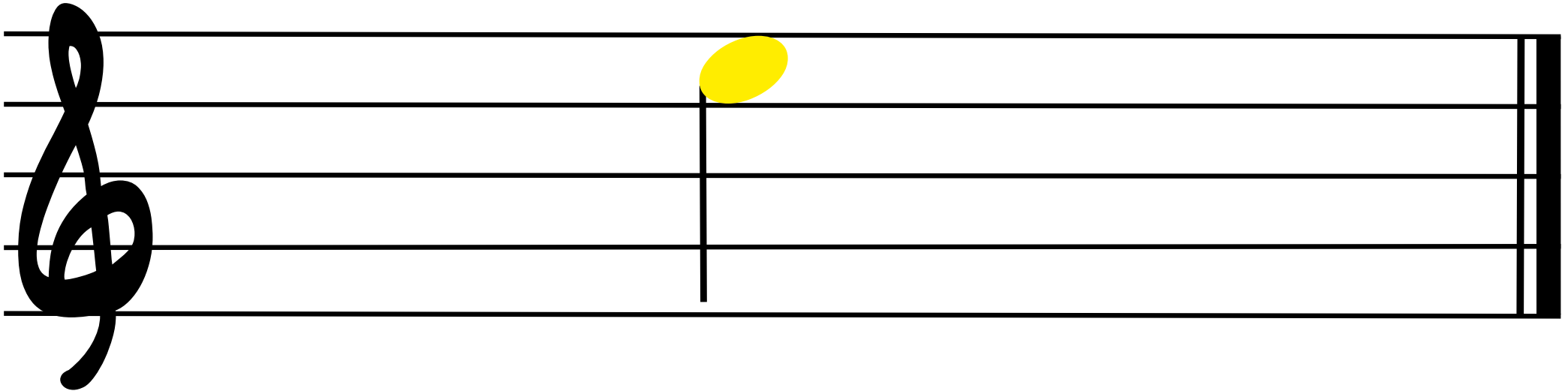
Ex 2i - Where is the note on the staff?



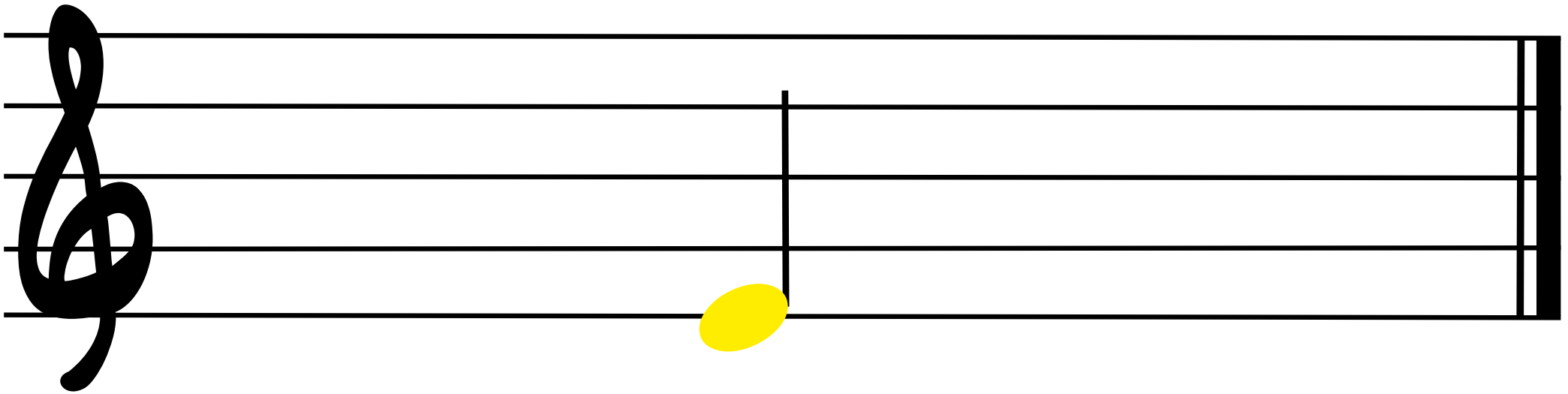
Ex 2j - Where is the note on the staff?



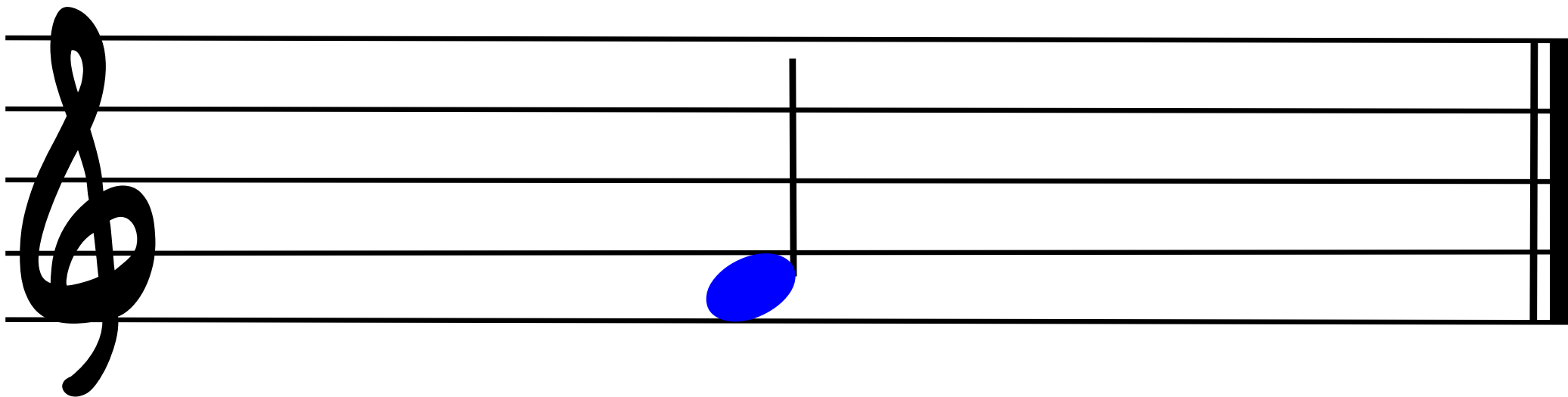
Ex 2k - Where is the note on the staff?



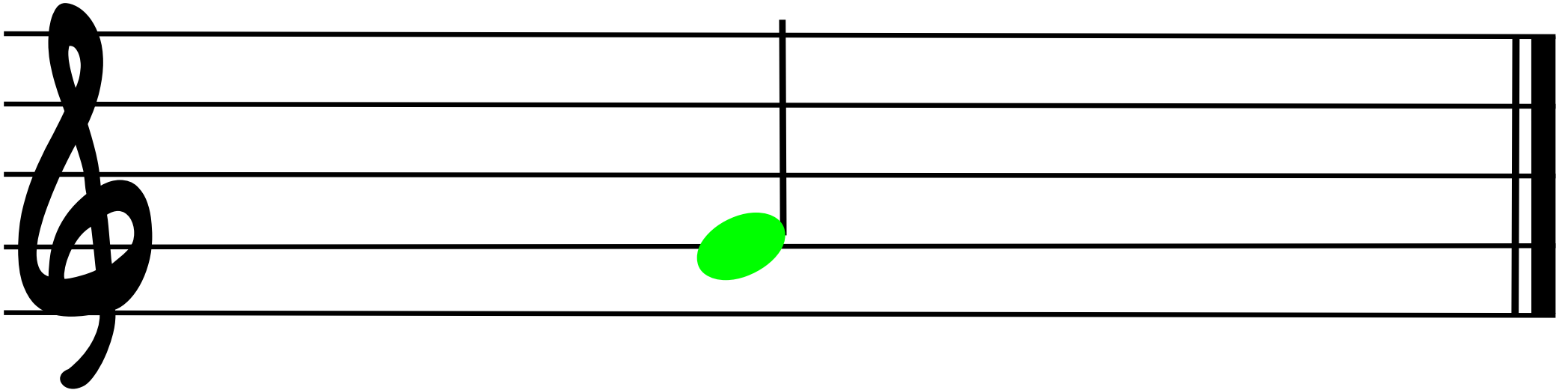
Ex 21 - Where is the note on the staff?



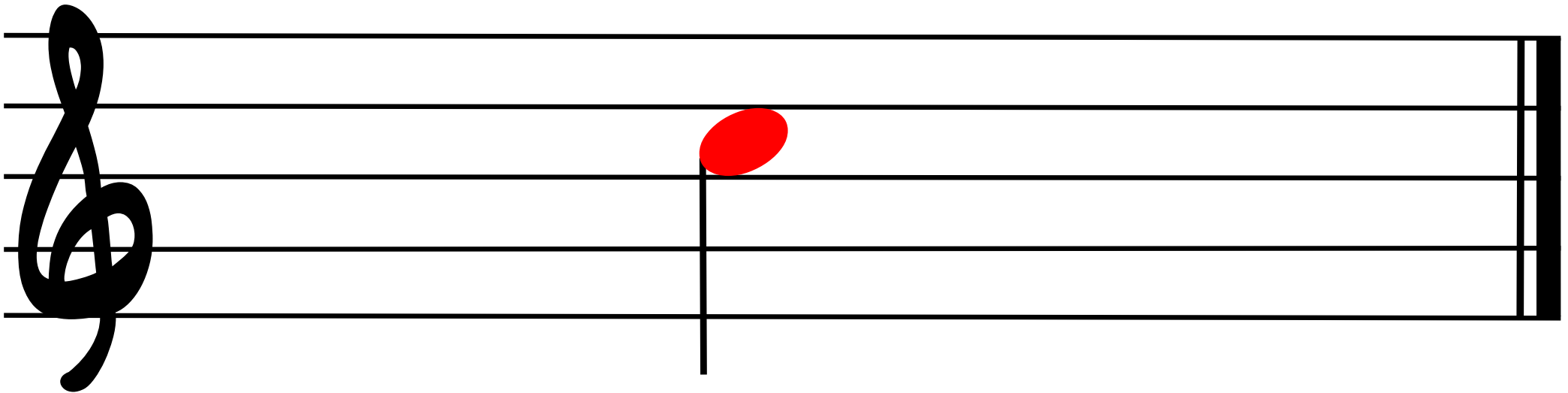
Ex 2m - Where is the note on the staff?



Ex 2n - Where is the note on the staff?



Ex 2o - Where is the note on the staff?





## Section Two - Key Points

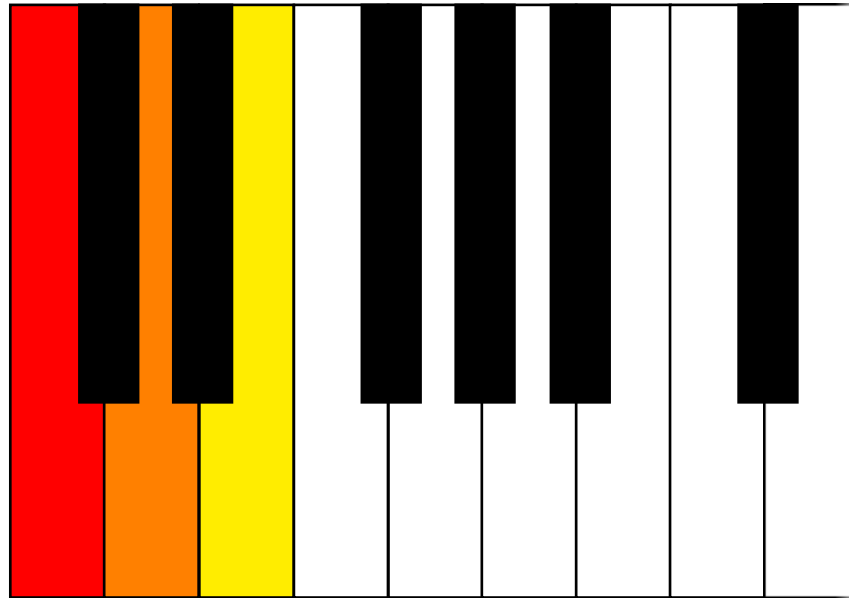
The **position** of a **note** on the **stave** needs to be **identified**.

The **position** of **notes** on the stave can be **described**.

## **Section Three - High and Low**

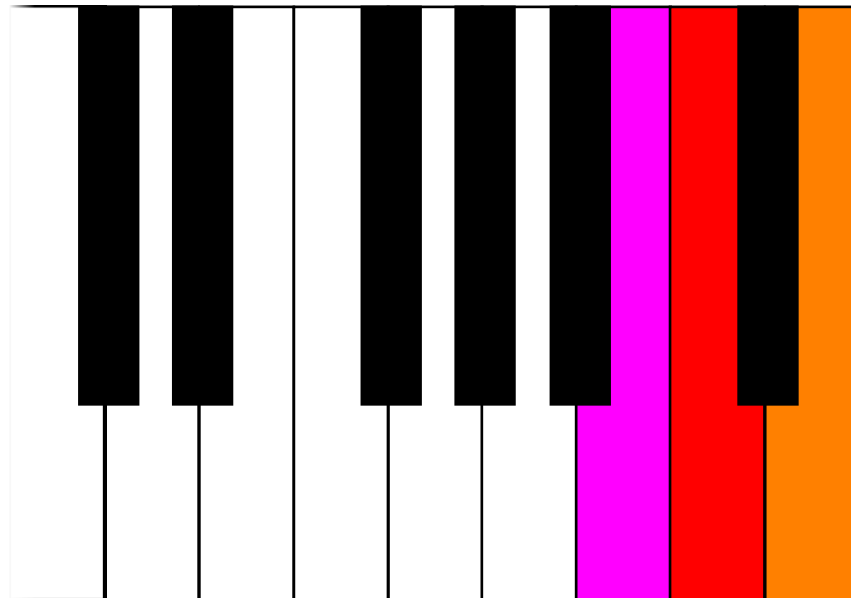
Play the notes on the very **left** of your keyboard.  
You will notice that they have a **grumbly heavy sound**.

These are known as **Low Notes**.

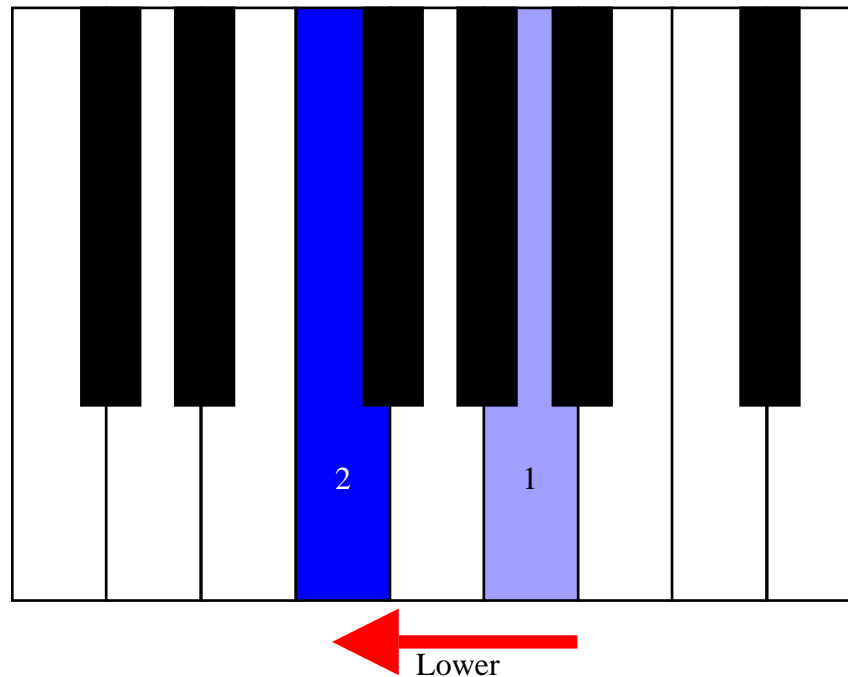


Play the notes on the very right of your keyboard.  
You will notice that they have a **light tinkly sound**.

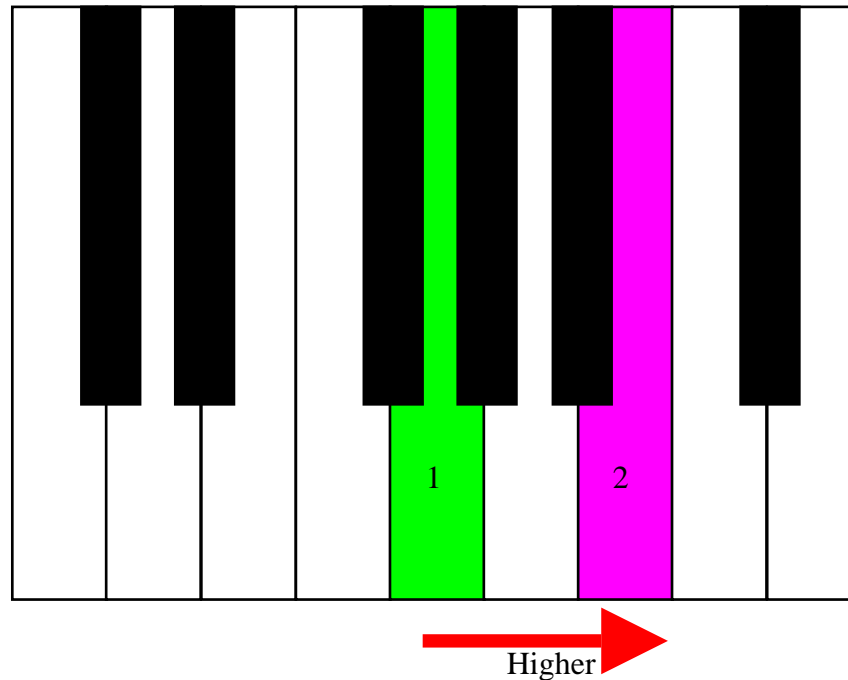
These are known as **High Notes**.



If you play a note on the keyboard  
and then play a second note to the **left**  
it will be **lower** than the first note.

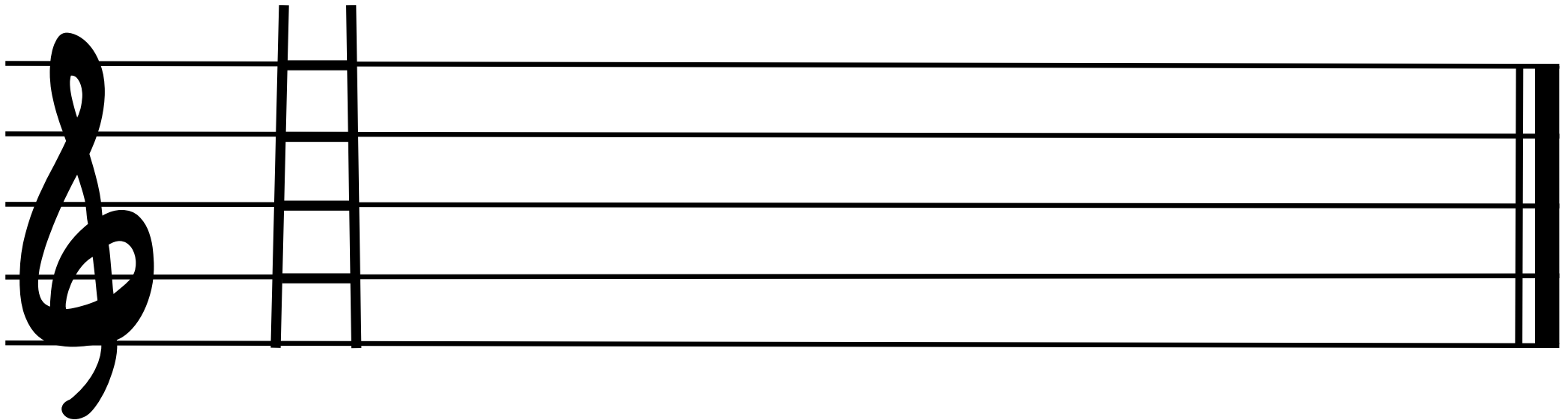


If you play a note on the keyboard  
and then play a second note to the right  
it will be higher than the first note.



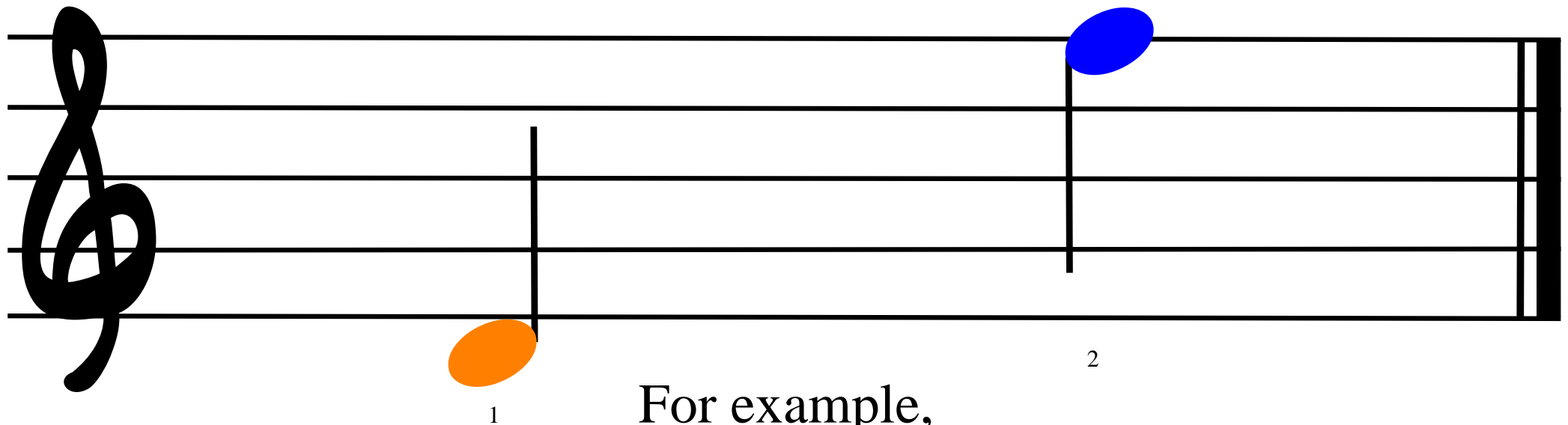
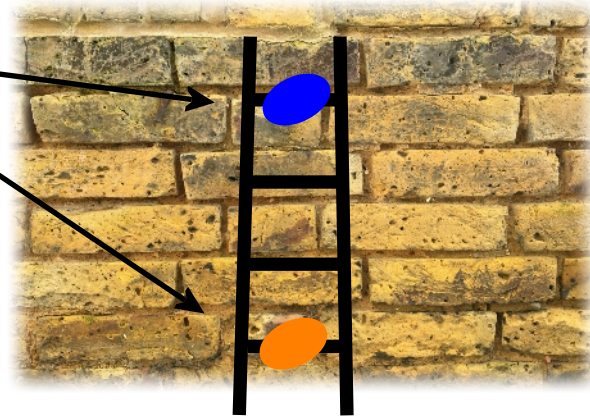
Try playing some notes on your keyboard that get higher  
and then some notes that get **l**ower.

Think of the staff as a ladder.



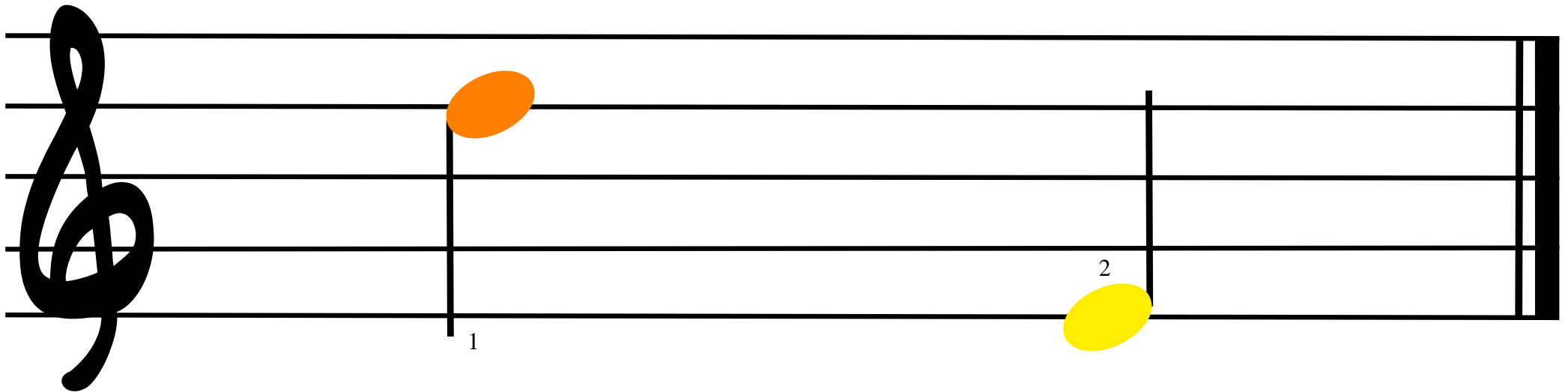
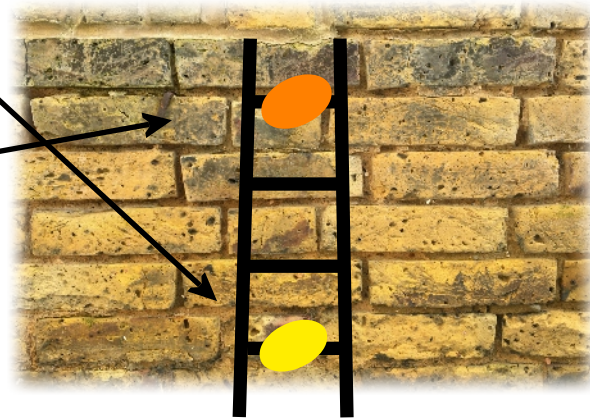


Notes written at the top of the stave (ladder) are **higher** than notes written at the bottom of the stave.



For example,  
the second note above is higher than the first note.

Notes written at the bottom of the stave (ladder) are **lower** than notes written at the top of the stave.

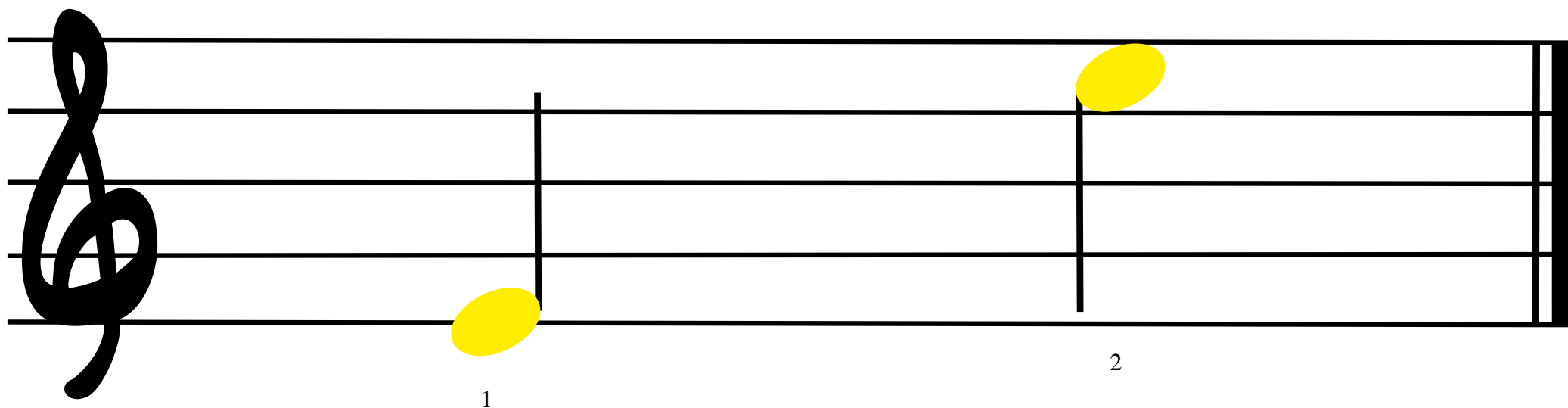


The second note above is lower than the first note.

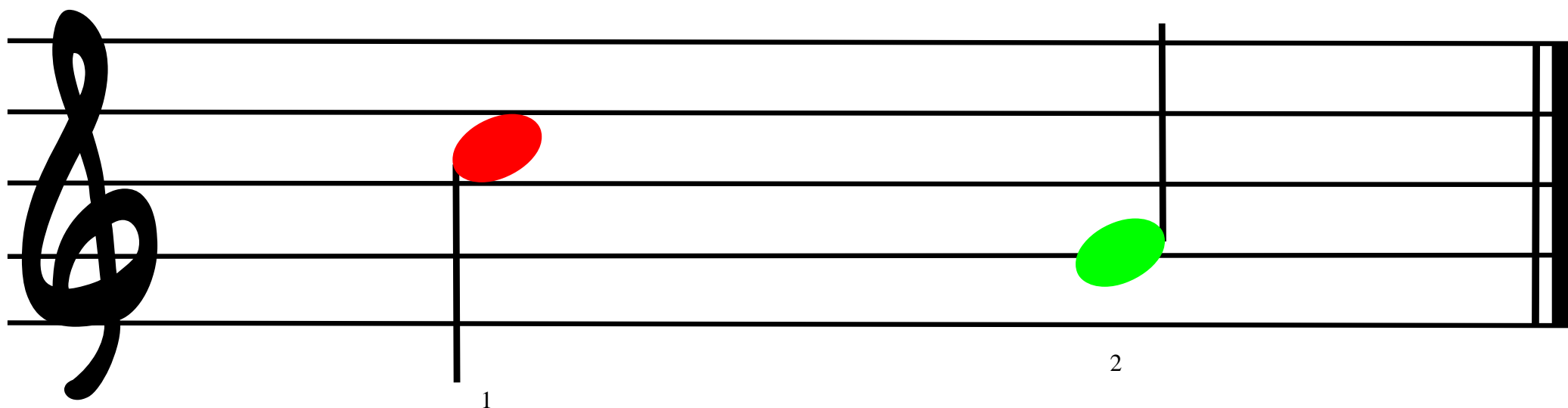
## **Exercise 3**

Go through the following pages and work out which note is higher and which one is lower.

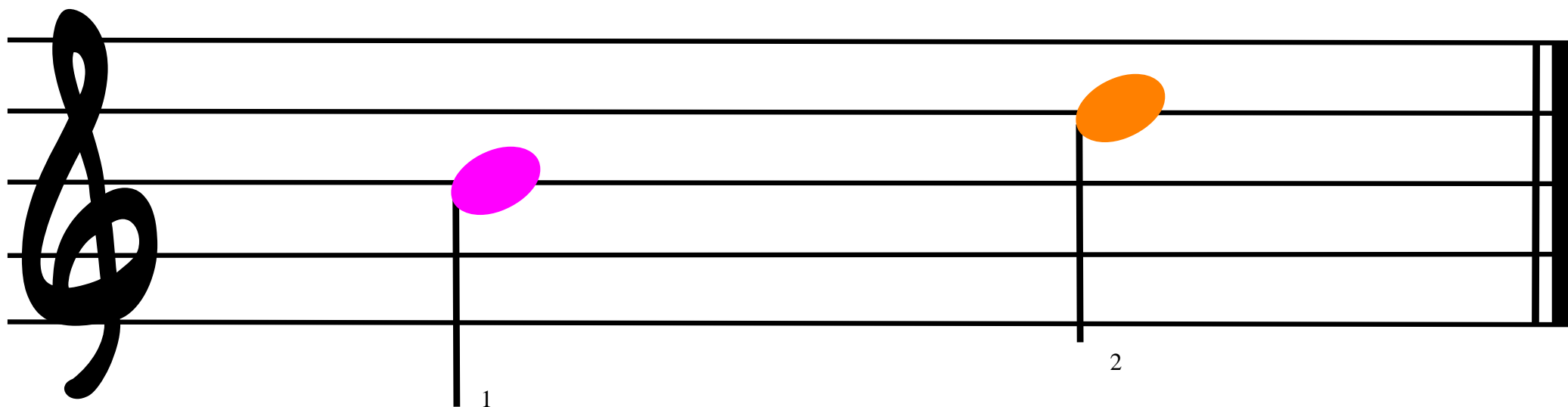
Ex 3a - Which note is higher and which one is lower?



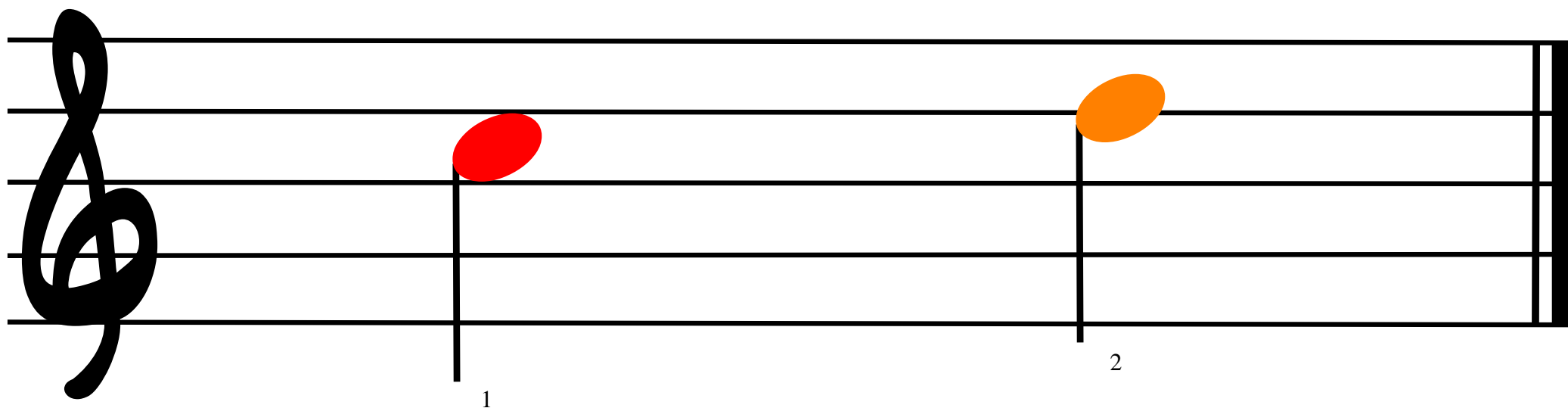
Ex 3b - Which note is higher and which one is lower?



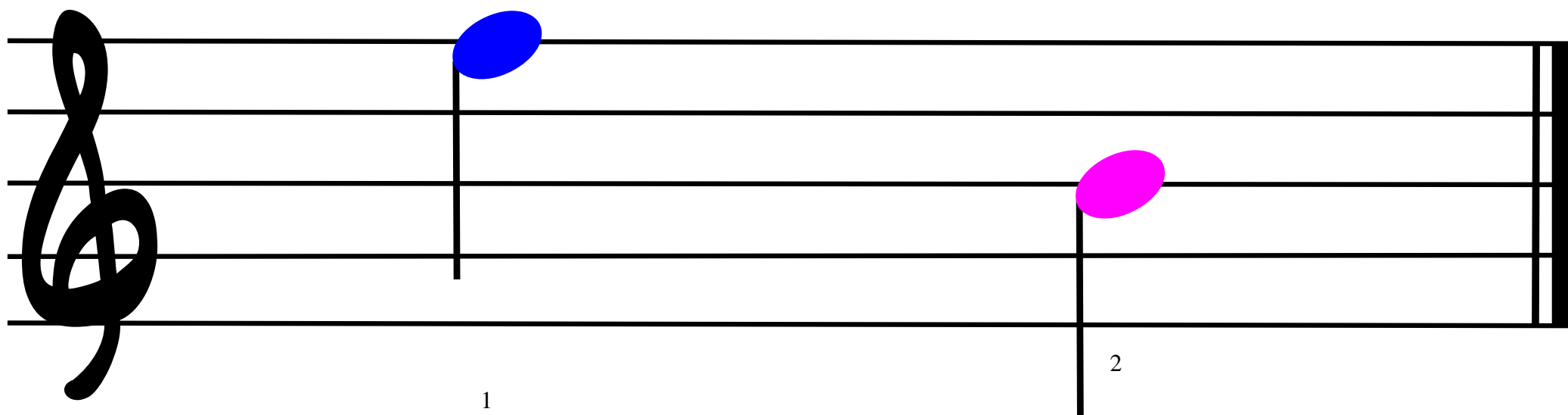
Ex 3c - Which note is higher and which one is lower?



Ex 3d - Which note is higher and which one is lower?



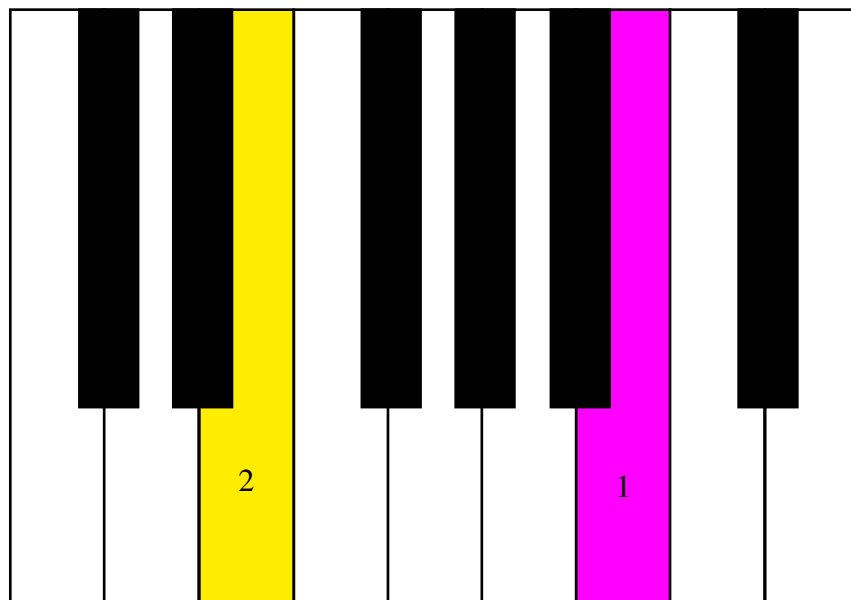
Ex 3e - Which note is higher and which one is lower?





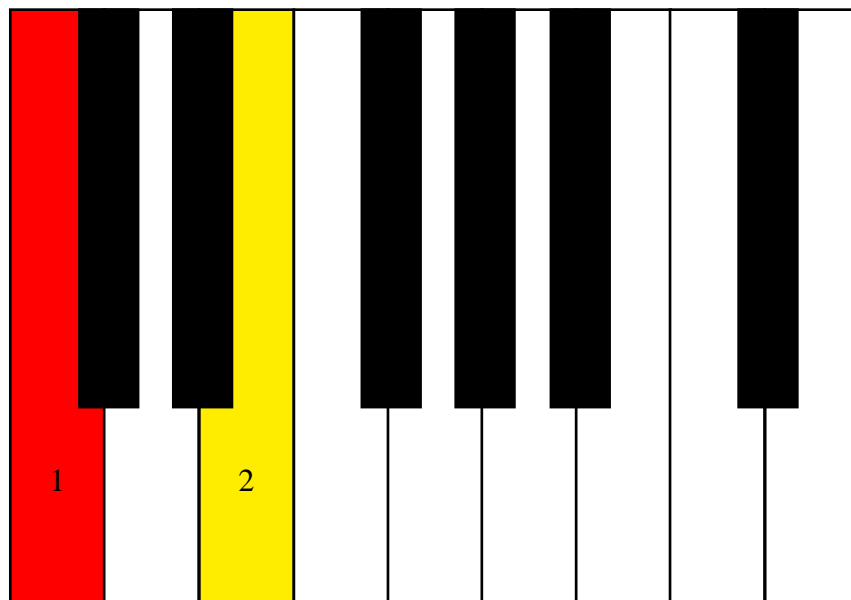


Ex 3g - Which note is higher and which one is lower?

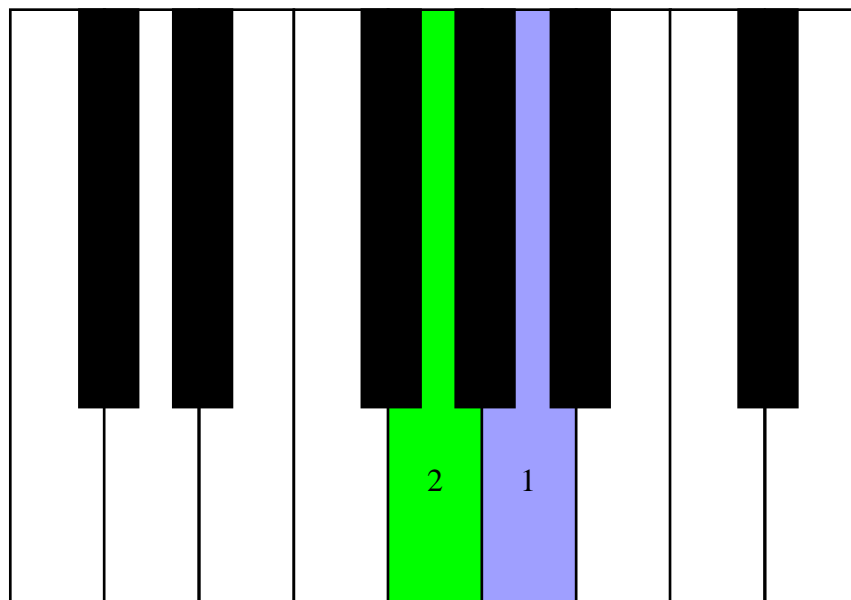




Ex 3i - Which note is higher and which one is lower?

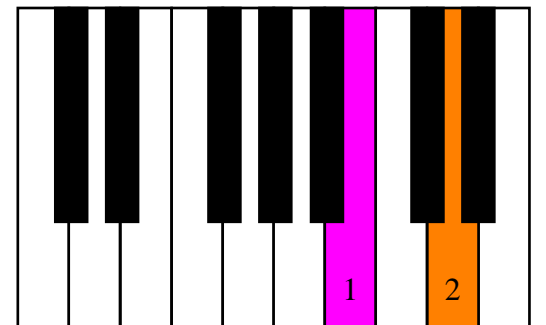
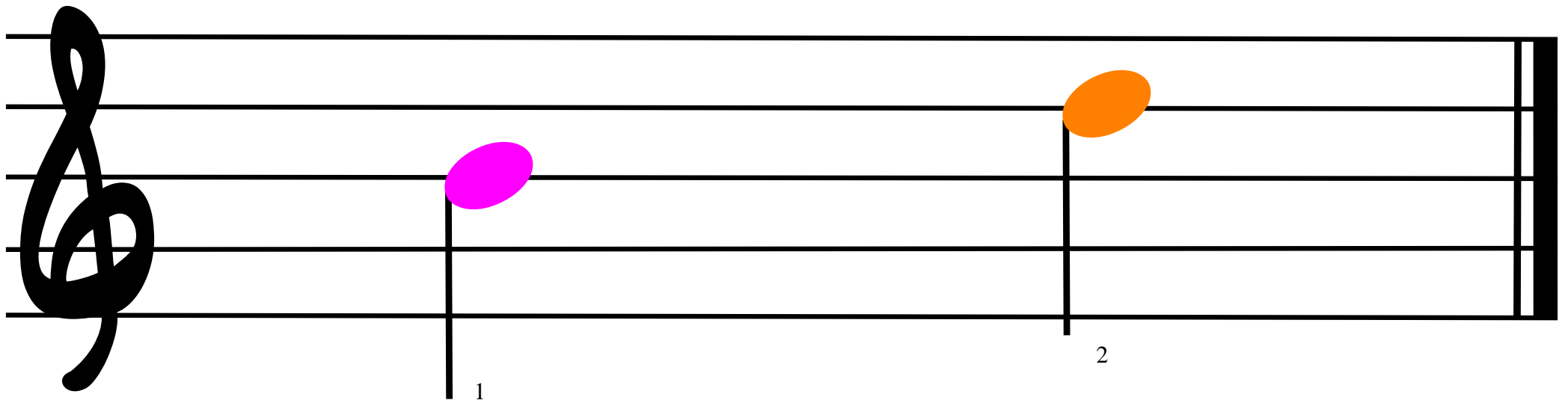


Ex 3j - Which note is higher and which one is lower?

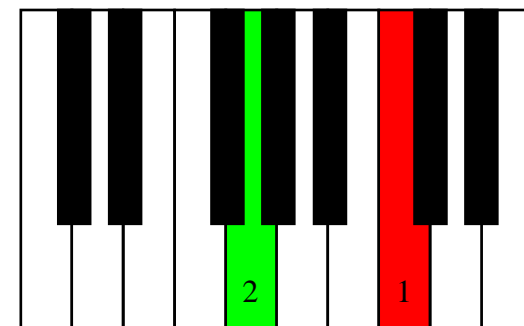
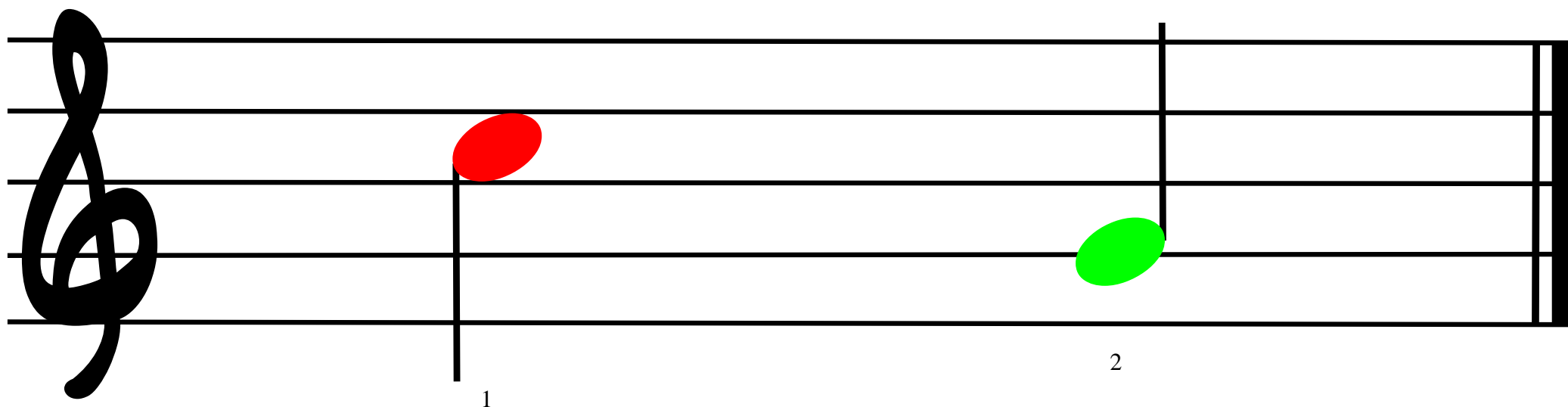




Ex 31 - Which note is higher and which one is lower?

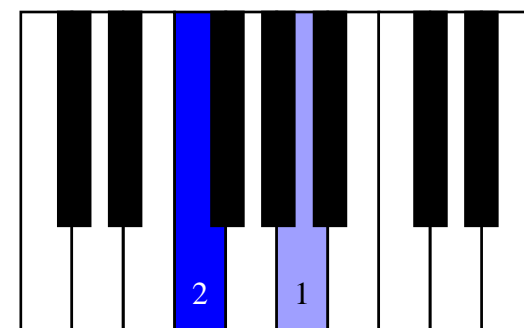
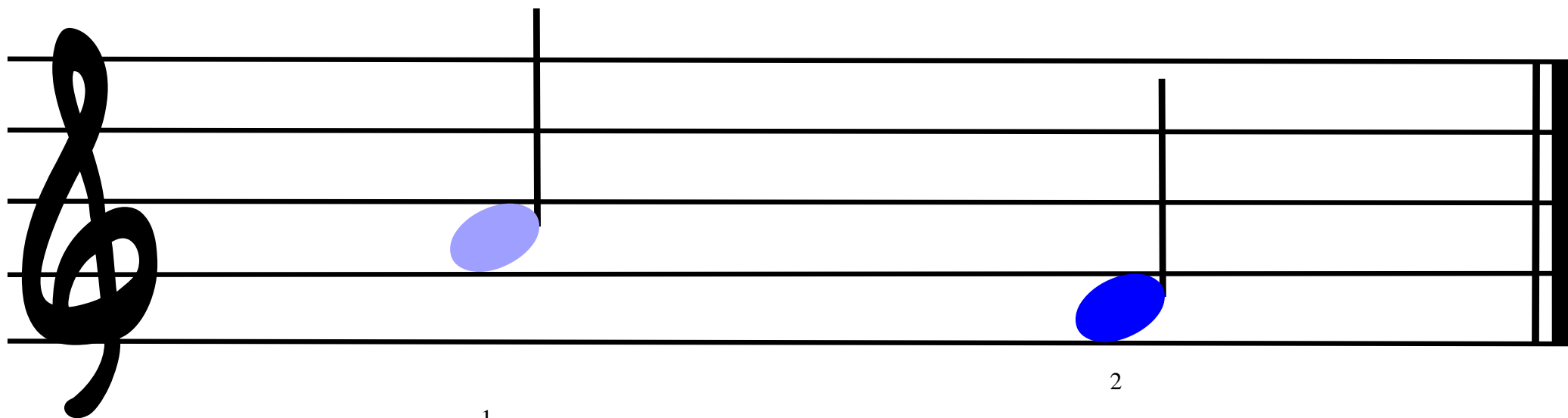


Ex 3m - Which note is higher and which one is lower?

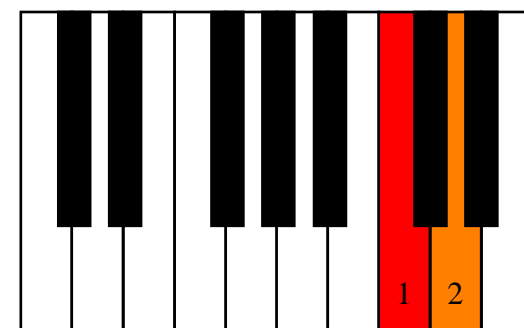
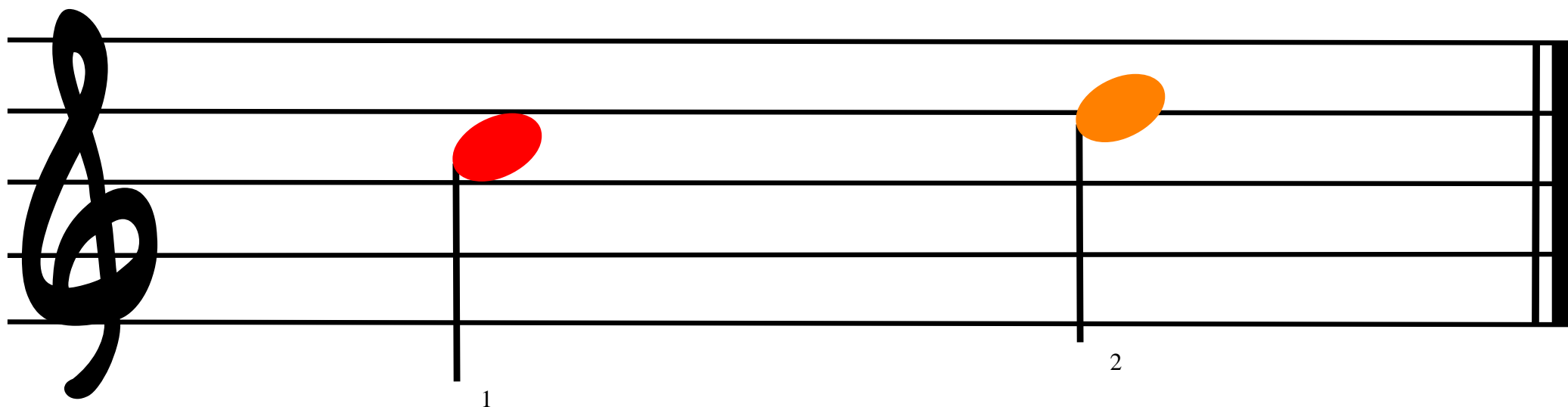




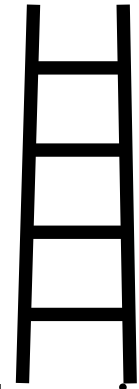
Ex 3n - Which note is higher and which one is lower?



Ex 30 - Which note is higher and which one is lower?



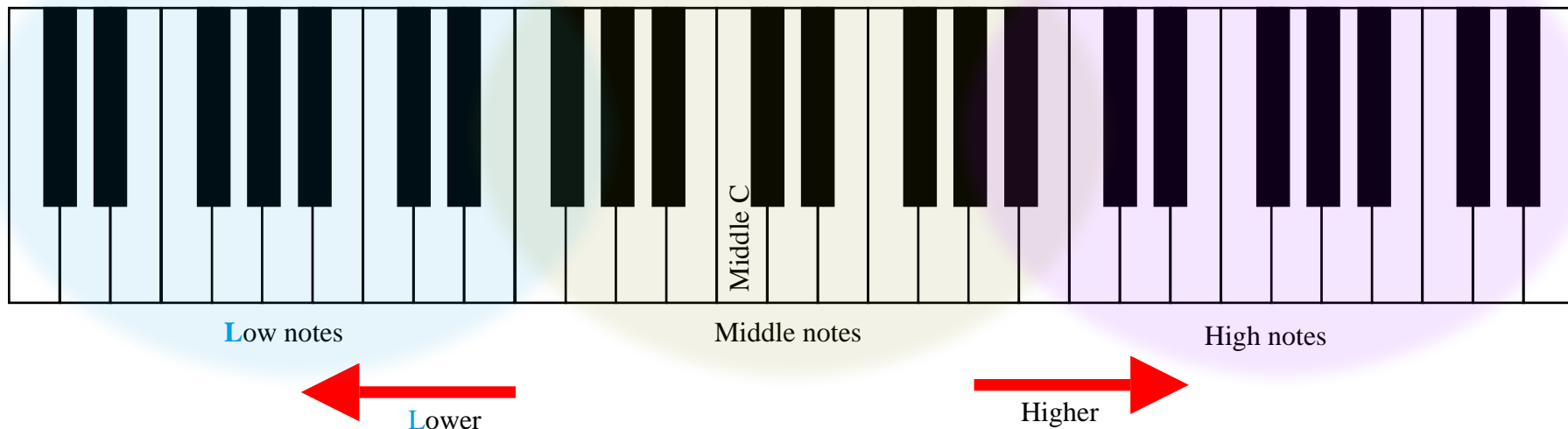
## Section Three - Key Points



**Think** of the **lines** of the **stave** as being like a **ladder**.

The **higher** up on **the stave** notes are **written** the **higher** in pitch they are.

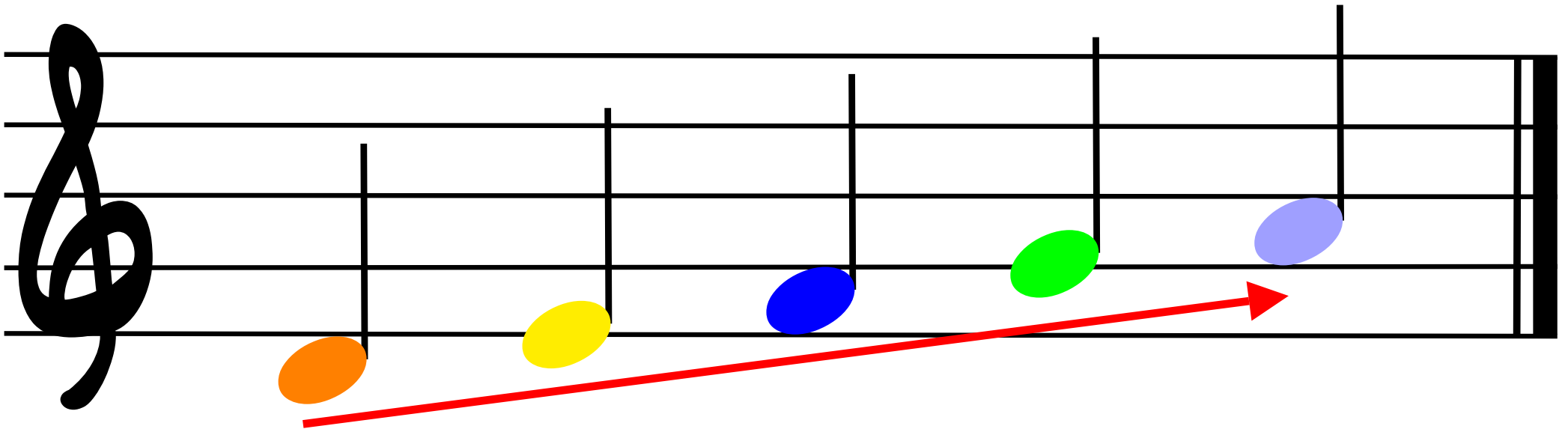
**Notes** on a **keyboard** are **higher** or **lower** depending on how far to the **right** or **left** they are.



## **Section Four - Pitch Distance**

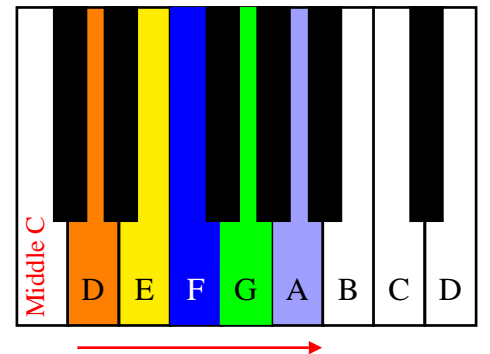
Music is read from left to right.

These notes are getting **higher**...

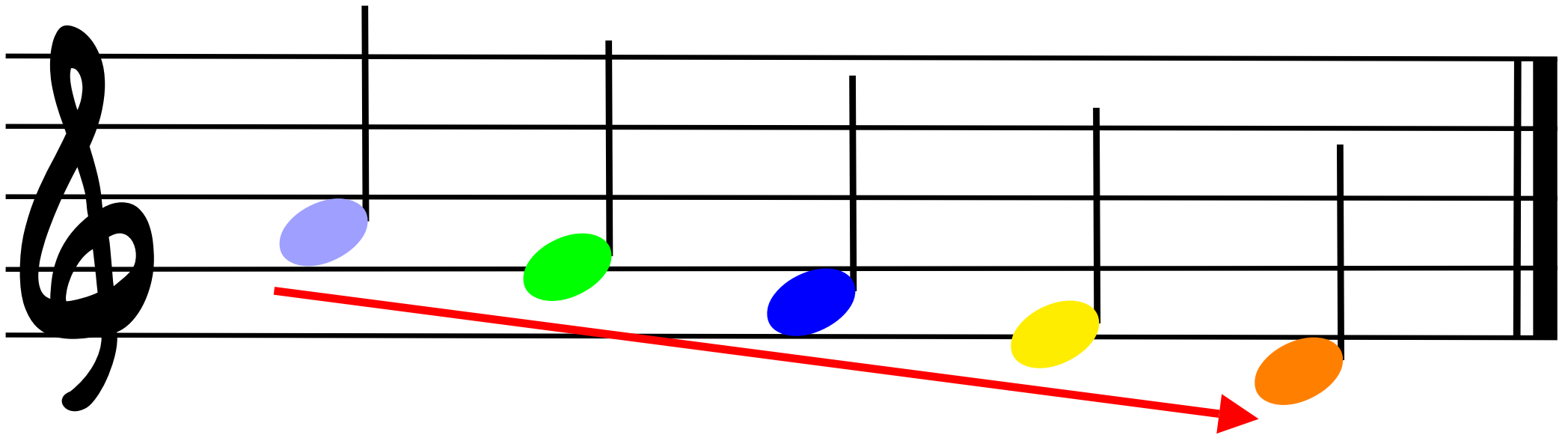


They are positioned space, line, space, line, space.

They are getting **higher** by **one note at a time**.

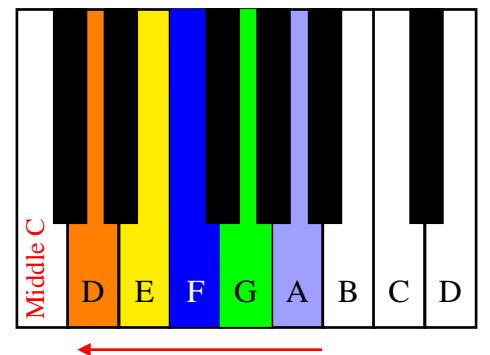


and these notes are getting **lower**.

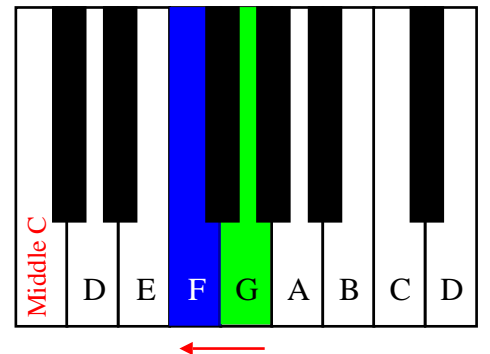
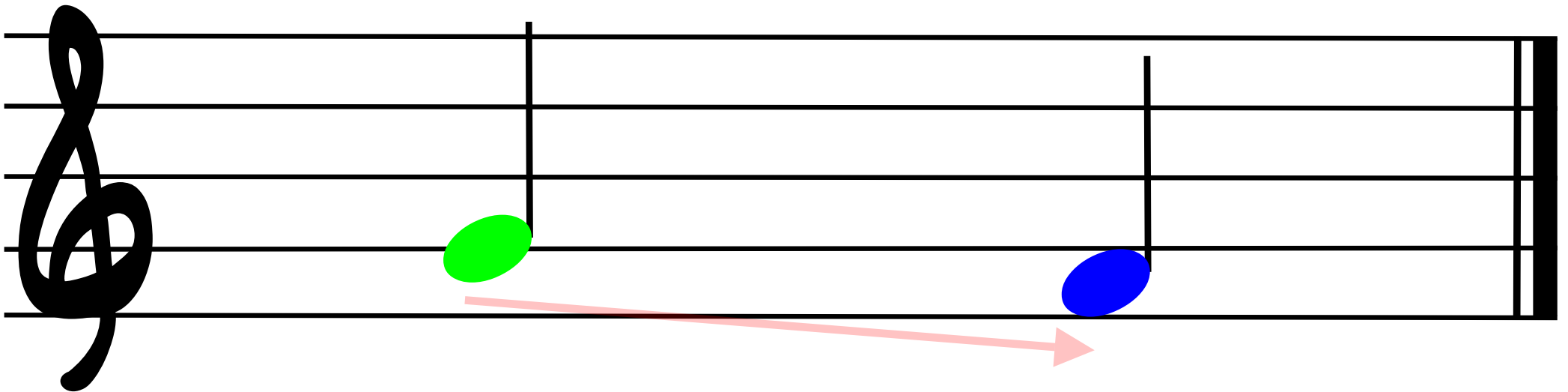


They are positioned space, line, space, line, space.

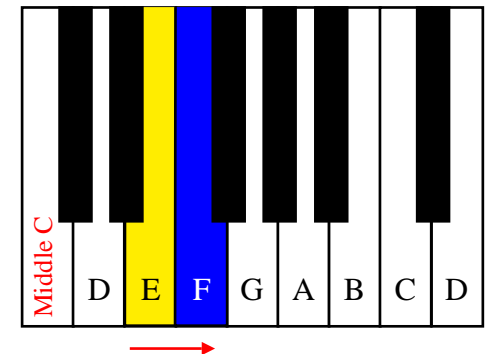
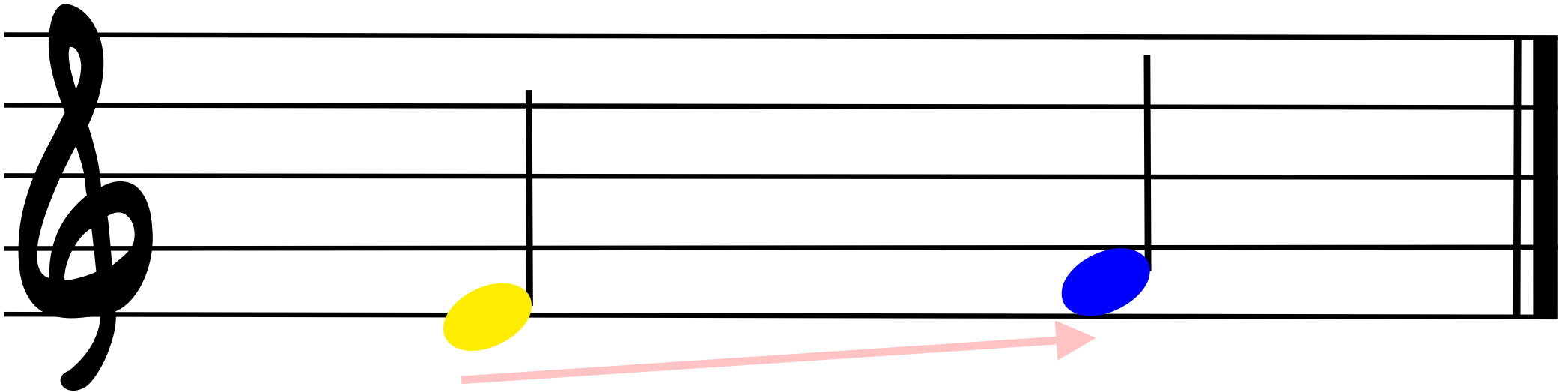
They are getting **lower** by **one note at a time**.



If a note moves from a **line** to the **next space down** you need to play **one note lower** on your instrument.

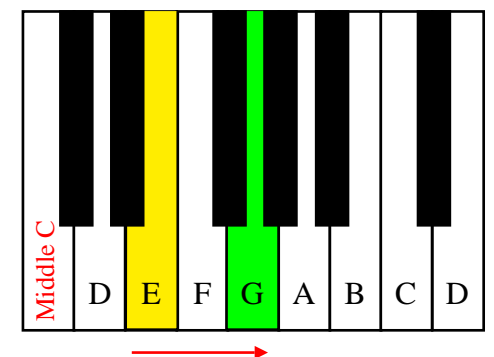
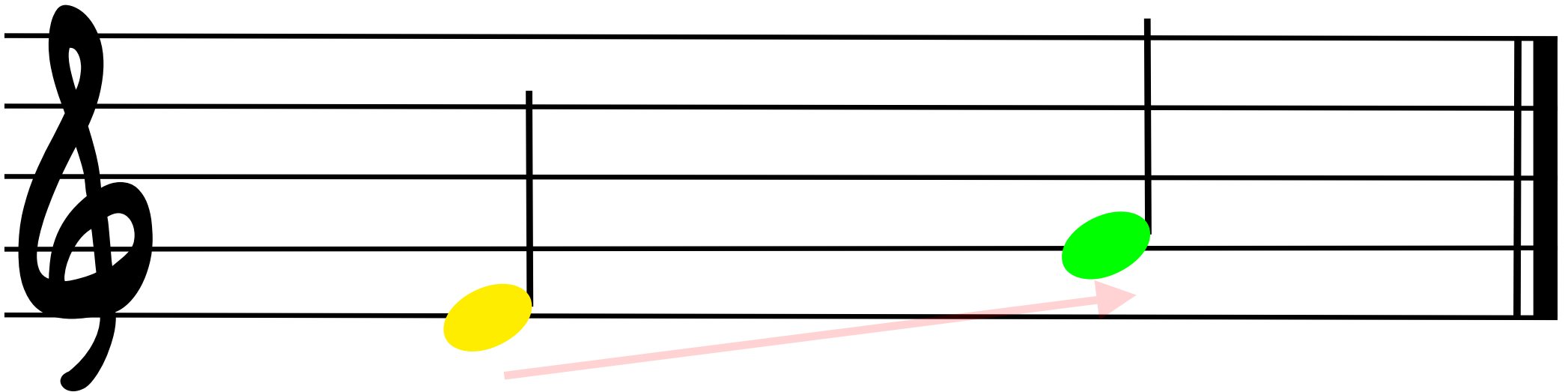


If a note moves from a **line** to the **next space up** you need to play **one note higher** on your instrument.

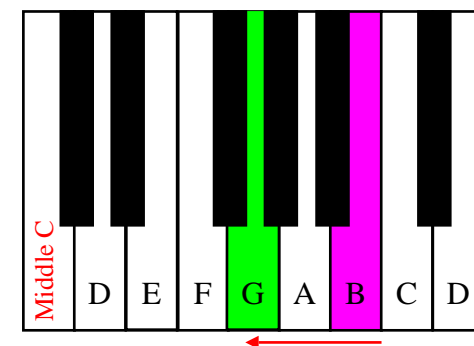
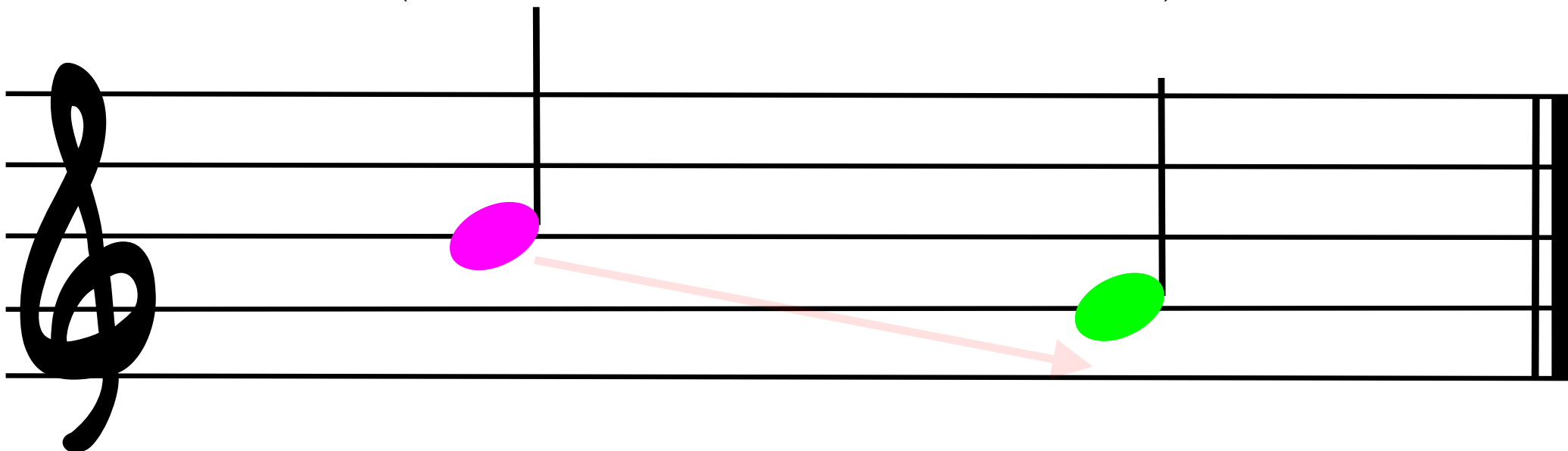




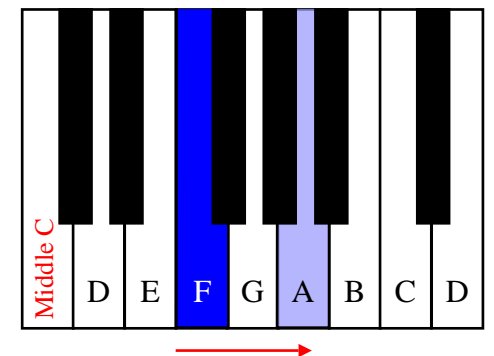
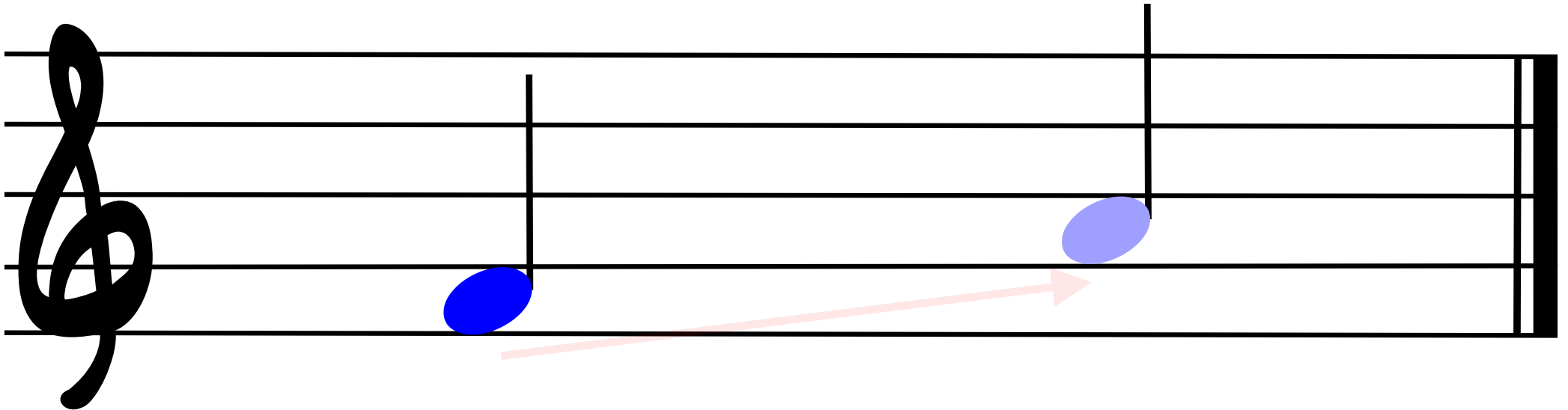
If a note moves from a **line to the next line up** you need to play **two notes higher** on your instrument, (and miss one note out in between).



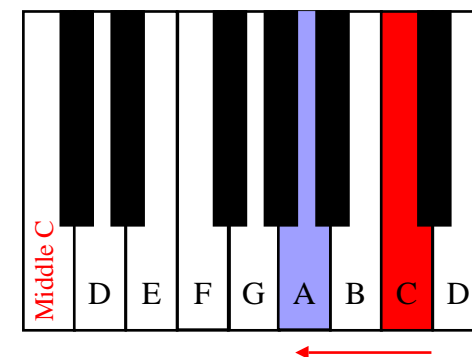
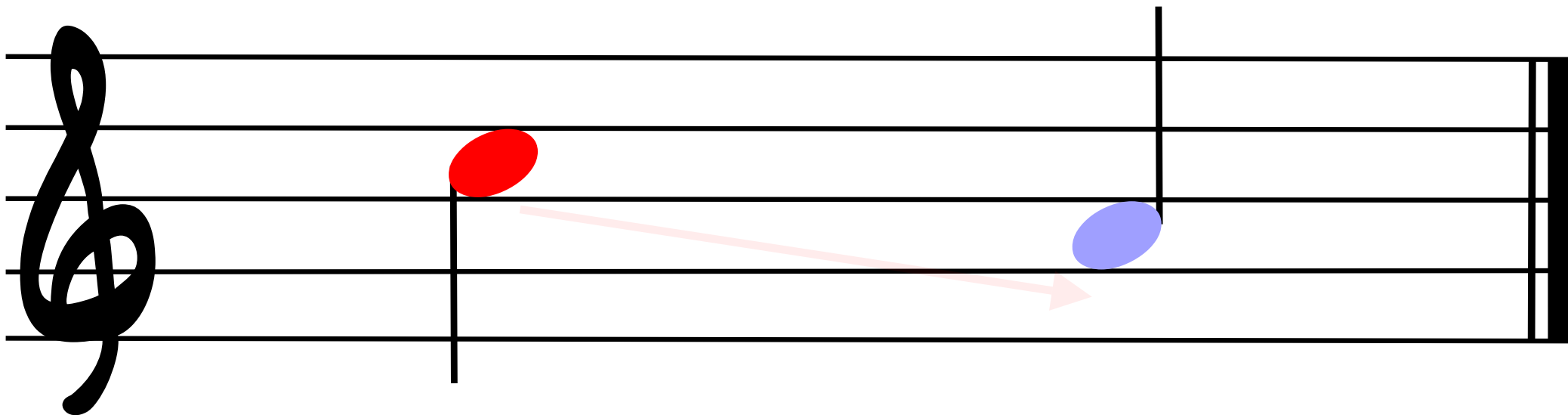
If a note moves from a **line to the next line down** you need to play **two notes lower** on your instrument, (and miss one note out in between).



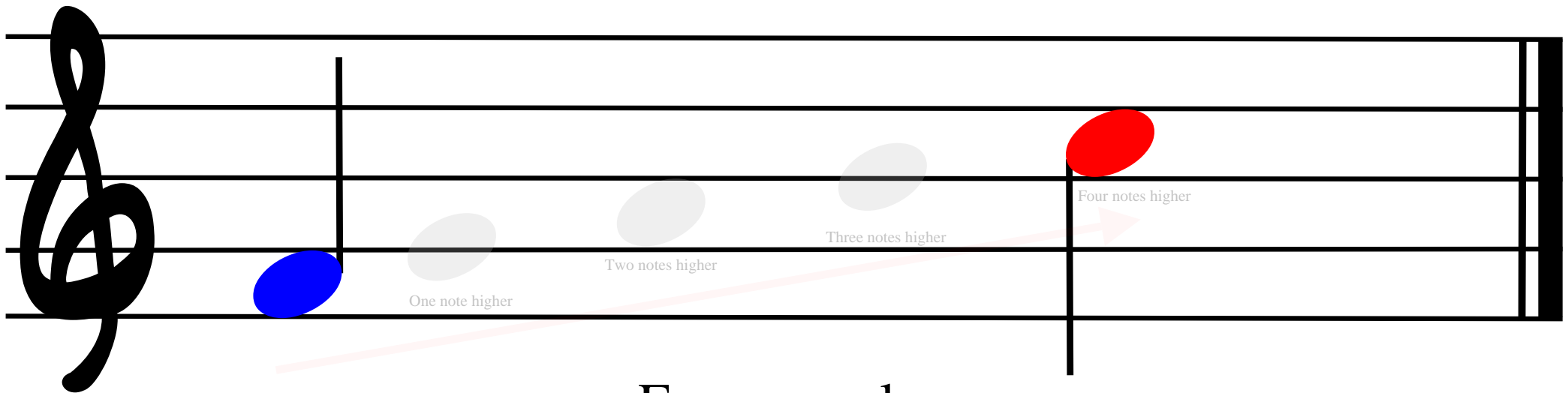
If a note moves from a **space to the next space up** you need to play **two notes higher** on your instrument, (and miss one note out in between).



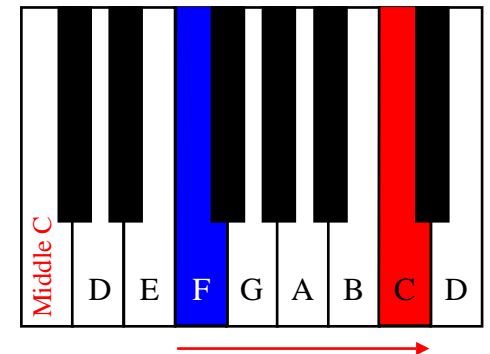
If a note moves from a **space** to the **next space down** you need to play **two notes lower** on your instrument, (and miss one note out in between).



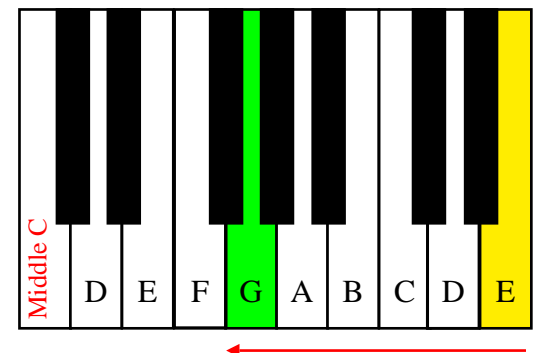
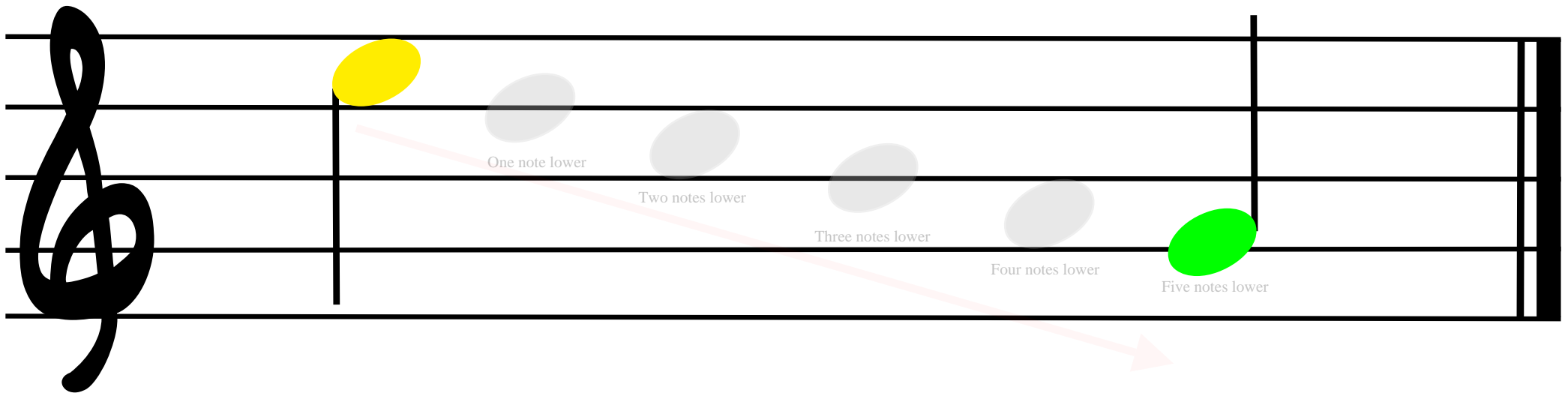
Sometimes notes will move more than one or two notes.



For example,  
the second note above  
is four notes higher than the first.



and the second note here is five notes lower than the first.



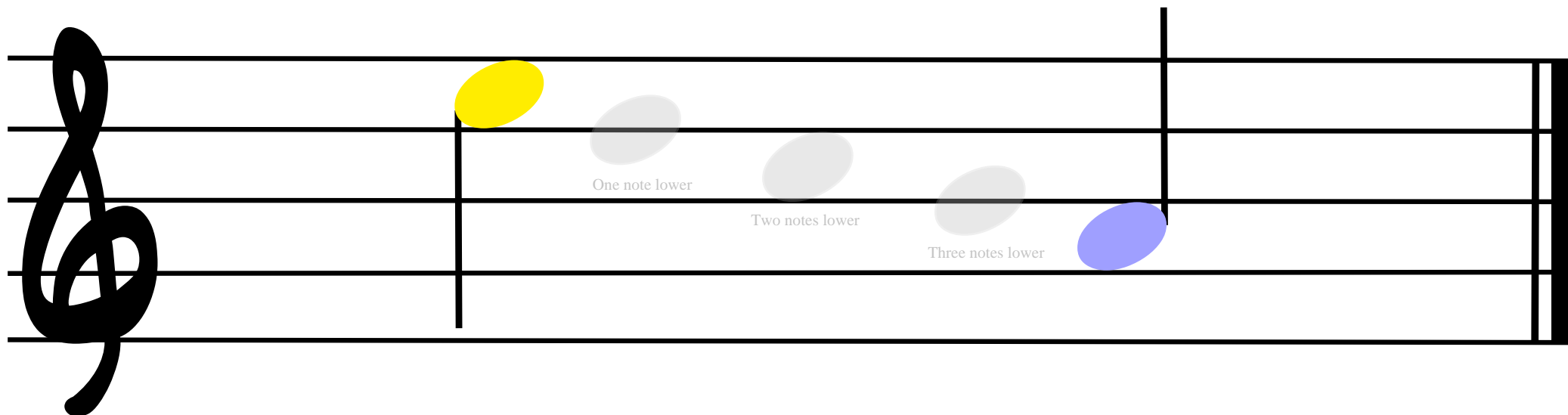
## **Exercise 4**

Work through the next few pages  
and try to work out how much higher  
or lower the second note is from the first note.

Go through the exercise a second time  
and try to play the notes on your keyboard.

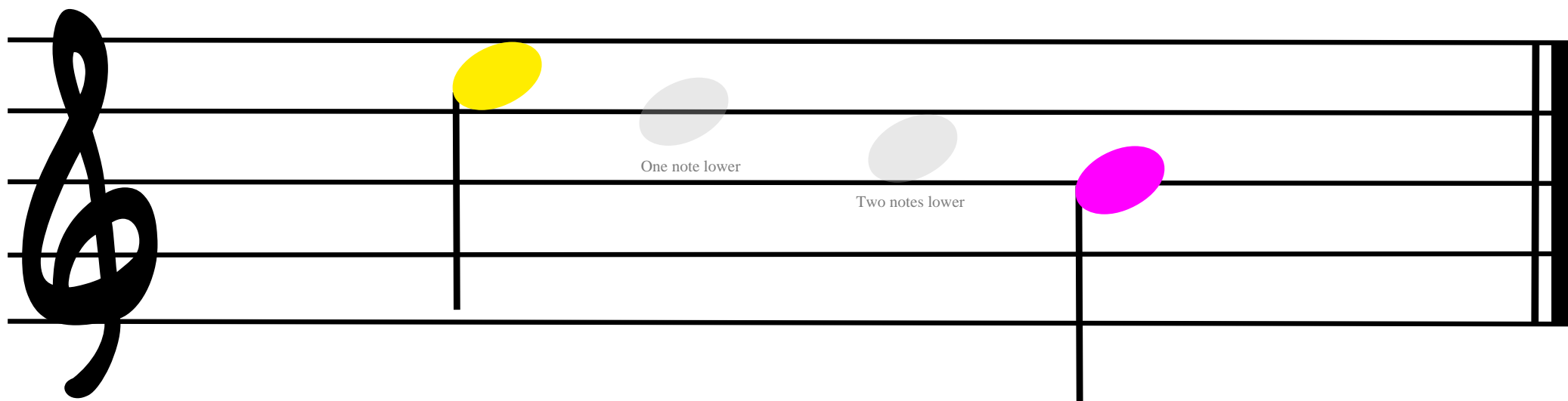
Someone can show you the first note of each two if needed.

Ex 4a - How much lower is the second note from the first?

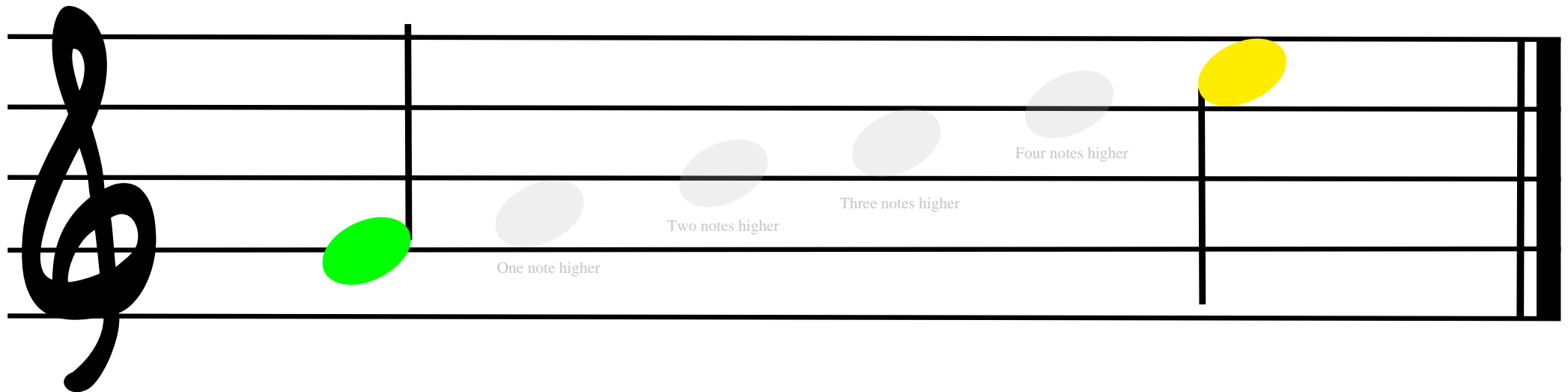




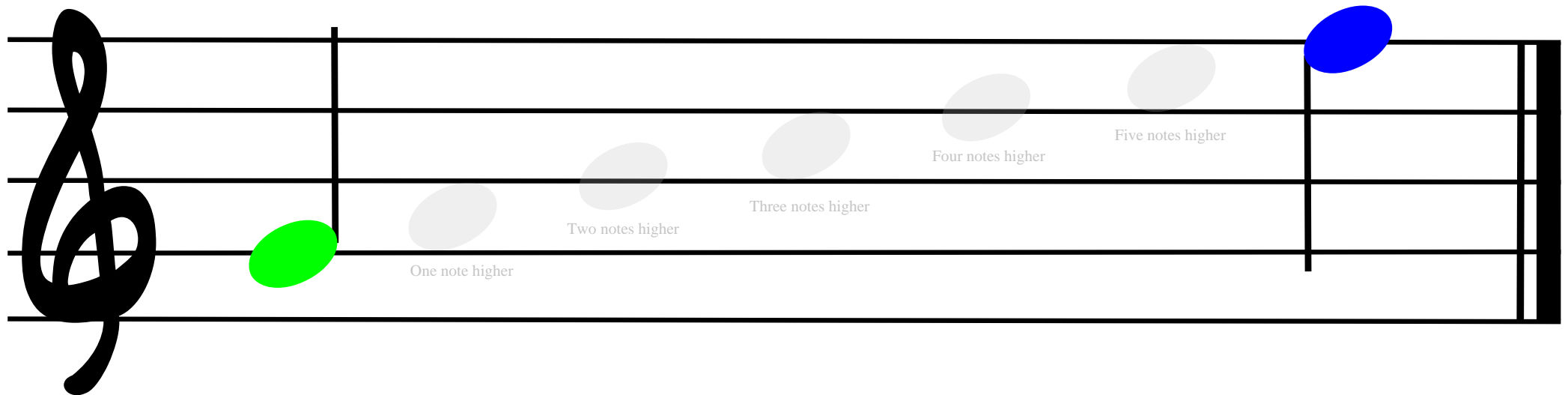
Ex 4b - How much lower is the second note from the first?



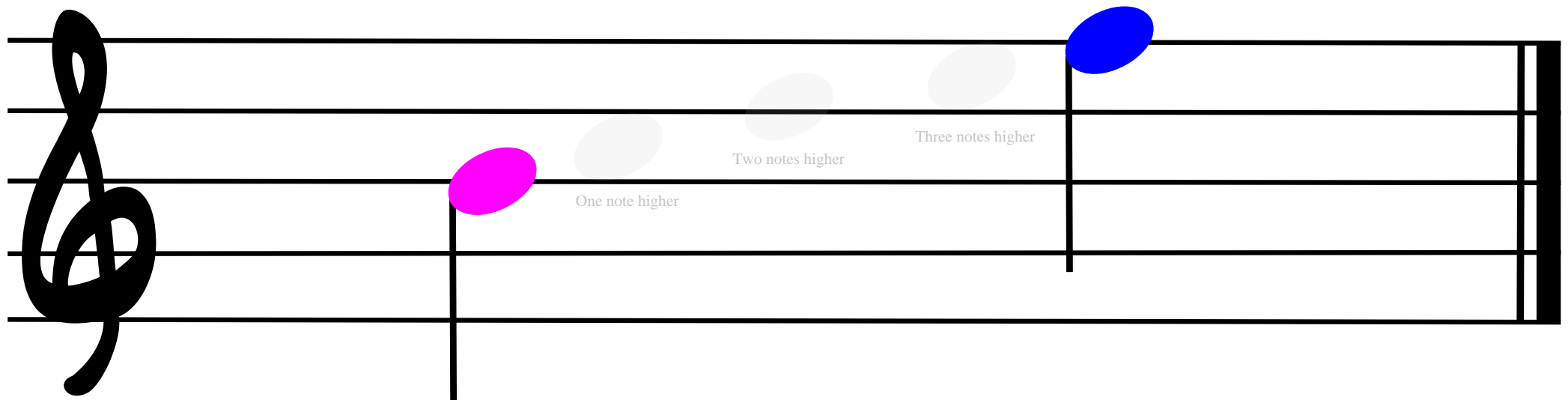
Ex 4c - How much higher is the second note from the first?



Ex 4d - How much higher is the second note from the first?



Ex 4e - How much higher is the second note from the first?



## Section Four - Key Points

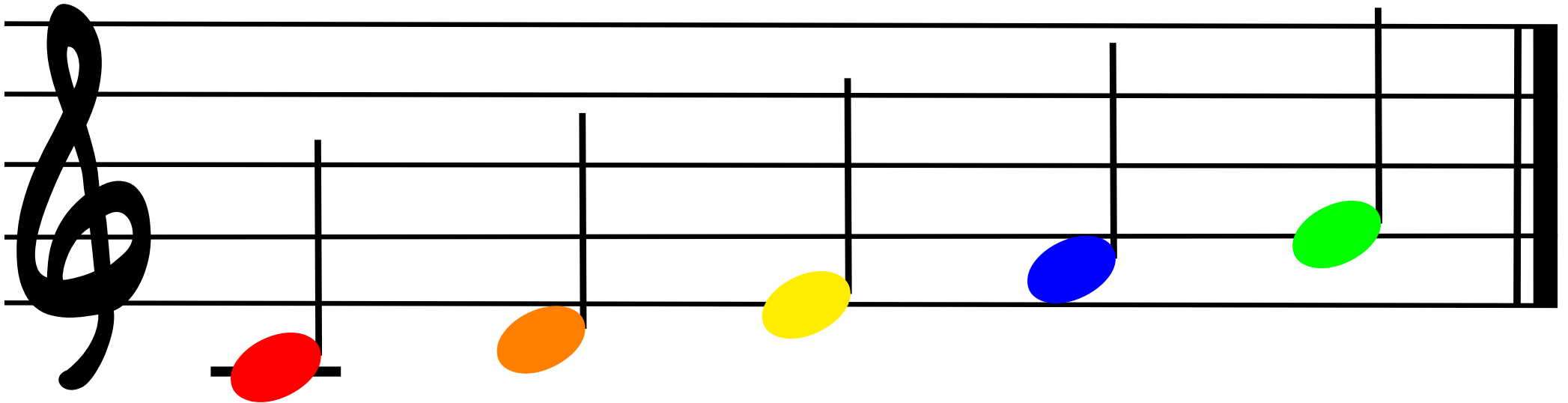
It is **useful** to work out the **distance** in **pitch** from one note to another.

This can be done by **counting** the **Lines** and **Spaces** between **notes** on the staff.

## **Section Five - Note Pitch Shape**

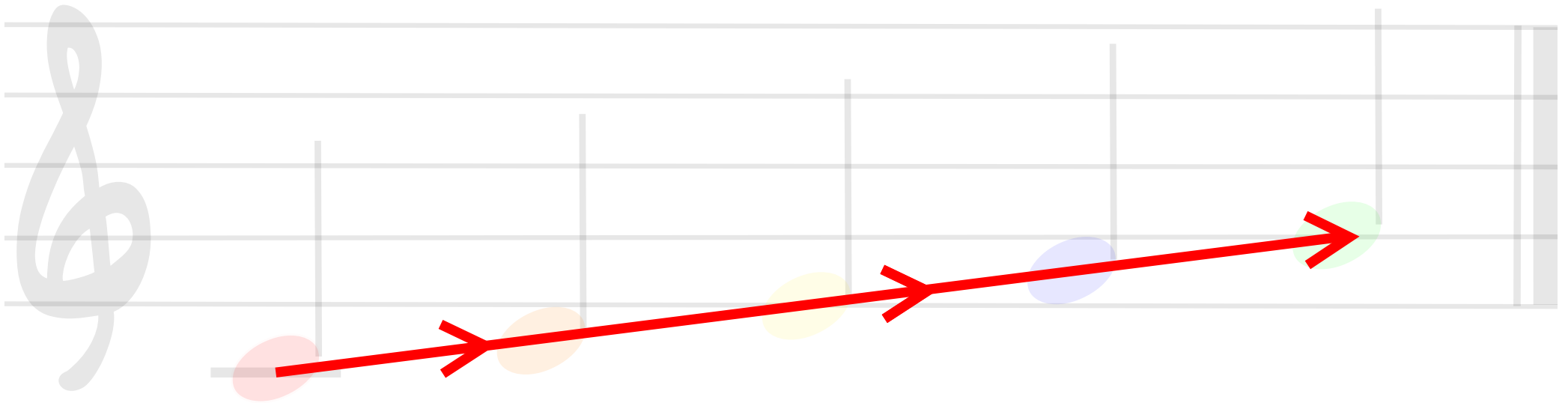
It is useful when looking at a passage of music to imagine the shape made by the pitch of the notes as they move higher or lower.

Imagine a line joining the notes shown below.



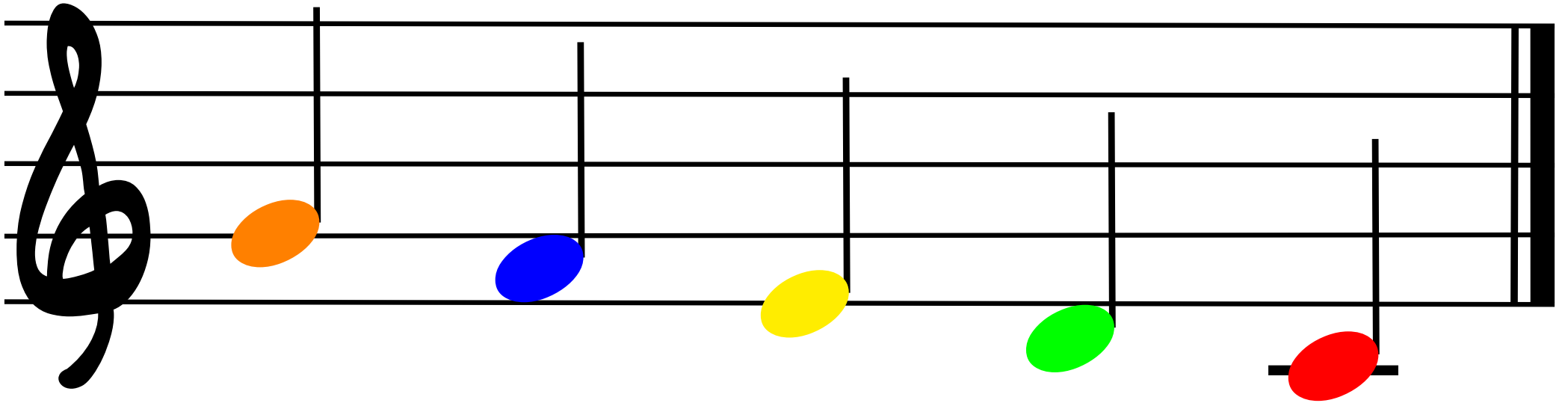
Music notes are read from left to right.

It will make the shape shown below.

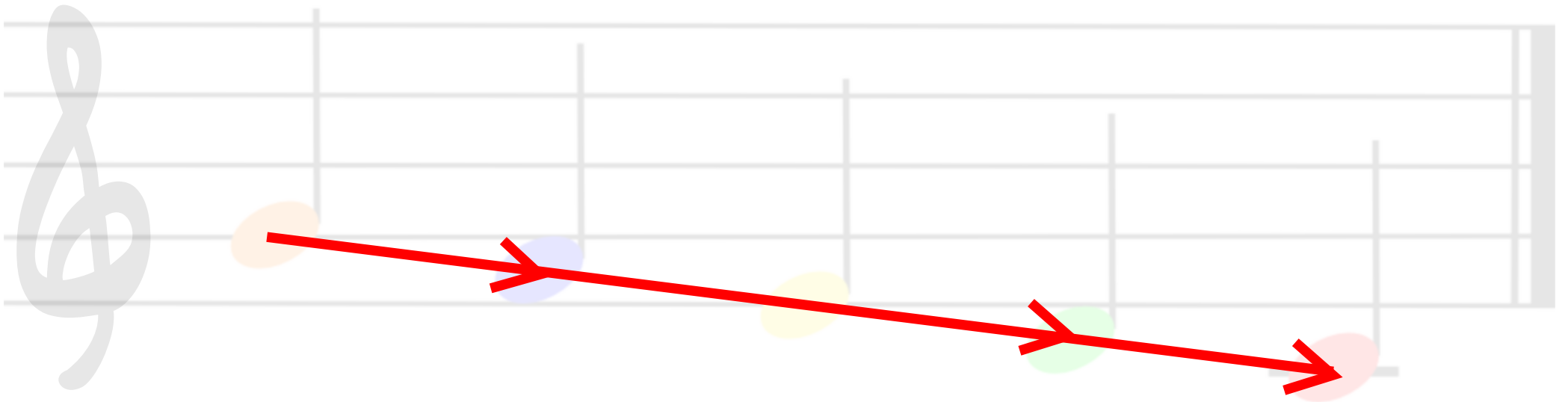




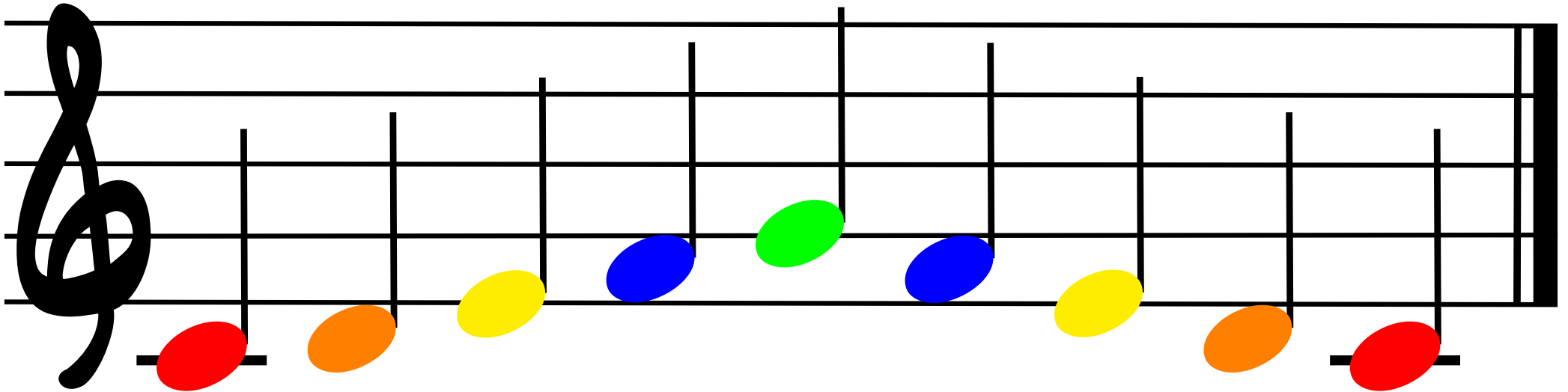
These notes .....



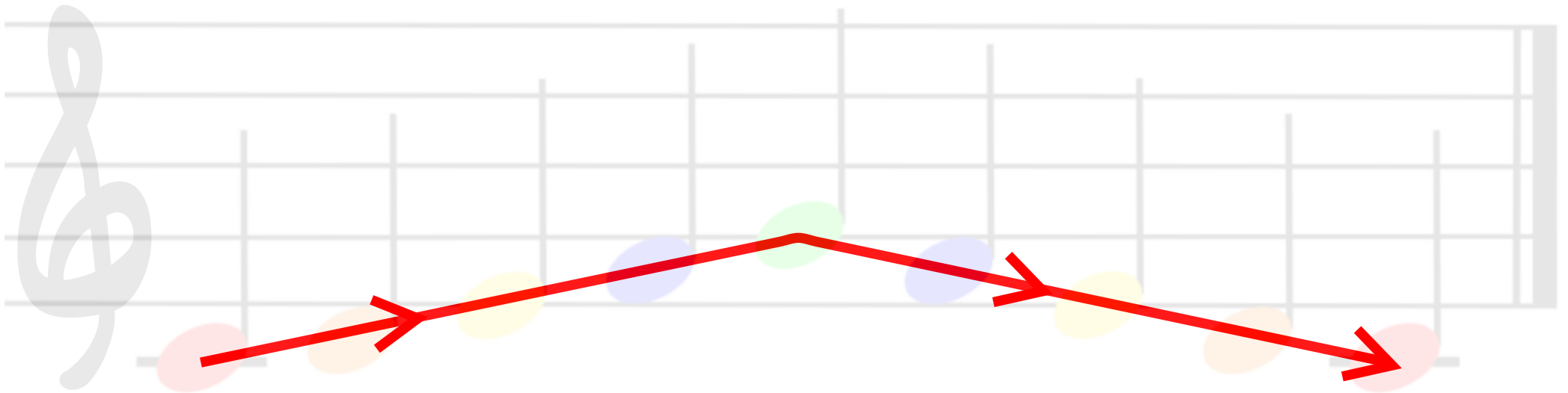
will make this shape,



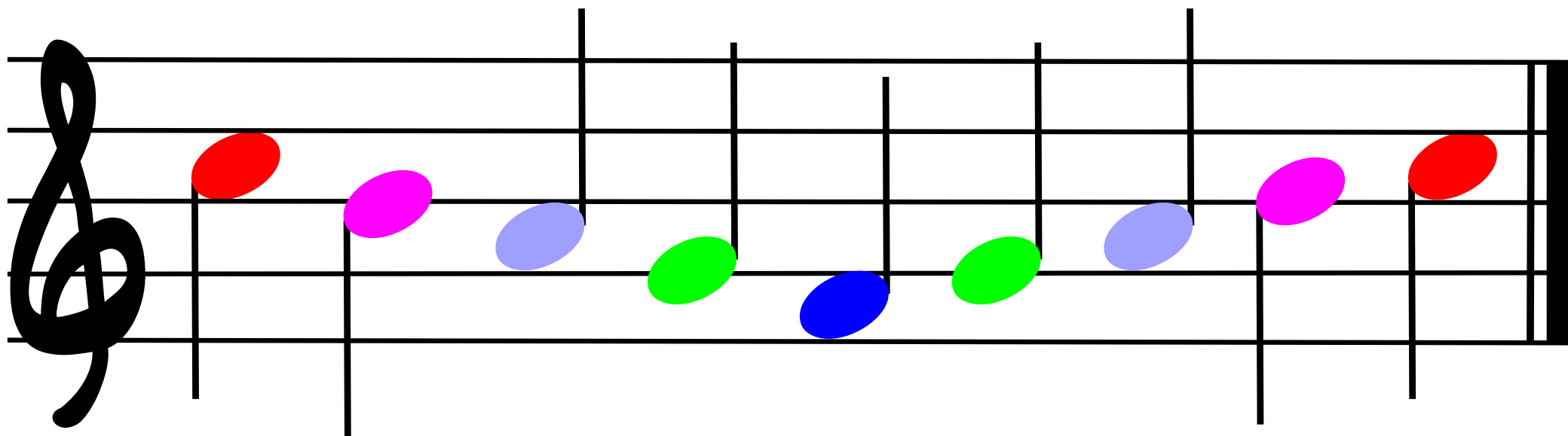
these notes will make.....



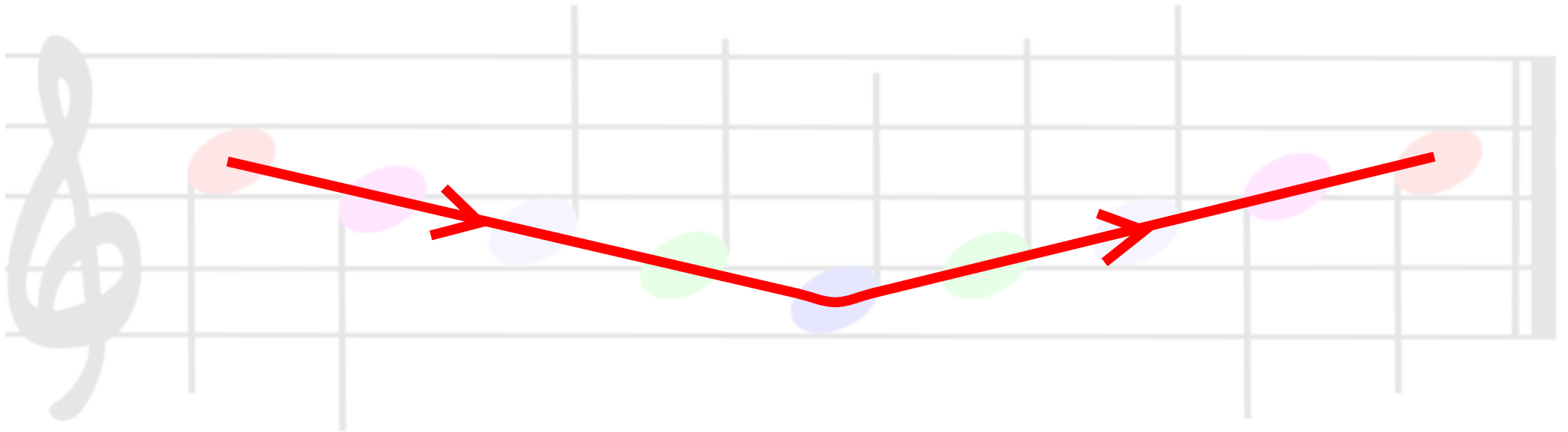
this shape,



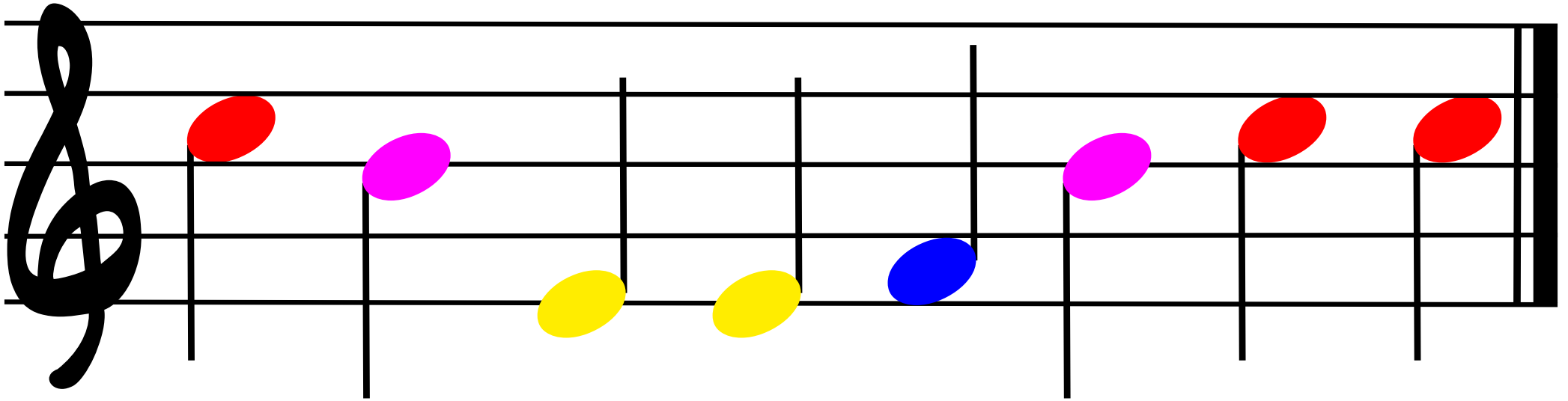
these notes will make .....



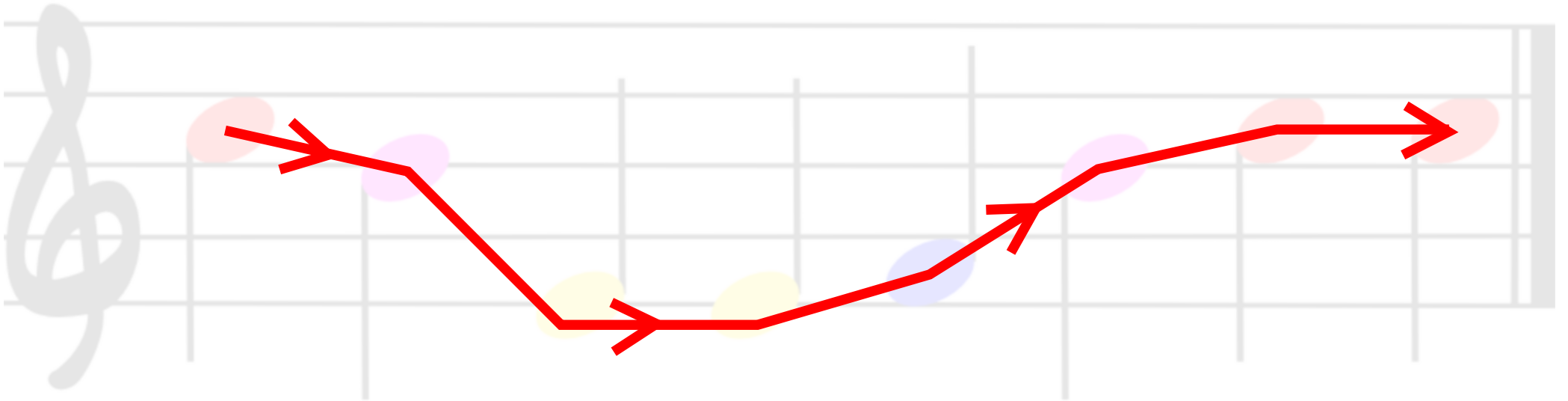
this shape,



and these notes will make.....



this shape.





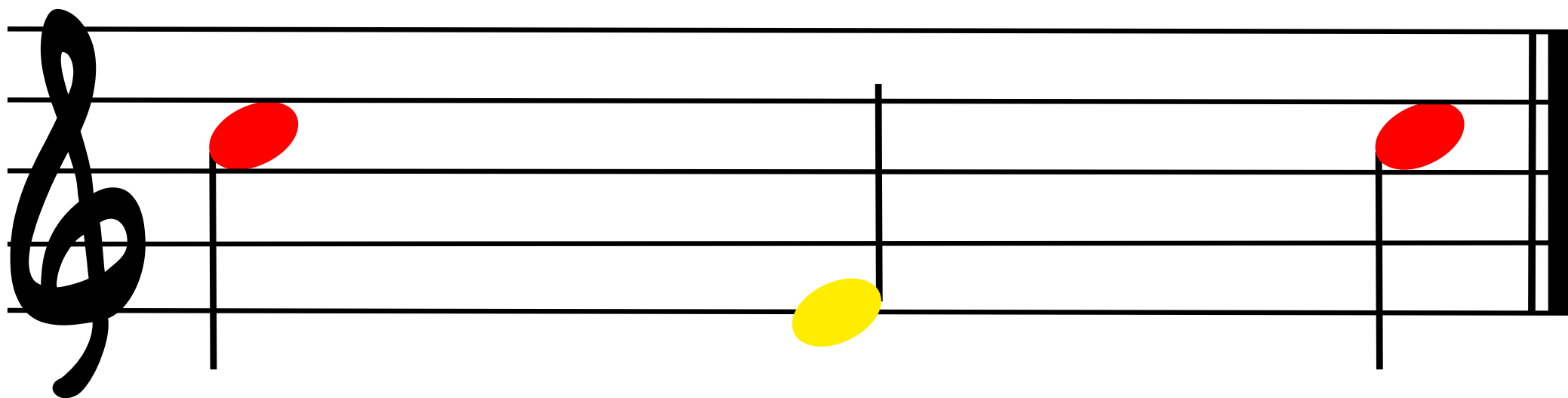
## **Exercise 5**

Work through the next few pages  
and try to draw the shape that the notes make.  
The answers are given after each page.

Go through for a second time  
and try to play the note shapes on your keyboard.

Don't worry about playing the correct notes  
just try to get the pitch shape.

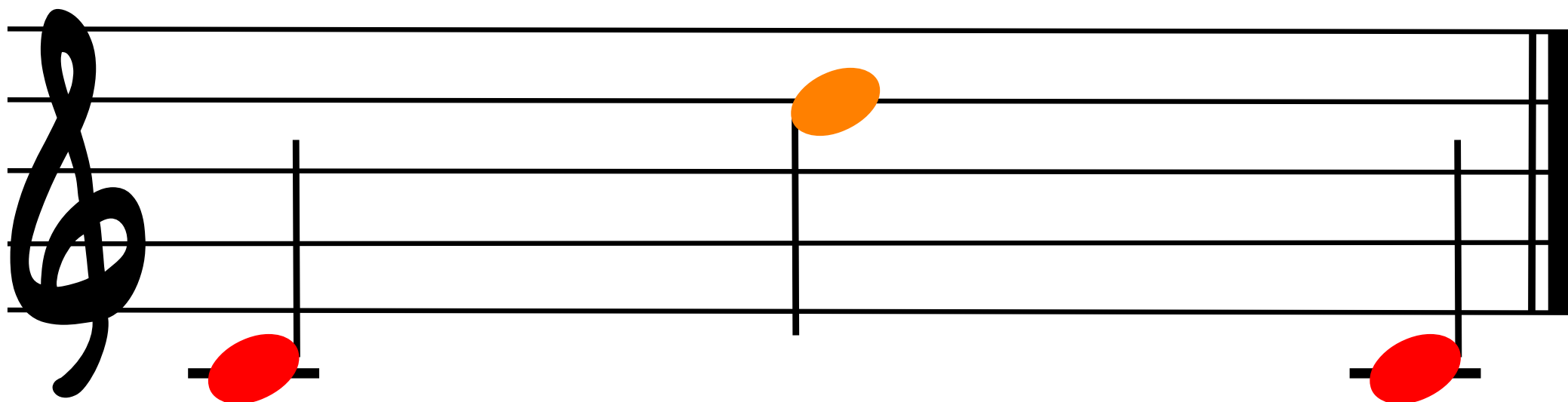
Ex 5a - Draw the shape that the notes make.



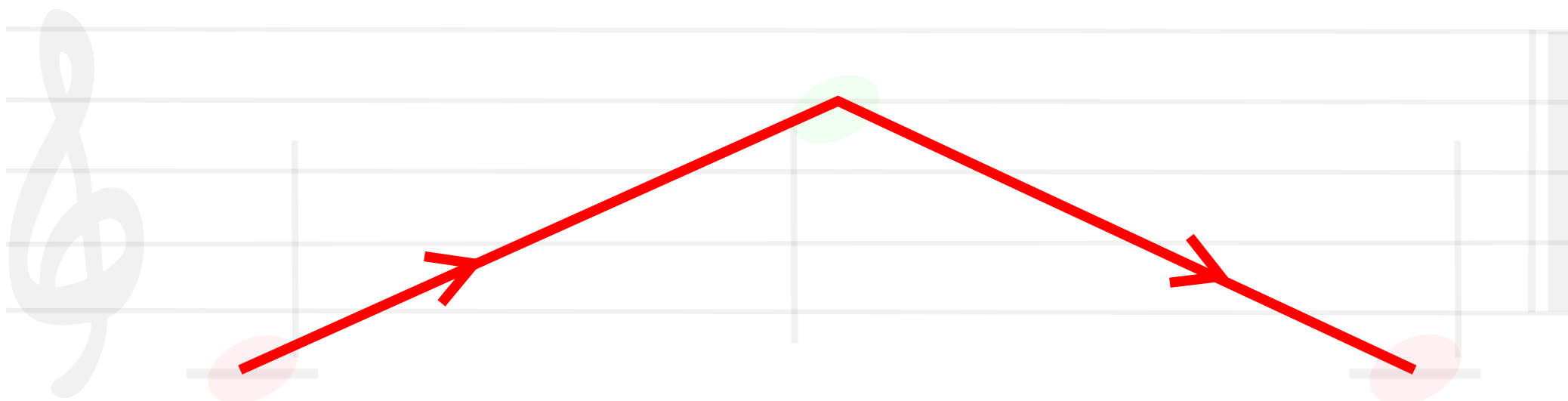
You should have drawn a line like this.



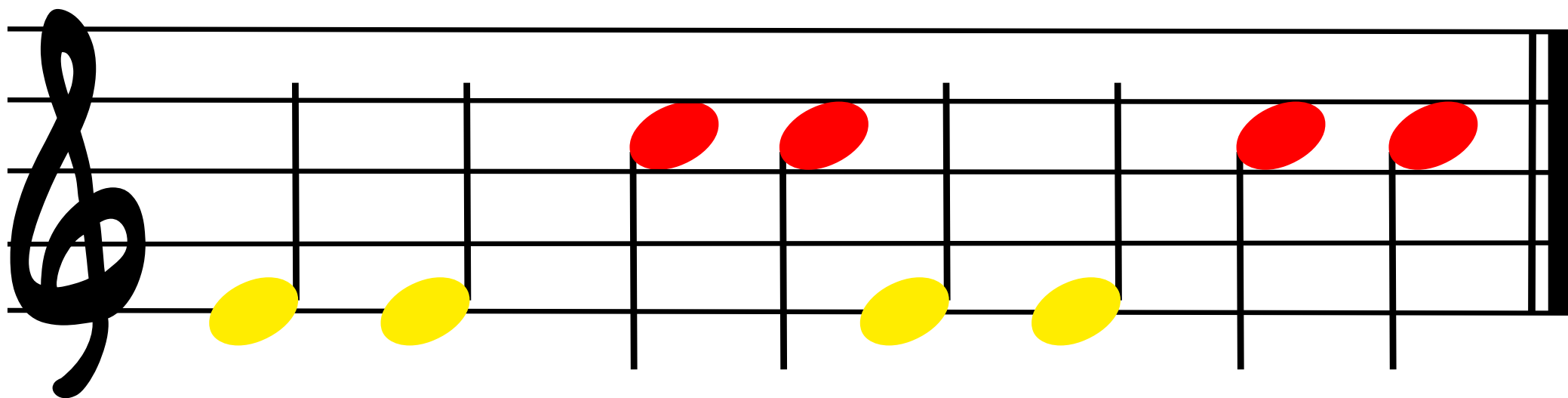
Ex 5b - Draw the shape that the notes make.



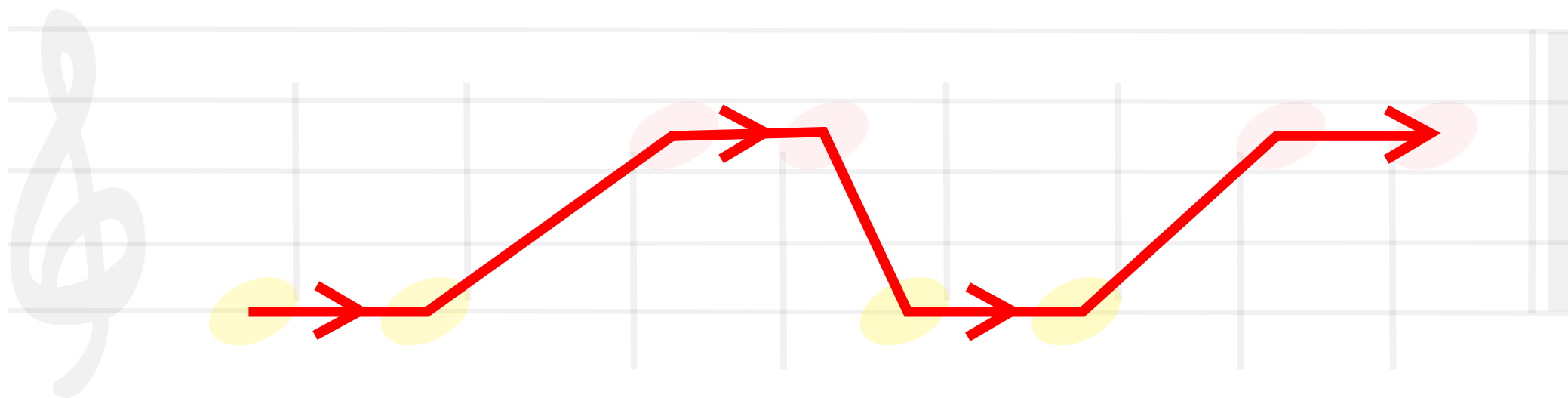
You should have drawn a line like this.



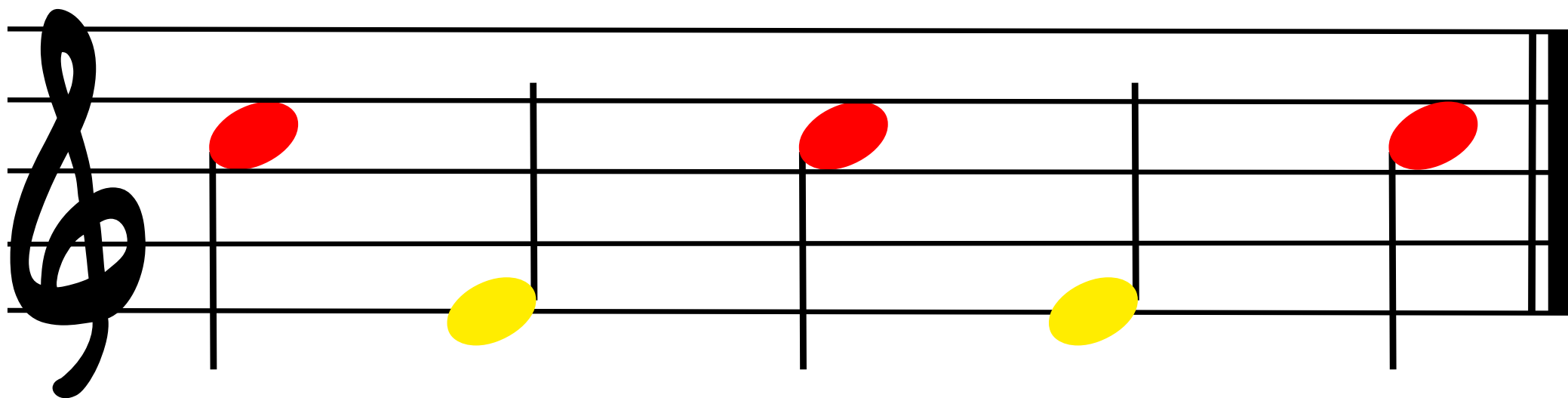
Ex 5c - Draw the shape that the notes make.



You should have drawn a line like this.



Ex 5d - Draw the shape that the notes make.

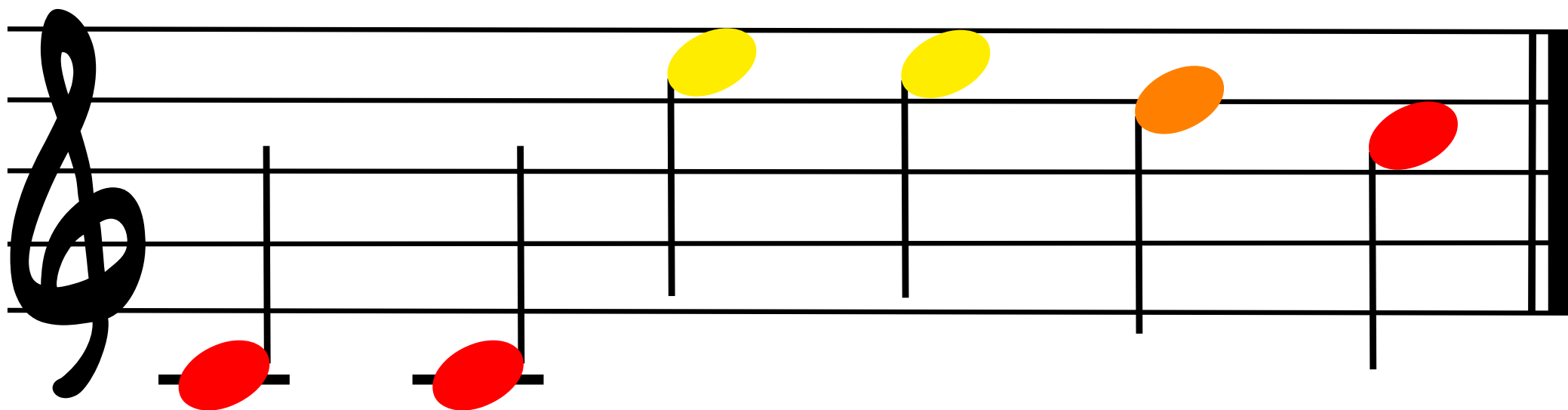




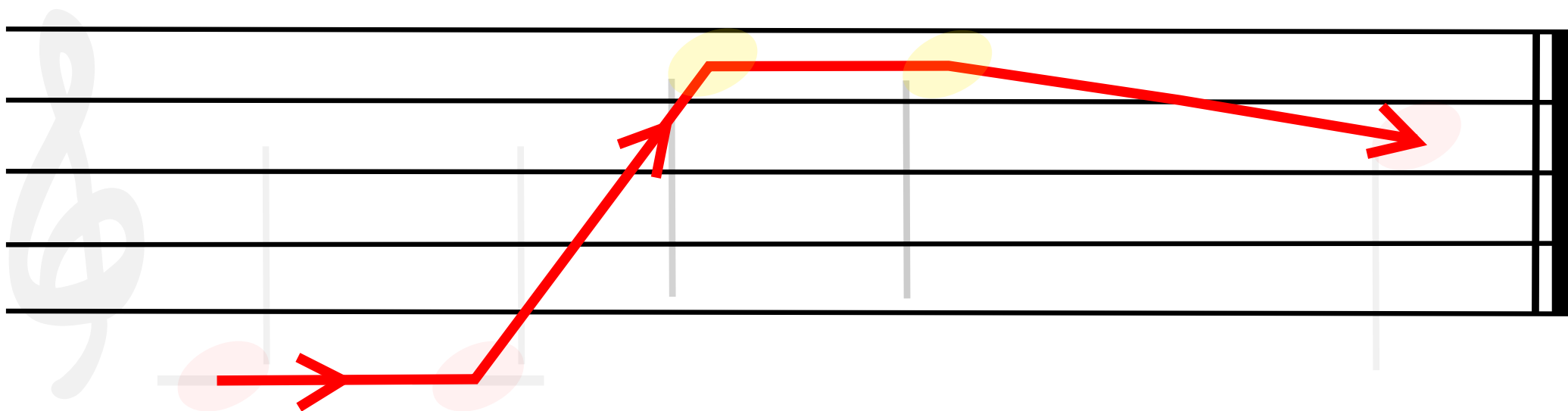
You should have drawn a line like this.



Ex 5e - Draw the shape that the notes make.



You should have drawn a line like this.

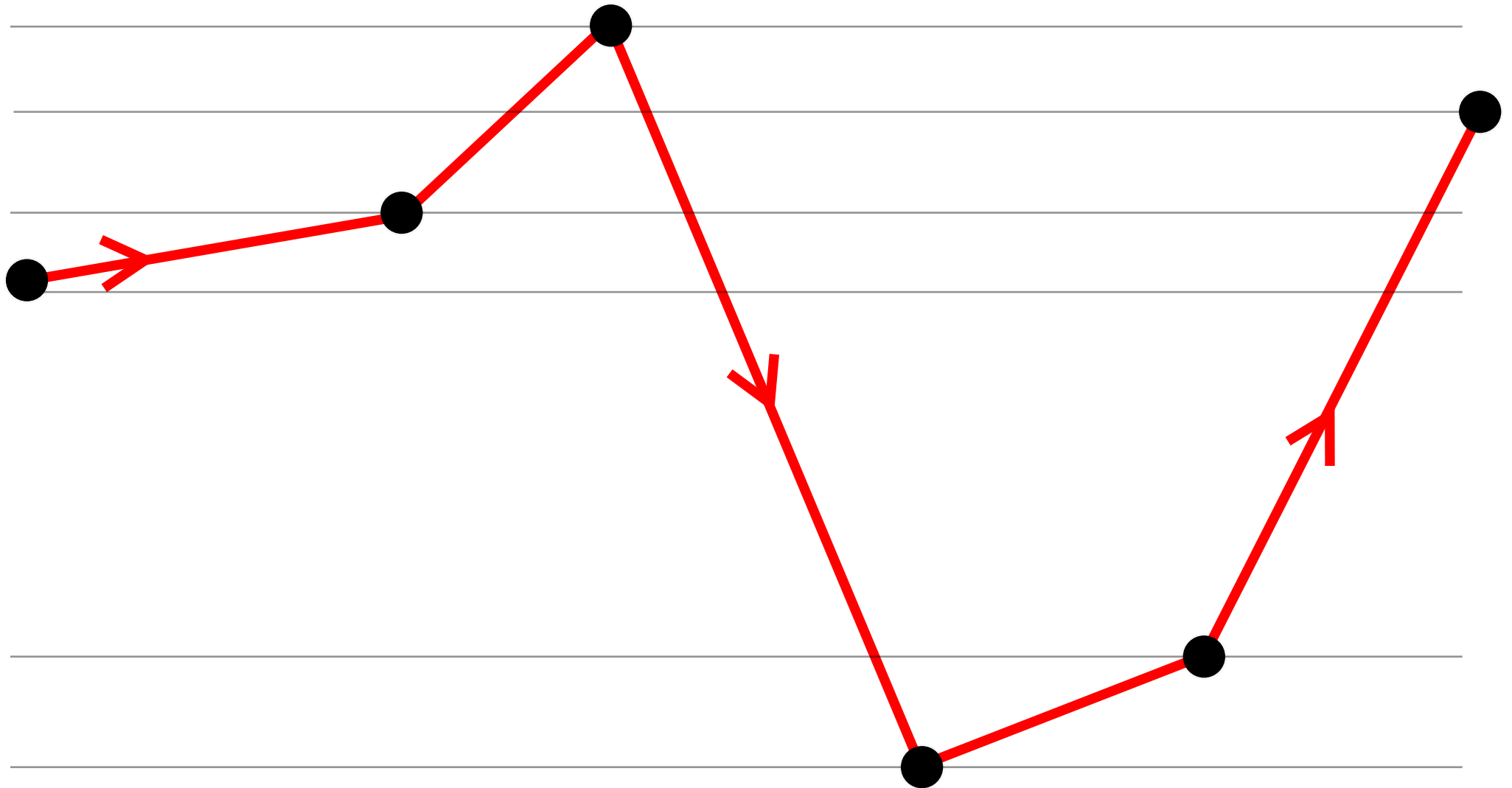


## **Exercise 5 (continued)**

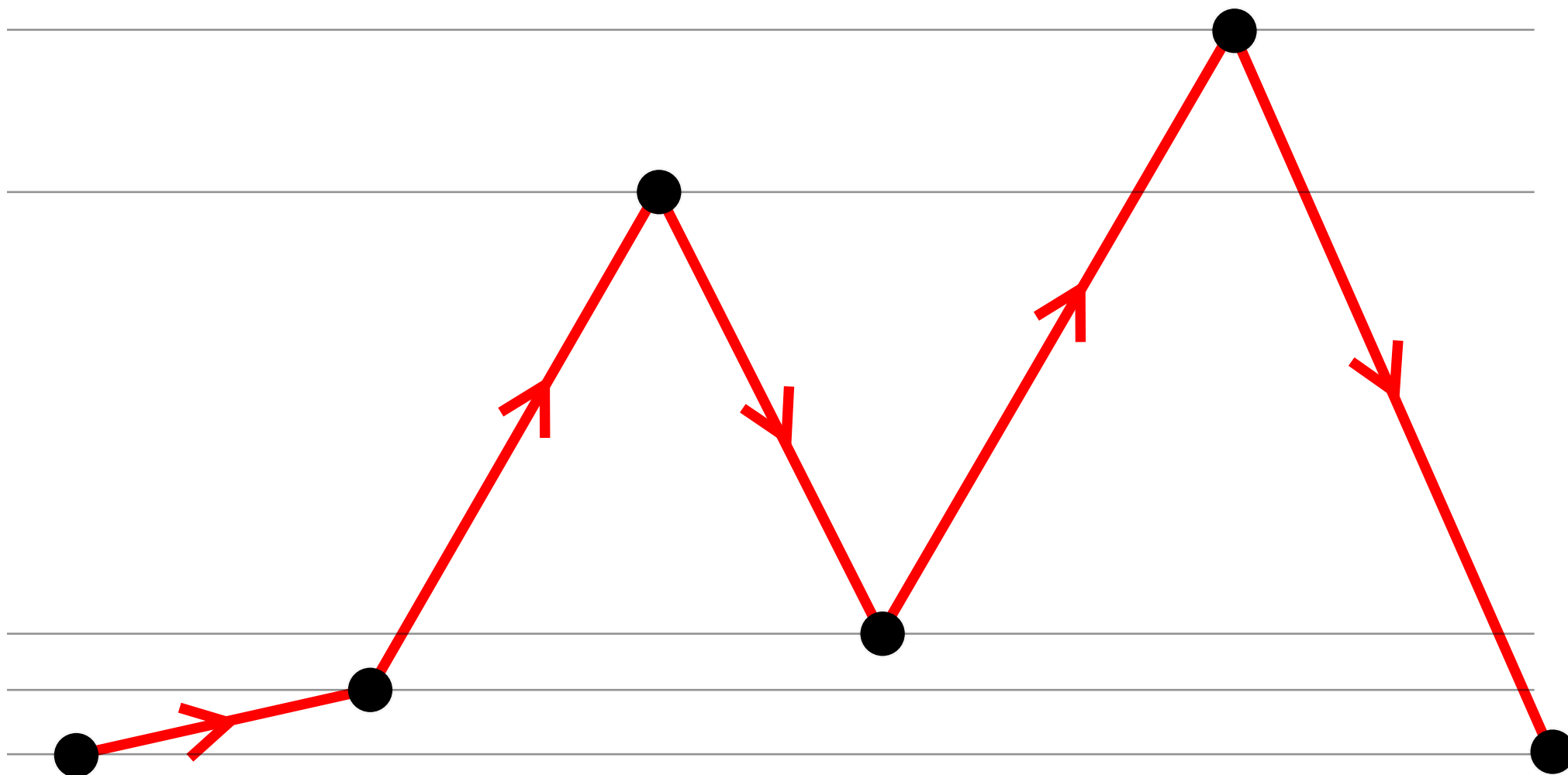
On the next few pages follow the shape of the lines and try to play or sing the note pitches.

The black circles indicate where the notes are, don't worry about which actual note it might be, just focus on the pitch relationship - whether higher or lower and how far the distance is between the notes.

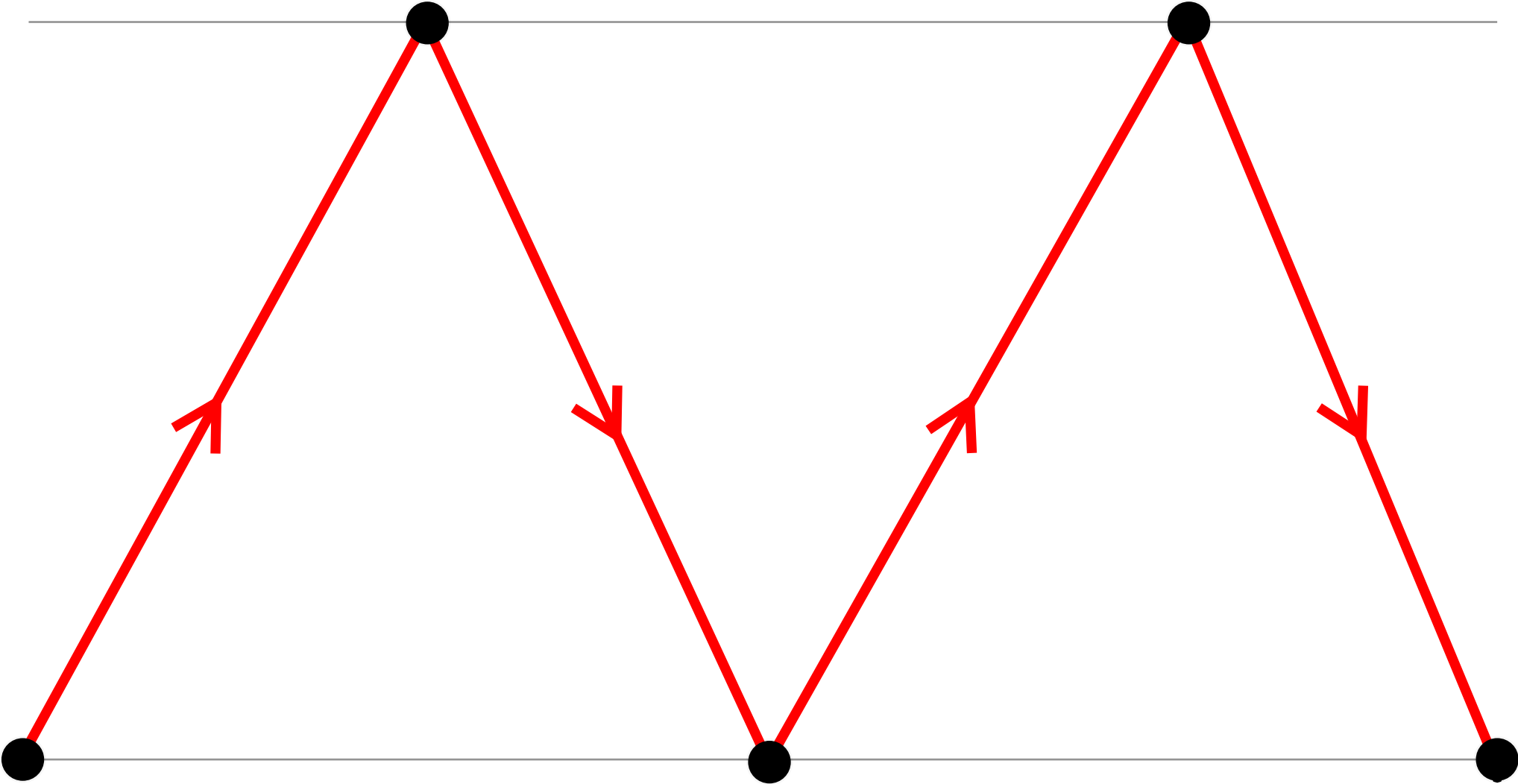
Ex 5e - Sing or play the shape that the notes make.



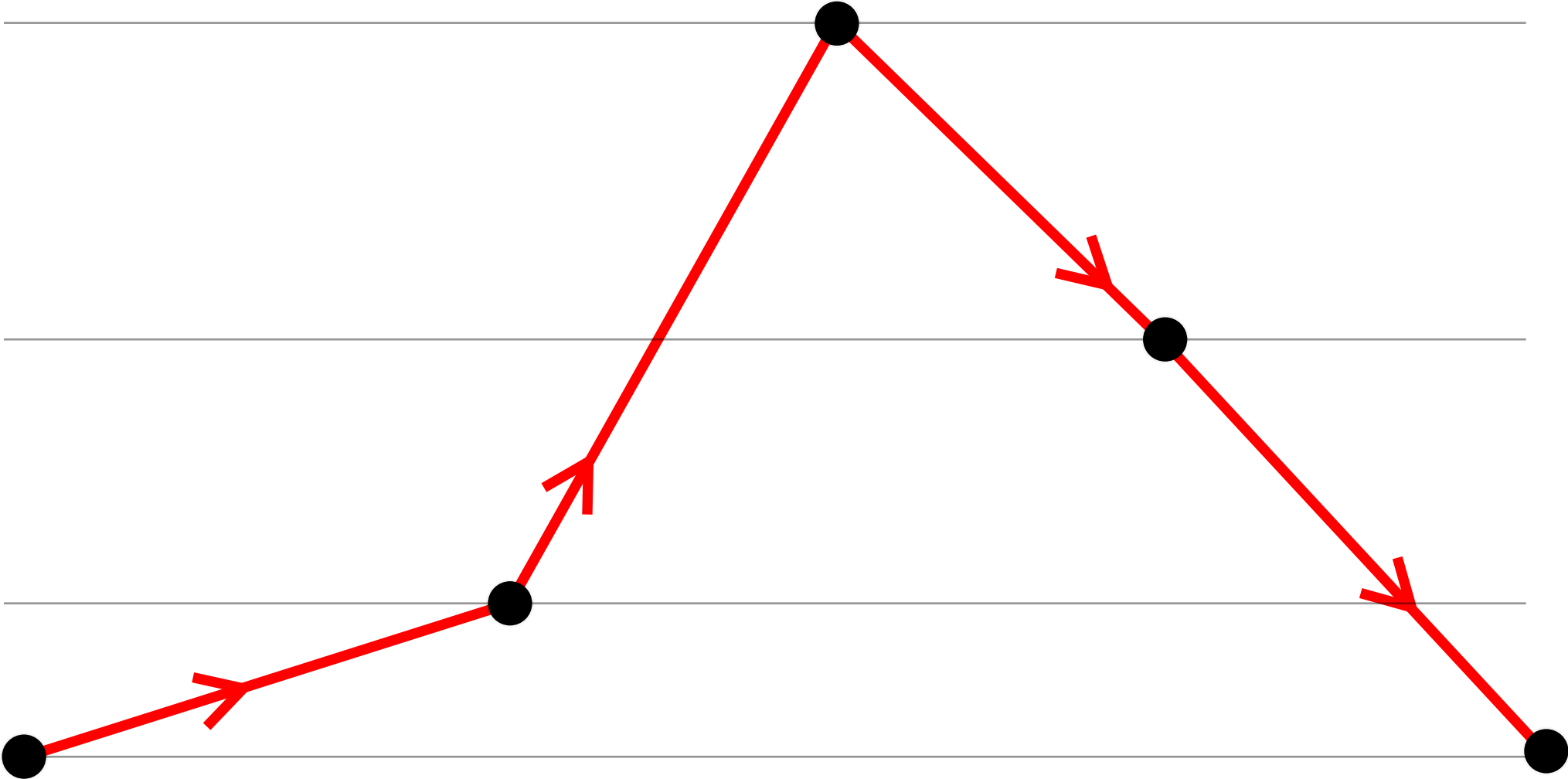
Ex 5f - Sing or play the shape that the notes make.



Ex 5g - Sing or play the shape that the notes make.

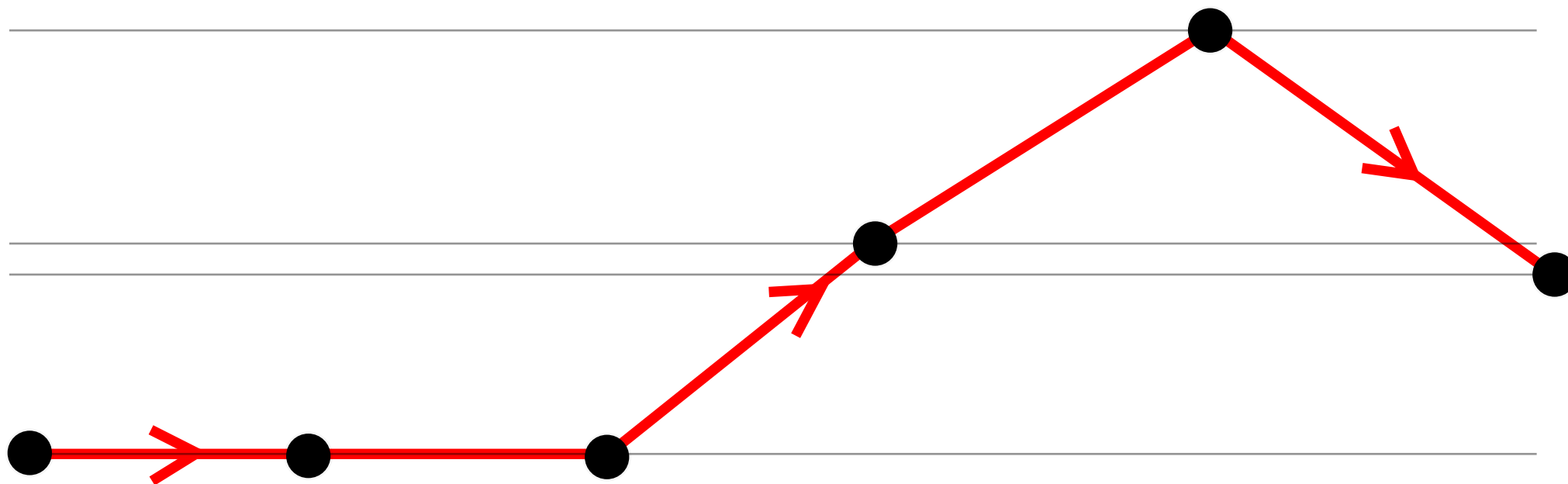


Ex 5h - Sing or play the shape that the notes make.

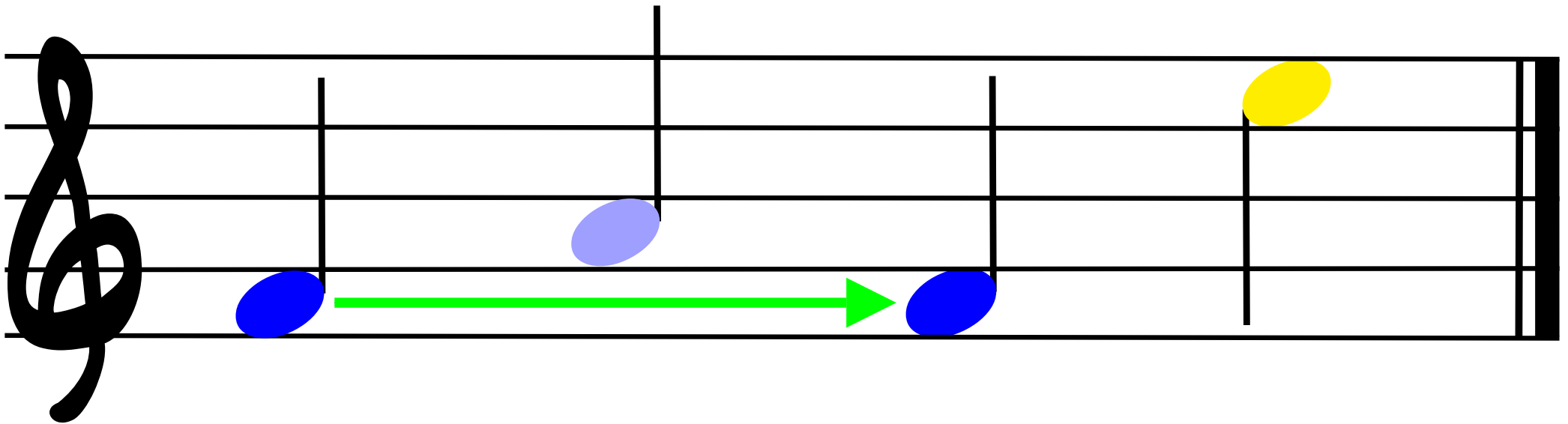




Ex 5i - Sing or play the shape that the notes make.

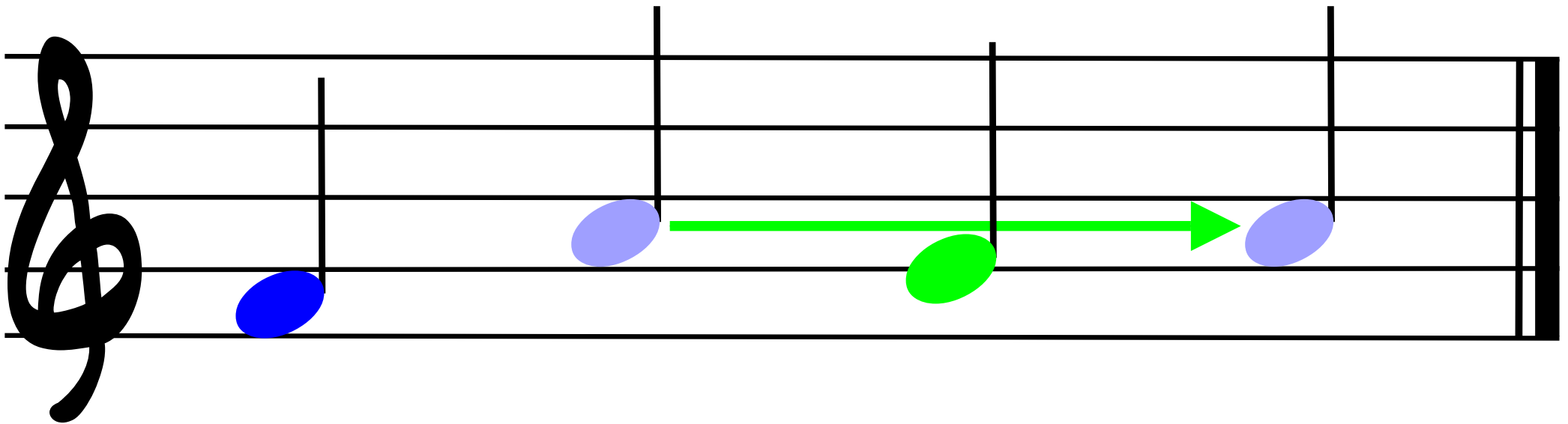


When looking at a **group of notes** it will help if you can recognise which **notes are the same** and have **already been played**.

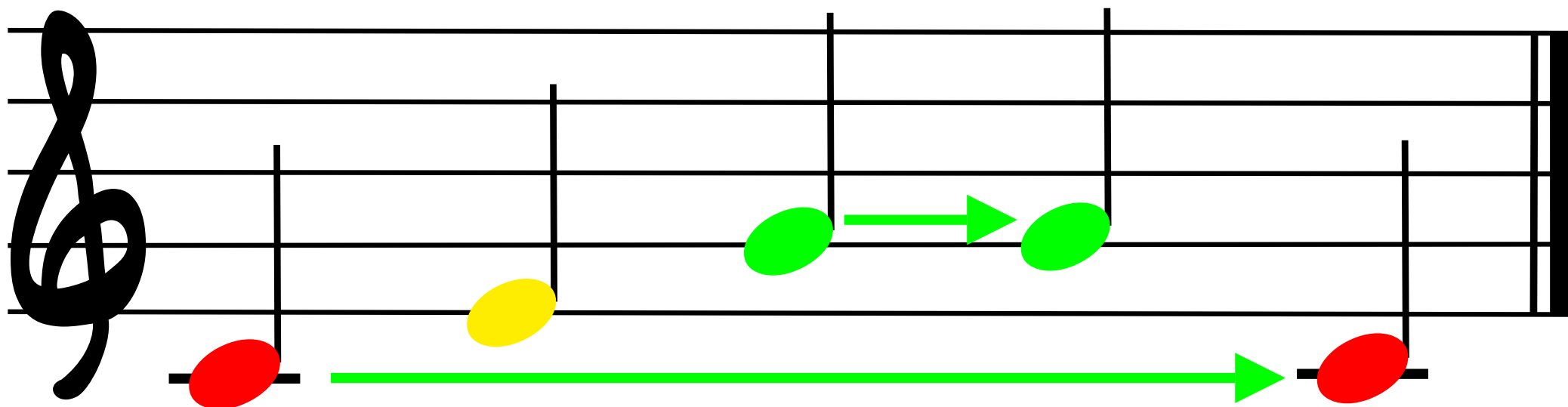


For example the **first note** above is the same as the **third note**. If you have worked out the **first note** remember what it is when you come to play the **third note**.

In the **group of notes** below, the **second note** is the same as the **fourth note**.



In the **group of notes** below, the **third note** is the same as the **fourth note** and the **first note** is the same as the **last note**.

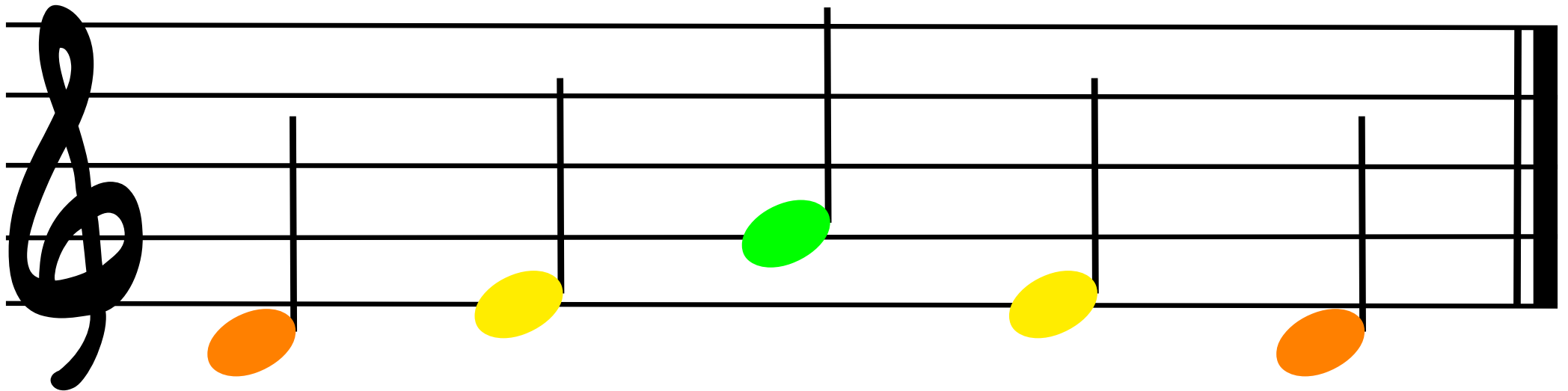


## **Exercise 5 (continued)**

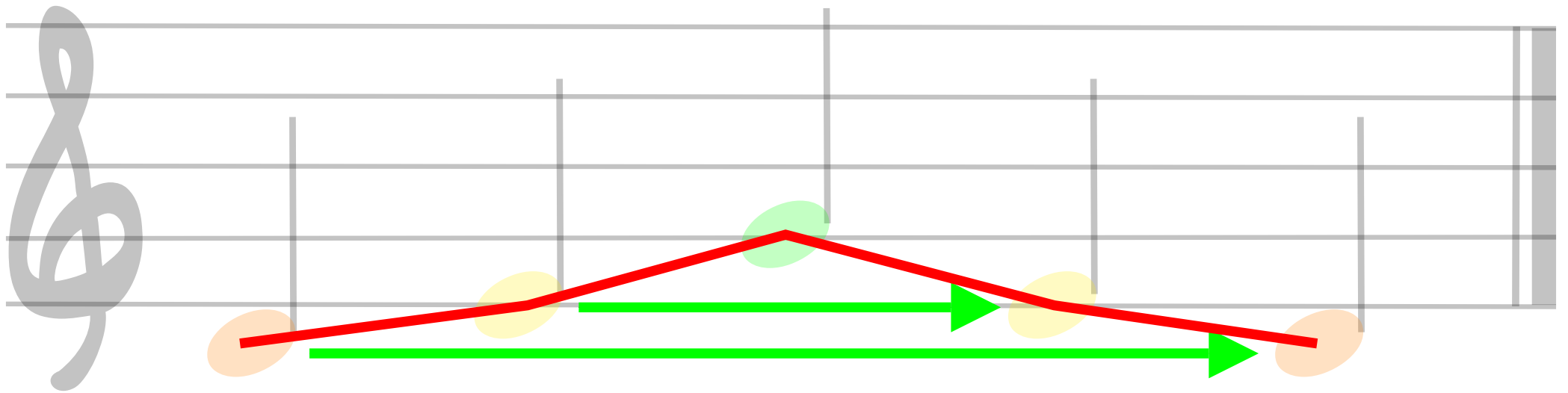
On the next few pages draw a horizontal line between any notes that are repeated within each group (notes that are the same), then draw the shape that the group of notes will make and play them on your keyboard.

Again don't worry about getting the actual notes correct, just the shape, but someone could show you which note to start on if you would like.

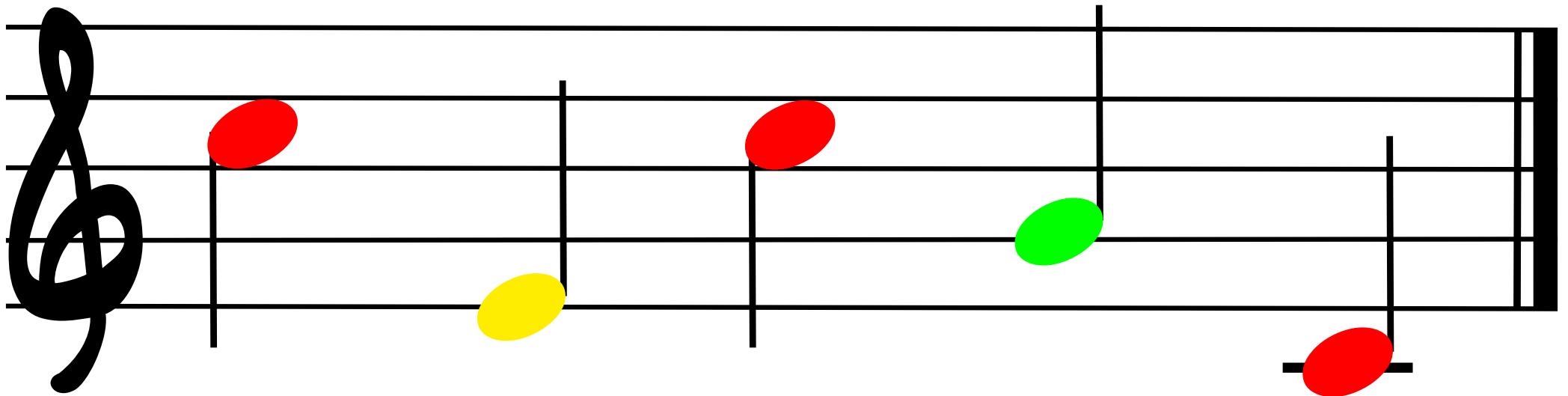
Ex 5j - draw a horizontal line between repeated notes  
and draw the shape the notes make.



You should have drawn lines like this.

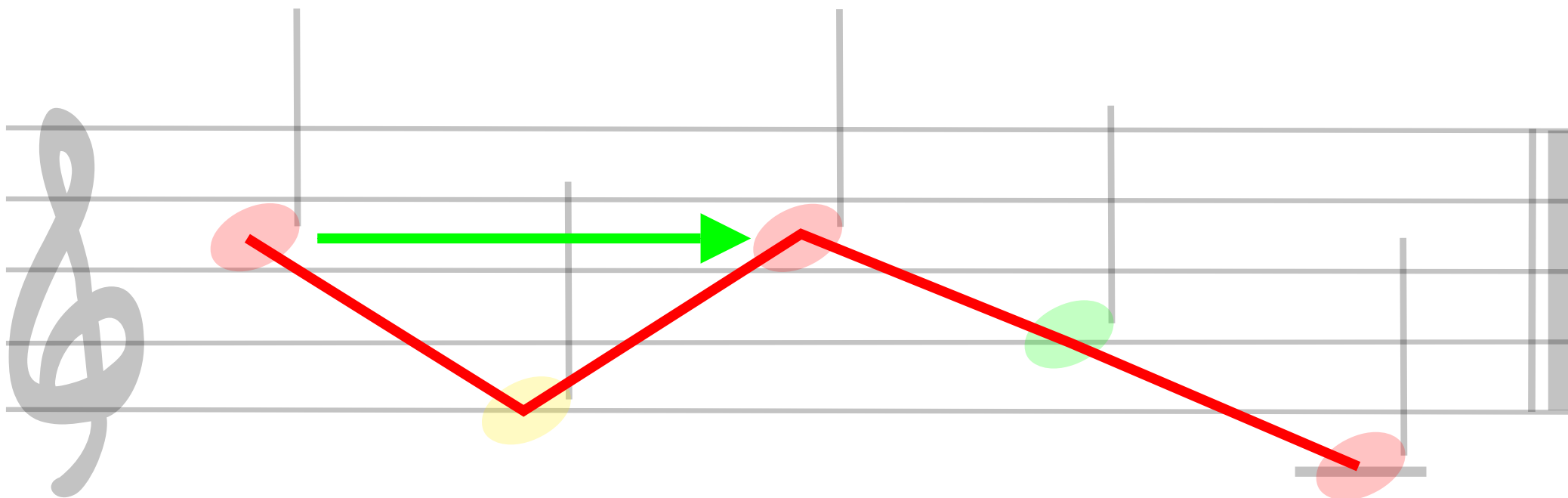


Ex 5k - draw a horizontal line between repeated notes  
and draw the shape the notes make.

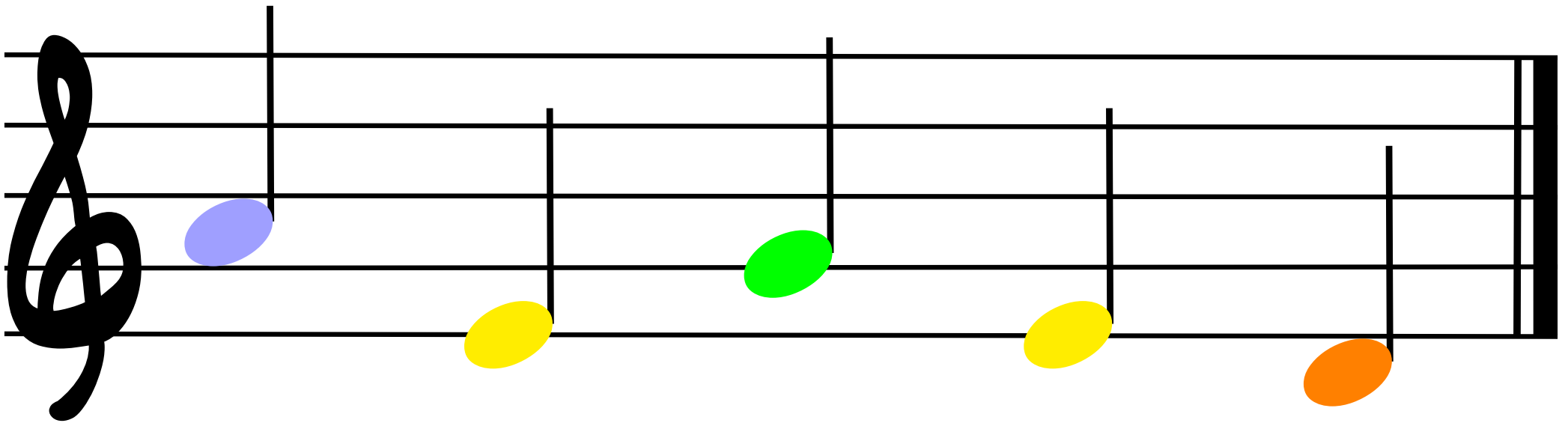




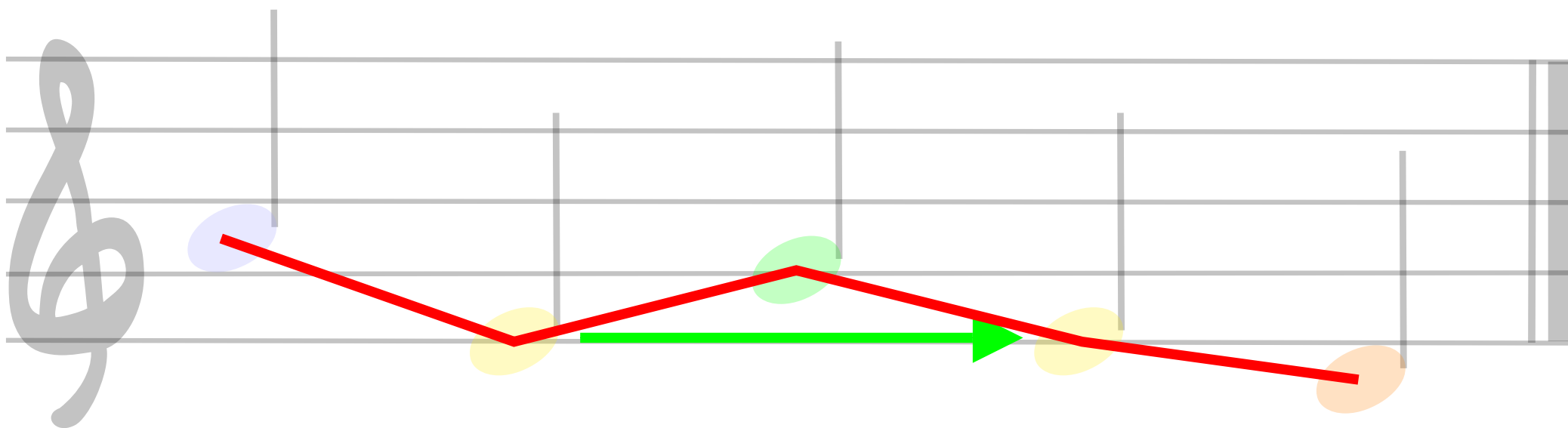
You should have drawn lines like this.



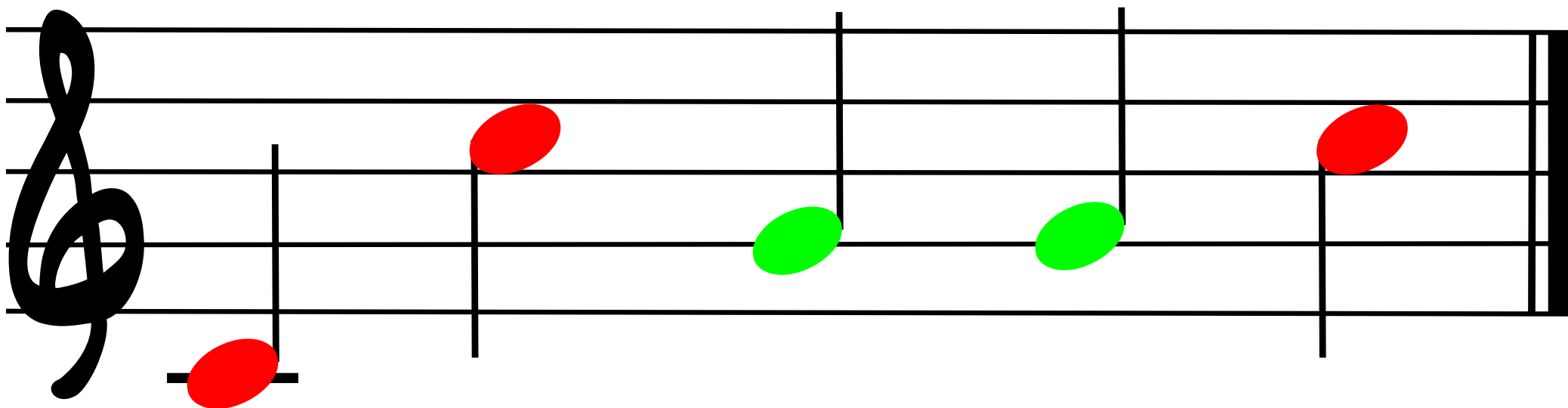
Ex 51 - draw horizontal line between repeated notes  
and draw the shape the notes make.



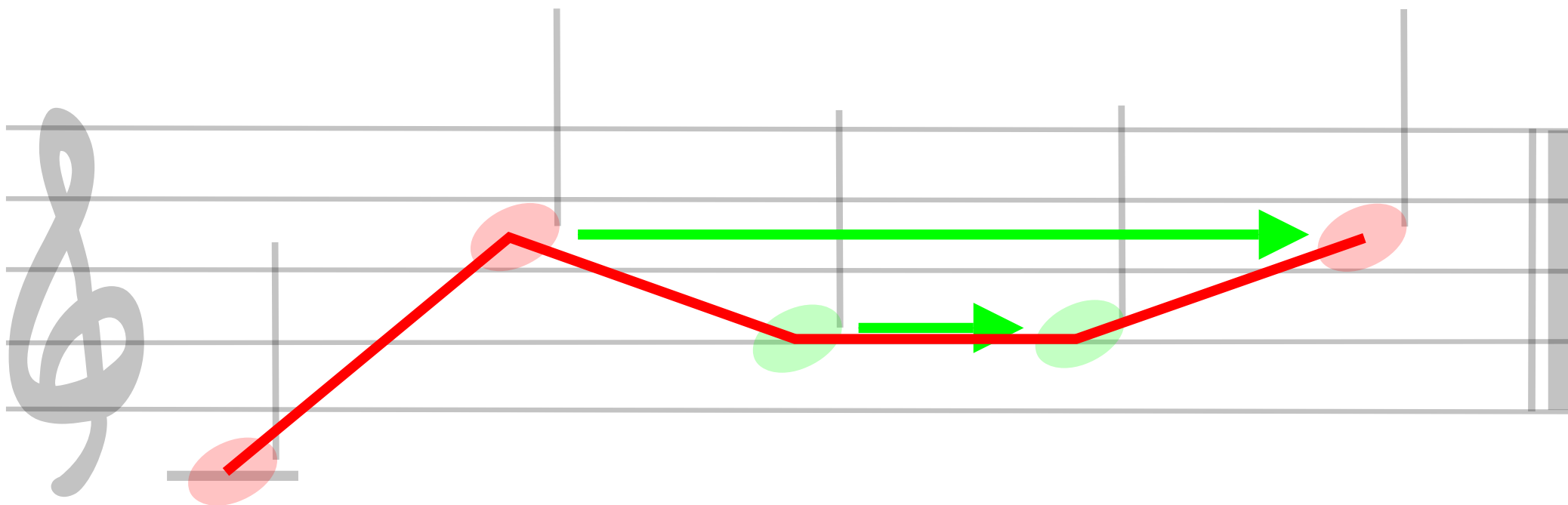
You should have drawn lines like this.



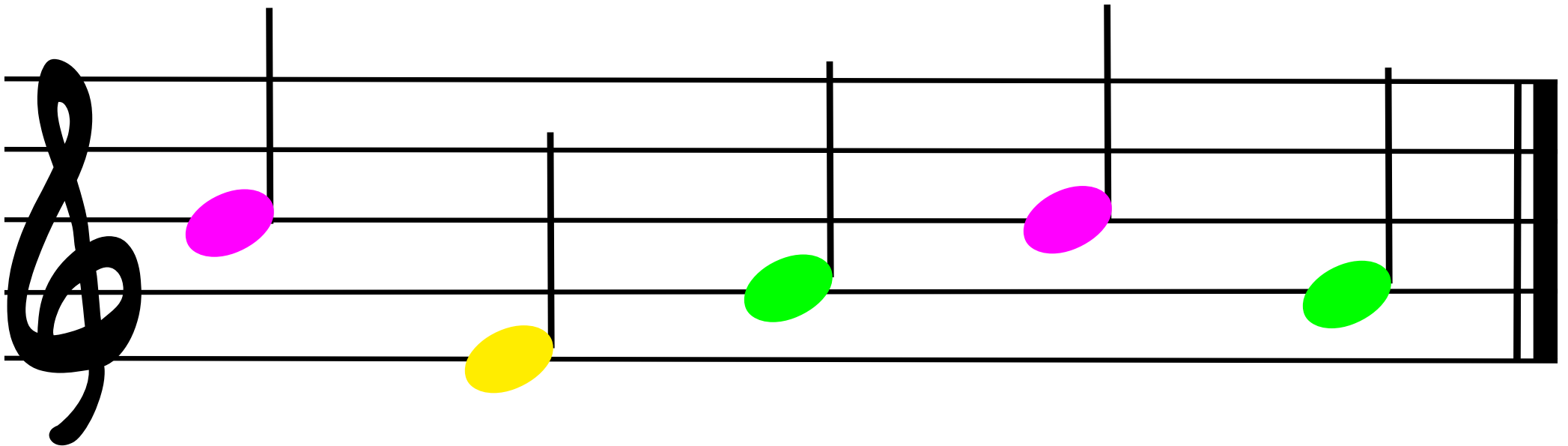
Ex 5m - draw horizontal line between repeated notes  
and draw the shape the notes make.



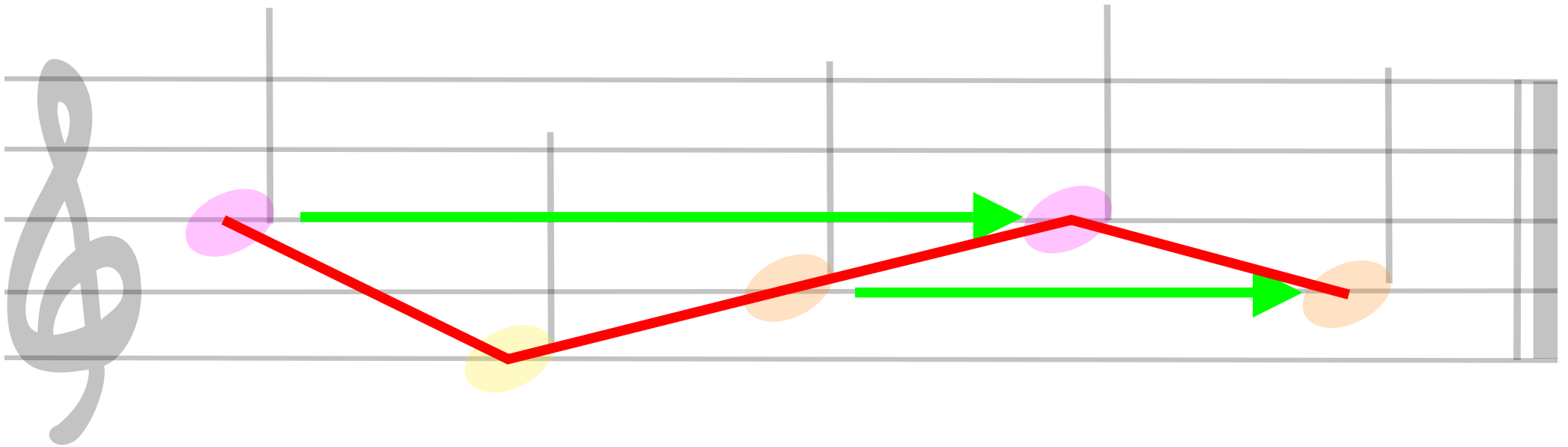
You should have drawn lines like this.



Ex 5n - draw horizontal line between repeated notes  
and draw the shape the notes make.



You should have drawn lines like this.



## Section Five - Key Points

When **reading** the **pitch** of groups of notes try to **see** the **shape** that the notes make.

This will **speed up** your **reading**.

**Notice** any notes that you have **already played**, **remember** what they are when you play them the first time .

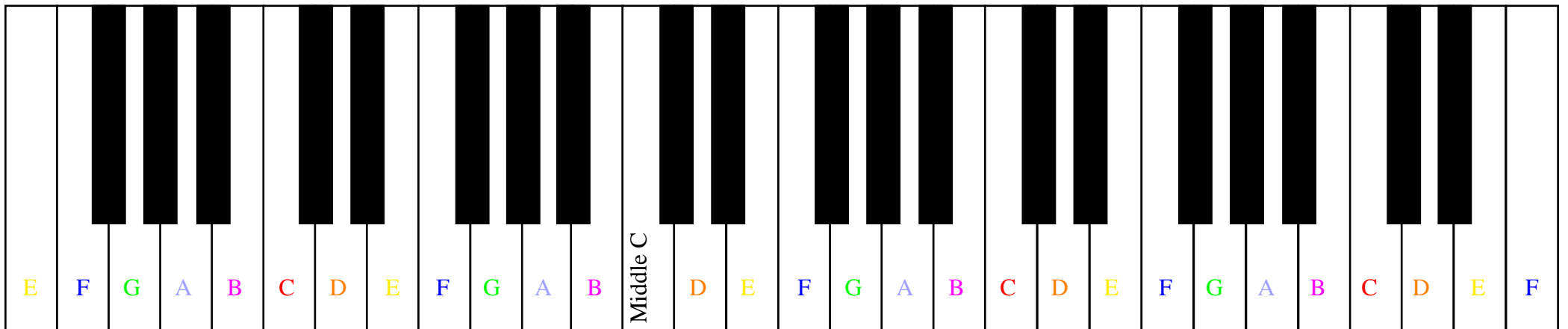


## **Section Six - The Musical Alphabet**

The Musical Alphabet runs from A to G.  
When it gets to G it starts from A again.

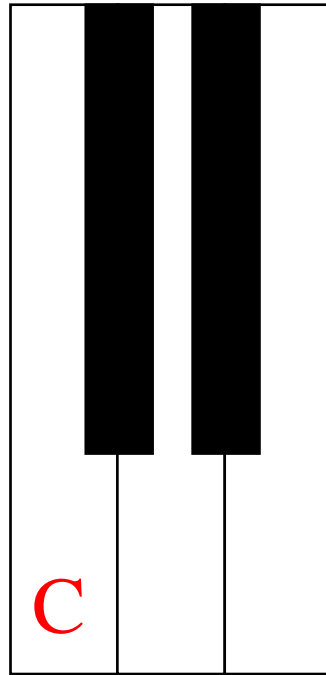
.....ABCDEFGGABCDEFGG**ABCDEF**GABCDEFGG.....

Here is the musical alphabet shown on the keyboard.



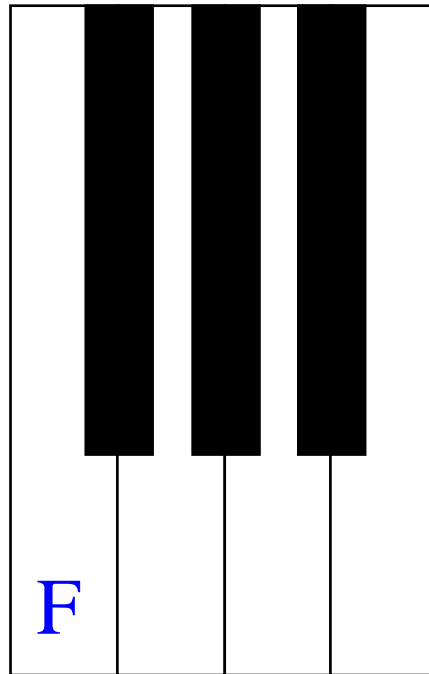


If you can remember  
the positions of a few notes  
you can work out where all the other notes are.

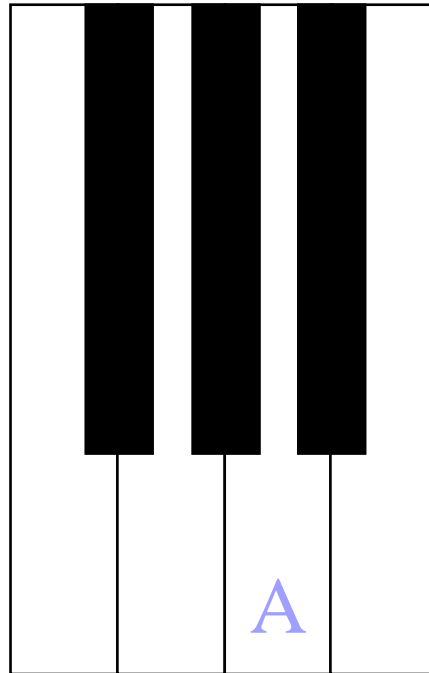


For example **C** is always just to the left of the two black notes.

**F** is always just to  
the left of the three black notes.



A is always in between the second and third black note of a group of three.



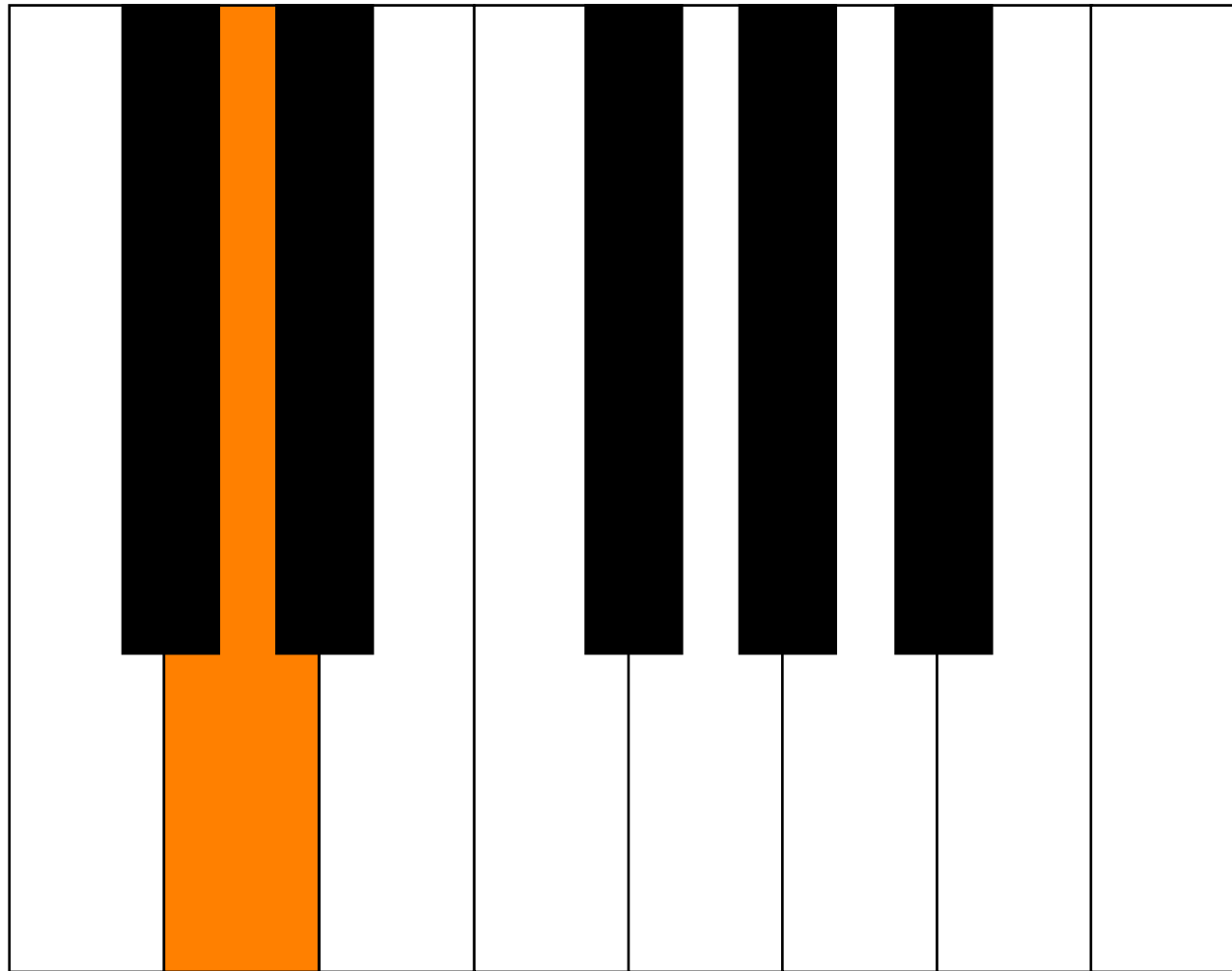
## **Exercise 6**

Work through the next exercise and try to say as quickly as you can what the coloured notes are.

Then play the notes on your keyboard as well.



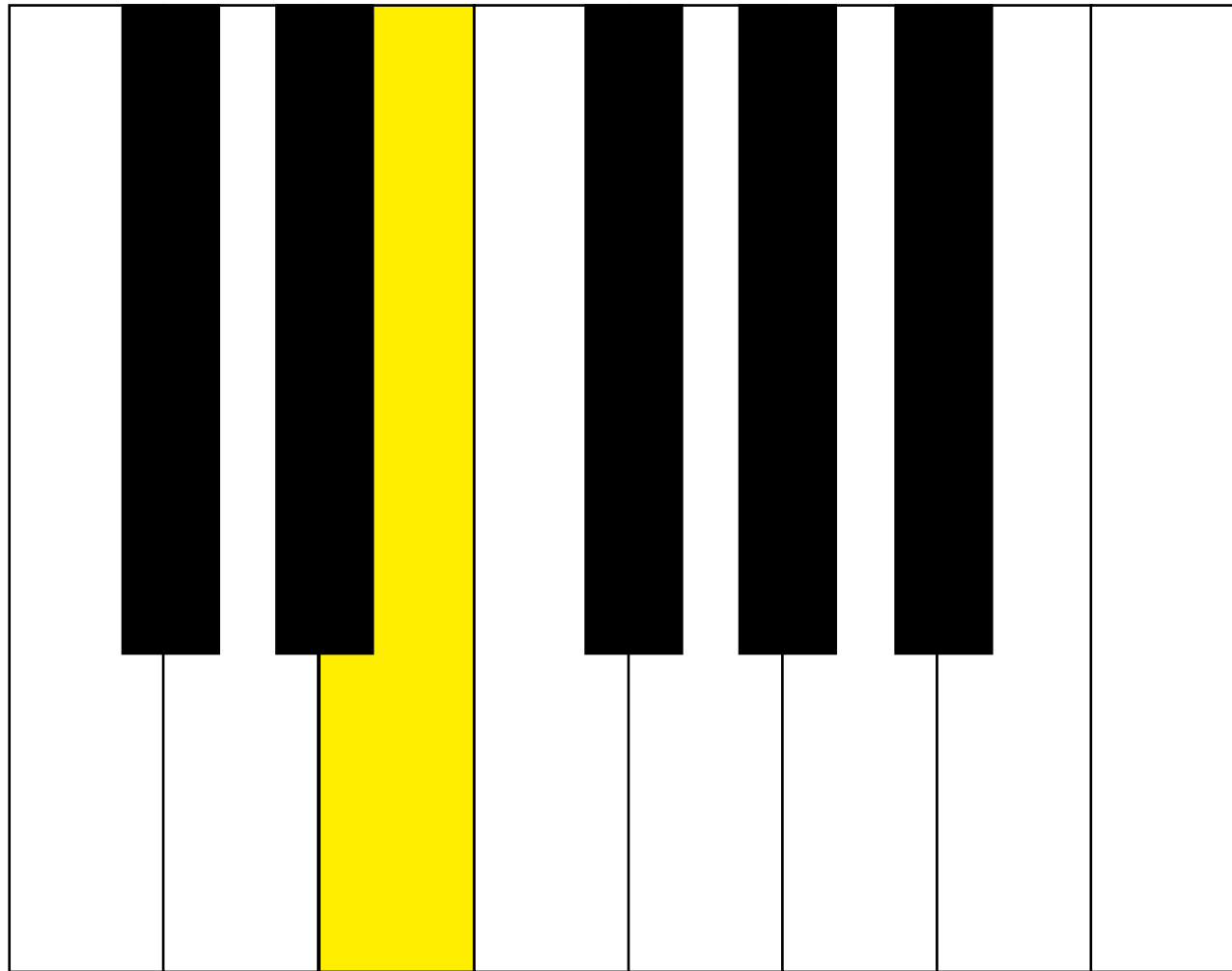
Ex. 6a - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



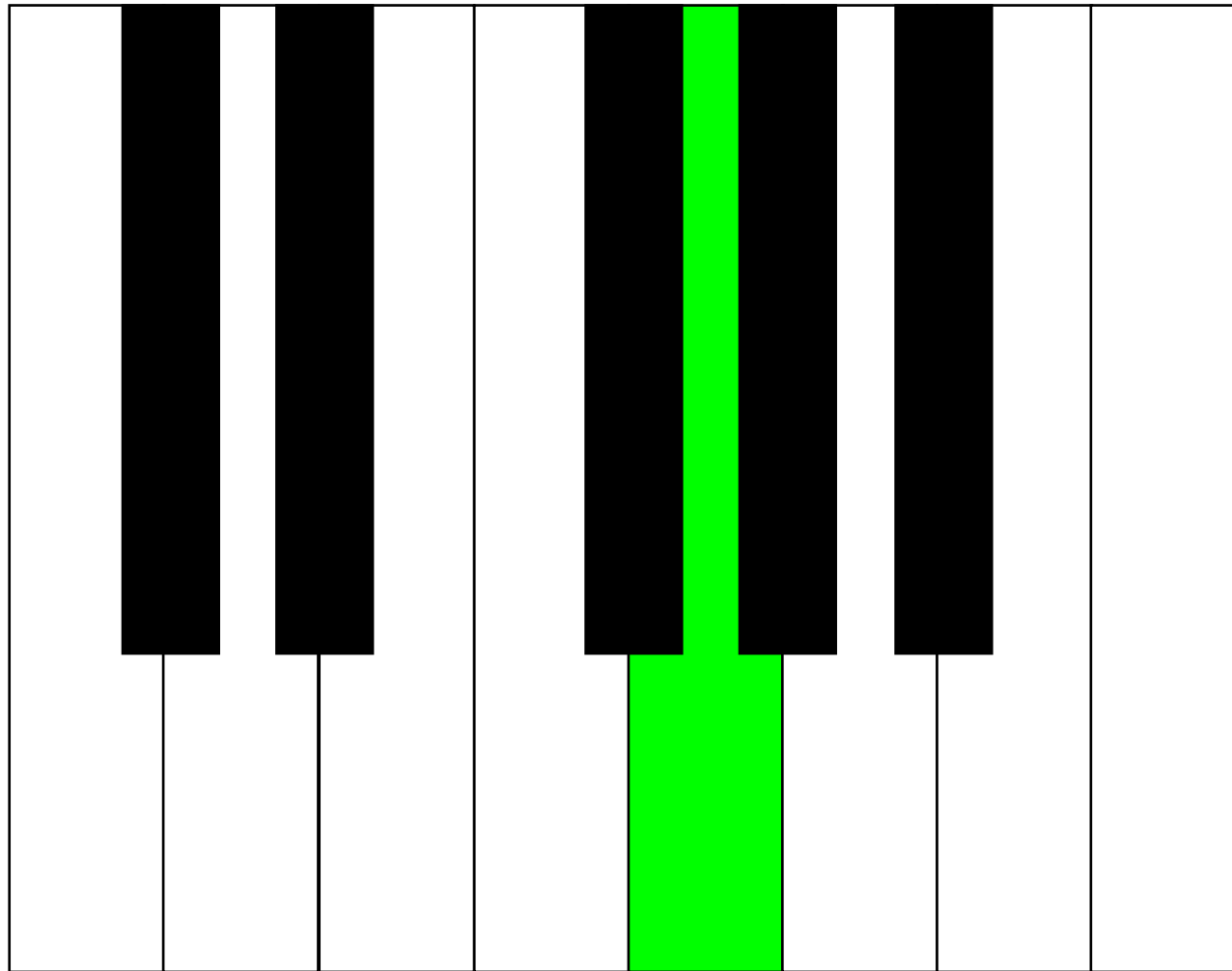
Ex. 6b - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



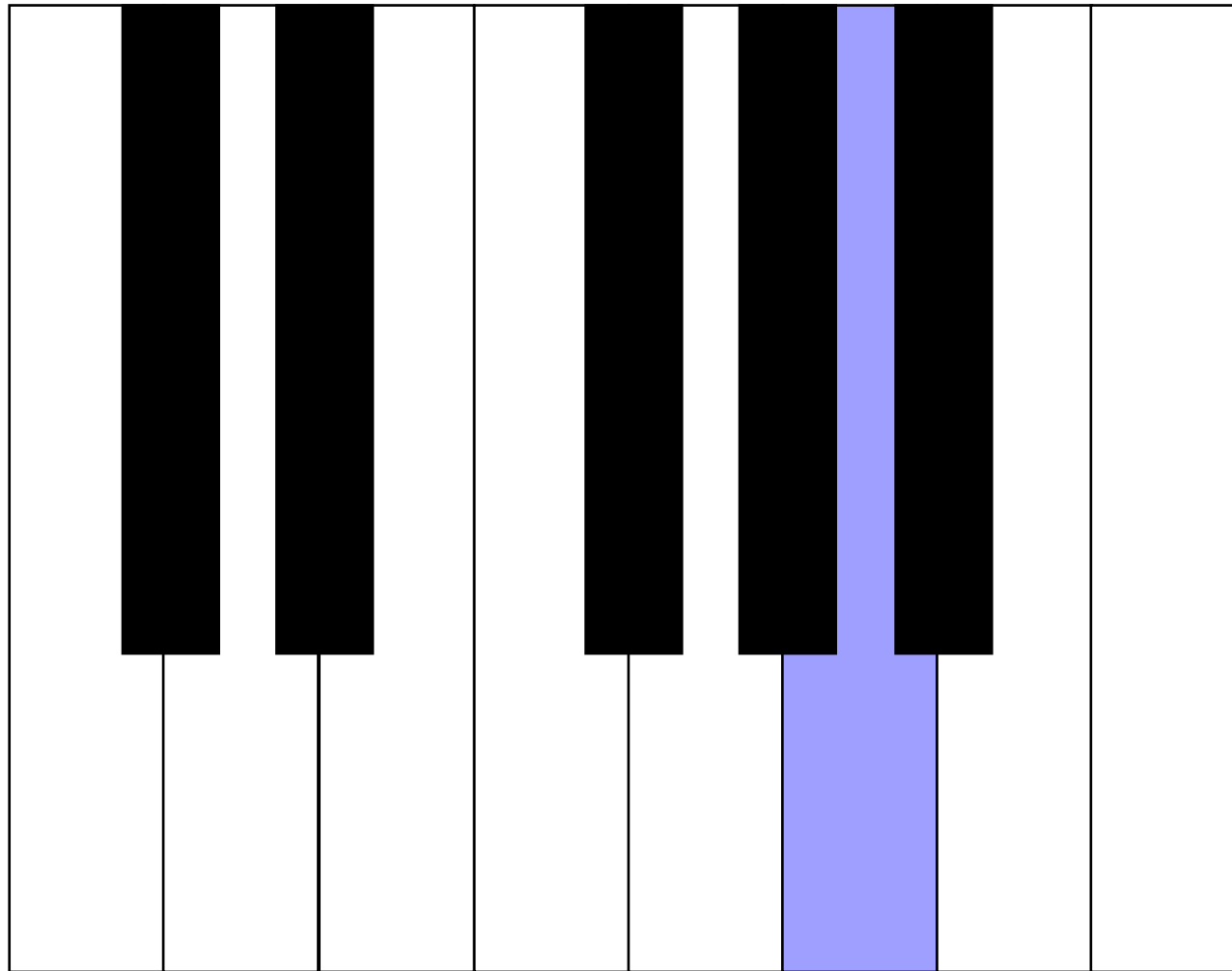
Ex. 6c - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



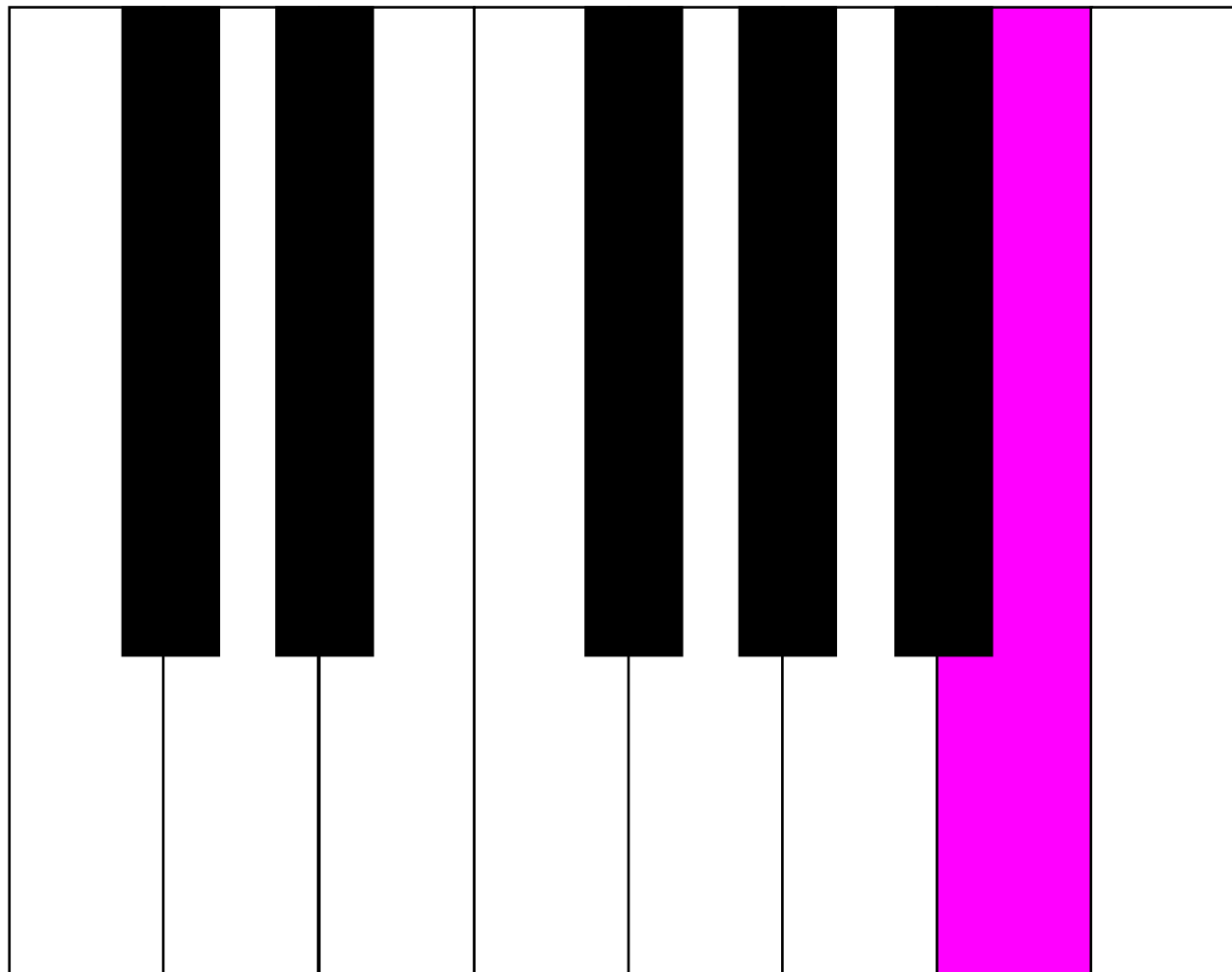
Ex. 6d - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



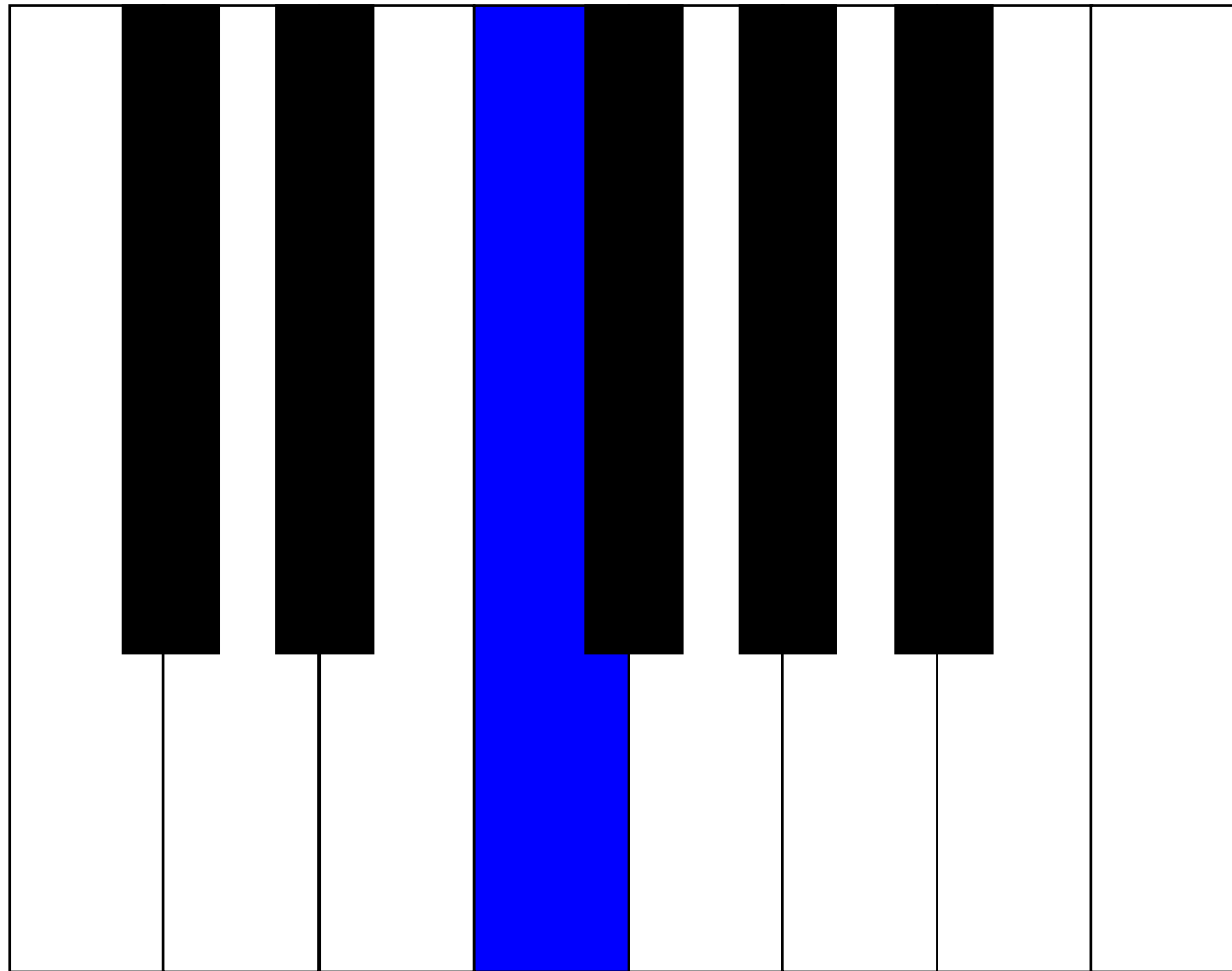
Ex. 6e - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



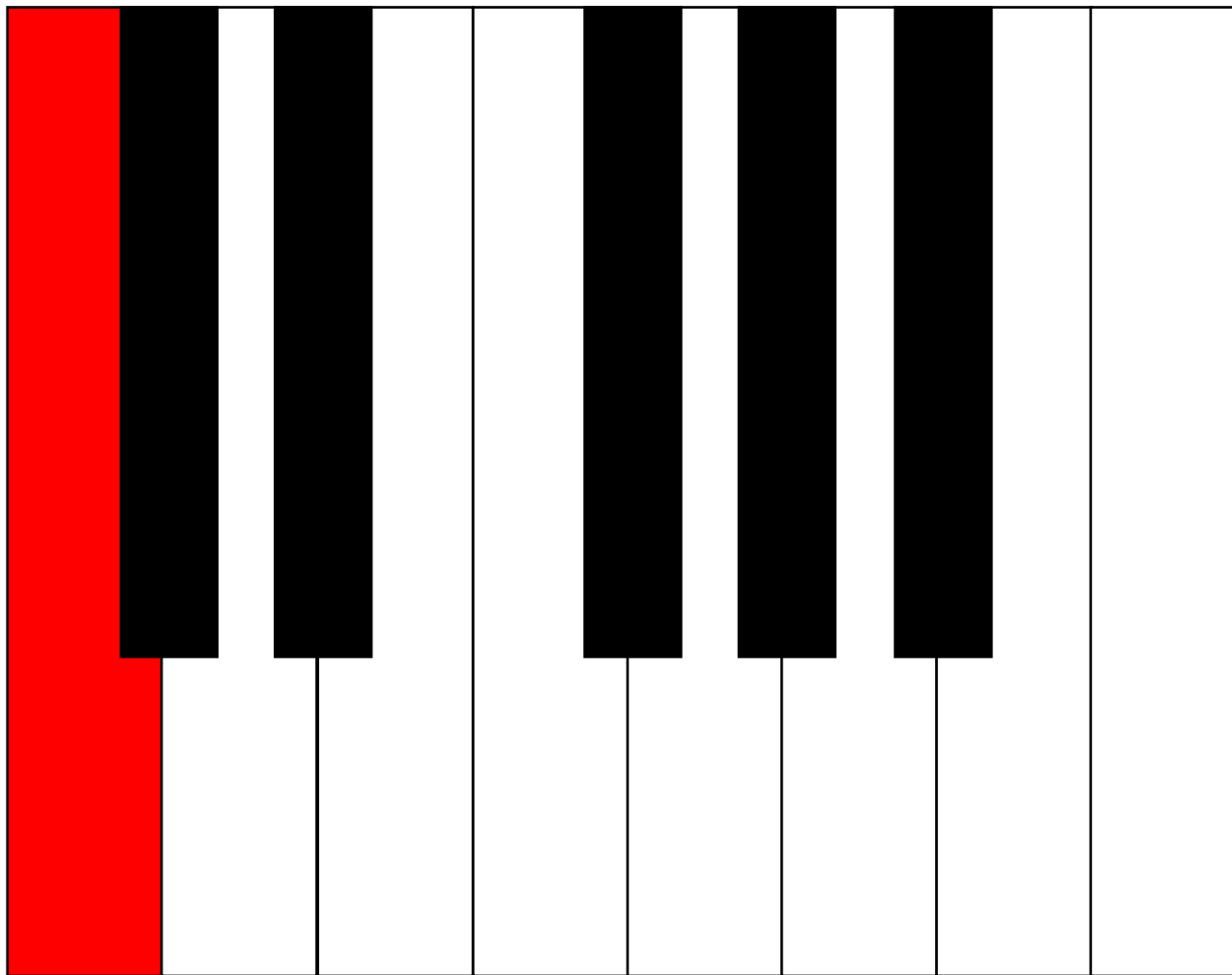
Ex. 6f - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



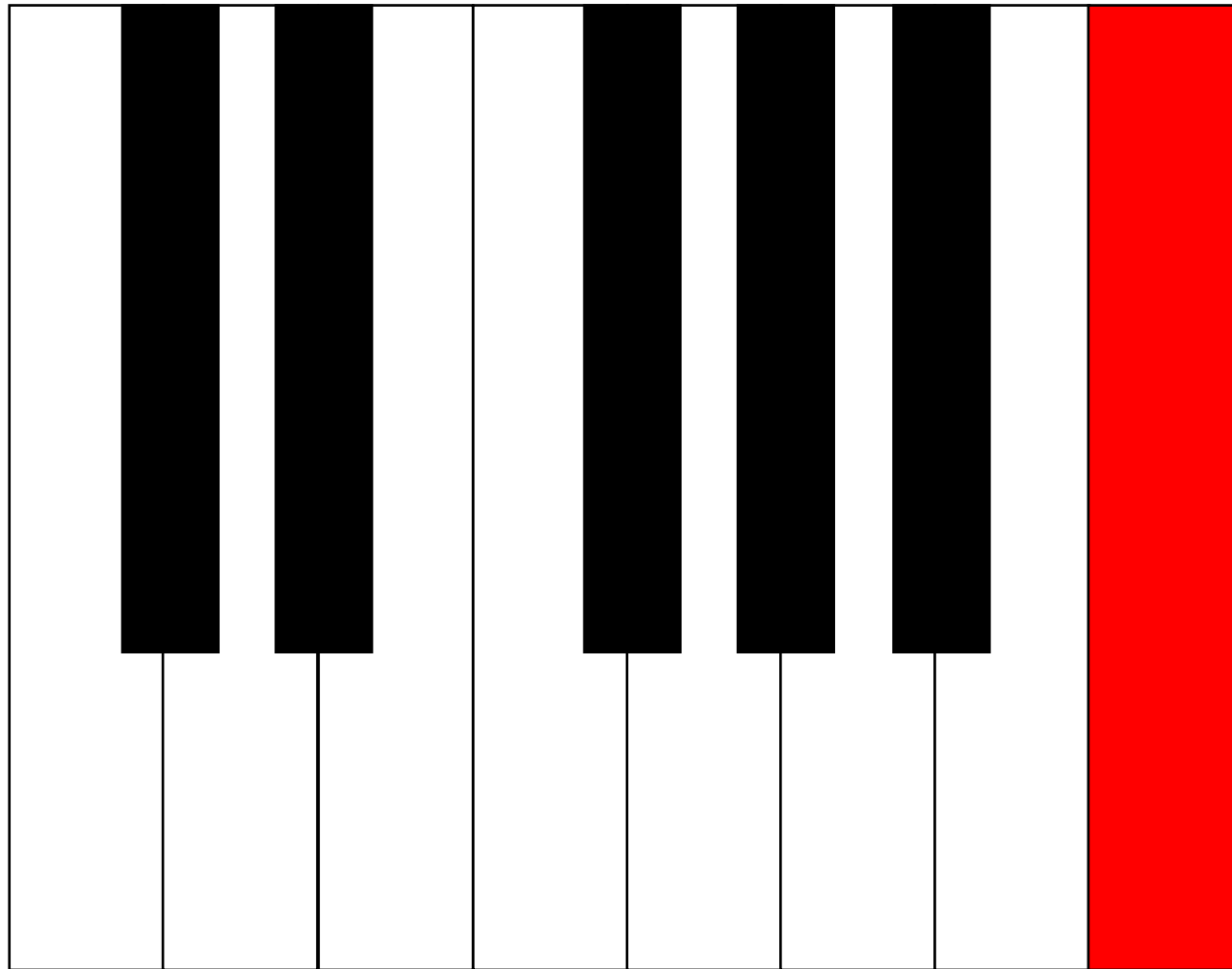
Ex. 6g - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



Ex. 6h - What is the name of the coloured note?

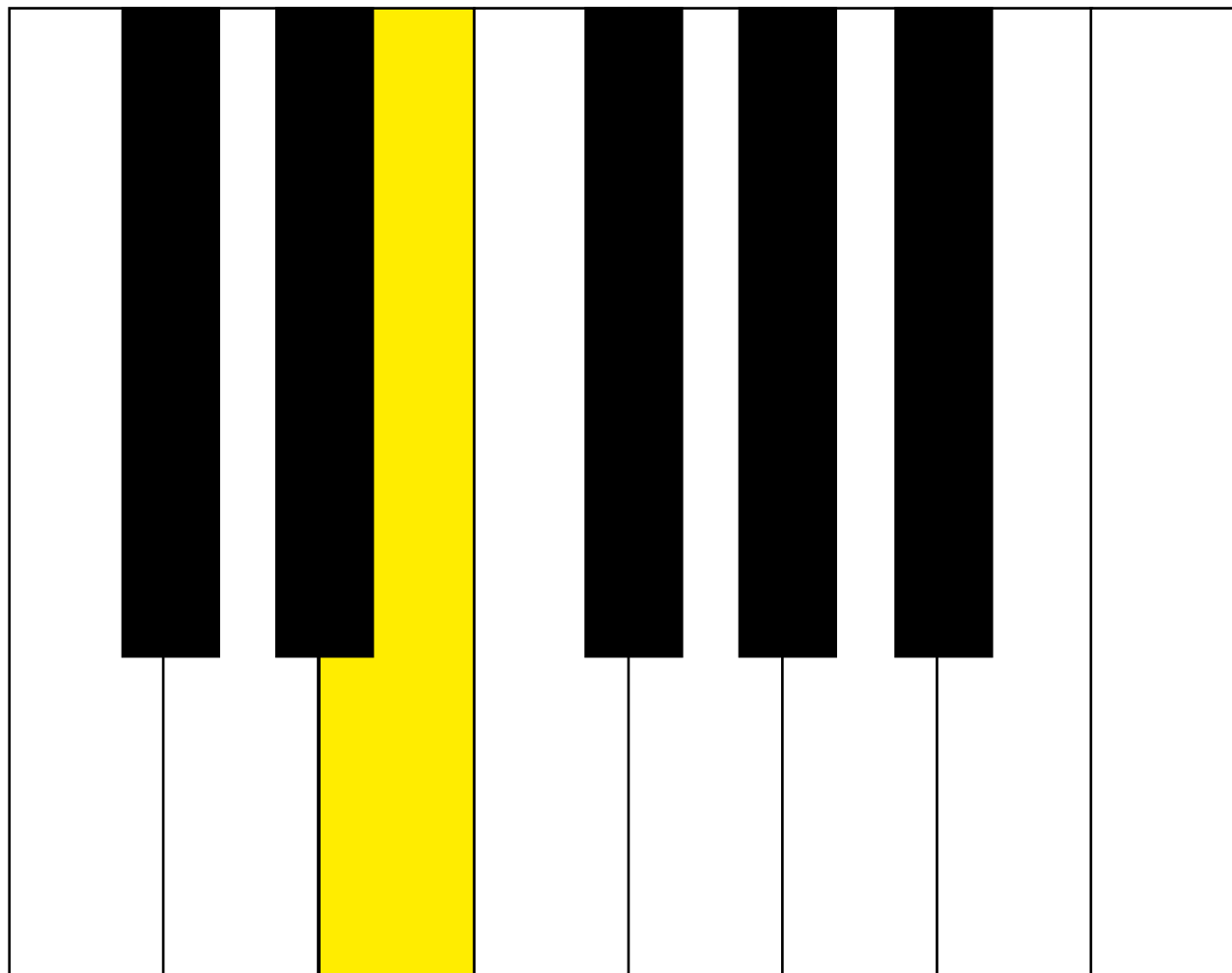


Need a reminder?  
zoom up here





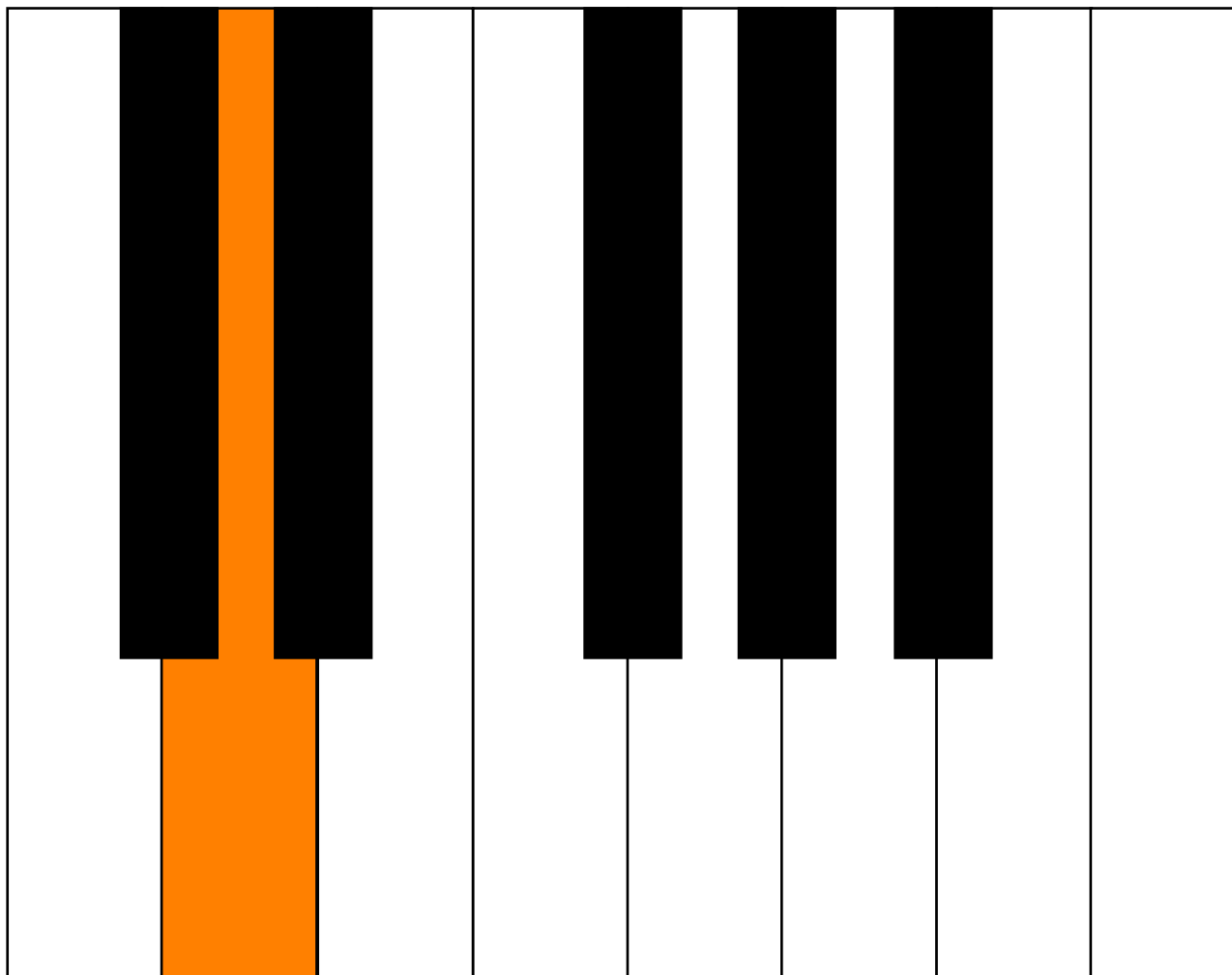
Ex. 6i - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



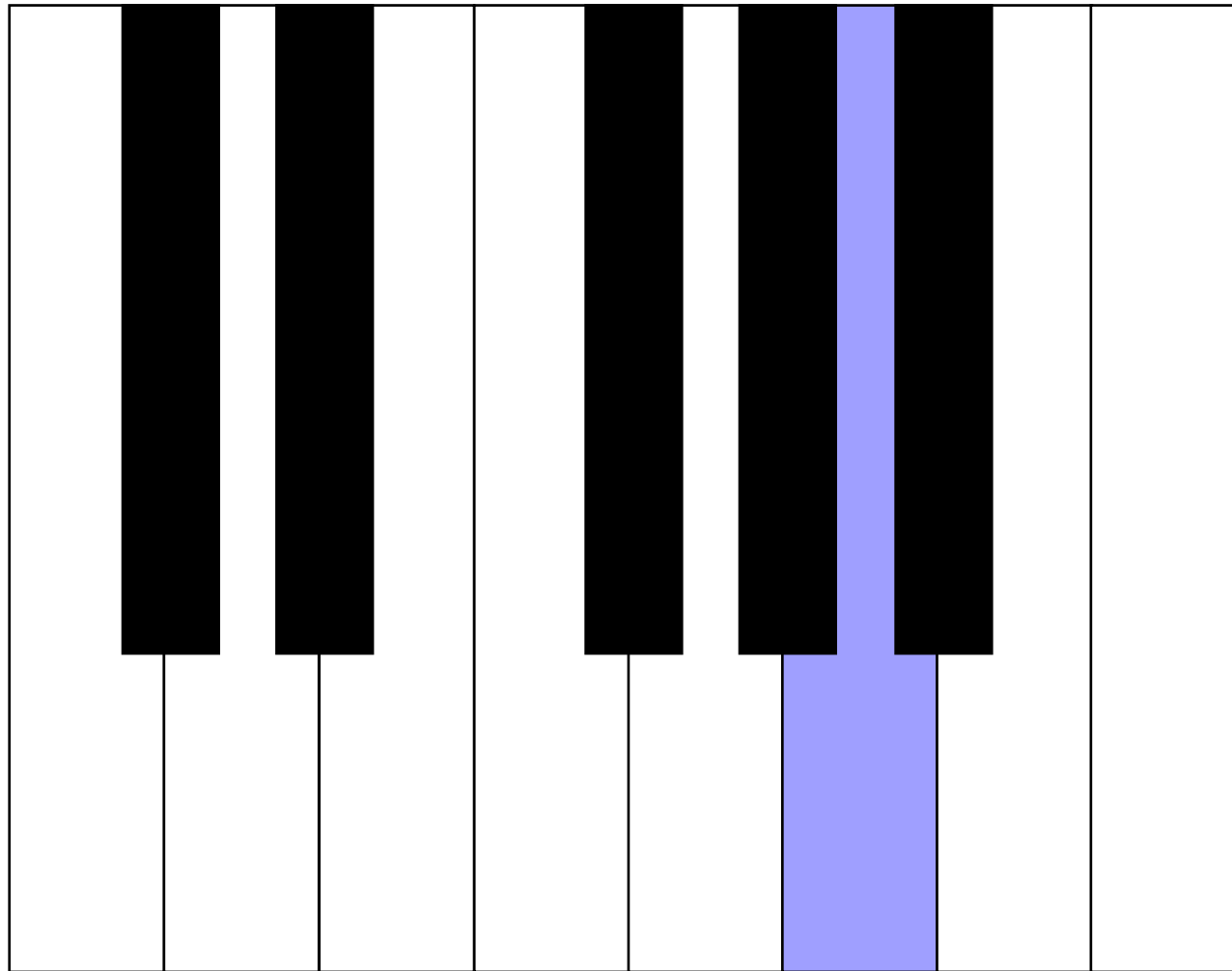
Ex. 6j - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



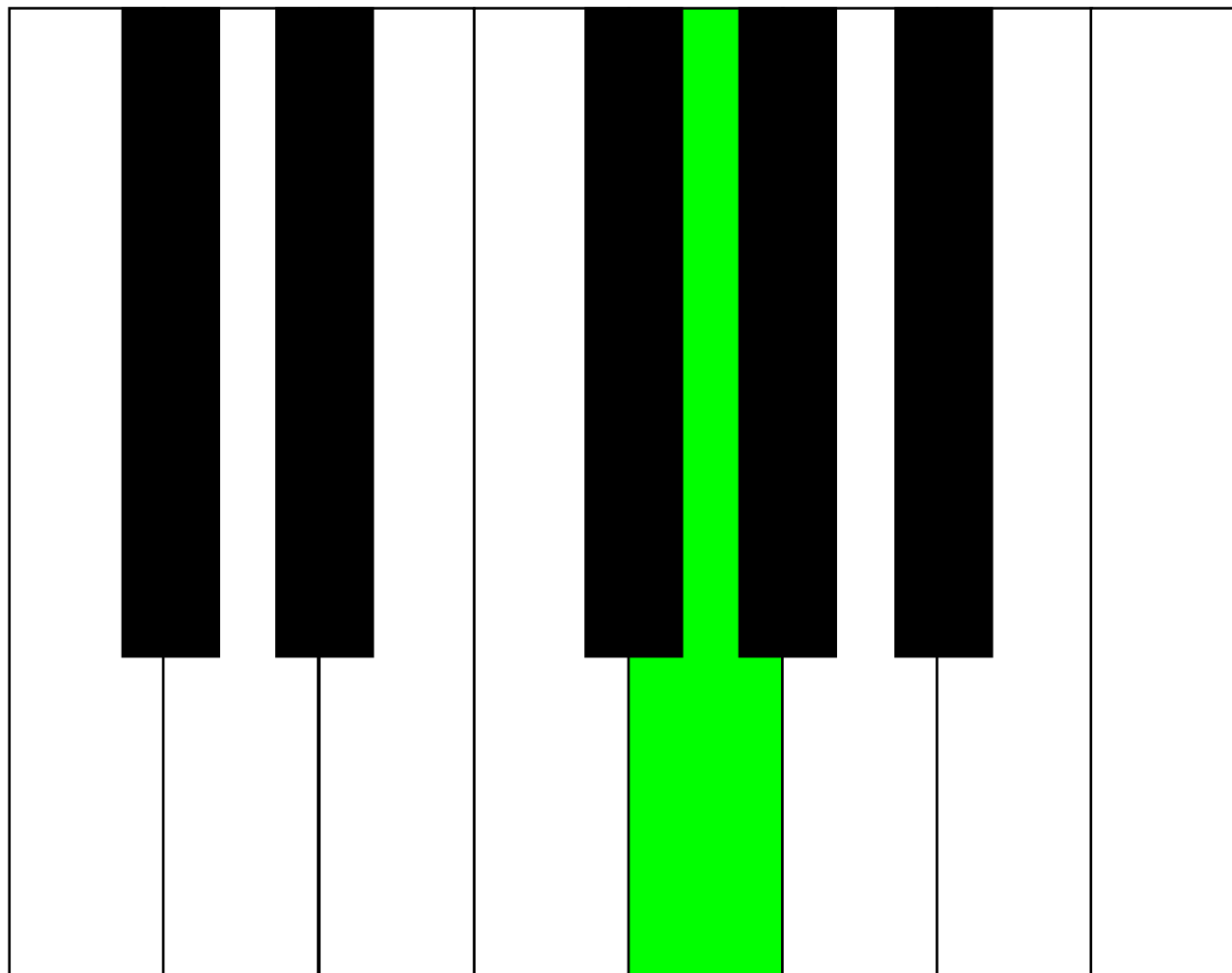
Ex. 6k - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



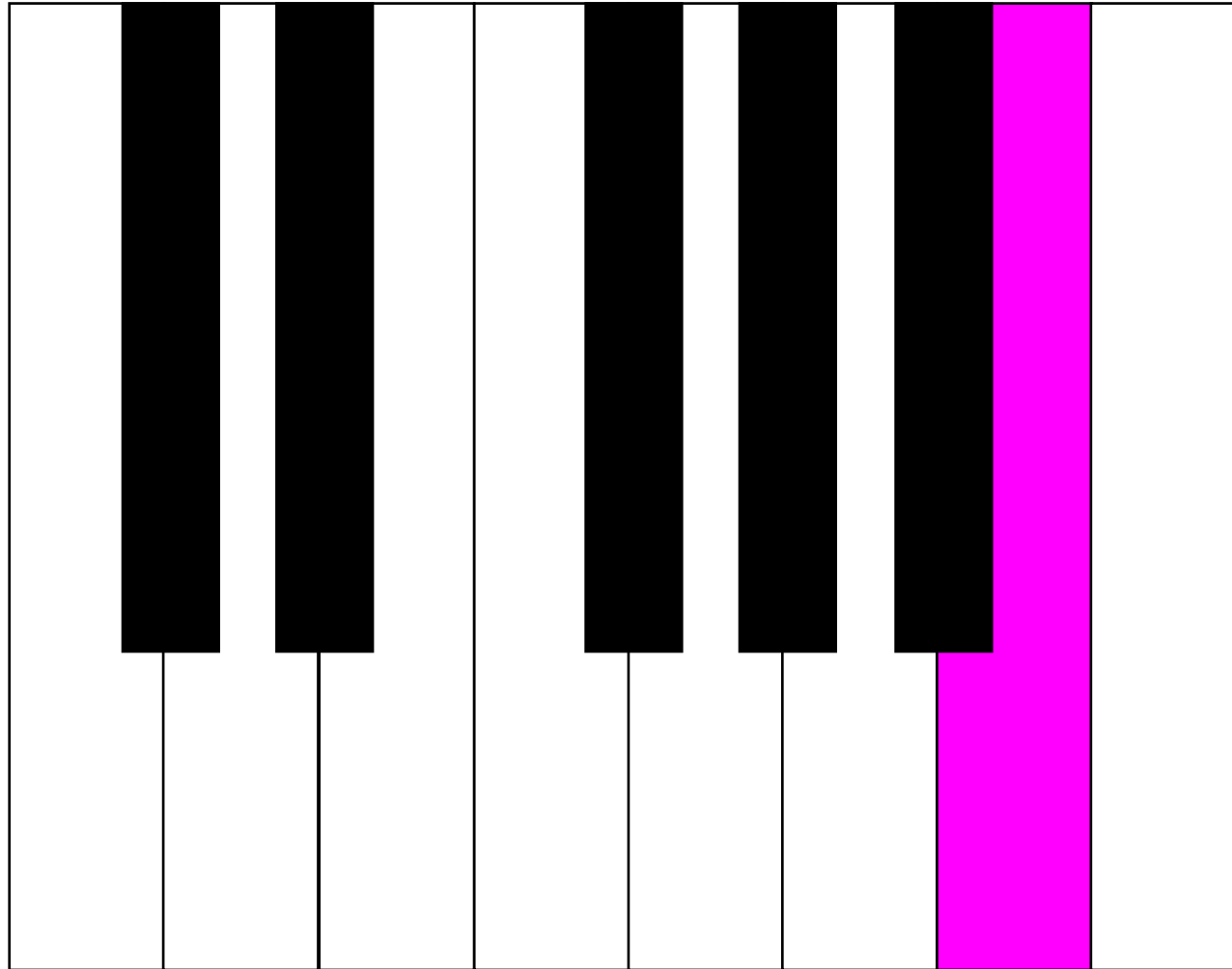
Ex. 61 - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



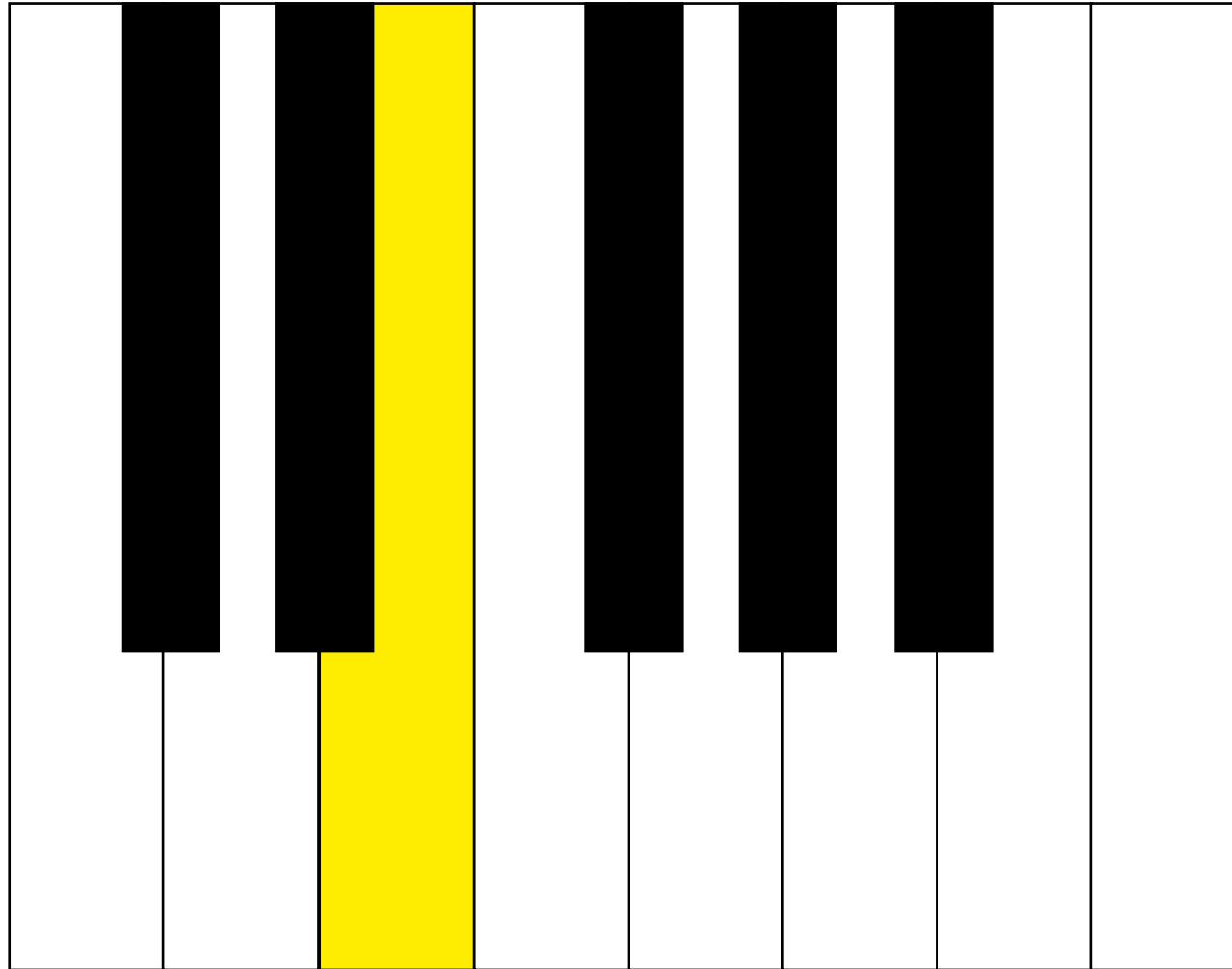
Ex. 6m - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



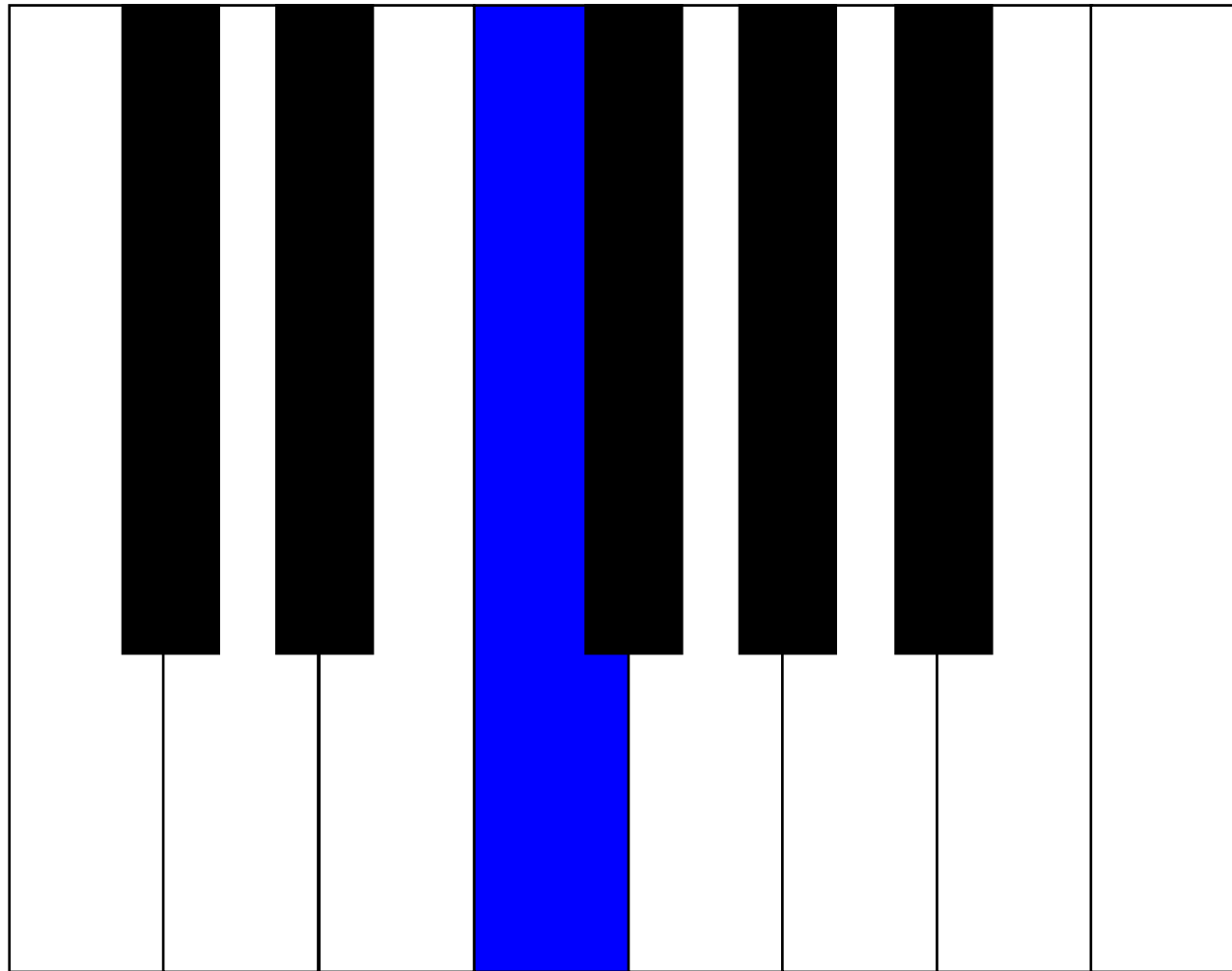
Ex. 6n - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



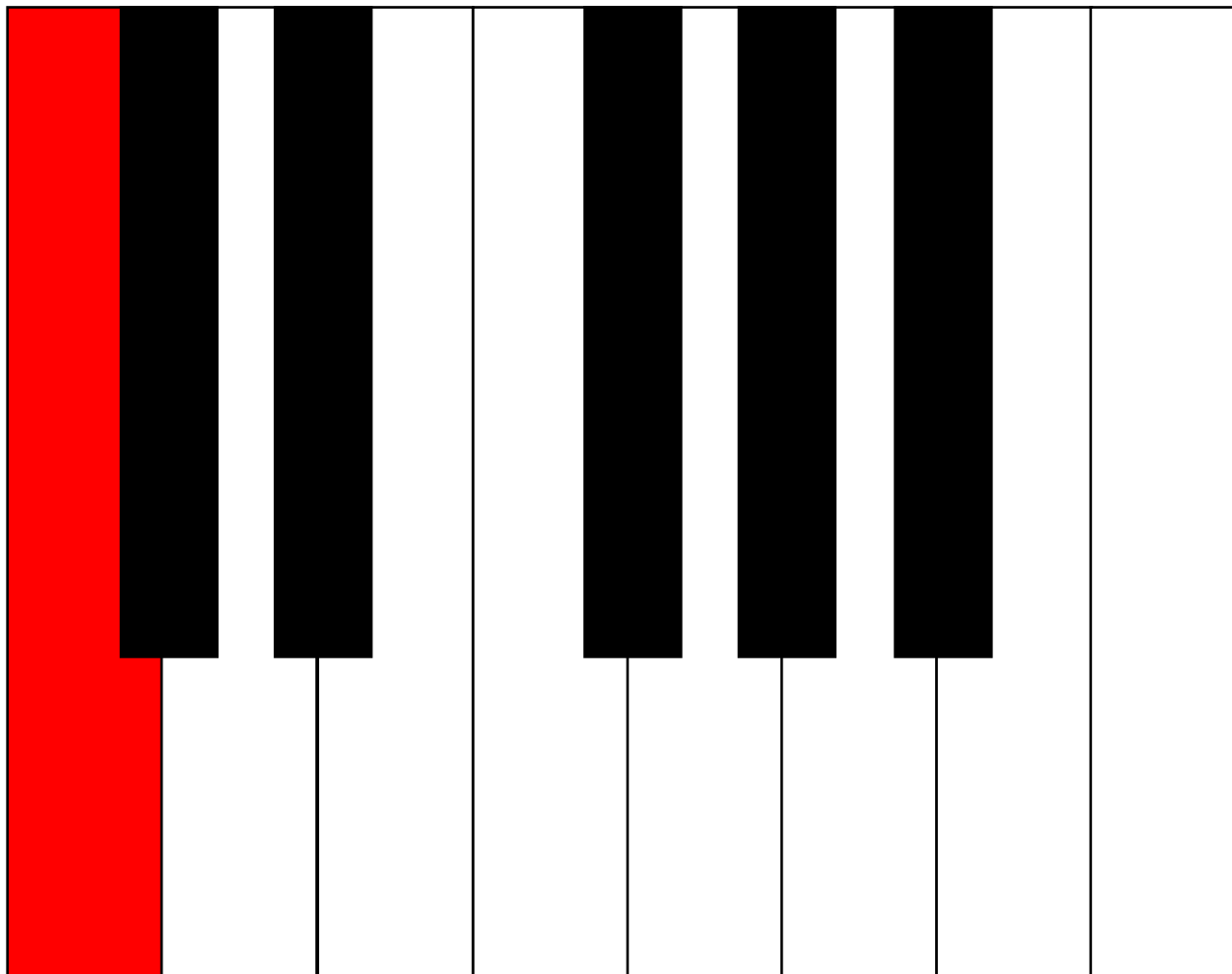
Ex. 60 - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here



Ex. 6p - What is the name of the coloured note?



Need a reminder?  
zoom up here

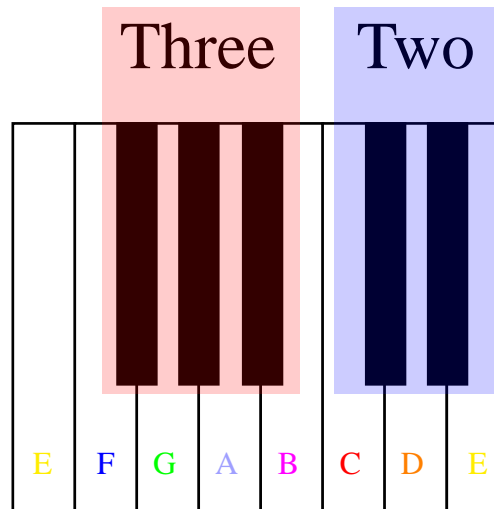




## Section Six - Key Points

The **Musical Alphabet** runs from **A** to **G**

The **Black Notes** on a keyboard are grouped in **Three's** and **Two's**



**C** is always just to the **left** of the **two** black notes

**F** is always just to the **left** of the **three** black notes

## **Section Seven - Learning Note Pitches**

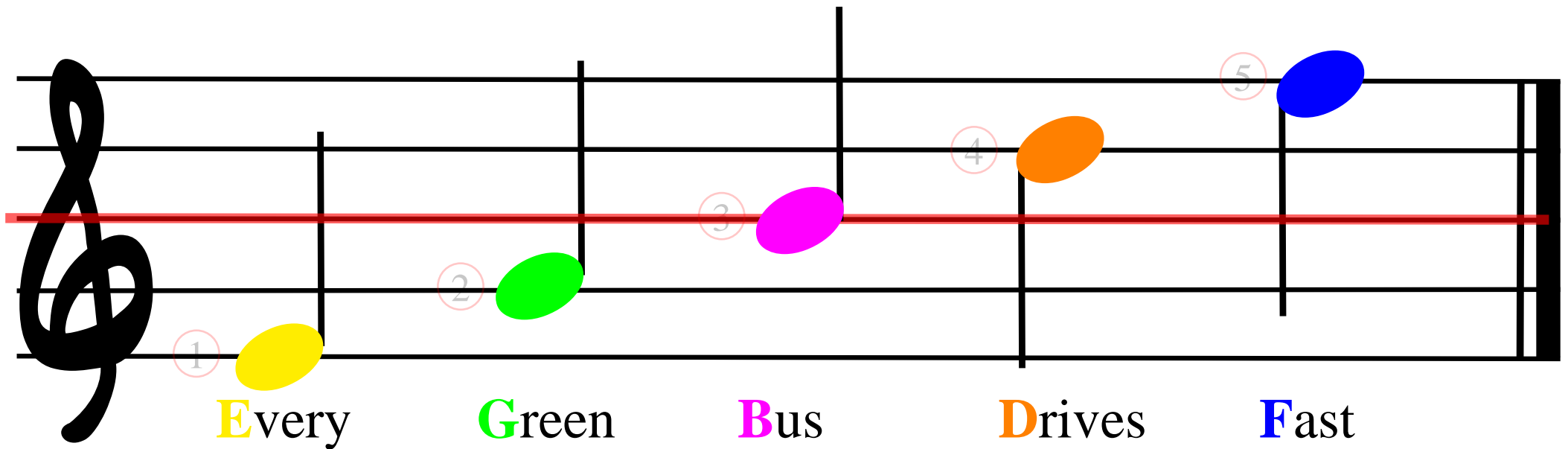
As well as using the techniques on the previous pages to read note pitches it is also a good idea just to learn where the notes are on a staff.

The image illustrates the word "FACE" using musical notes on a staff and a piano keyboard. The staff shows four notes in the space positions: F (blue), A (purple), C (red), and E (yellow). The piano keyboard below shows the corresponding keys: F (blue), A (purple), C (red), and E (yellow). The notes are numbered 1 through 4 in circles above the staff.

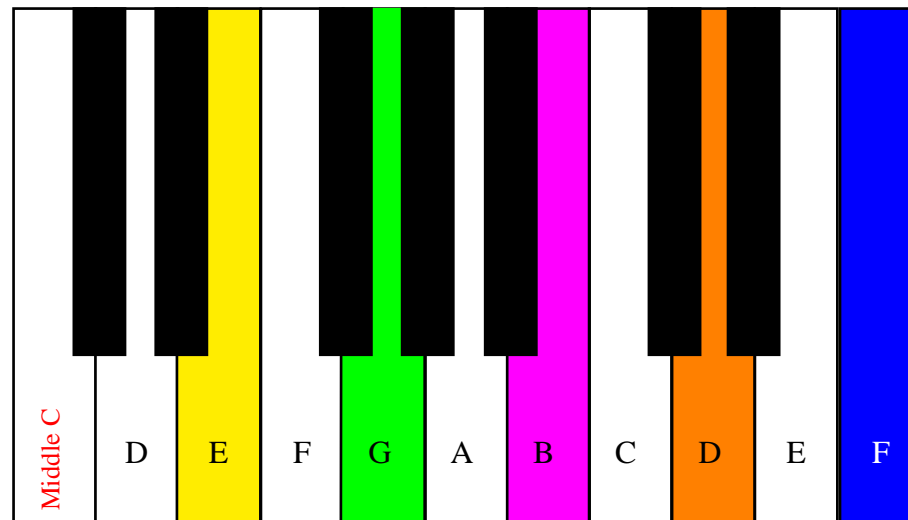
The Space notes spell the word FACE



The line notes can be remembered using the words below.



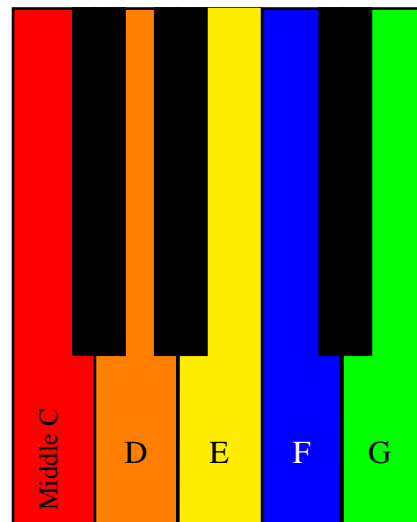
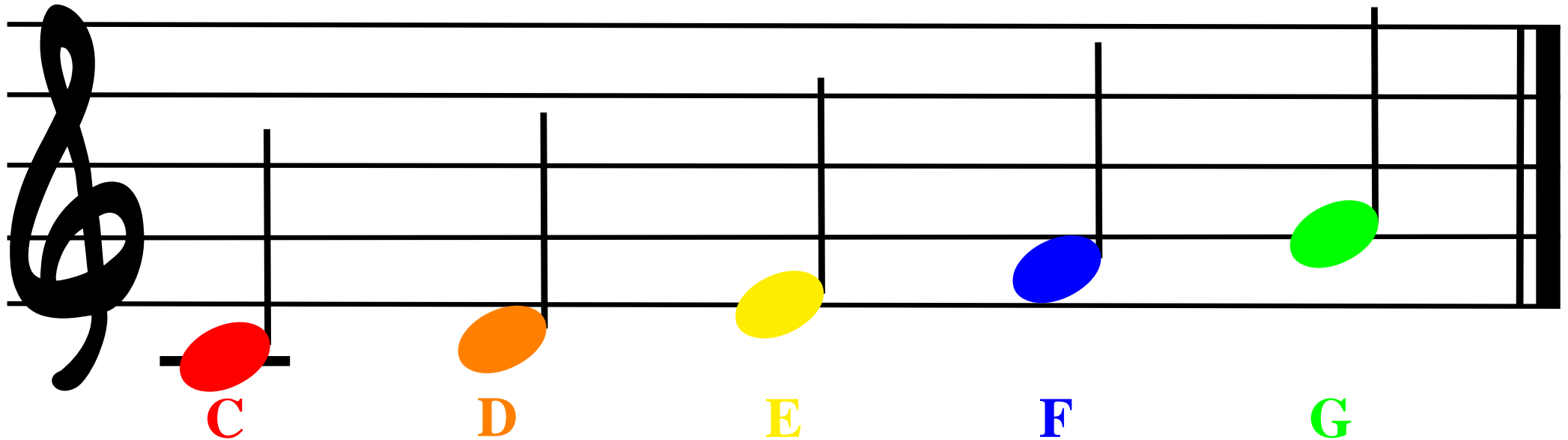
A musical staff in treble clef with a red line. Five notes are placed on the staff, each with a circled number above it: 1 (yellow, first line), 2 (green, second line), 3 (magenta, third line), 4 (orange, fourth line), and 5 (blue, fifth line). Below the staff, the words "Every", "Green", "Bus", "Drives", and "Fast" are written in colors matching their respective notes.



A diagram of a piano keyboard showing the keys from Middle C to F. The keys are labeled with their letter names: D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F. The keys are colored as follows: D (white), E (yellow), F (white), G (green), A (white), B (magenta), C (white), D (orange), E (white), F (blue). The label "Middle C" is written vertically on the left side.

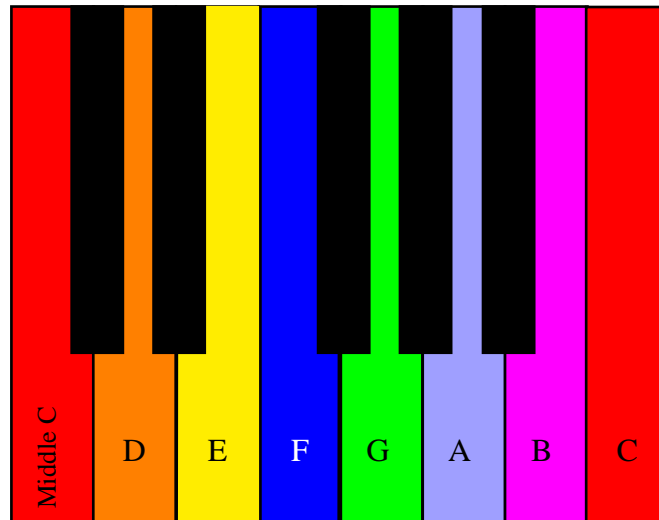
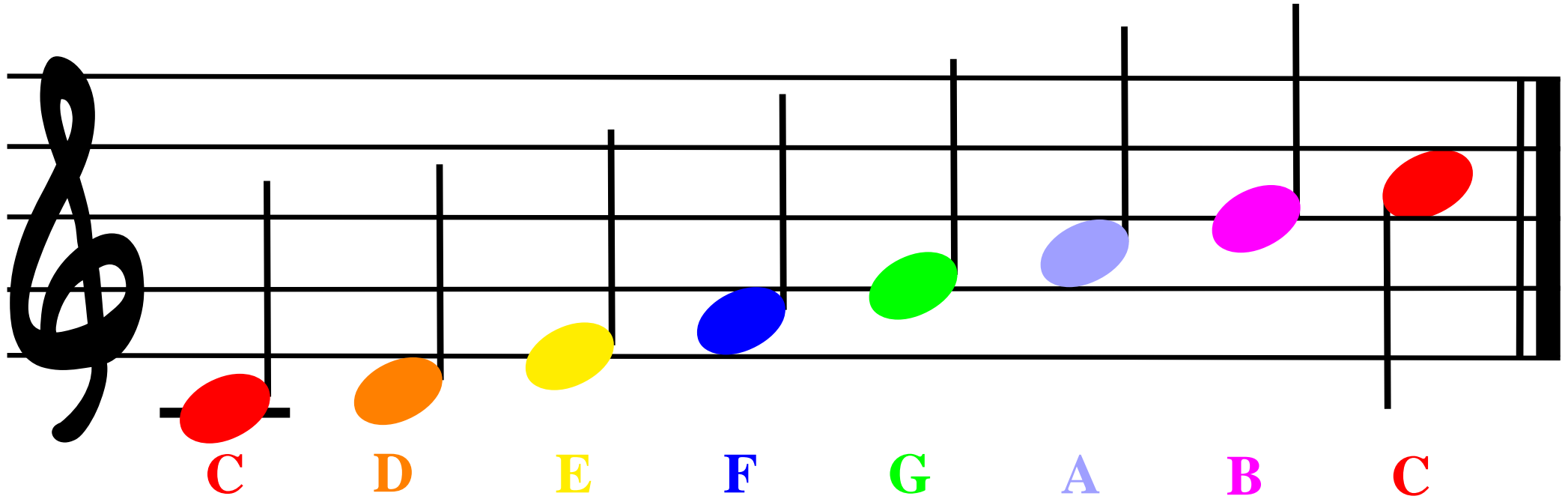


Use this note chart to help you learn the notes. When you know these notes use the chart on the next page to learn more.



# The notes Middle C to C

This page can be used to introduce the C major scale



## Exercise 7

Use the following pages to test yourself in recognising note pitches on the staff.

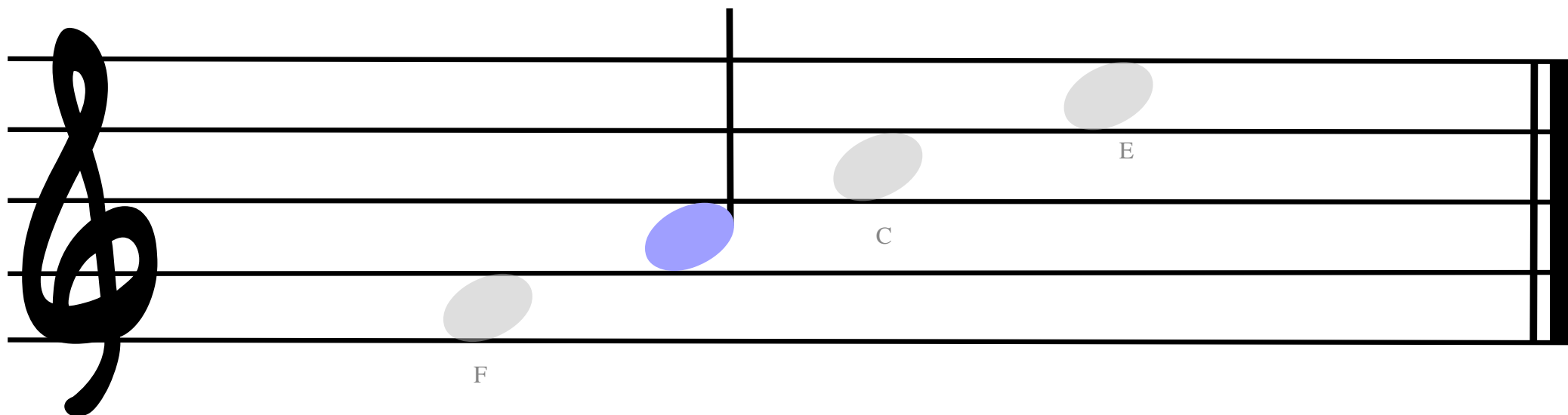
At first identify where the note is (see section 2) and then say out loud what the note is.

After each test the answer is given.

Then go through each page again and just try to say what the note is as quickly as possible and play the note on your keyboard.

Keep practising the tests until you can say and play each note correctly without hesitation.

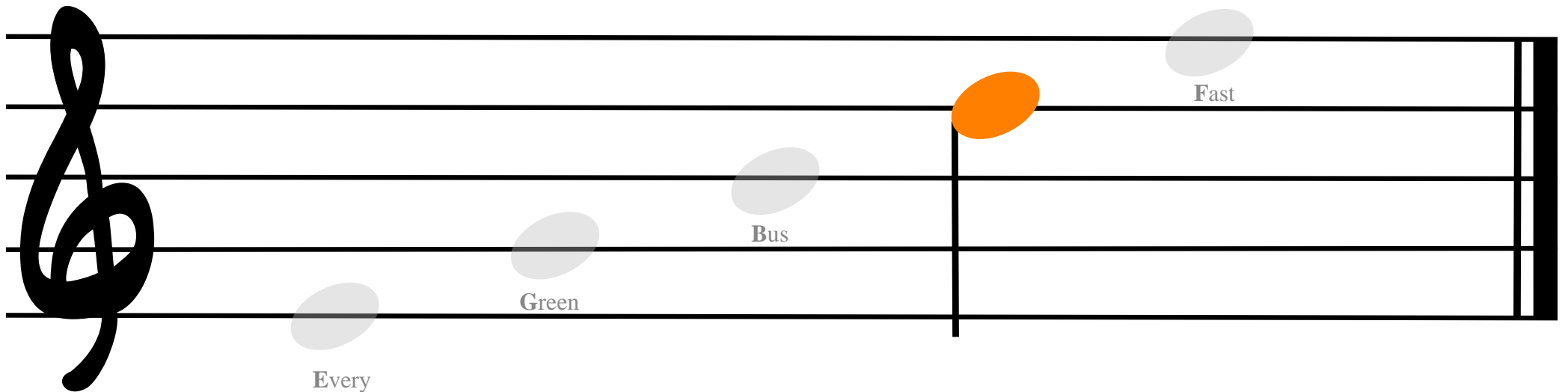
Ex 7a - What is the pitch of the note?





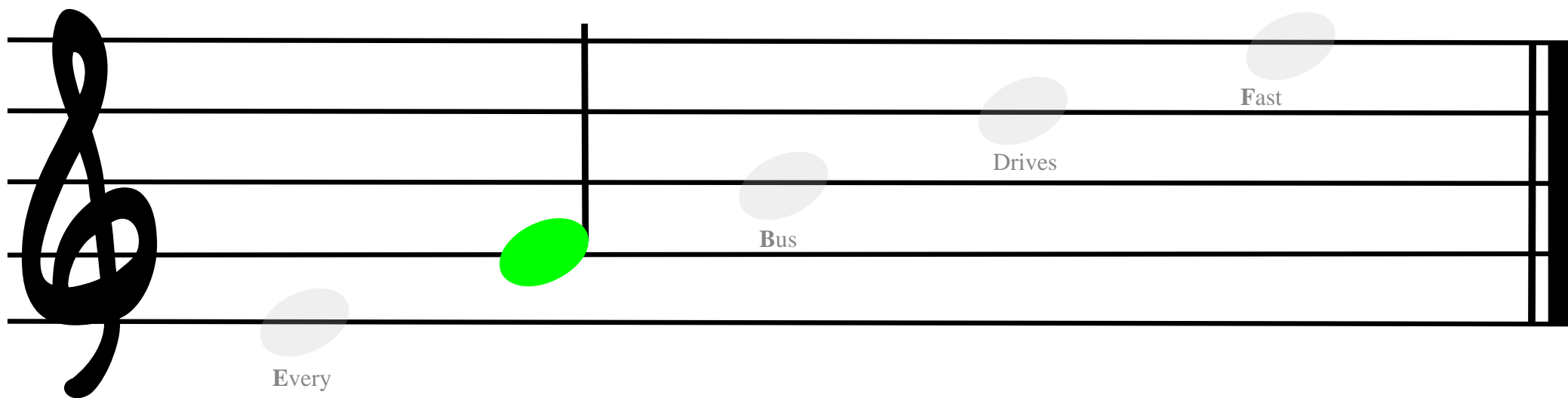
A

# Ex 7d - What is the pitch of the note?



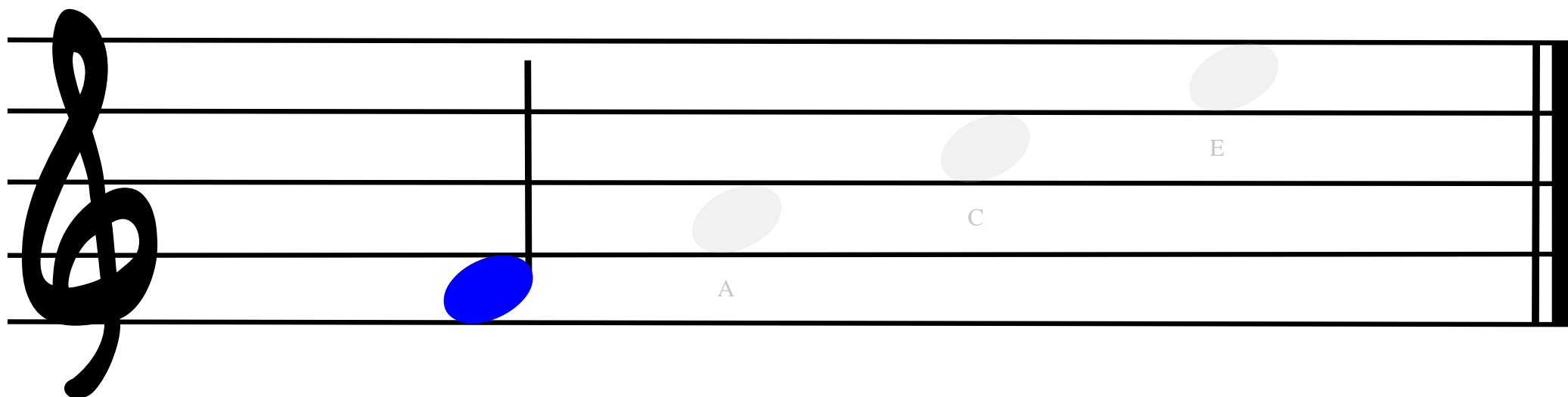
D

# Ex 7e - What is the pitch of the note?



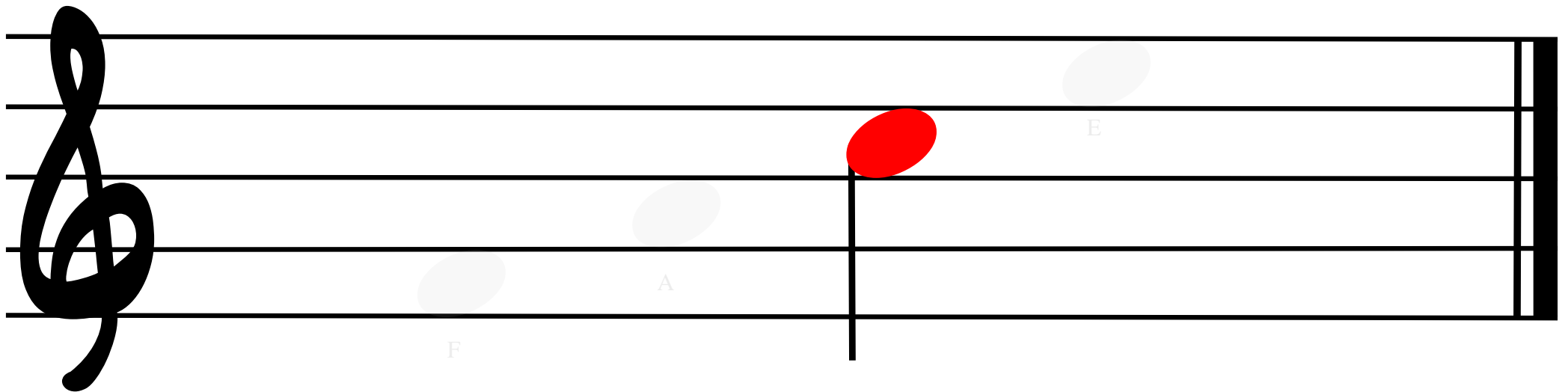
G

Ex 7b - What is the pitch of the note?



F

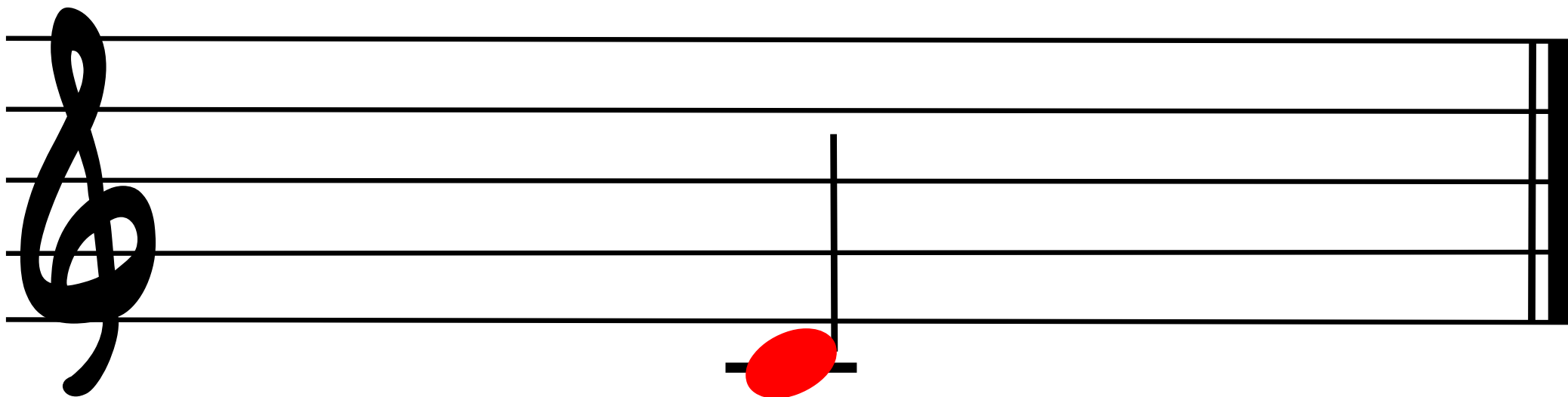
Ex 7c - What is the pitch of the note?





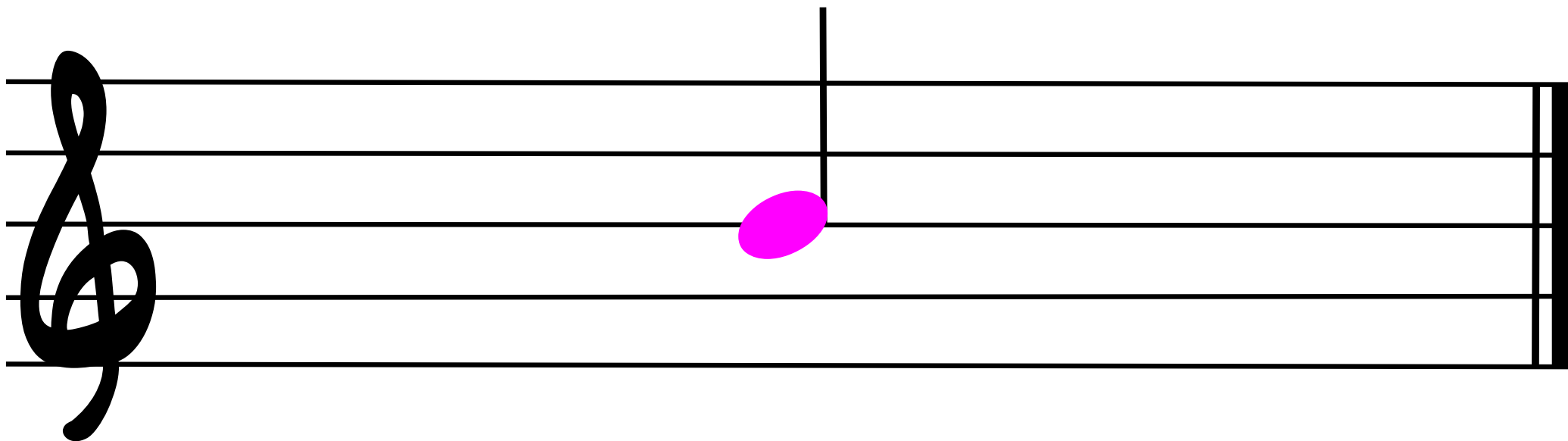
C

Ex 7f - What is the pitch of the note?



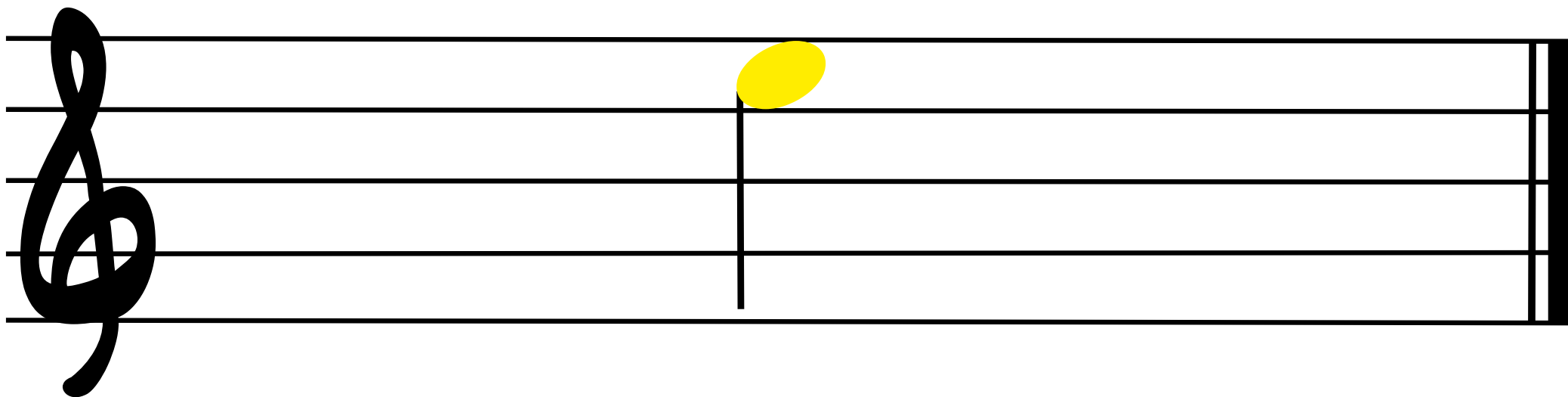
C

Ex 7g - What is the pitch of the note?



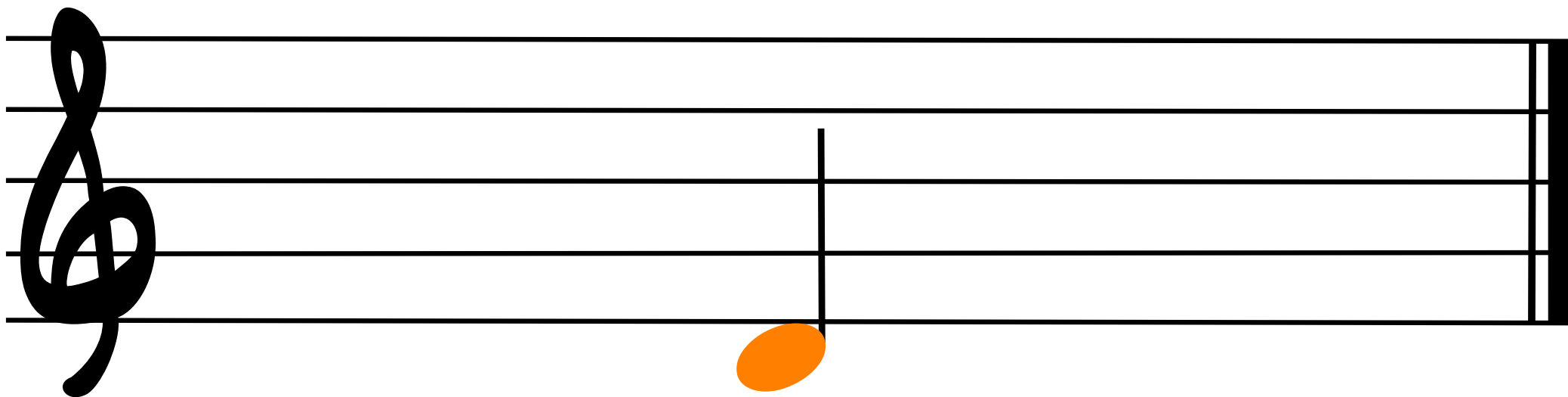
B

Ex 7h - What is the pitch of the note?



E

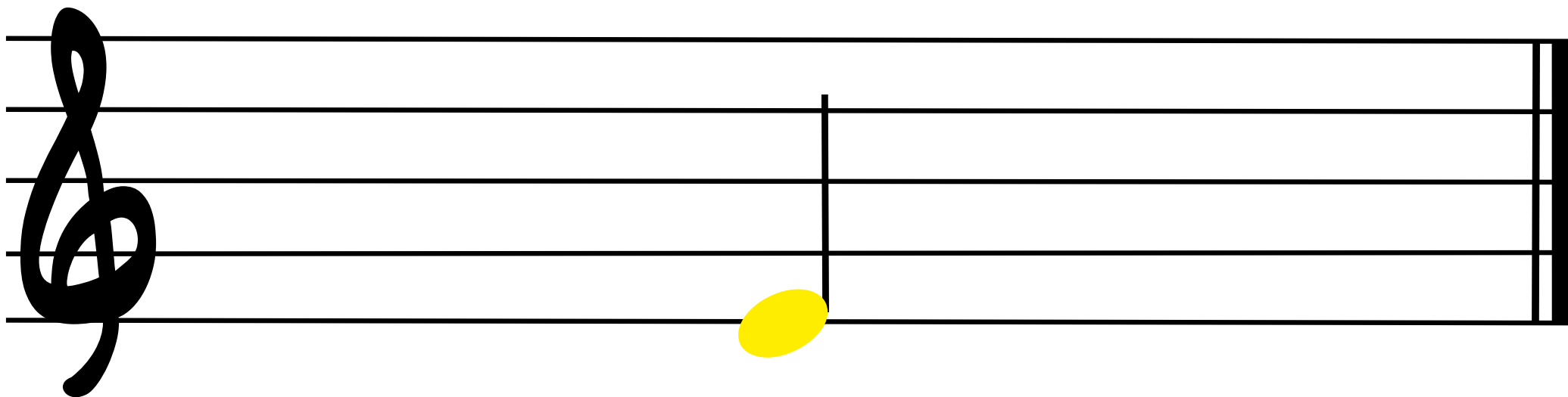
Ex 7i - What is the pitch of the note?





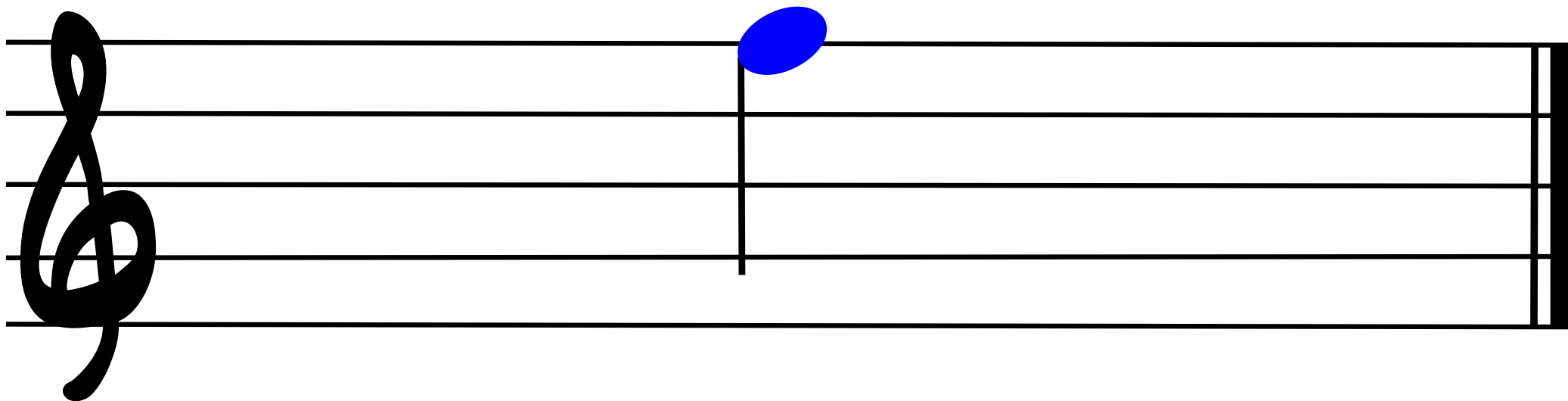
D

Ex 7j - What is the pitch of the note?



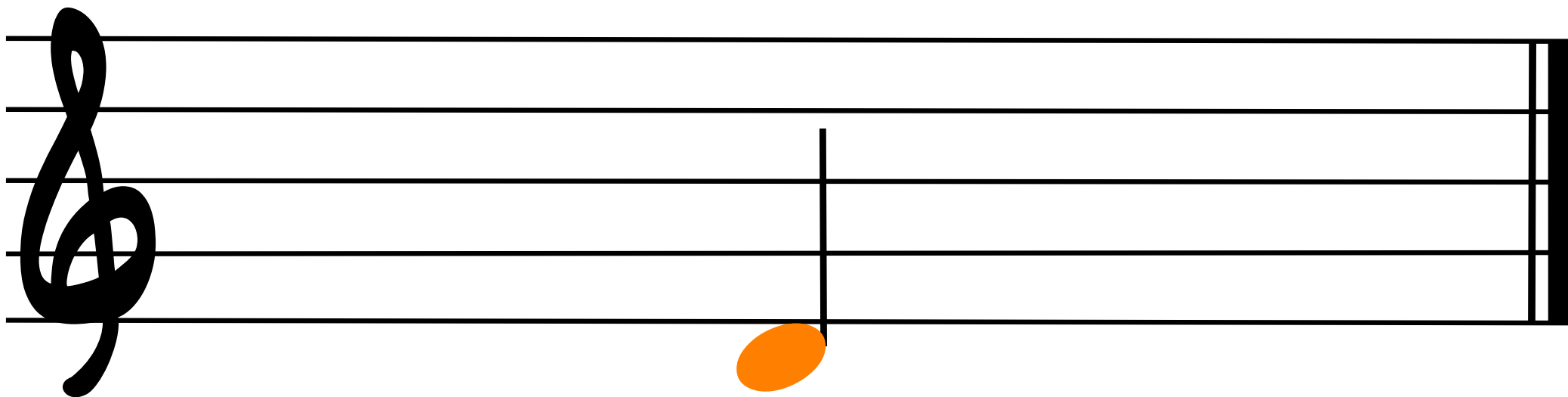
E

Ex 7k - What is the pitch of the note?



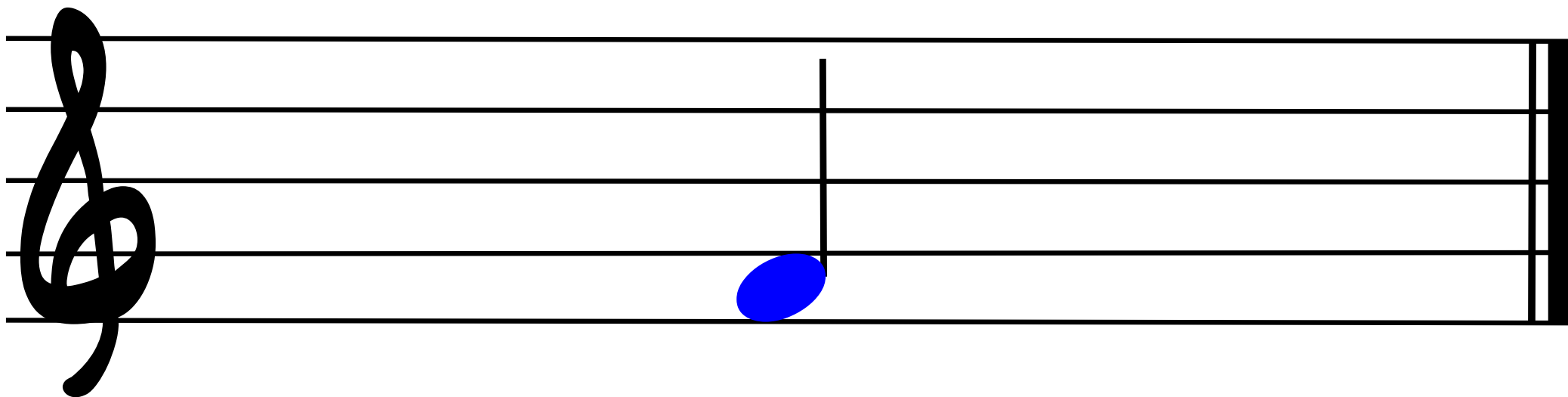
F

Ex 7m - What is the pitch of the note?



D

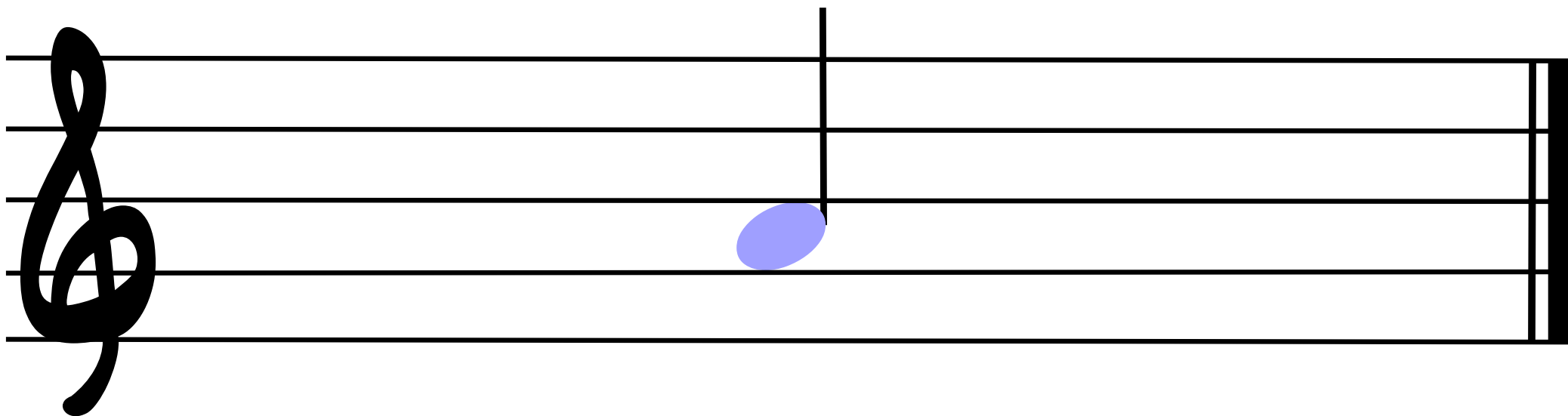
Ex 7n - What is the pitch of the note?





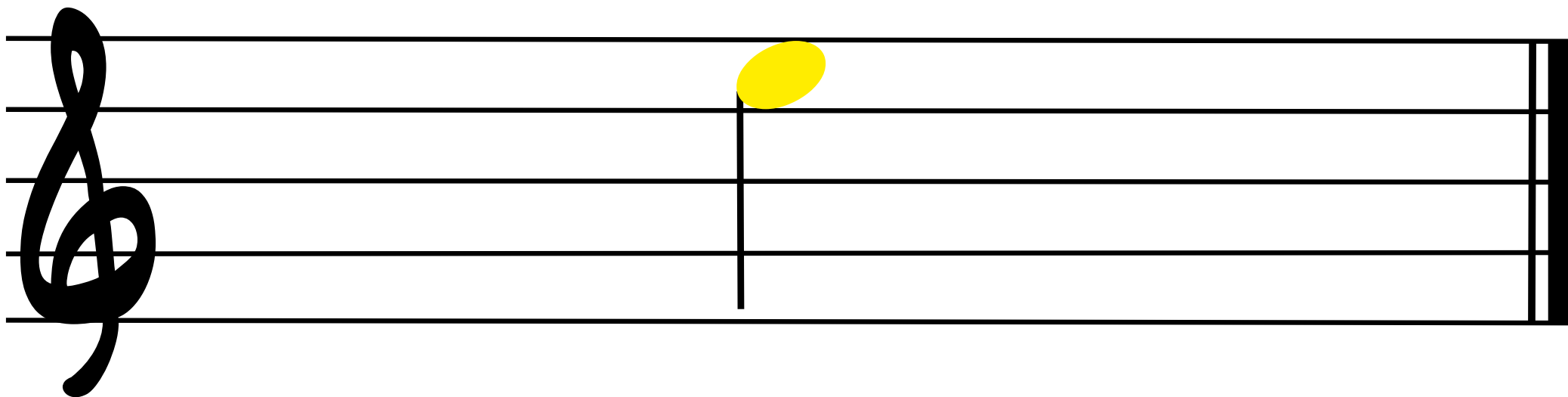
F

Ex 70 - What is the pitch of the note?



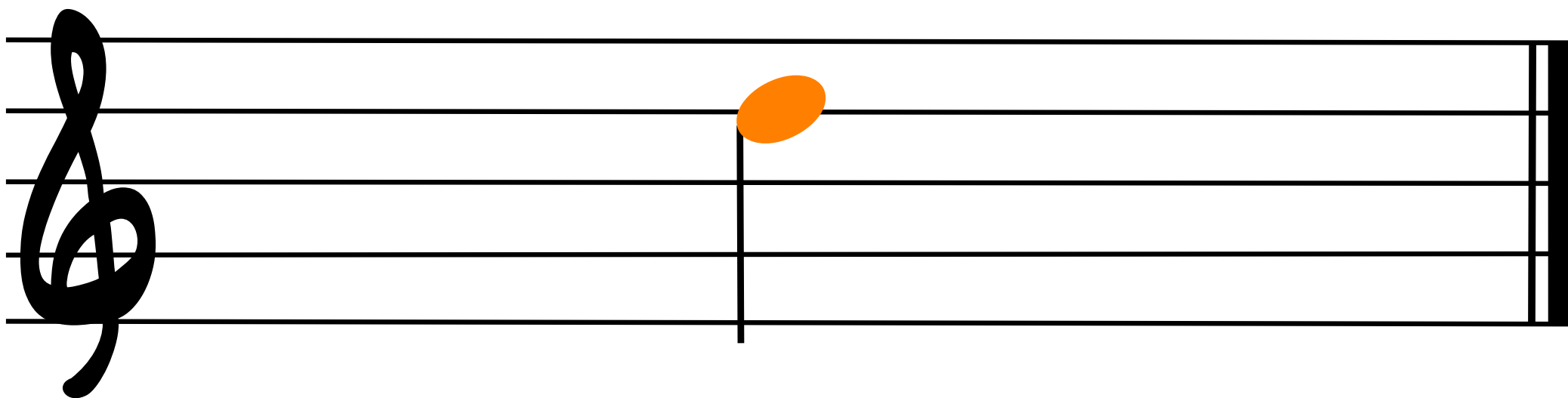
A

Ex 7p - What is the pitch of the note?



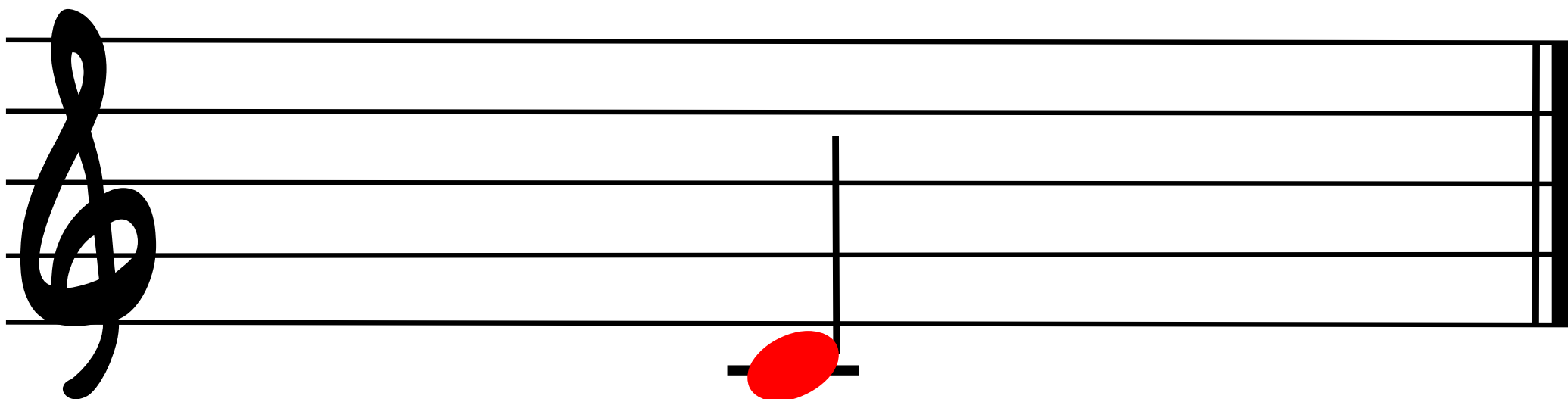
E

Ex 7q - What is the pitch of the note?



D

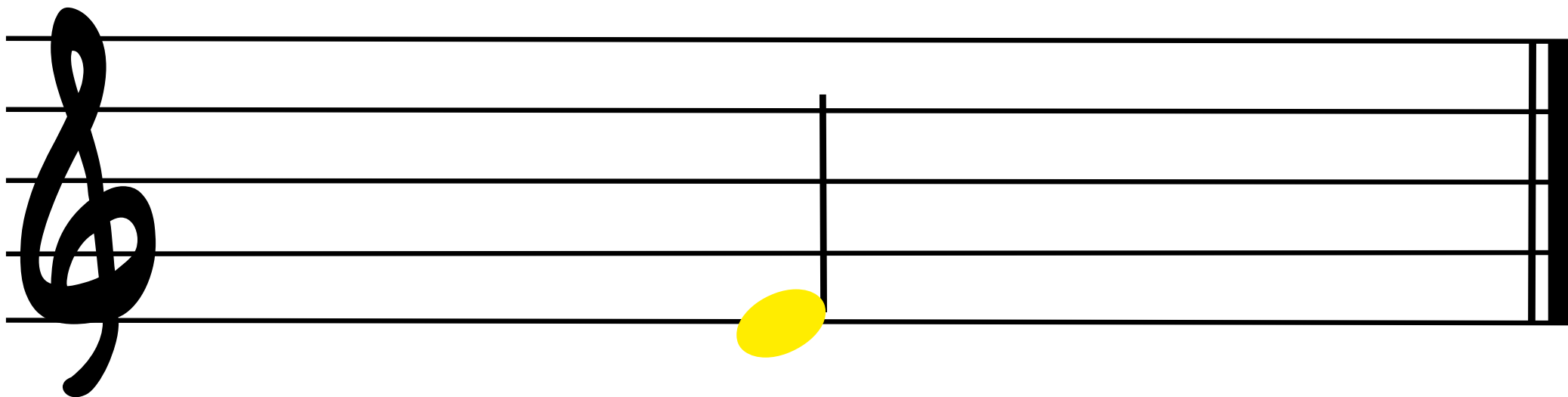
Ex 7r - What is the pitch of the note?





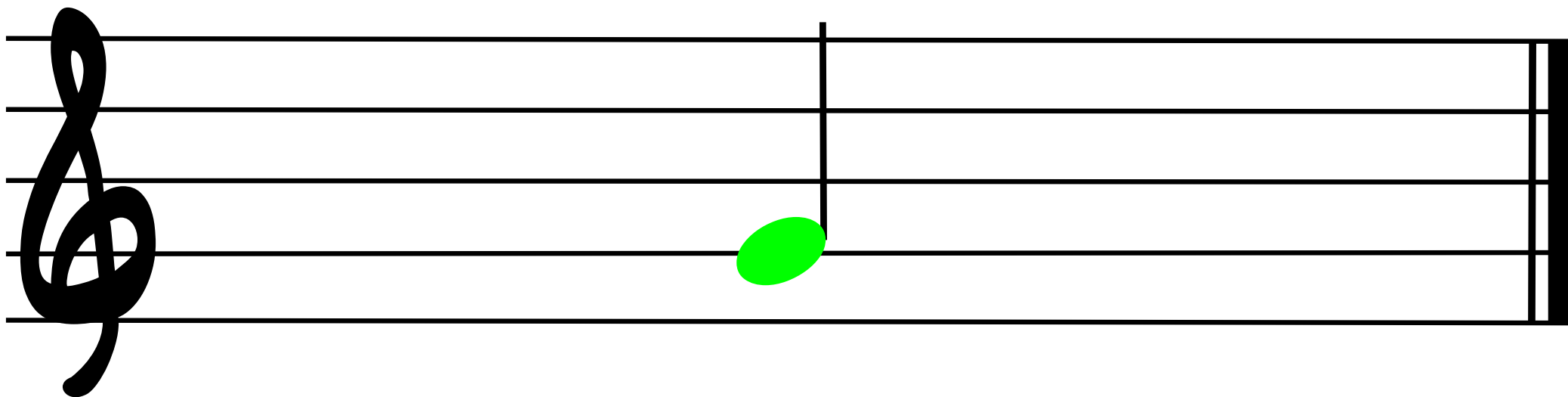
C

Ex 7s - What is the pitch of the note?



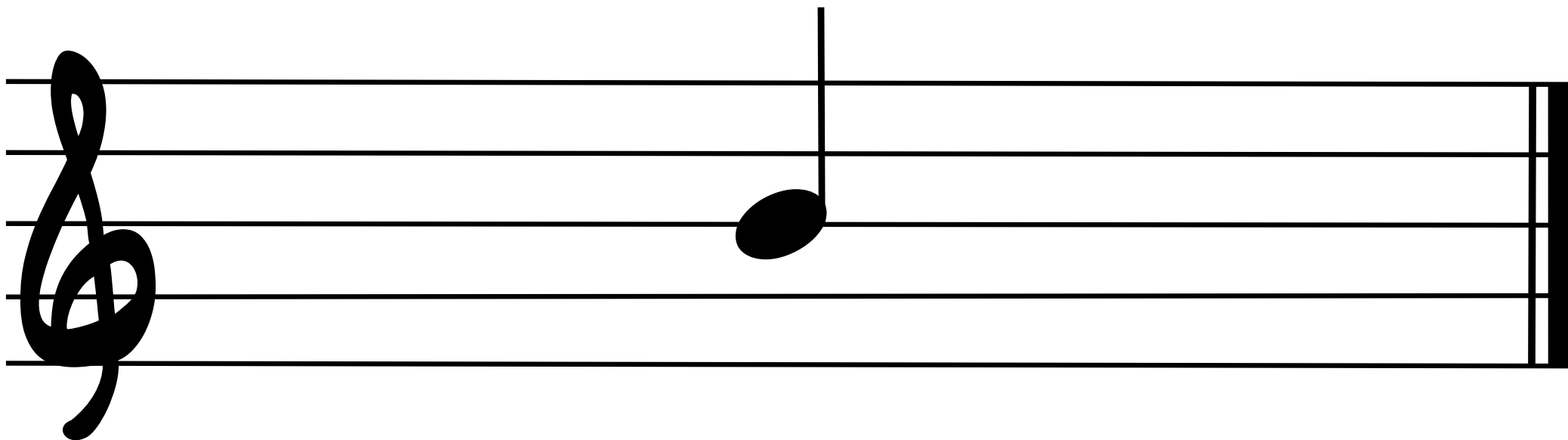
E

Ex 7t - What is the pitch of the note?



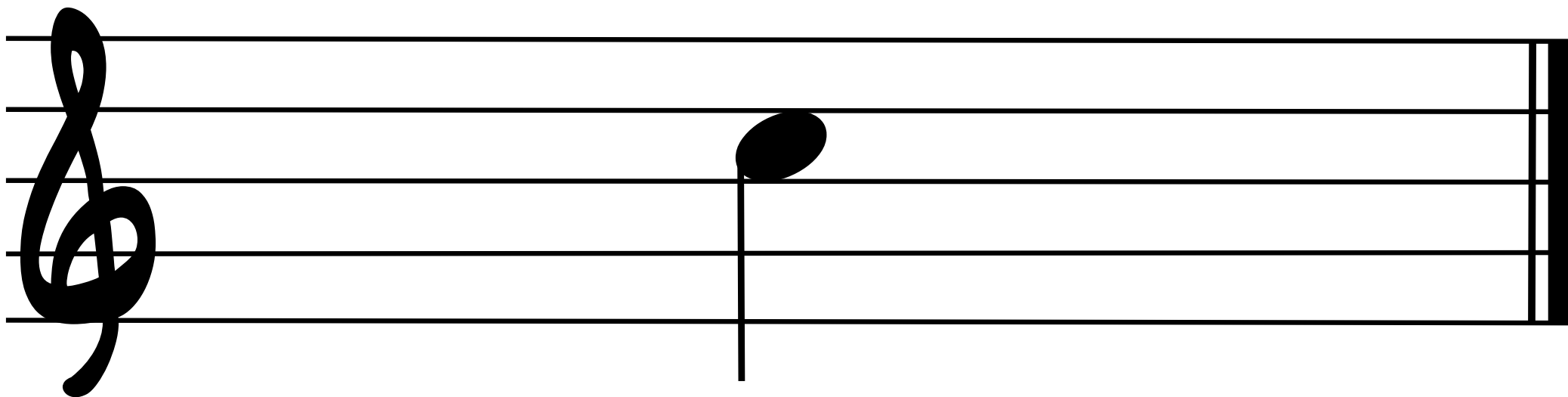
G

Ex 7u - What is the pitch of the note?



B

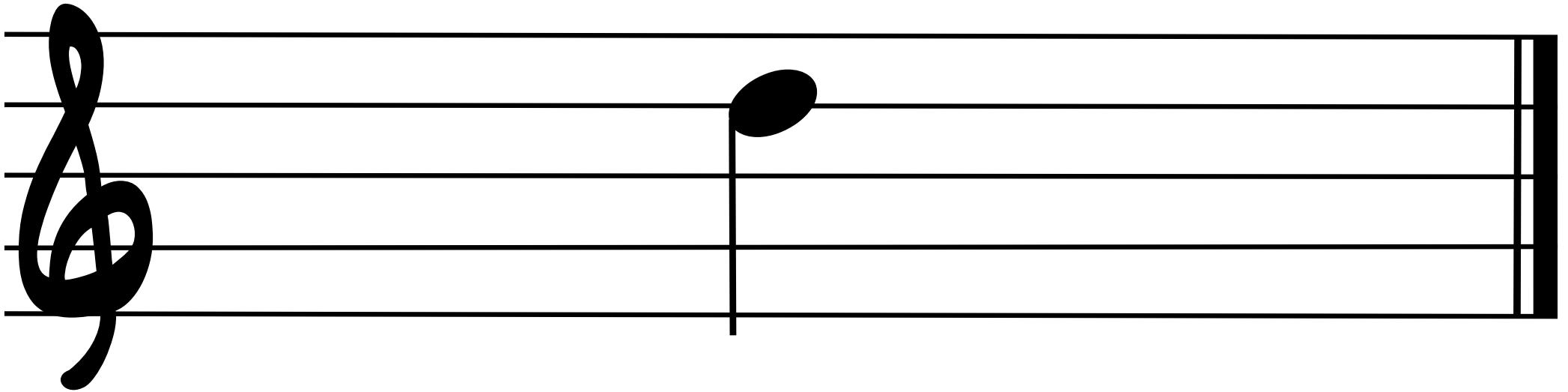
Ex 7v - What is the pitch of the note?





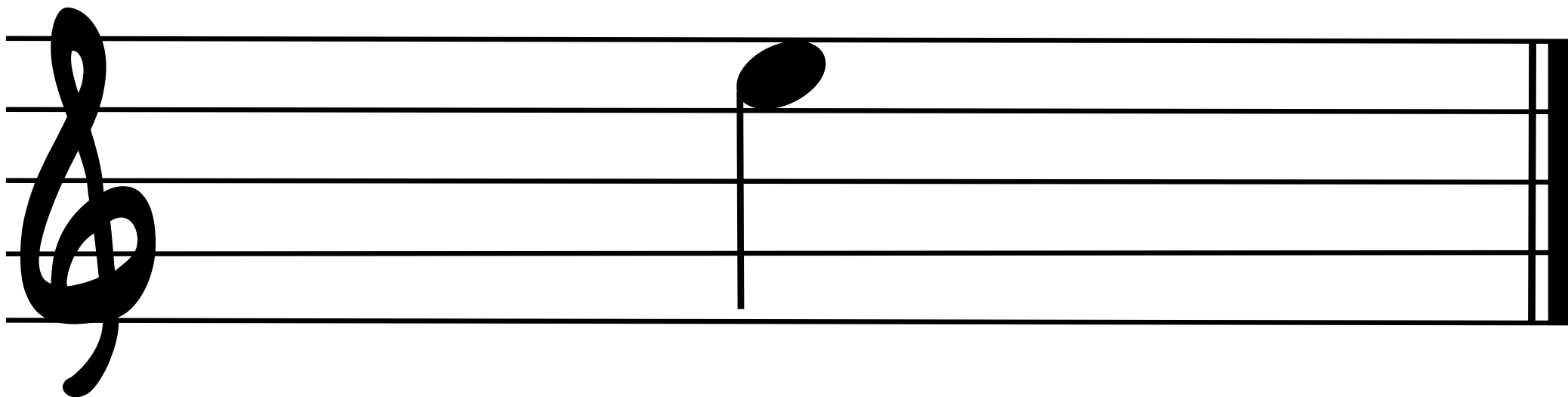
C

Ex 7w - What is the pitch of the note?



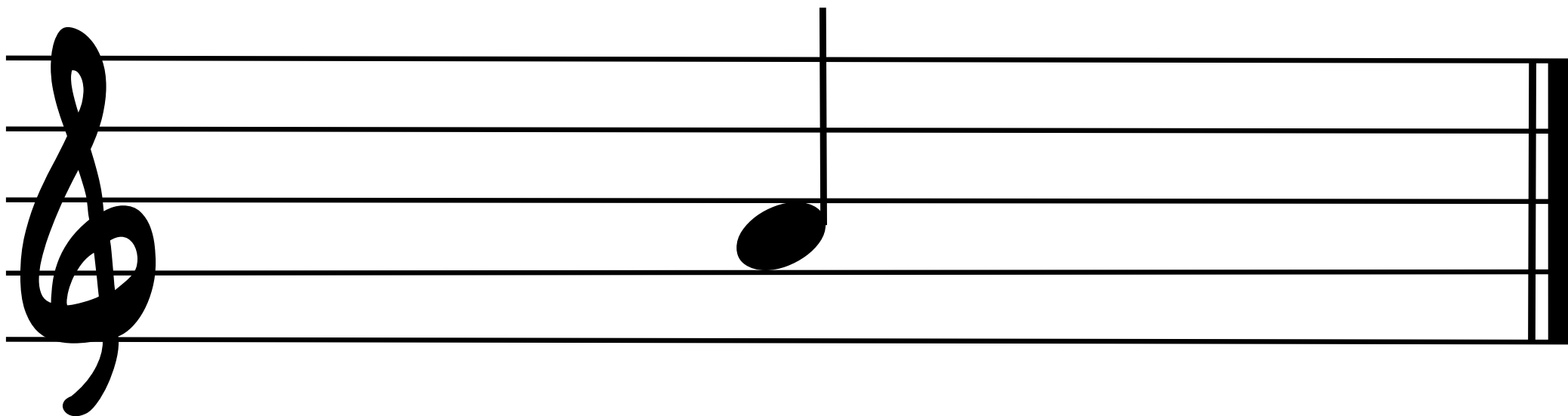
D

Ex 7x - What is the pitch of the note?



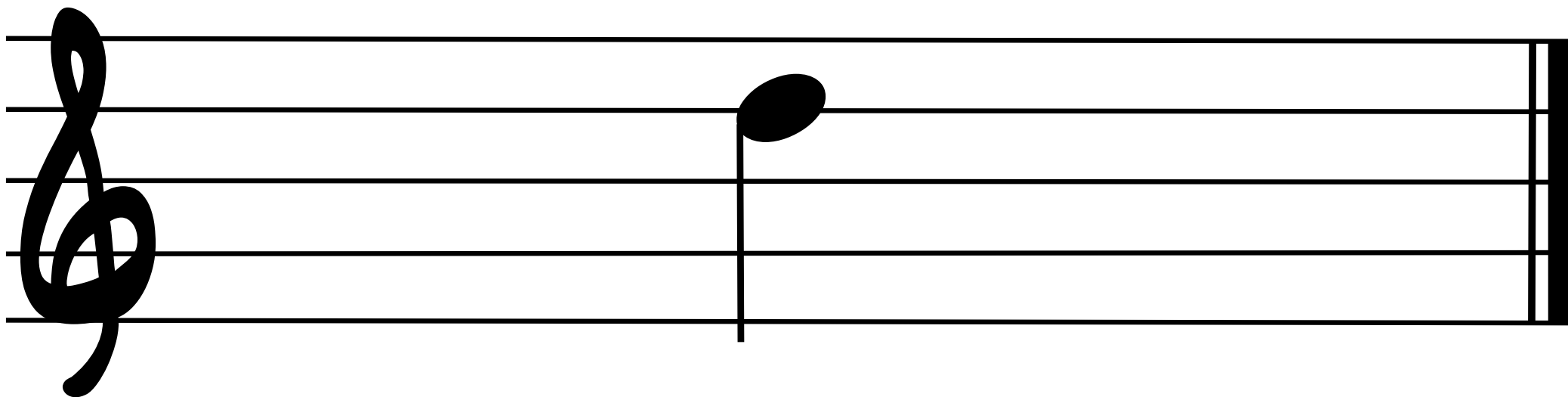
E

Ex 7y - What is the pitch of the note?



A

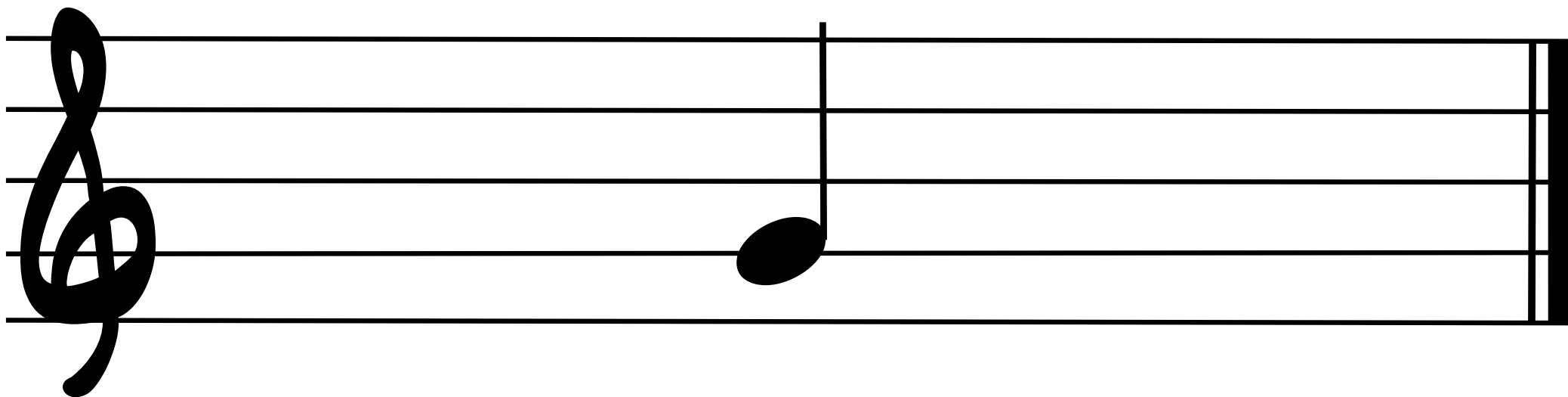
Ex 7aa - What is the pitch of the note?





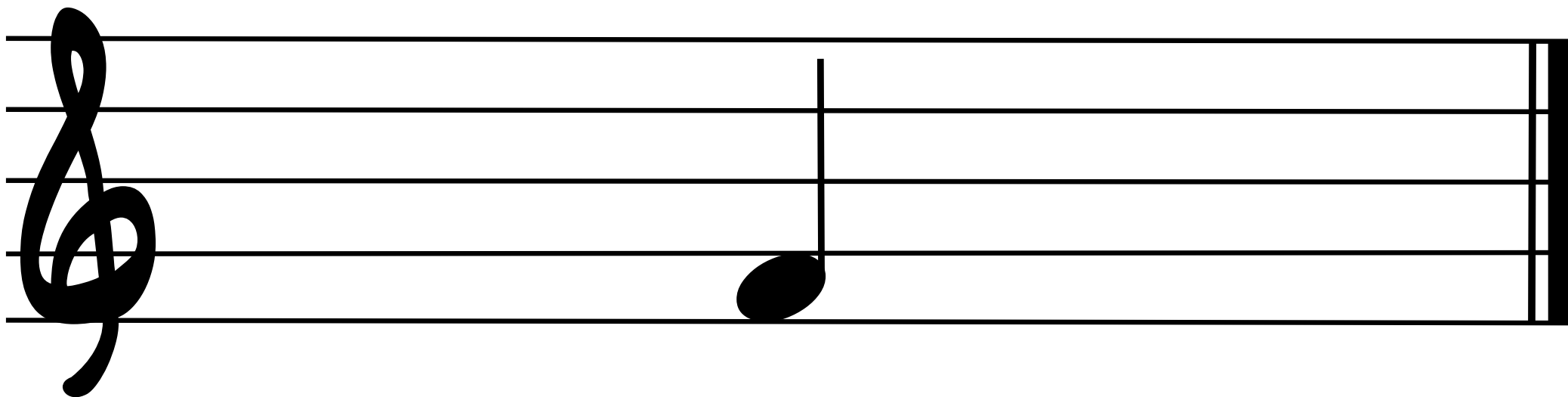
D

Ex 7ab - What is the pitch of the note?



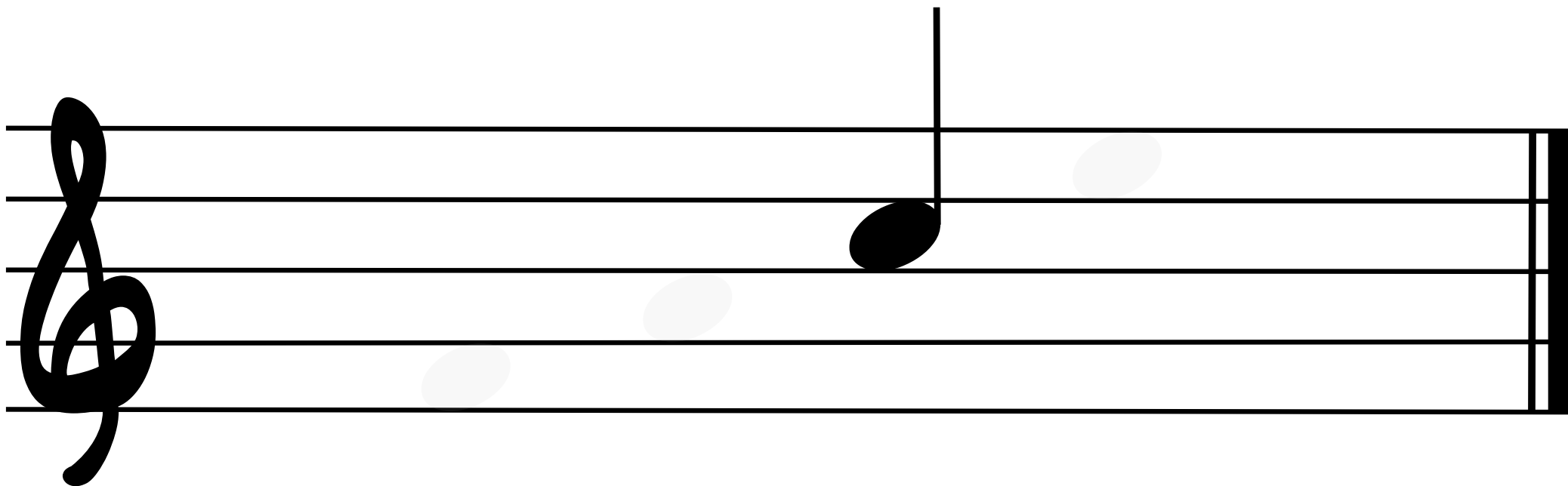
G

Ex 7ac - What is the pitch of the note?



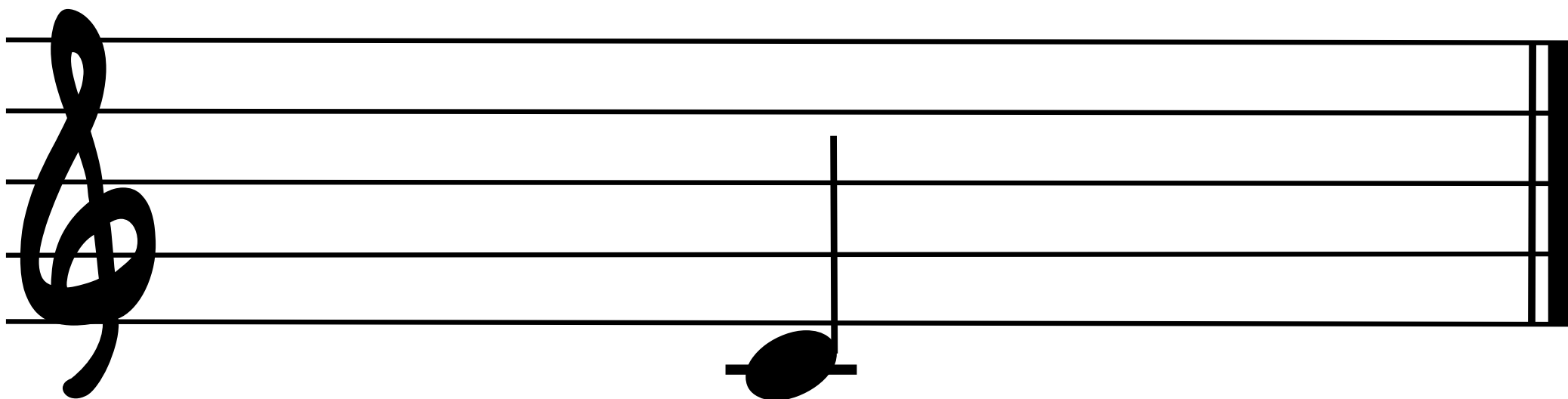
F

Ex 7ad - What is the pitch of the note?



C

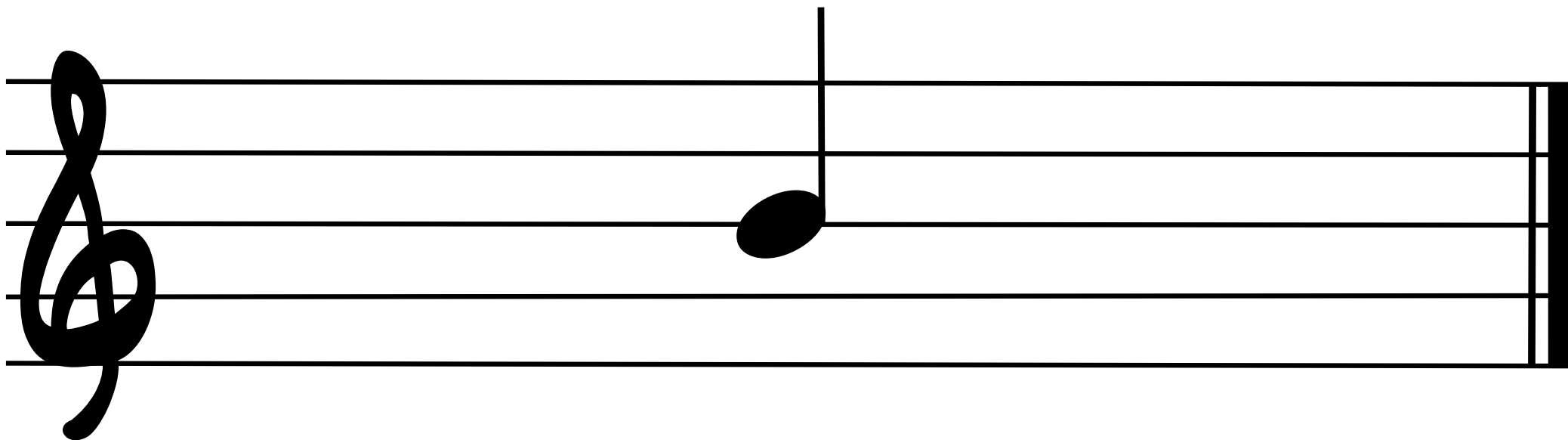
Ex 7ae - What is the pitch of the note?





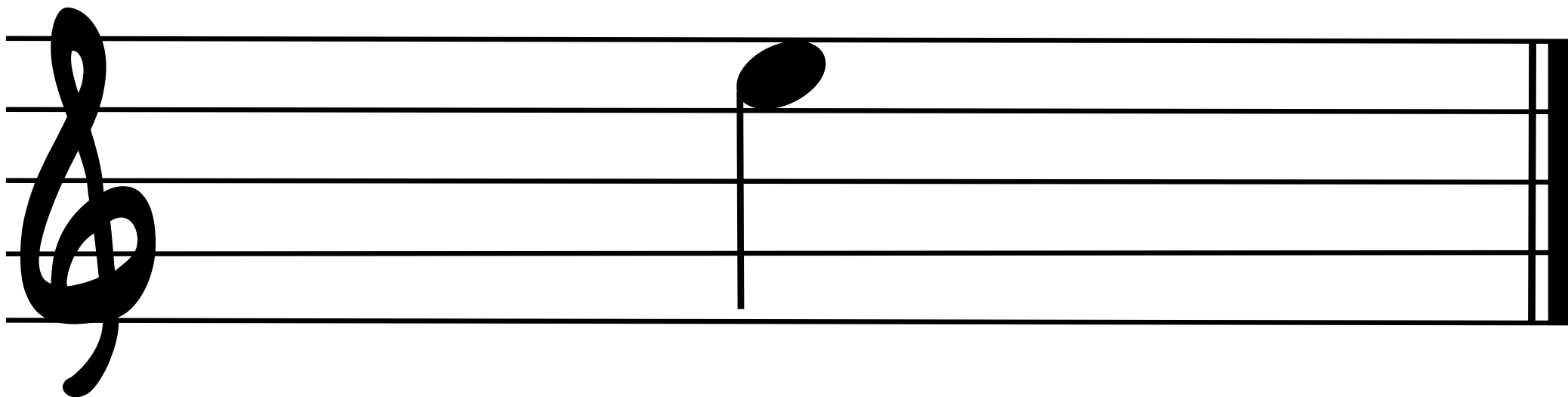
C

Ex 7af - What is the pitch of the note?



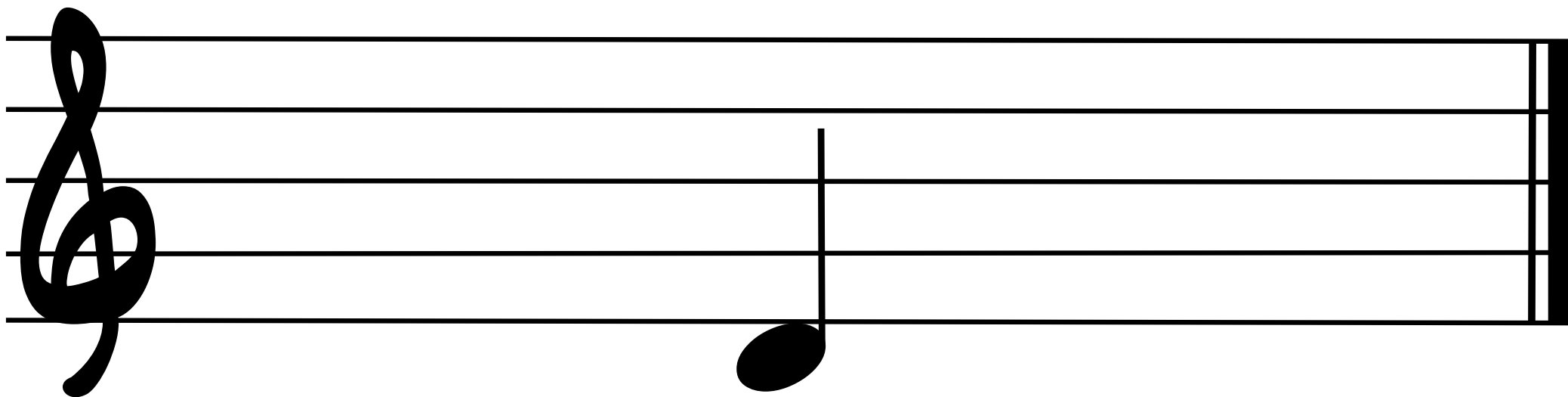
B

Ex 7ag - What is the pitch of the note?



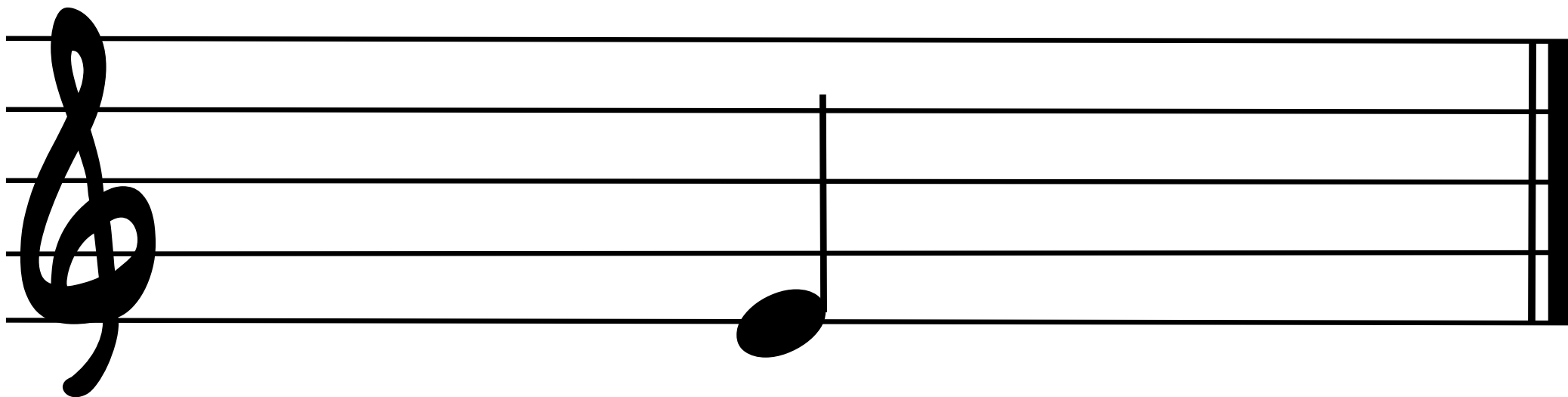
E

Ex 7ah - What is the pitch of the note?



D

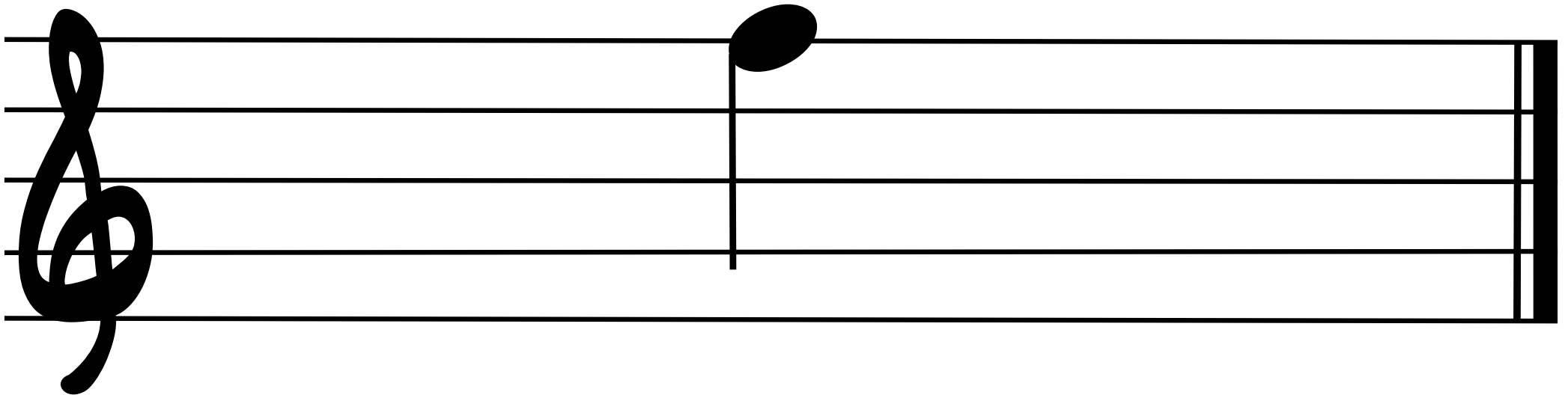
Ex 7ai - What is the pitch of the note?





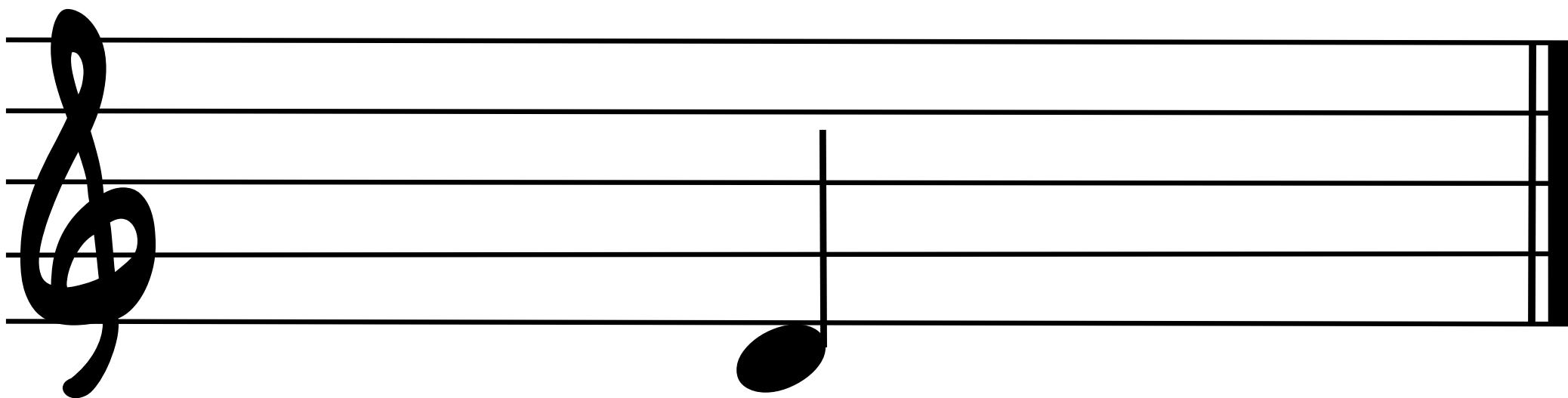
E

Ex 7aj - What is the pitch of the note?



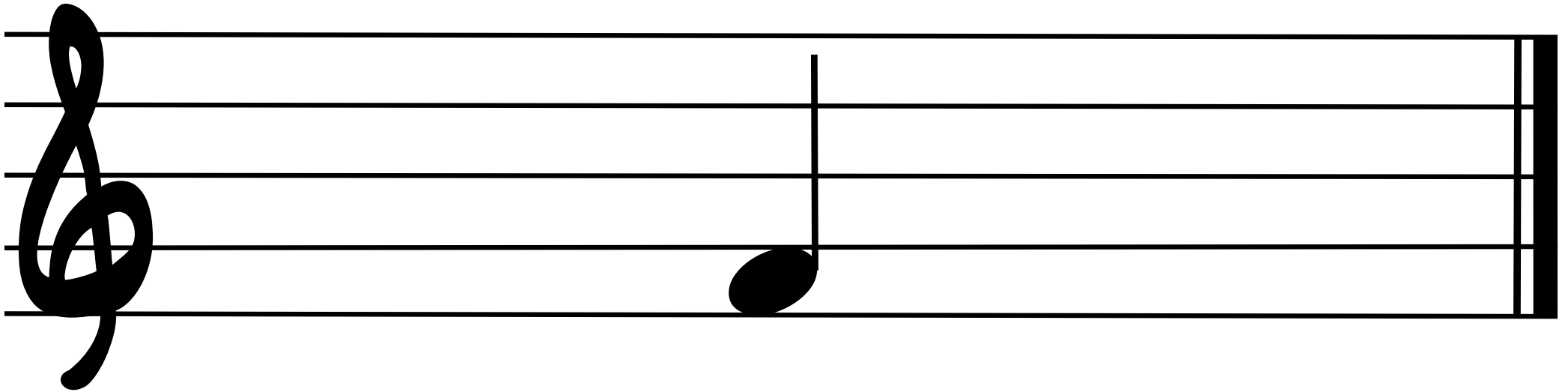
F

Ex 7ak - What is the pitch of the note?



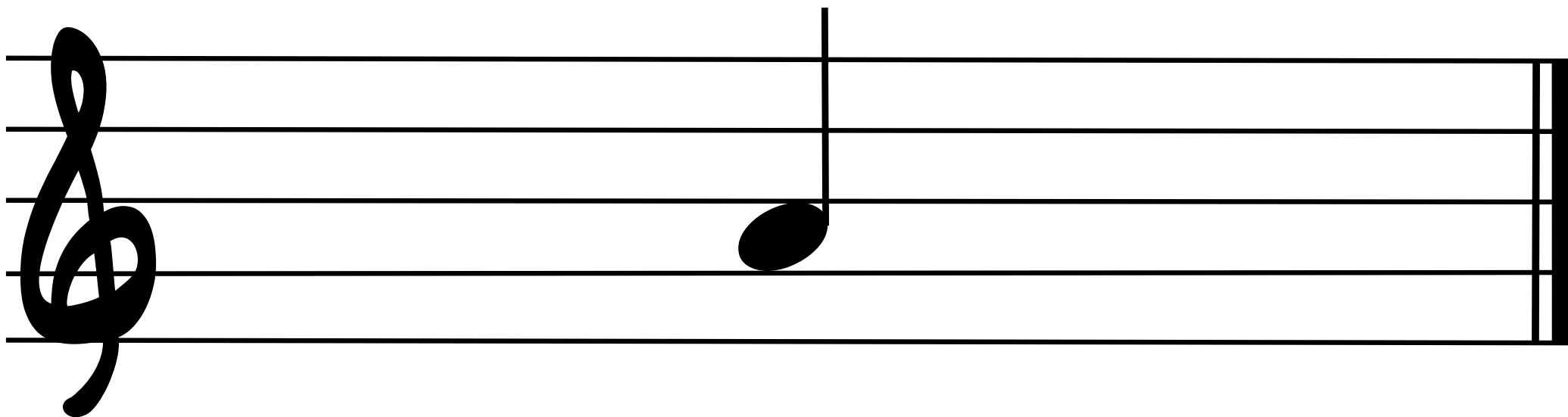
D

Ex 7a1 - What is the pitch of the note?



F

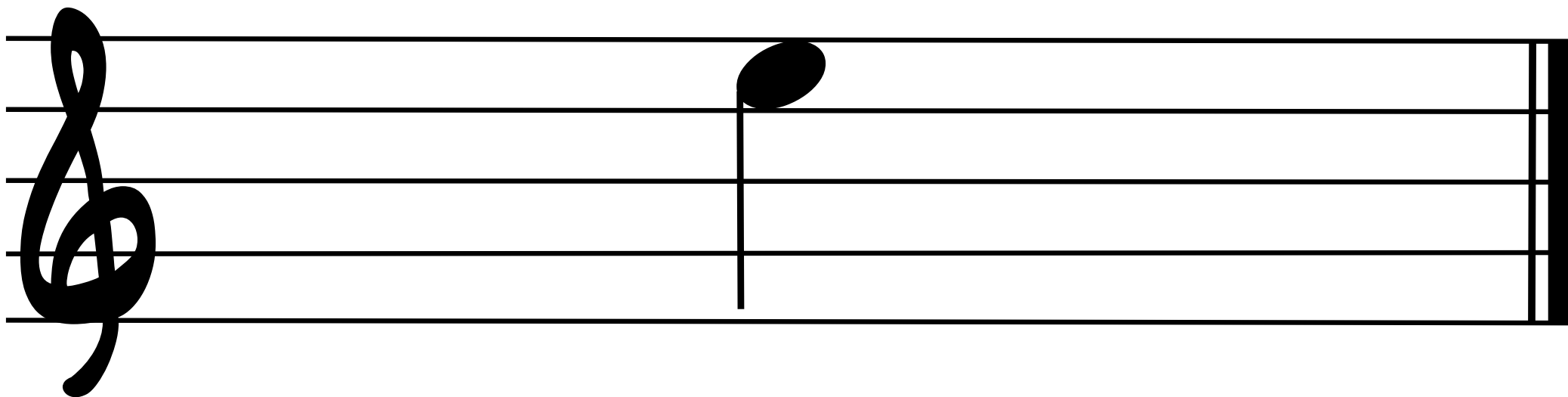
Ex 7am - What is the pitch of the note?





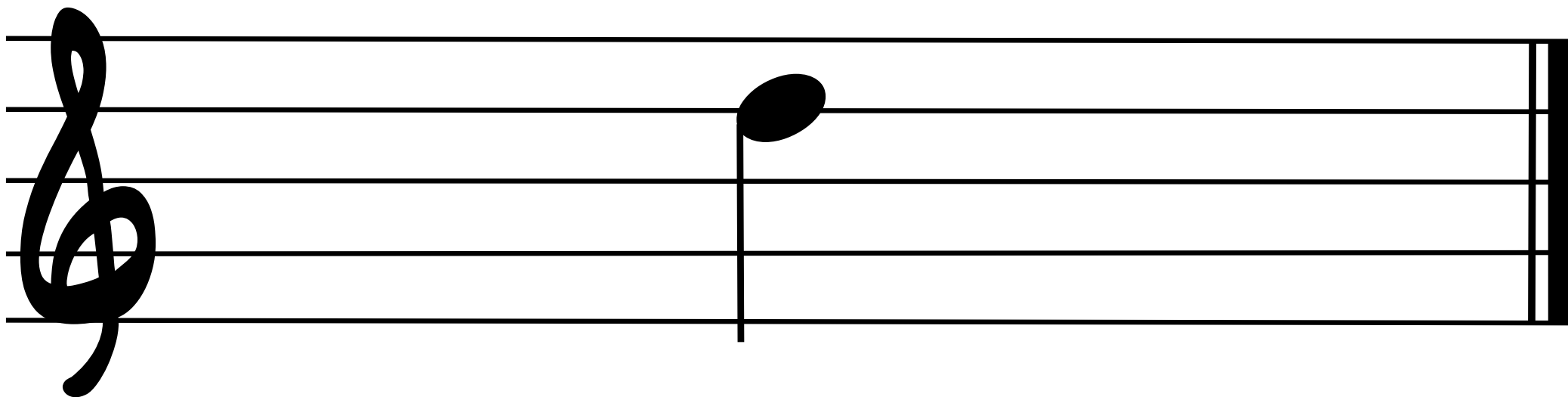
A

Ex 7an - What is the pitch of the note?



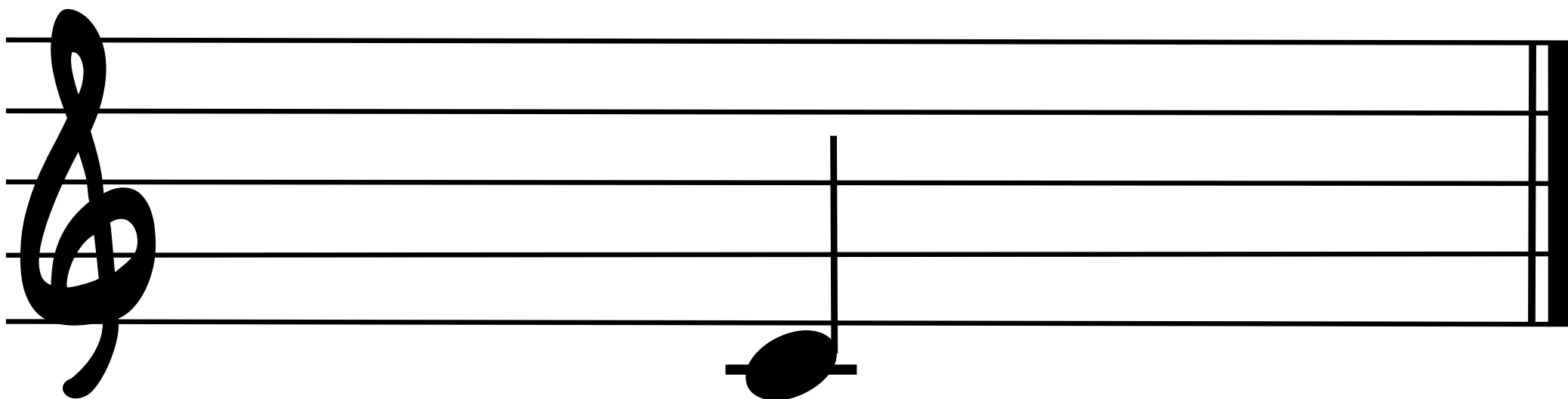
E

Ex 7ao - What is the pitch of the note?



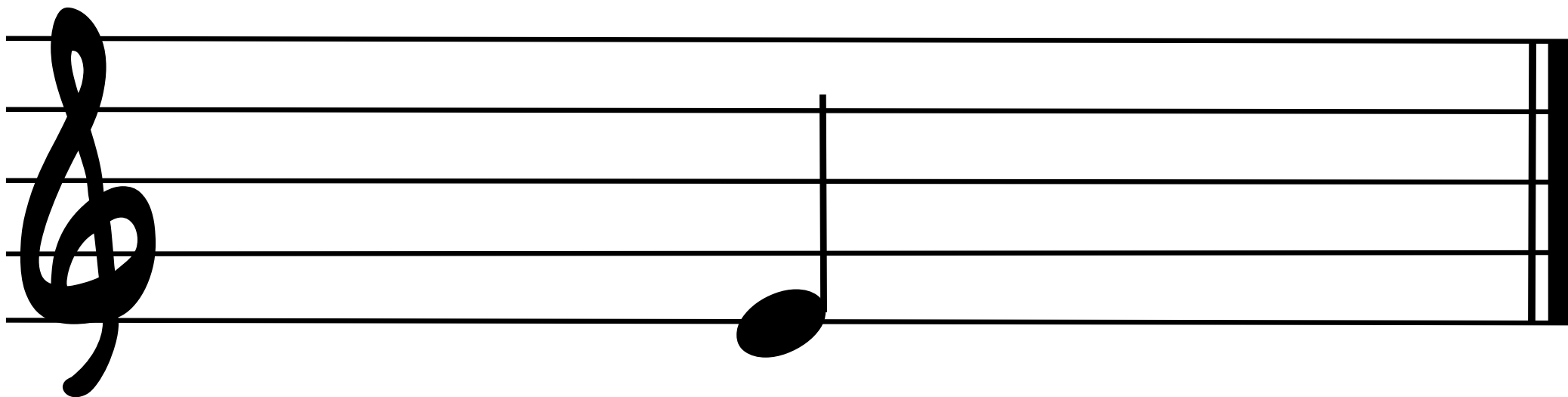
D

Ex 7ap - What is the pitch of the note?



C

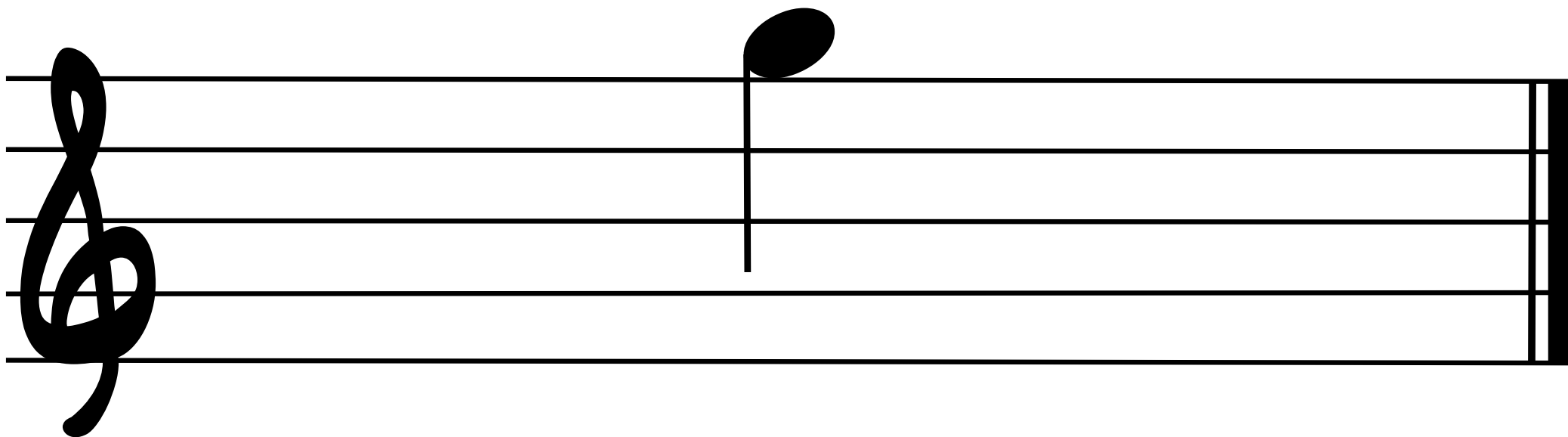
Ex 7aq - What is the pitch of the note?





E

Ex 7ar - What is the pitch of the note?



G

## Section Seven - Key Points

The **pitch** of the **Line Notes** can be **remembered** using:

**E**very **G**reen **B**us **D**rives **F**ast



The **pitch** of the **Space Notes** can be **remembered** using:

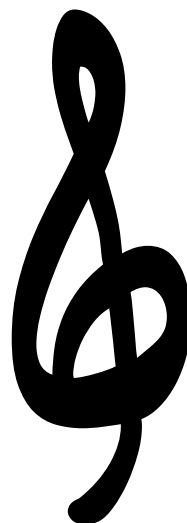
**F** **A** **C** **E**



## **Section Eight - Clefs**

## **Clefs**

So far on every page at the beginning of each stave  
we have seen this symbol,



this is called a

**Treble Clef ...**

and this is called a **Bass Clef**.

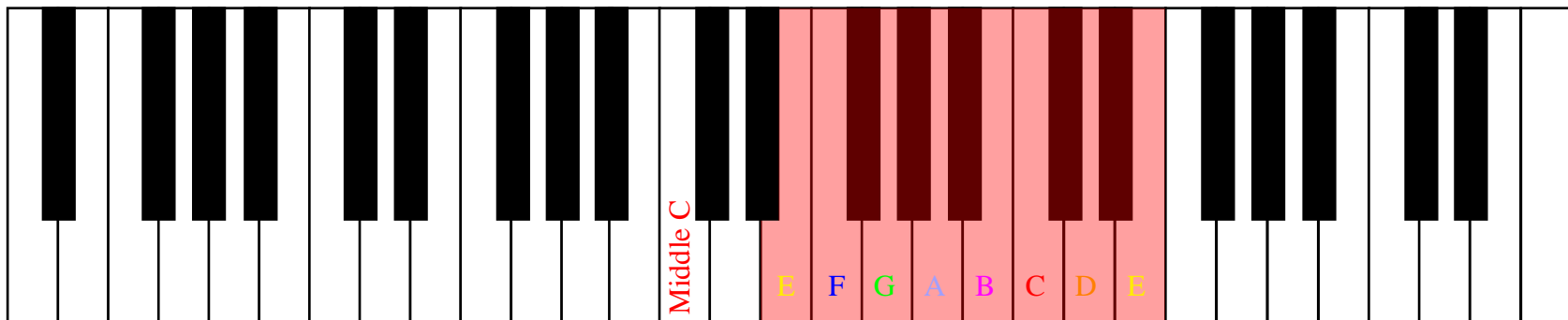
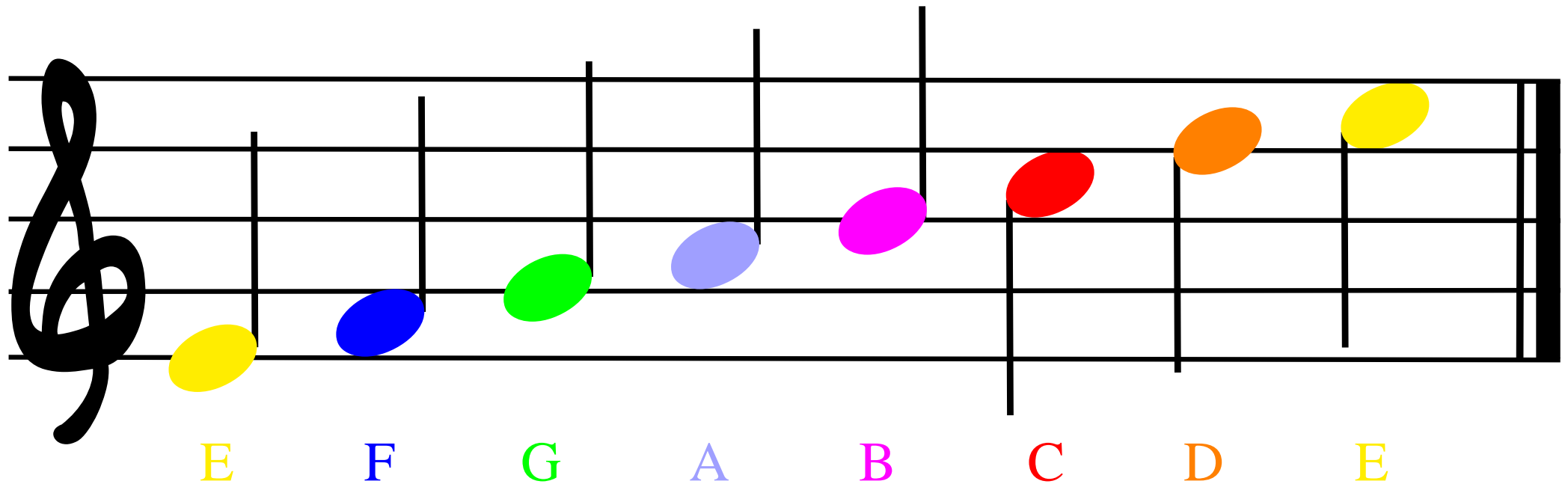


A clef indicates the range  
of note pitches that a stave will show.

For example .....

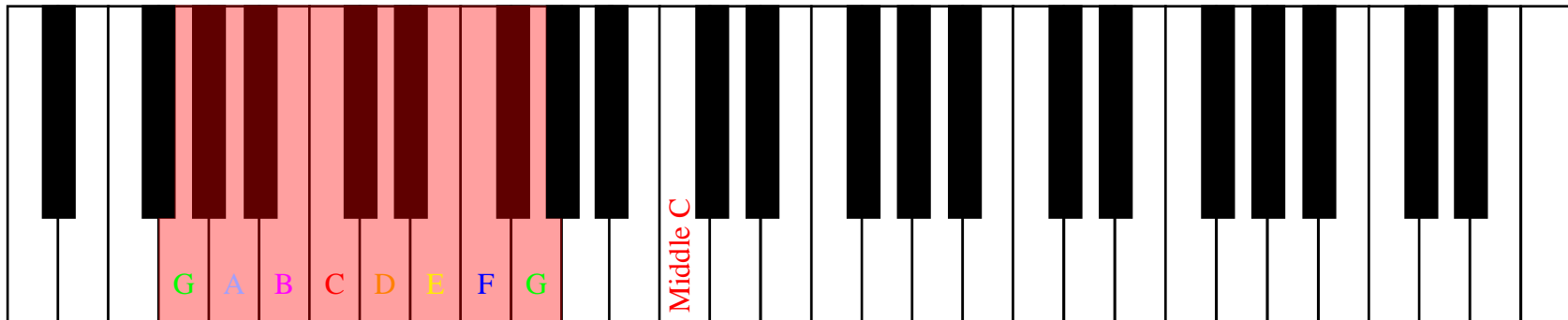
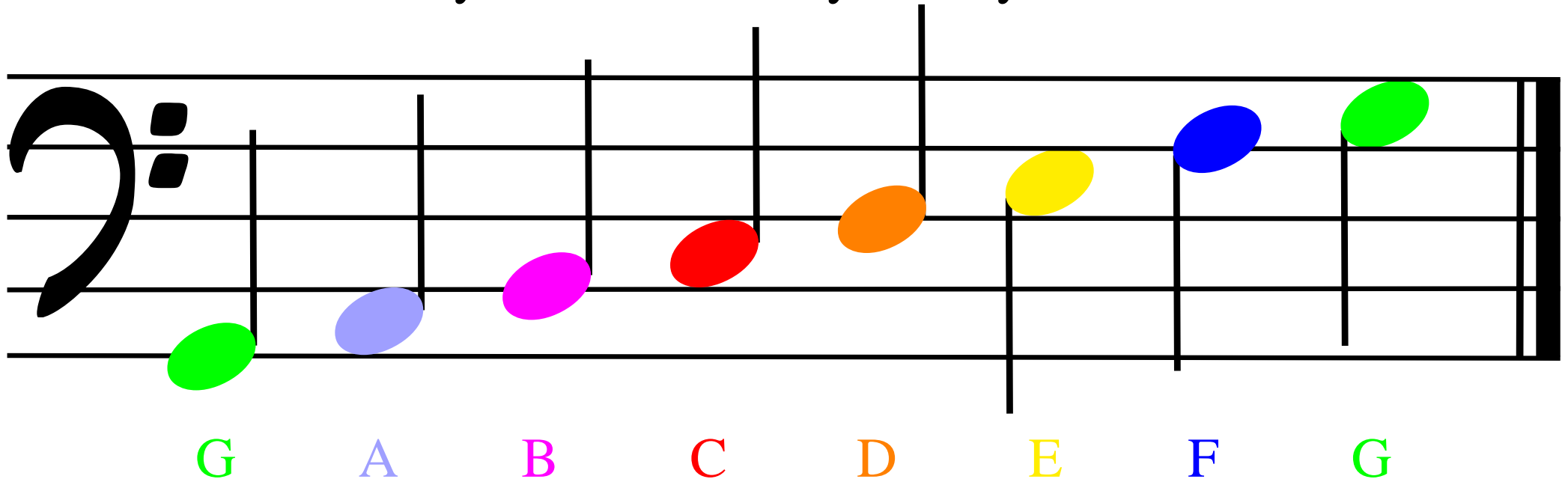


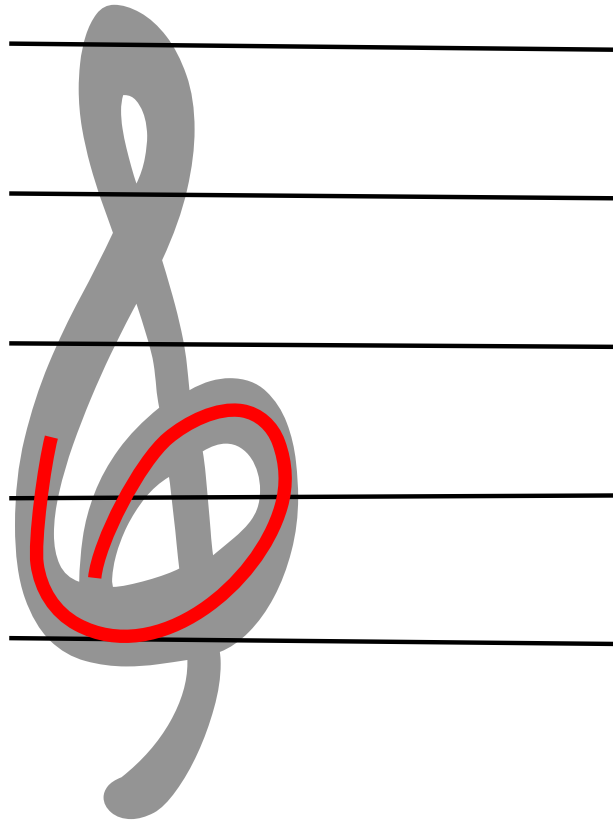
the bottom line to the top space on the treble clef  
stave covers the range shown below.  
Play these notes on your keyboard.



Shown below is the range that a **staff** with the **Bass Clef** covers. Notice that the **note letter names** are in a **different place** for the **Bass Clef** compared to the **Treble Clef**.

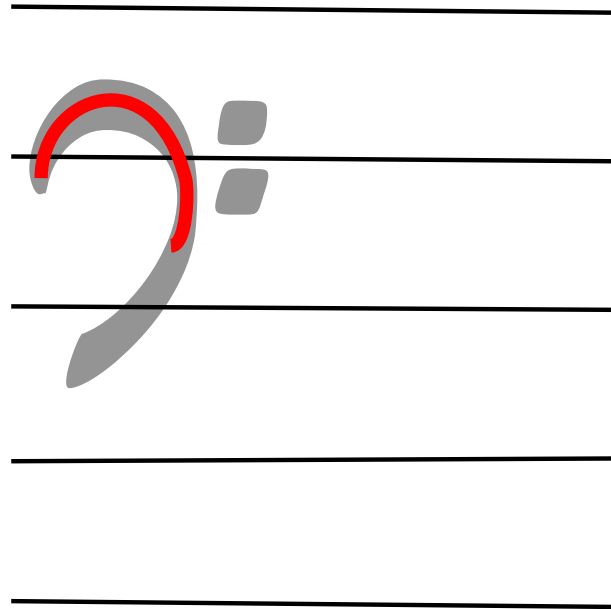
Play these notes on your keyboard.





The **Treble Clef** is also called the **G Clef**. This is because it starts by circling around the line that the note G goes on.

If you remember it circles around the **G note line** it can help you remember where the notes are on the **Treble Clef Staff**.



The **Bass Clef** is also called the **F Clef**. This is because it starts by **circling around** the line that the **note F** goes on.

If you remember it circles around the **F note line** it can help you remember where the notes are on the **Bass Clef Stave**.

## Section Eight - Key Points

A **clef** is **written** at the **start** of the **stave**.

A **clef** indicates the **range** of note pitches that a **stave** will **show**.

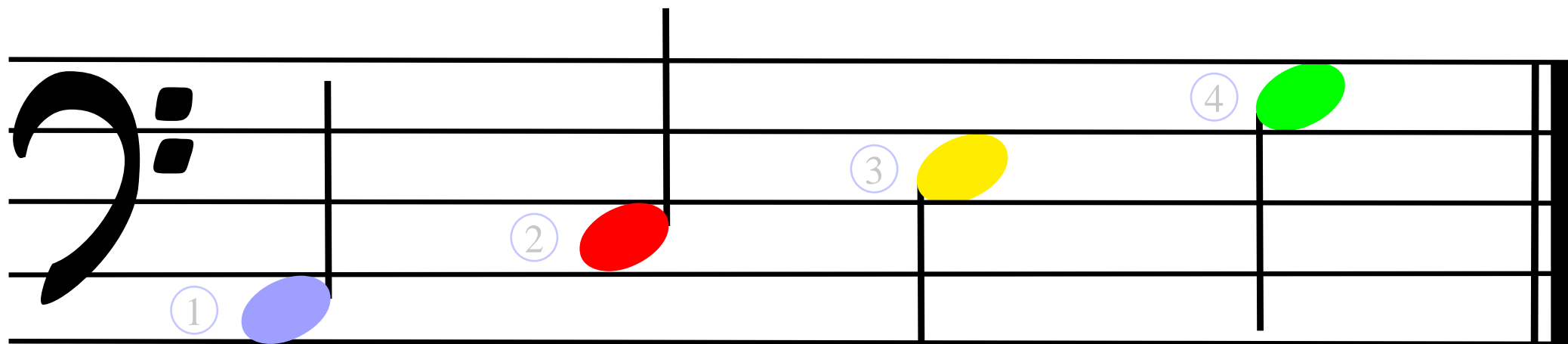
## **Section Nine - The Bass Clef Note Pitches.**

The following pages deal with Bass Clef pitches on the staff.

Trying to learn both staves at the same time might be confusing.

You might find it easier to study the Bass Clef separately from the Treble Clef and only once you start to become reasonably familiar with the Treble Clef pitches.

To learn the Bass Clef space notes you can use the words below...

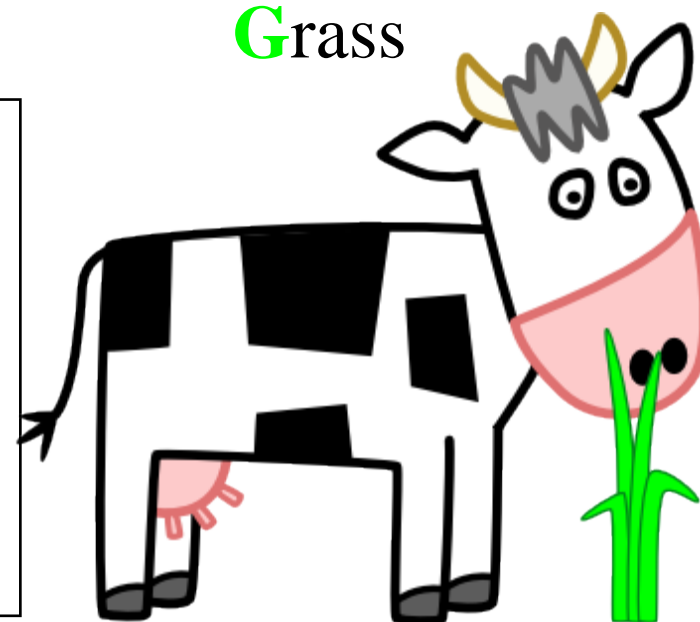
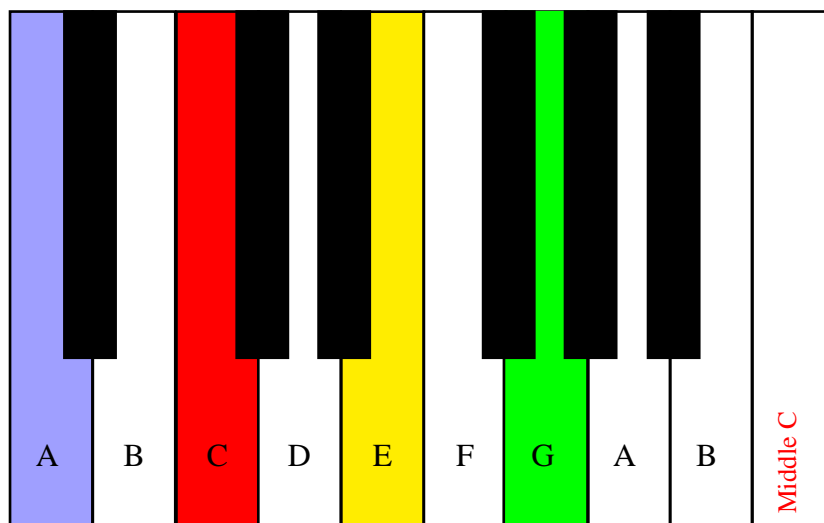


All

Cows

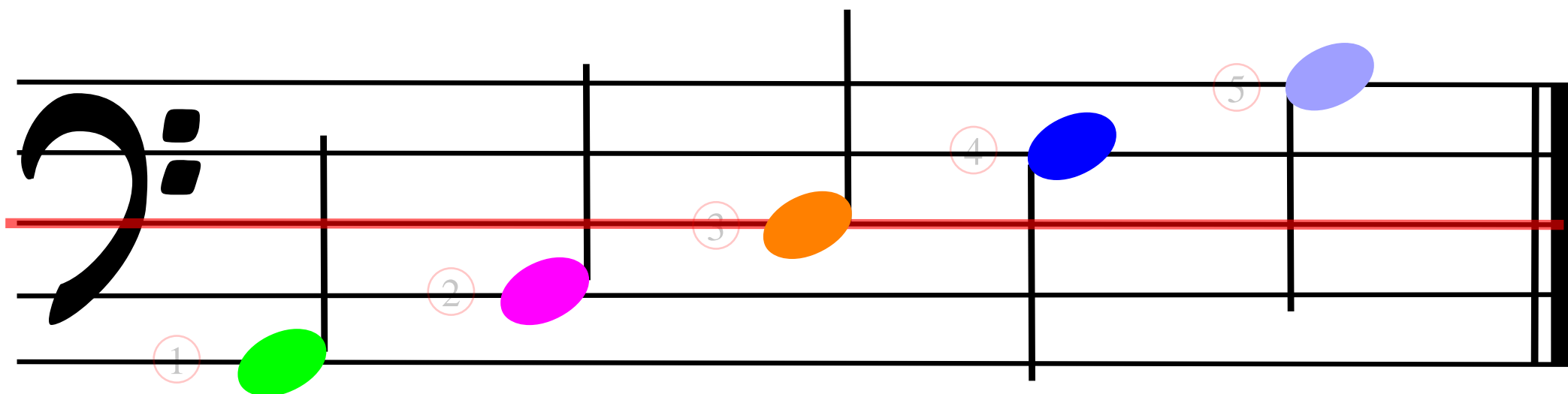
Eat

Grass





and the Bass Clef line notes can be remembered using these words.



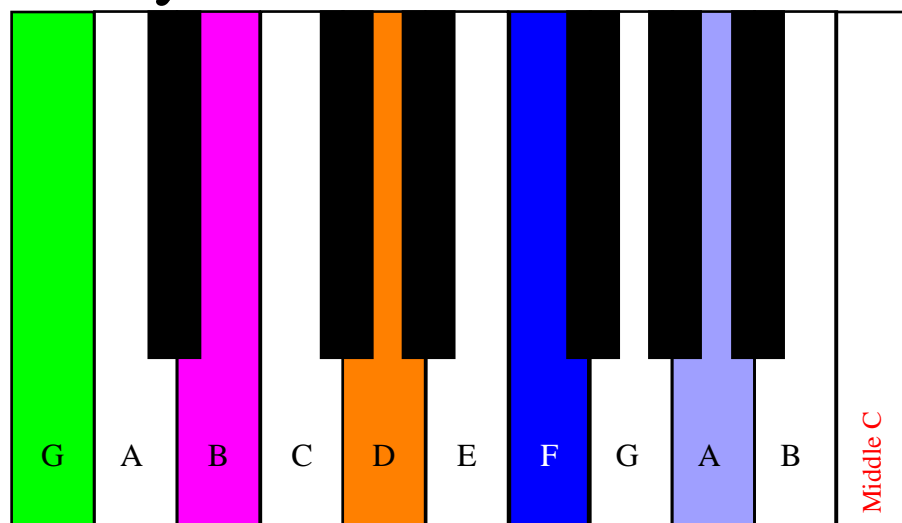
**G**ood

**B**oys

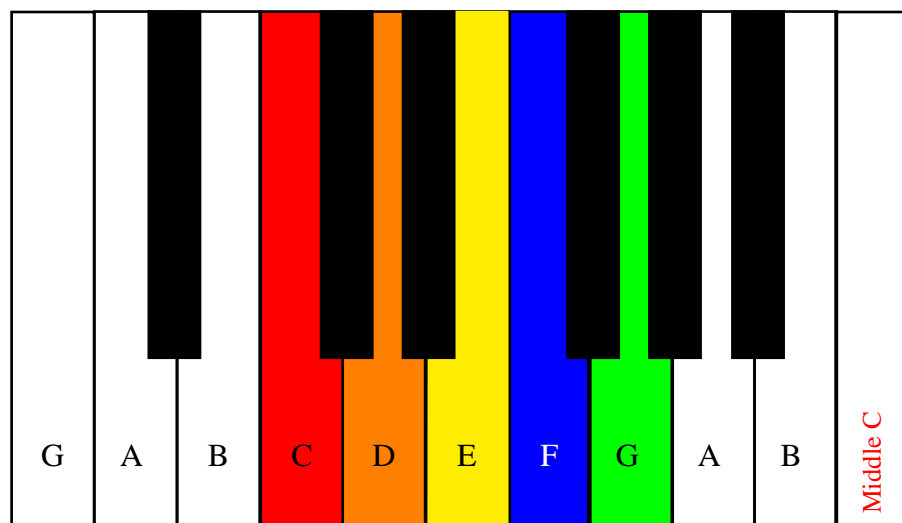
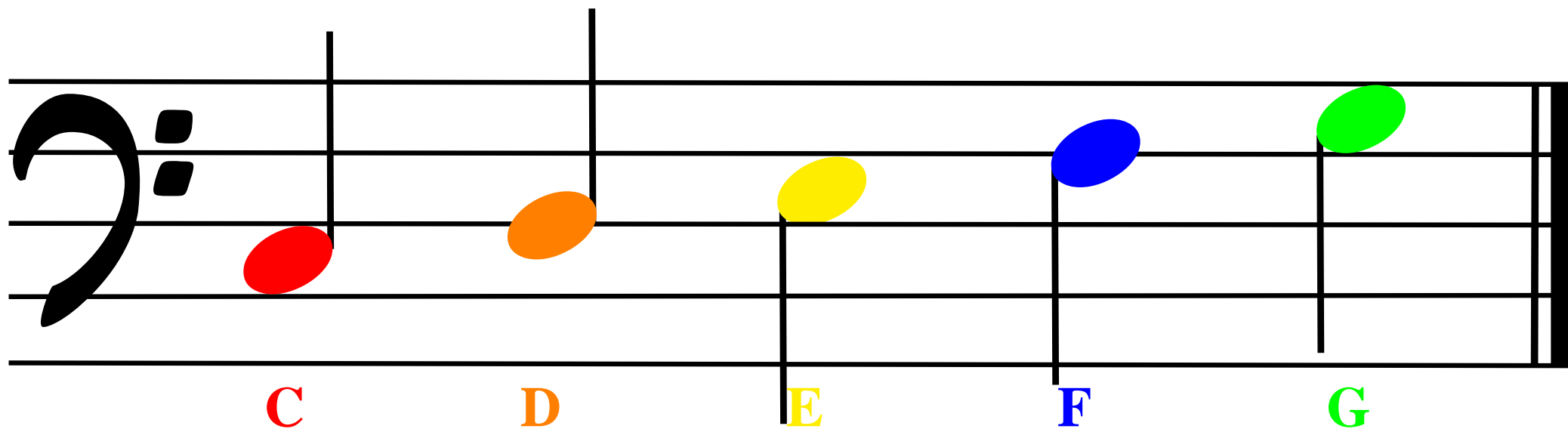
**D**eserve

**F**ine

**A**pples



Use this chart to help you learn your first Bass Clef notes. When you know these notes use the chart on the next page to learn more.



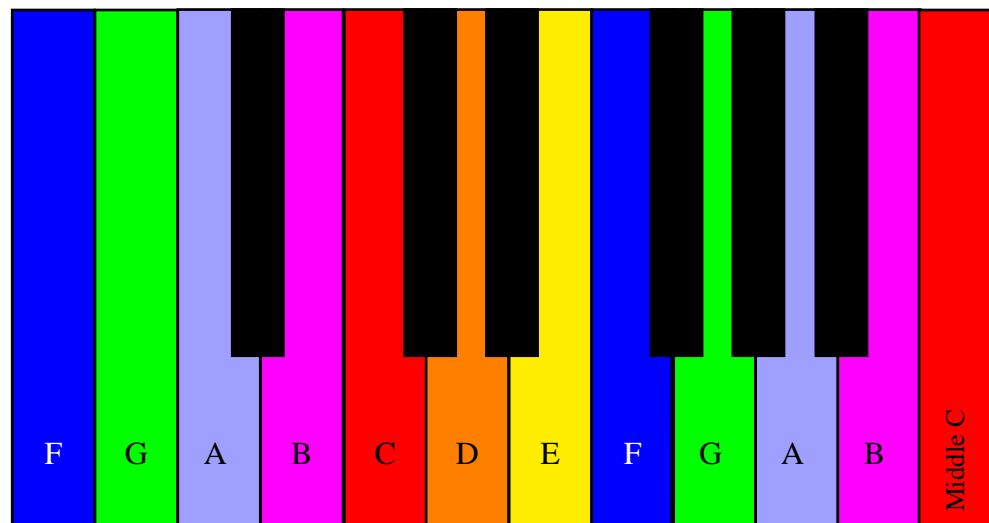
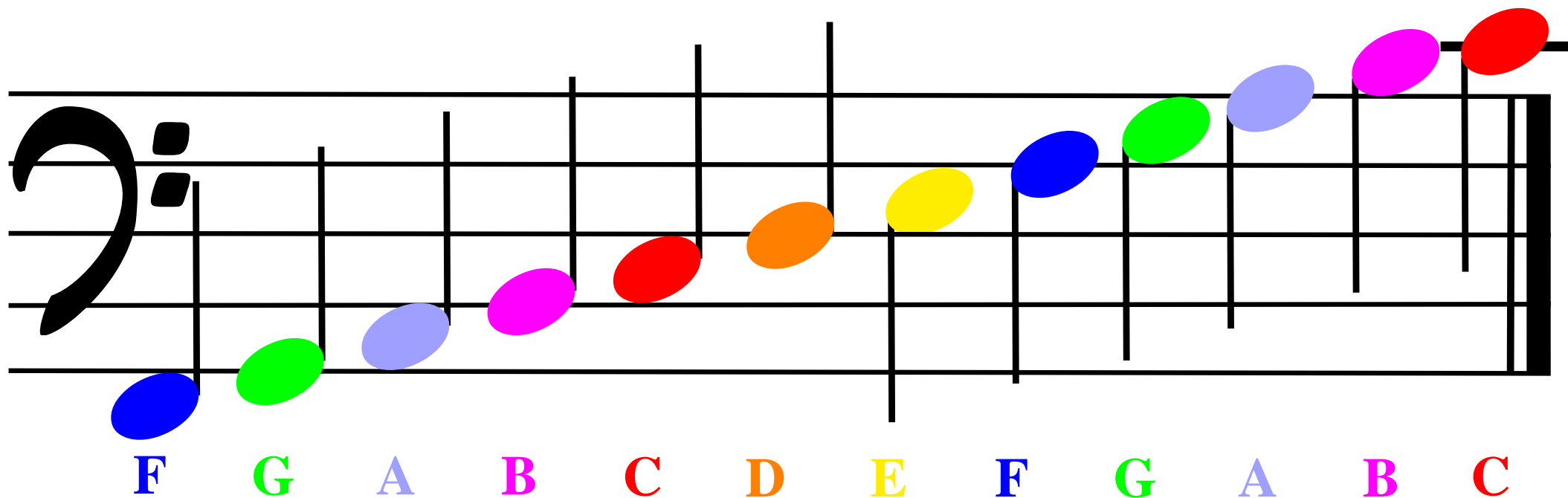
# Use this chart to learn more notes when you have learnt the notes on the previous page.

This page can be used to introduce the C major scale left hand

A musical staff in bass clef showing the C major scale. The notes are represented by colored ovals with stems: C (red), D (orange), E (yellow), F (blue), G (green), A (light blue), B (magenta), and C (red). The notes are positioned on the staff lines as follows: C on the first space, D on the second line, E on the second space, F on the third line, G on the third space, A on the fourth line, B on the fourth space, and C on the fifth line.

A diagram of a piano keyboard showing the C major scale notes. The keys are colored: C (red), D (orange), E (yellow), F (blue), G (green), A (light blue), B (magenta), and Middle C (red). The diagram shows the sequence of white keys in the C major scale, with black keys in between.

Use this chart to learn more notes when you have learnt the notes on the previous page.



## **Exercise 9**

Use the following pages to test yourself in recognising Bass Clef note pitches on the staff.

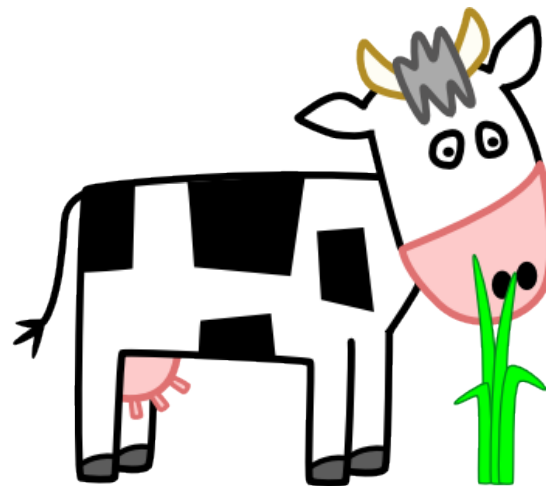
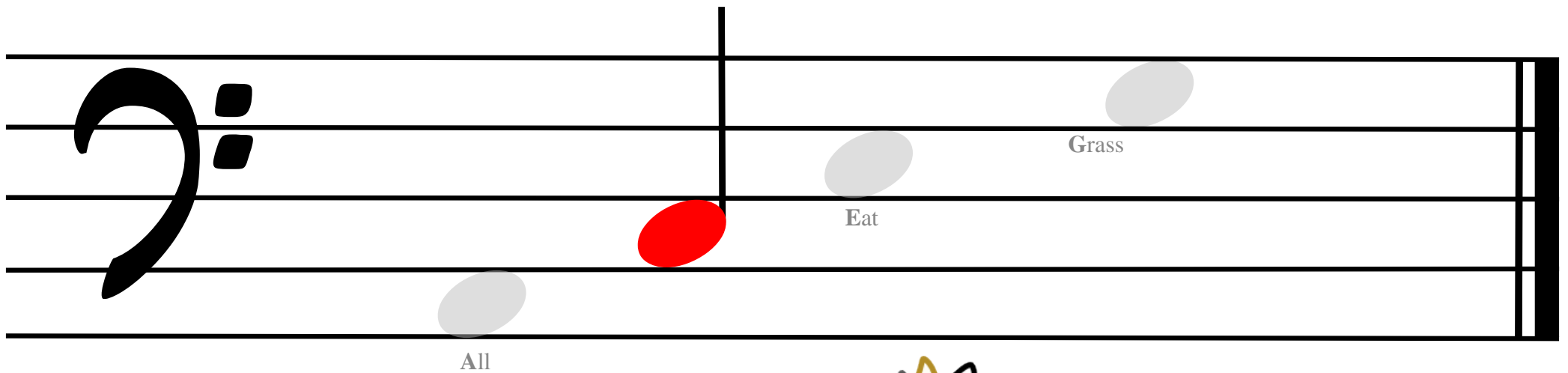
At first identify where the note is (see section 2) and then say out loud what the note is.

After each test the answer is given.

Then go through each page again and just try to say what the note is as quickly as possible and play the note on your keyboard.

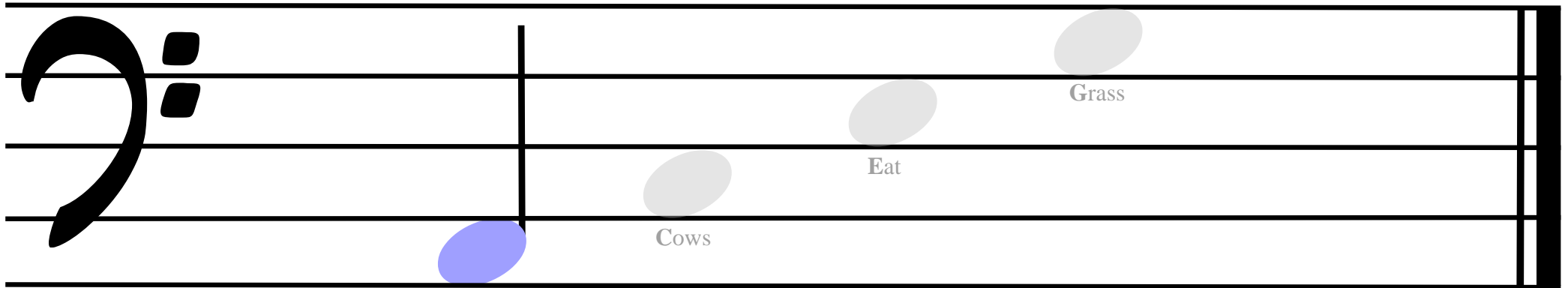
Keep practising the tests until you can say and play each note correctly without hesitation.

# Ex 9a - What is the pitch of the note?



C

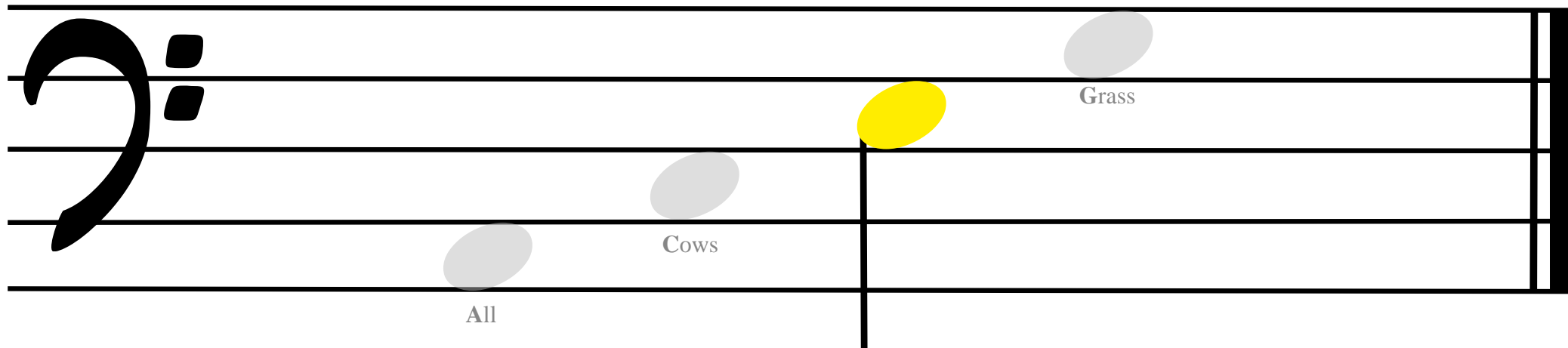
Ex 9b - What is the pitch of the note?





A

Ex 9c - What is the pitch of the note?



E

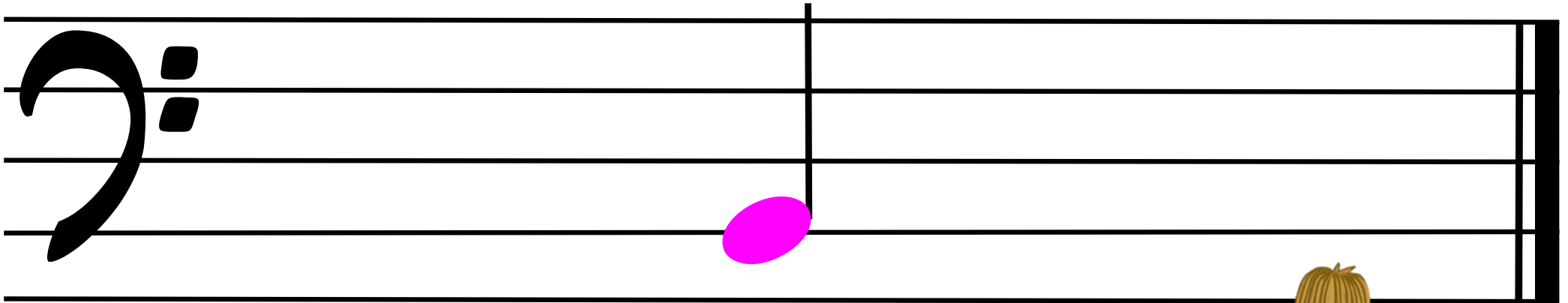
# Ex 9d - What is the pitch of the note?

A musical staff with a bass clef on the left. A vertical bar line is positioned between the second and third lines from the bottom. A blue oval note is placed on the second line from the bottom. Four labels are positioned at different heights: 'Good' is on the bottom line, 'Boys' is between the bottom and first lines, 'Deserve' is between the first and second lines, and 'Apples' is between the second and third lines. Each label is accompanied by a light gray oval shadow.



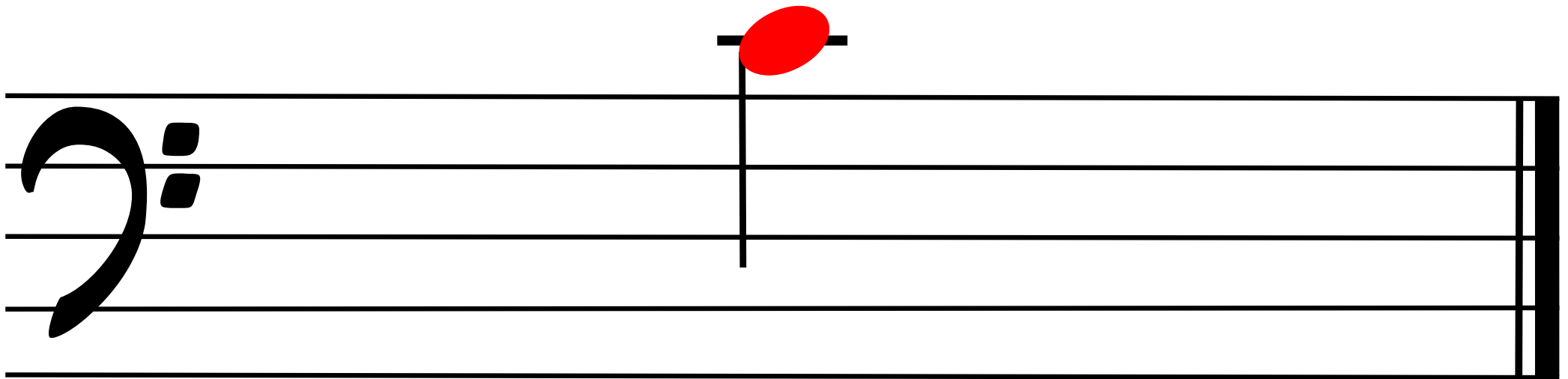
F

Ex 9e - What is the pitch of the note?



B

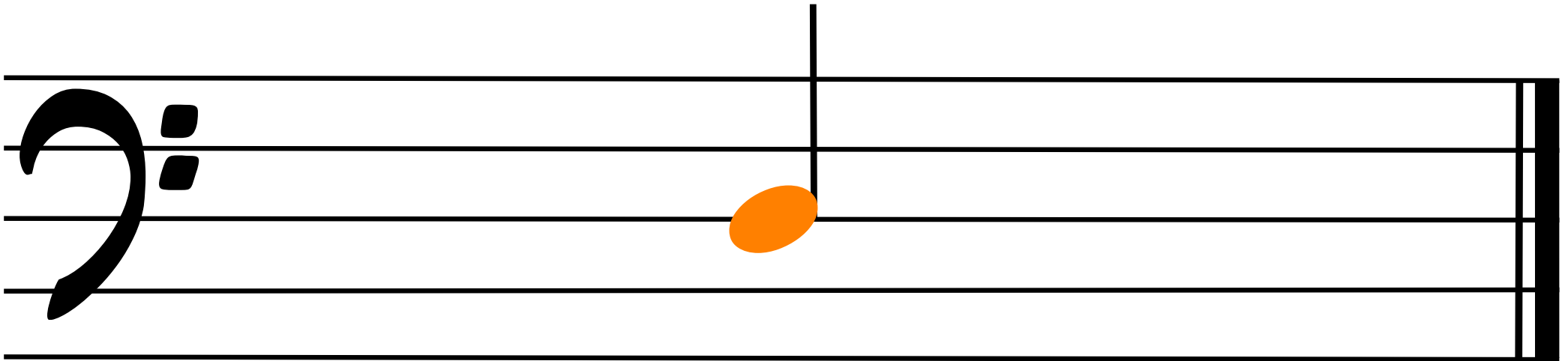
Ex 9f - What is the pitch of the note?





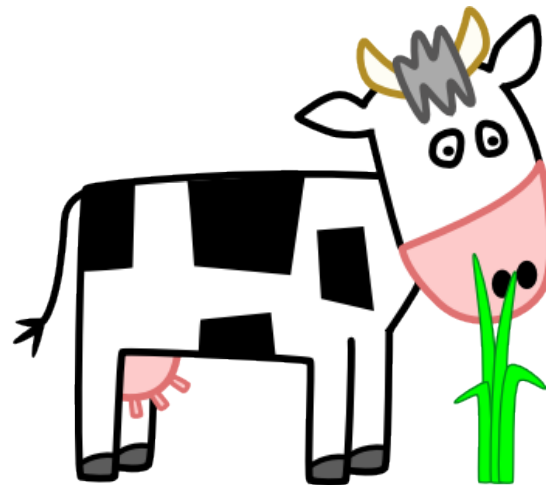
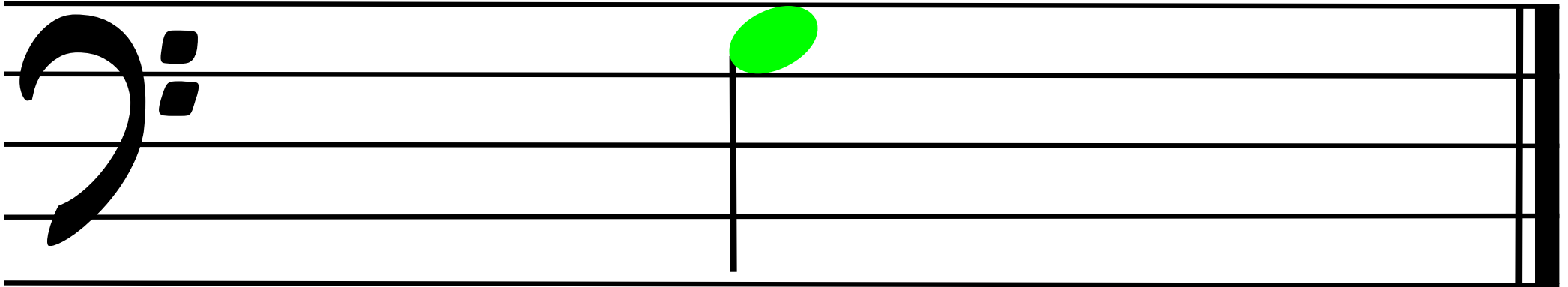
C

Ex 9g - What is the pitch of the note?



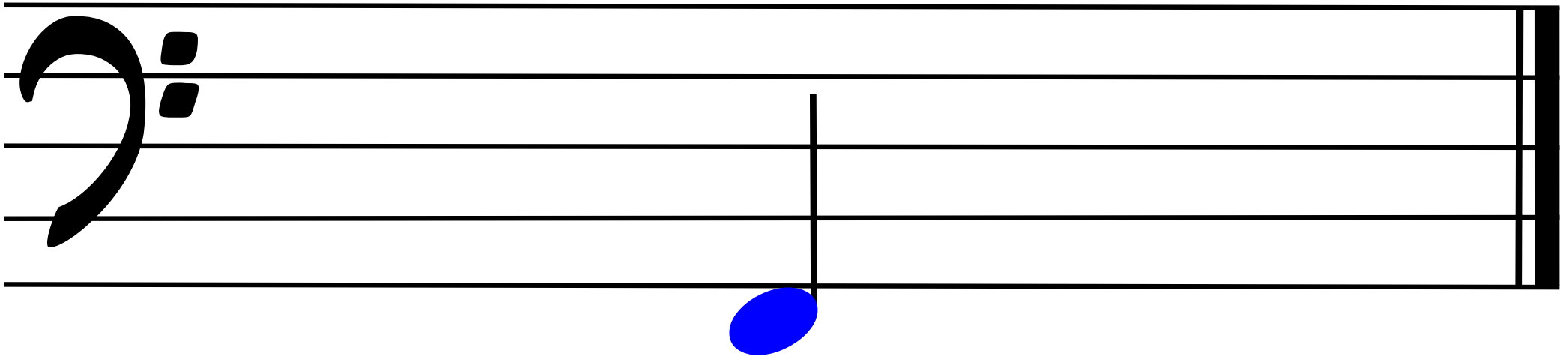
D

Ex 9h - What is the pitch of the note?



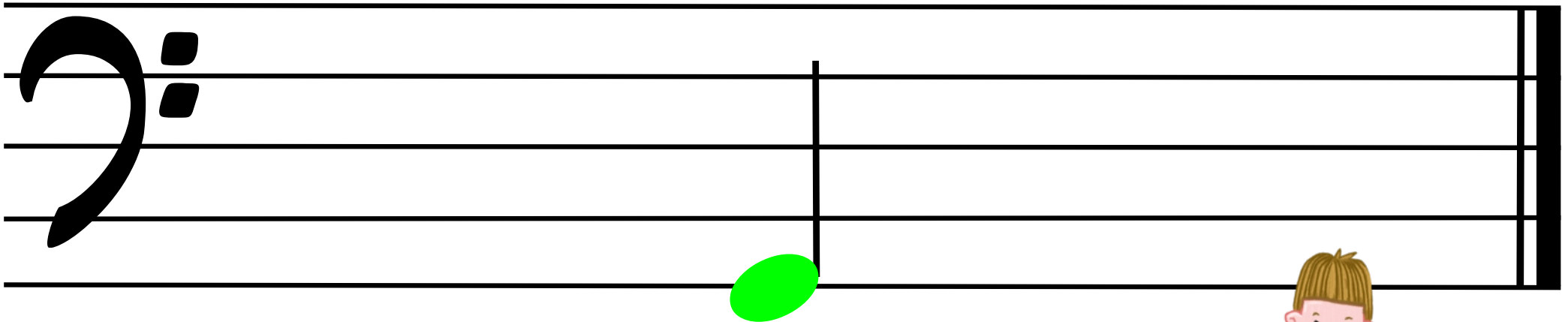
G

Ex 9i - What is the pitch of the note?



F

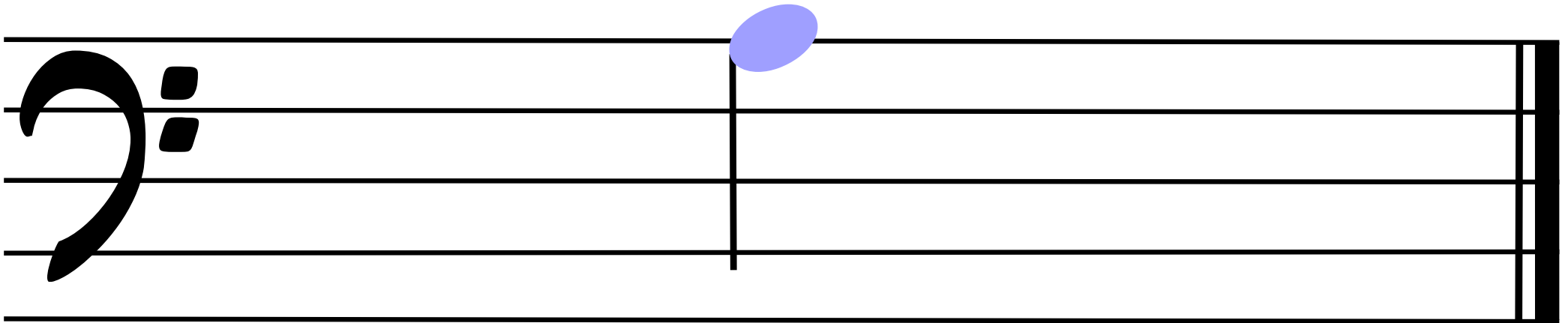
Ex 9j - What is the pitch of the note?





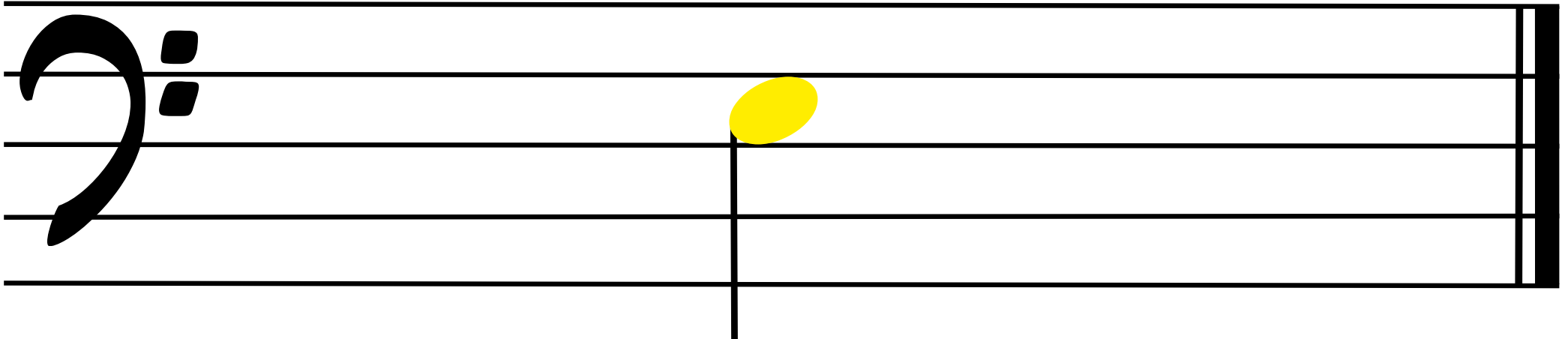
G

Ex 9k - What is the pitch of the note?



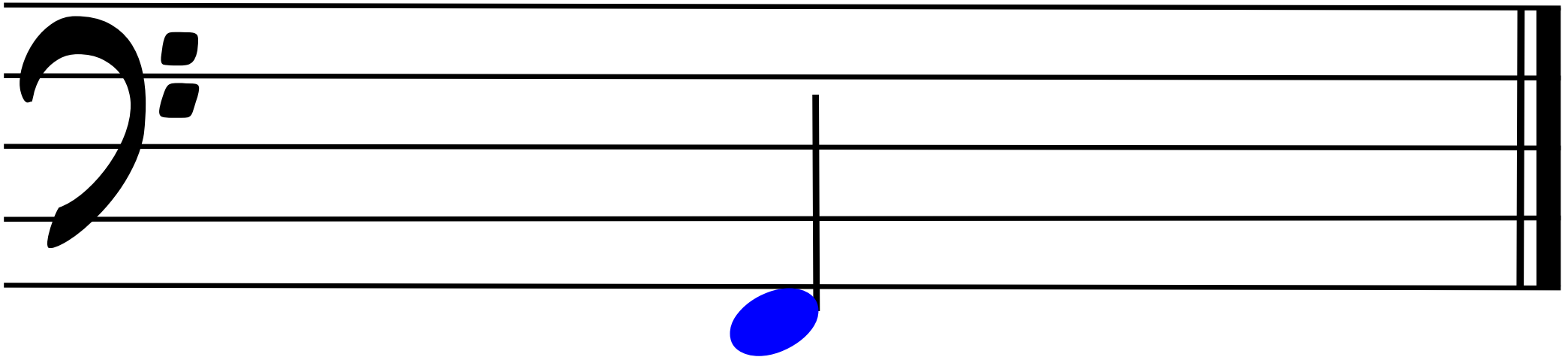
A

Ex 91 - What is the pitch of the note?



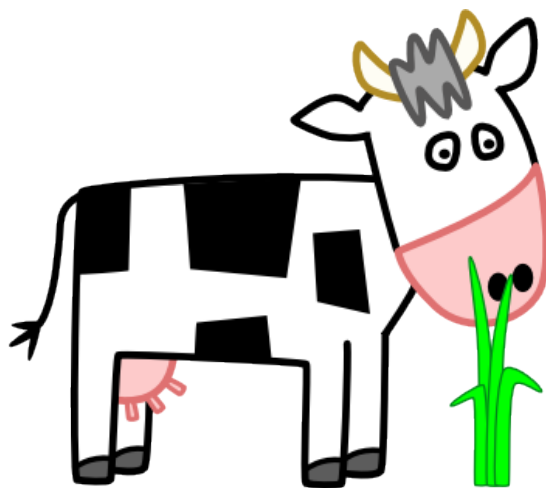
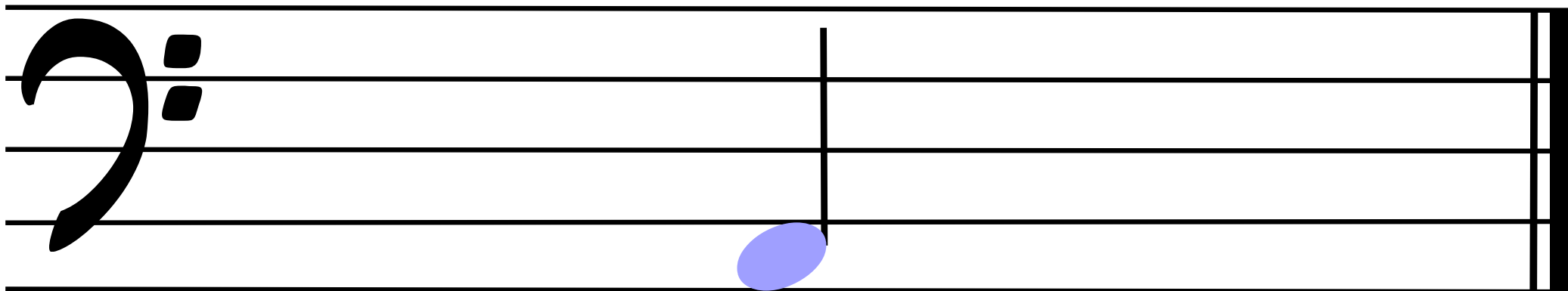
E

Ex 9m - What is the pitch of the note?



F

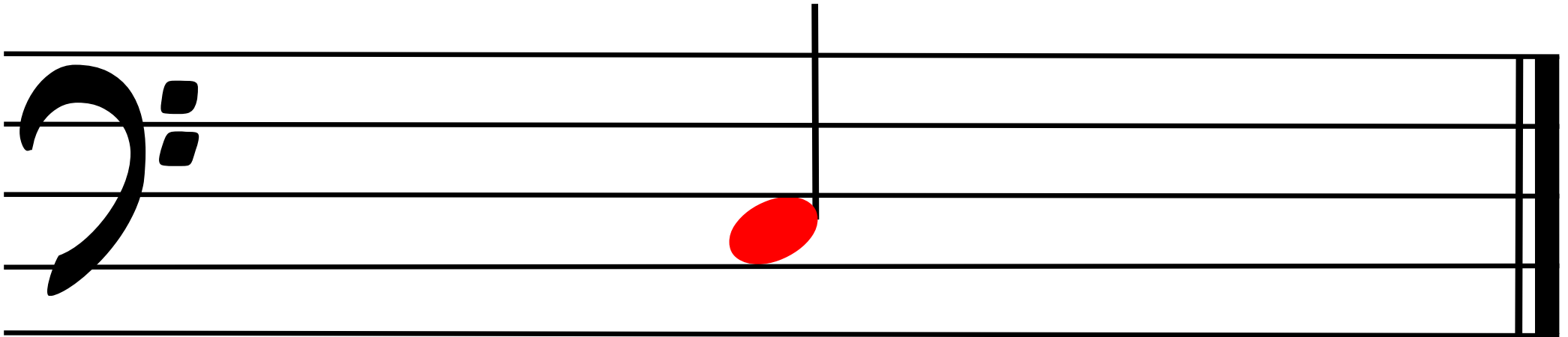
Ex 9n - What is the pitch of the note?





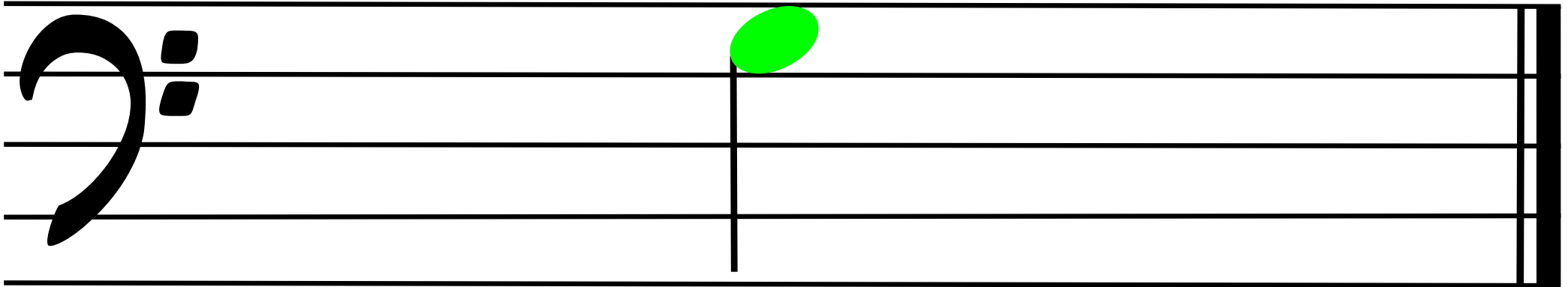
A

Ex 90 - What is the pitch of the note?



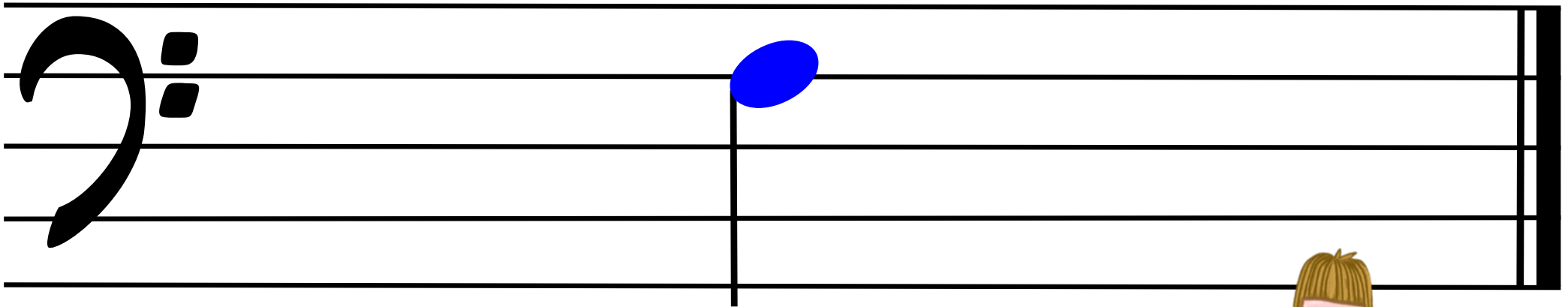
C

Ex 9p - What is the pitch of the note?



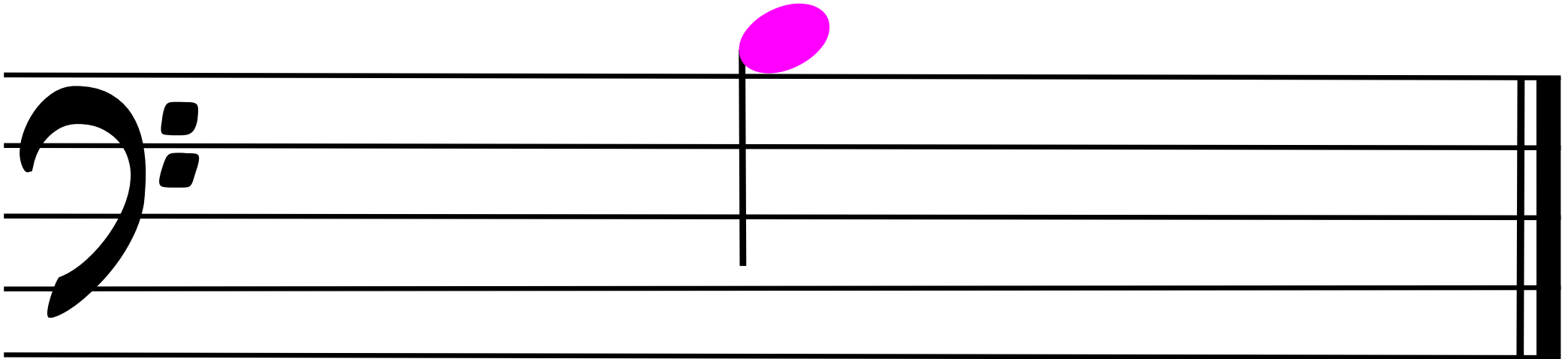
G

Ex 9q - What is the pitch of the note?



F

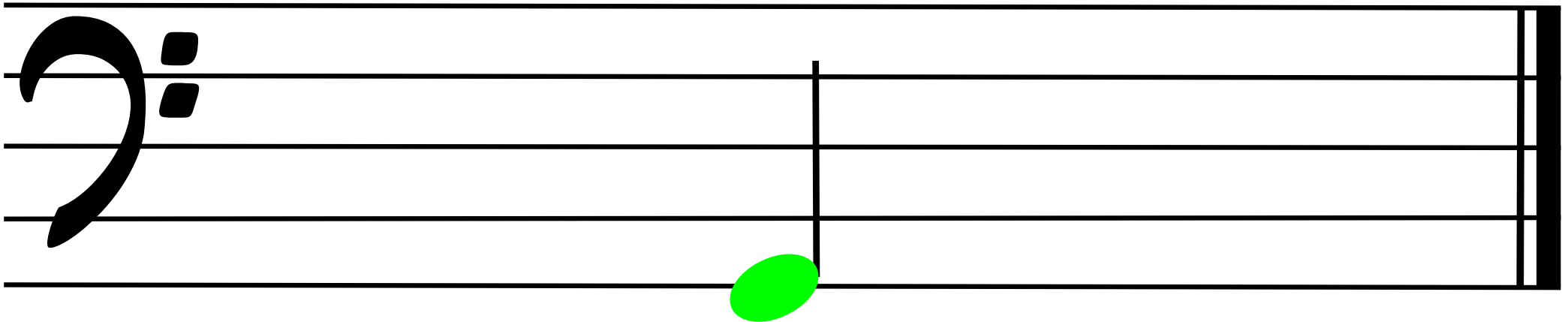
Ex 9r - What is the pitch of the note?





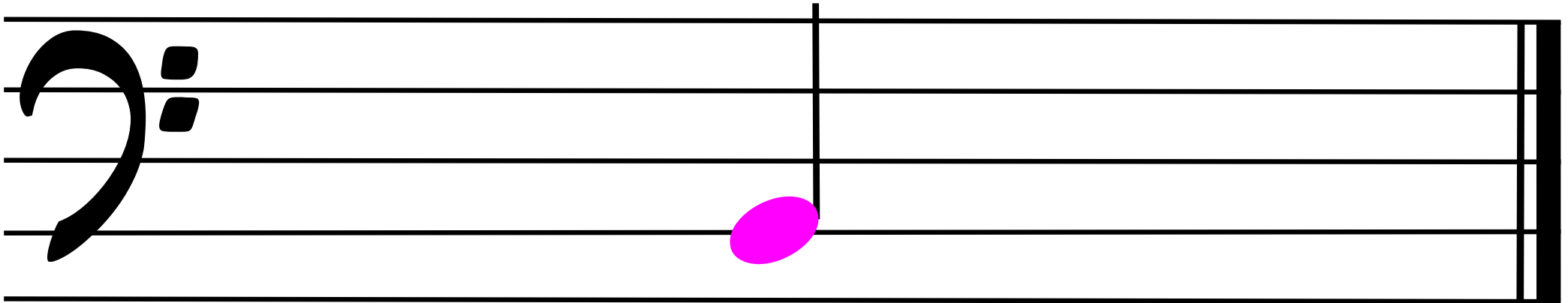
B

Ex 9s - What is the pitch of the note?



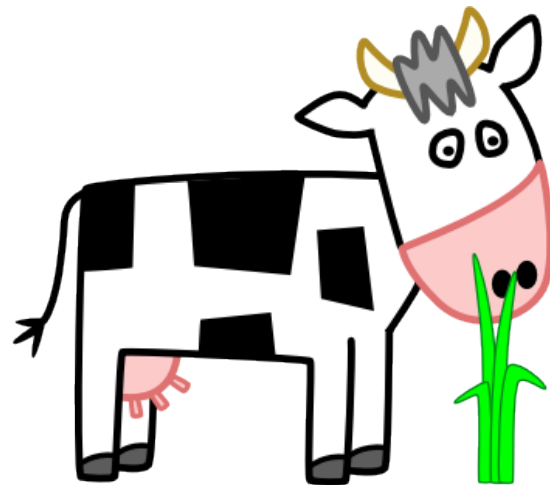
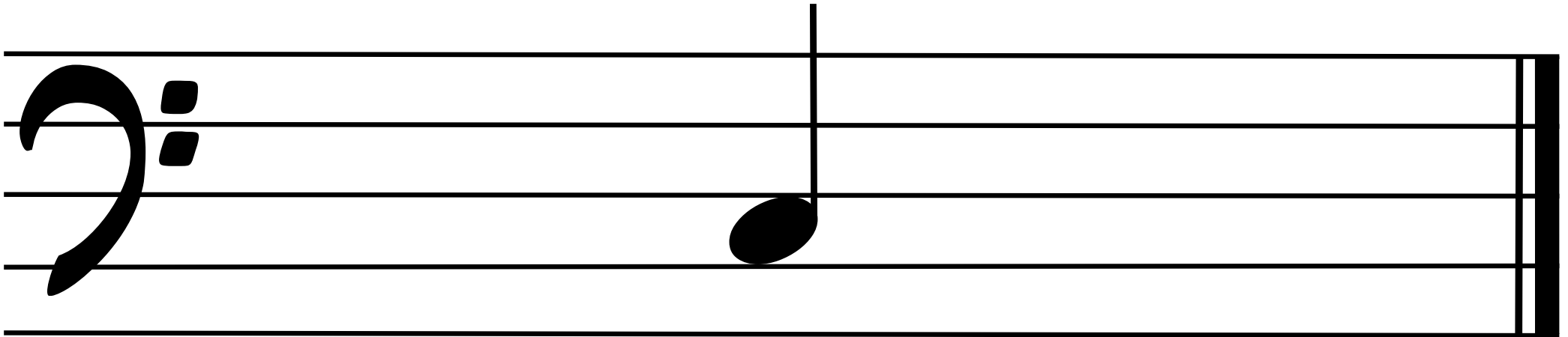
G

Ex 9t - What is the pitch of the note?



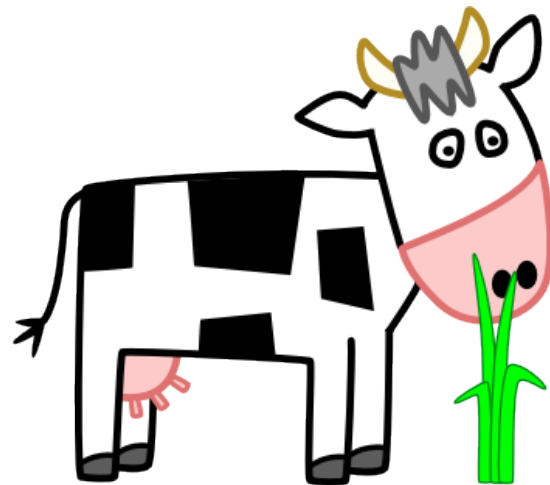
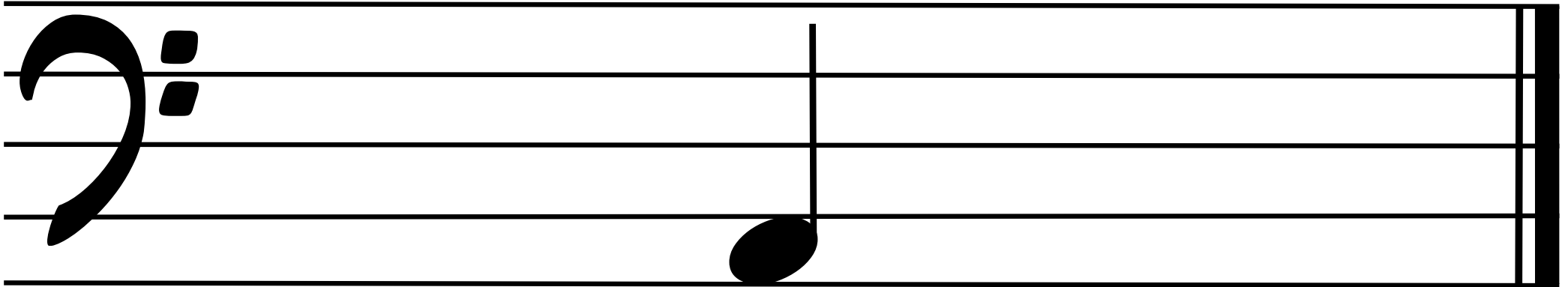
B

Ex 9u - What is the pitch of the note?



C

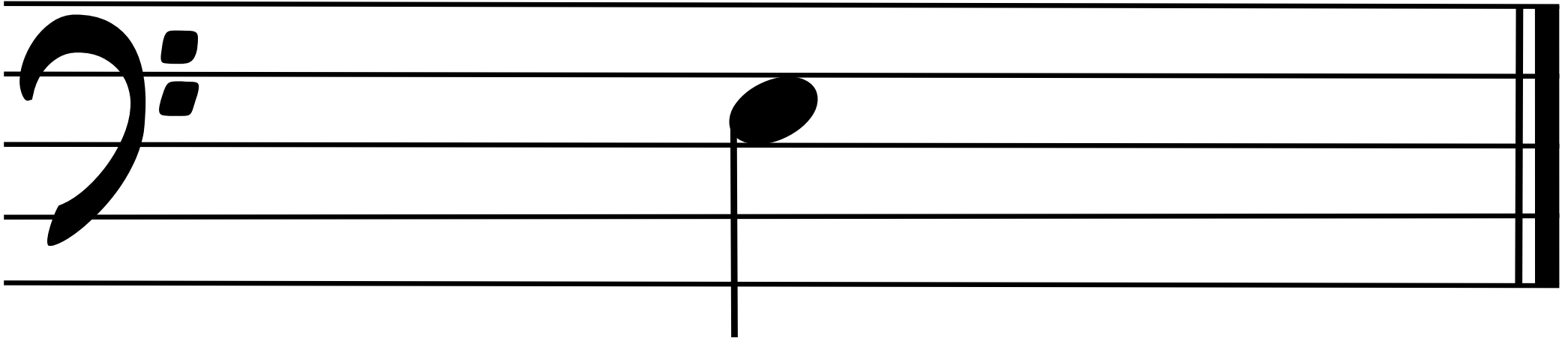
Ex 9v - What is the pitch of the note?





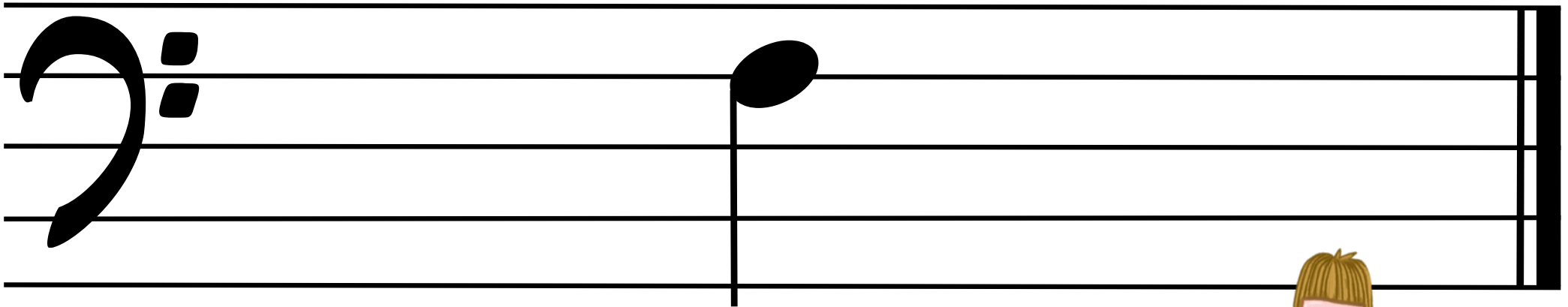
A

Ex 9w - What is the pitch of the note?



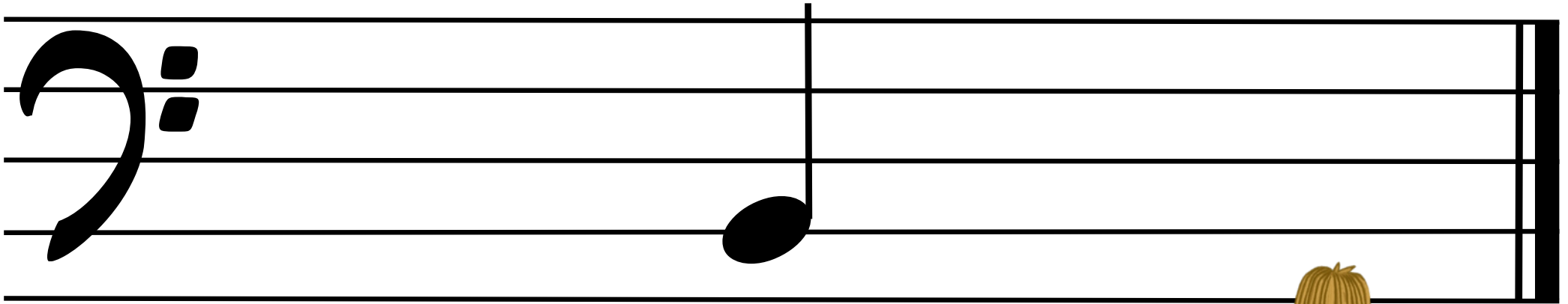
E

Ex 9x - What is the pitch of the note?



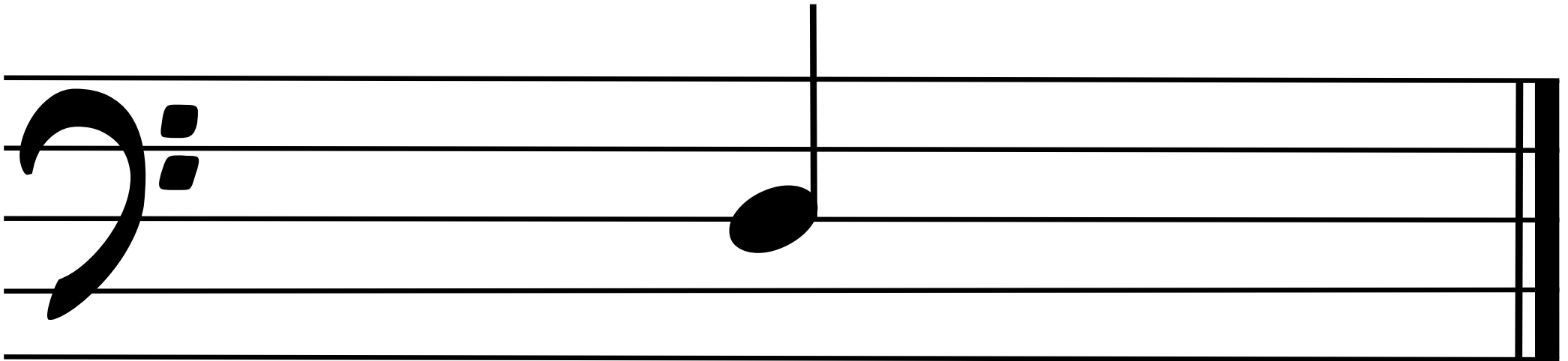
F

Ex 9y - What is the pitch of the note?



B

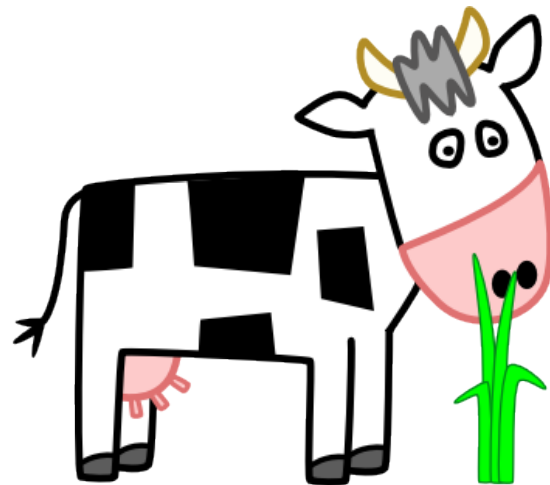
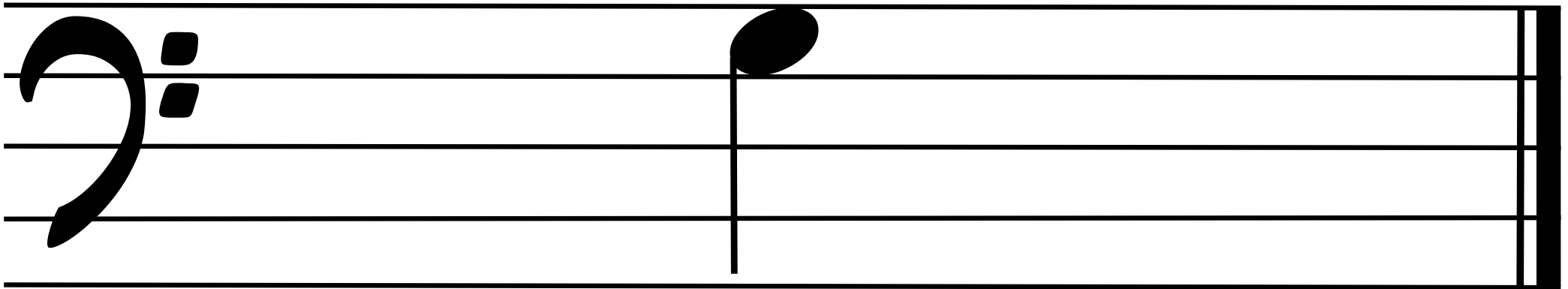
Ex 9z - What is the pitch of the note?





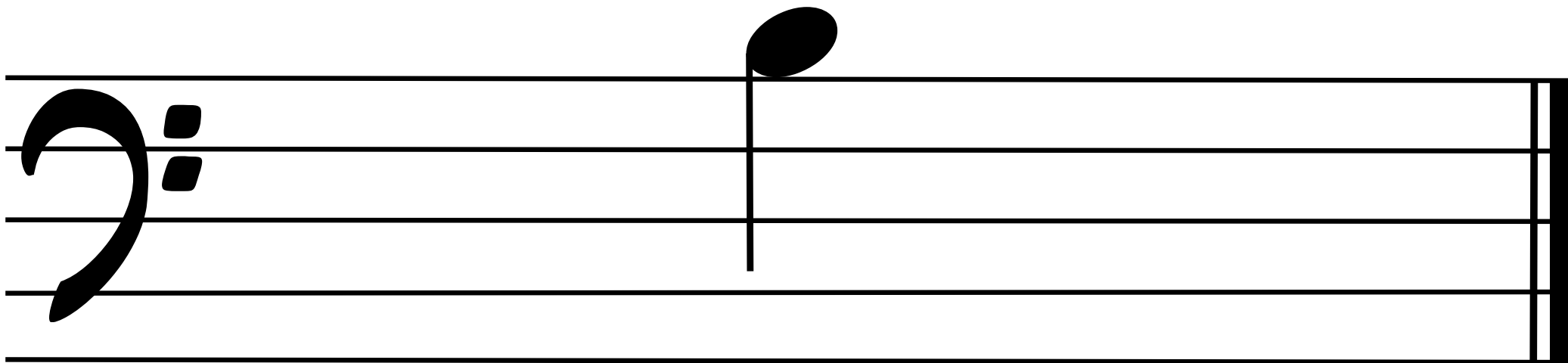
D

Ex 9ab - What is the pitch of the note?



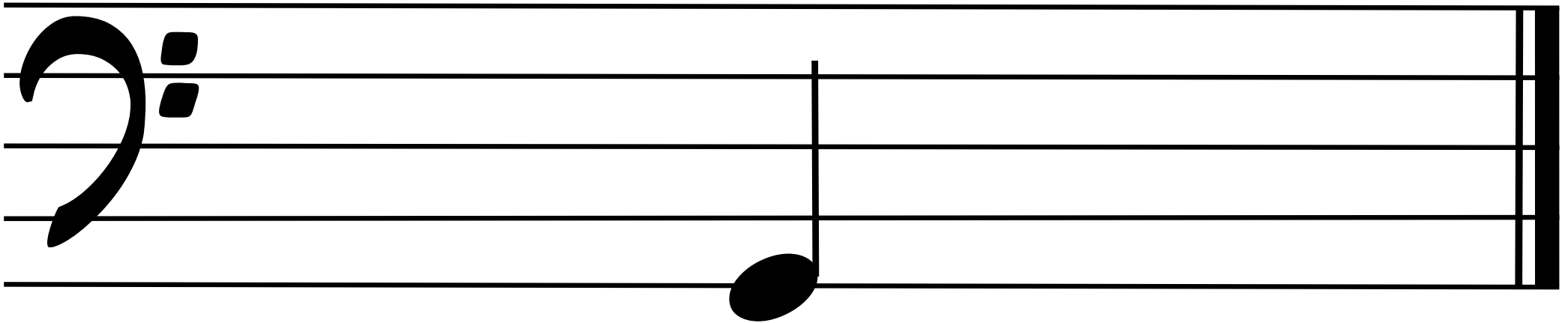
G

Ex 9ac - What is the pitch of the note?



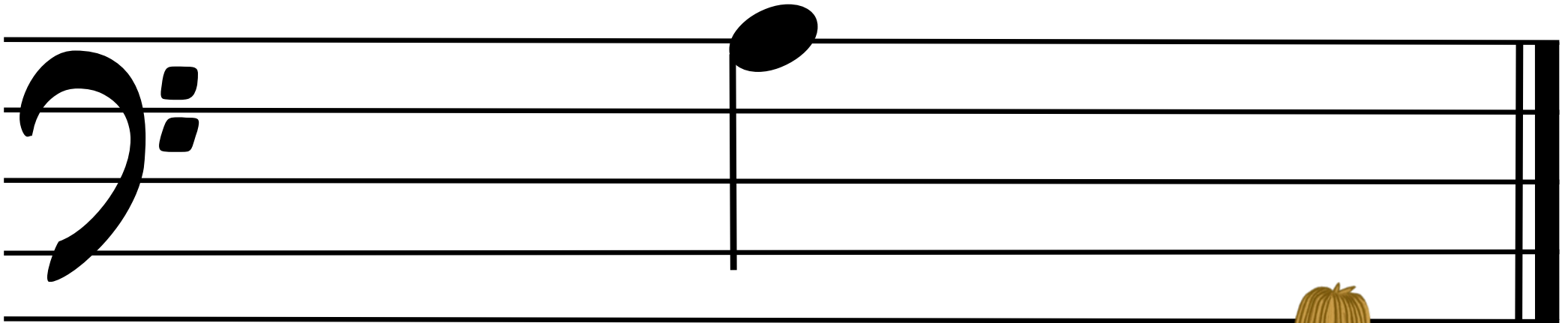
B

Ex 9ad - What is the pitch of the note?



G

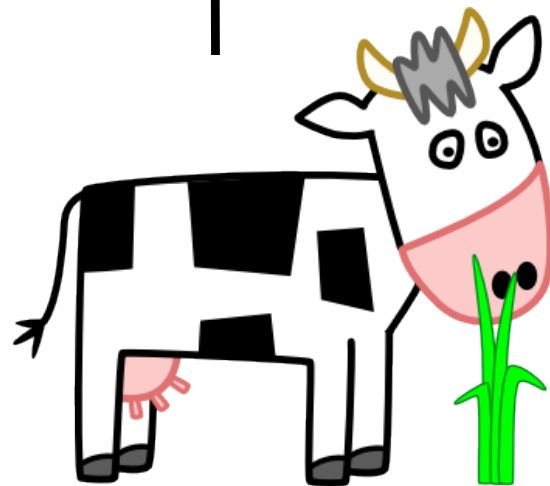
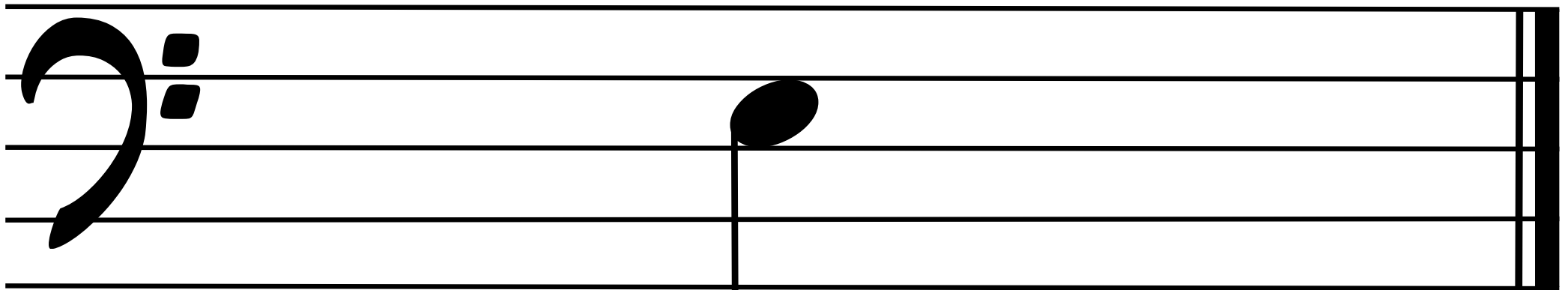
Ex 9ae - What is the pitch of the note?





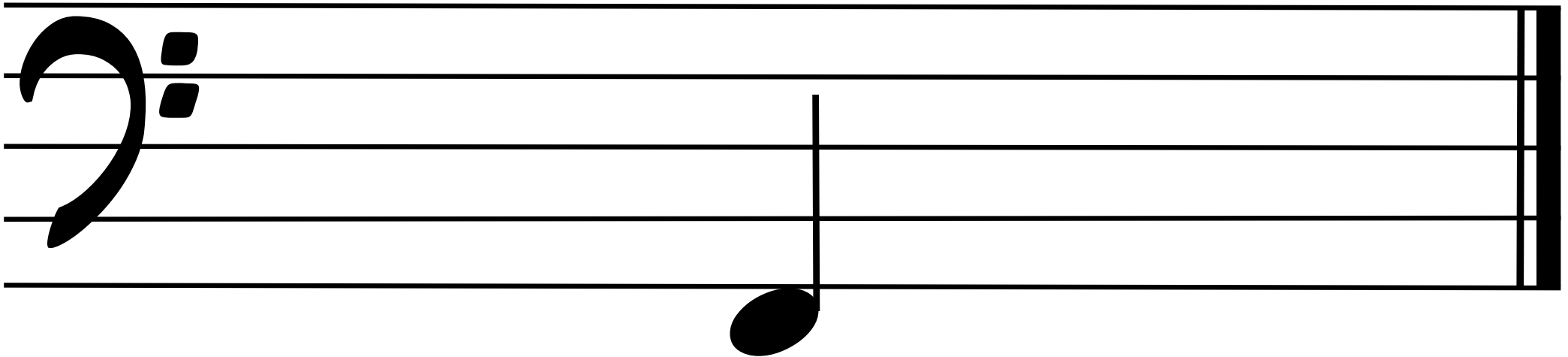
A

Ex 9af - What is the pitch of the note?



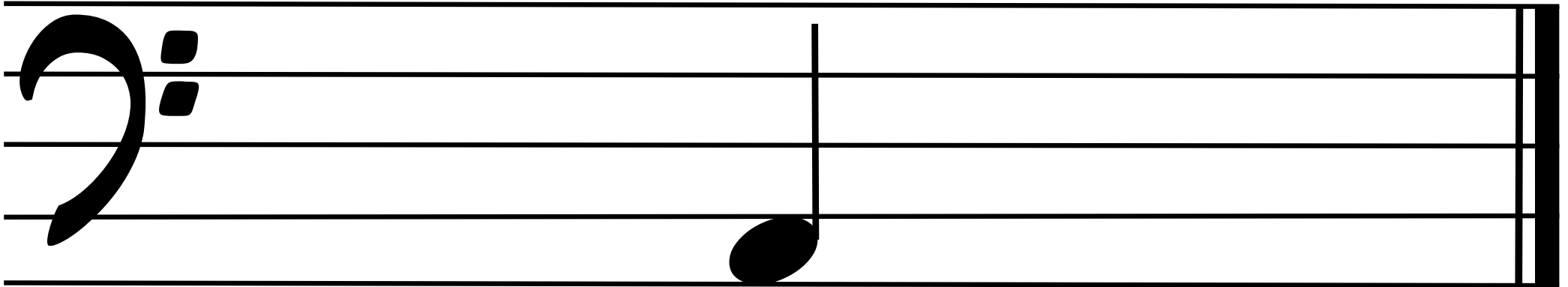
E

Ex 9ag - What is the pitch of the note?



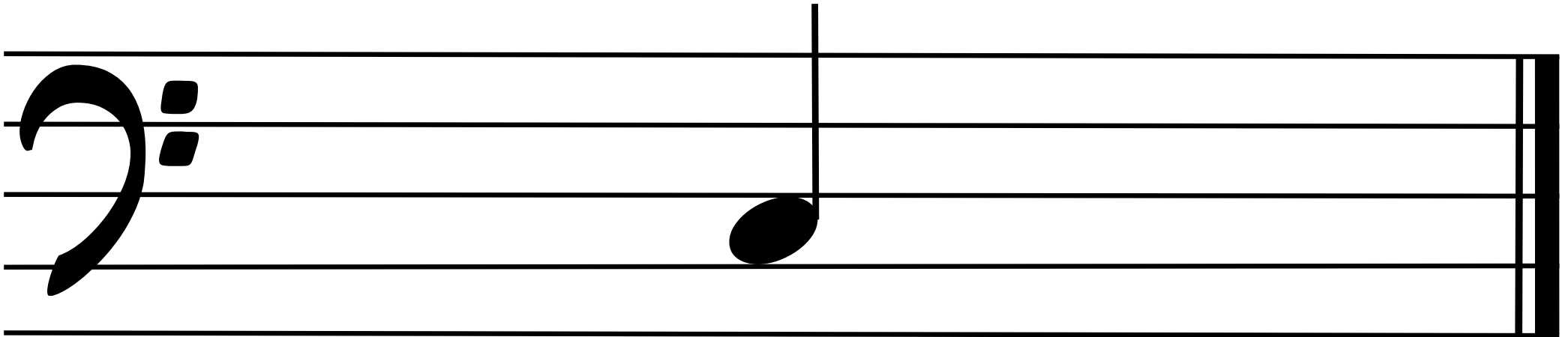
F

Ex 9ah - What is the pitch of the note?



A

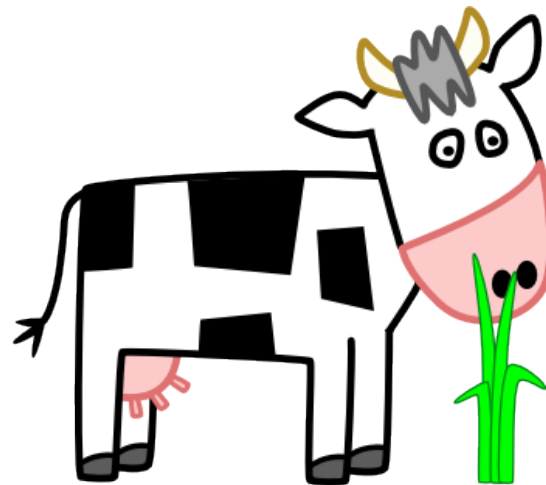
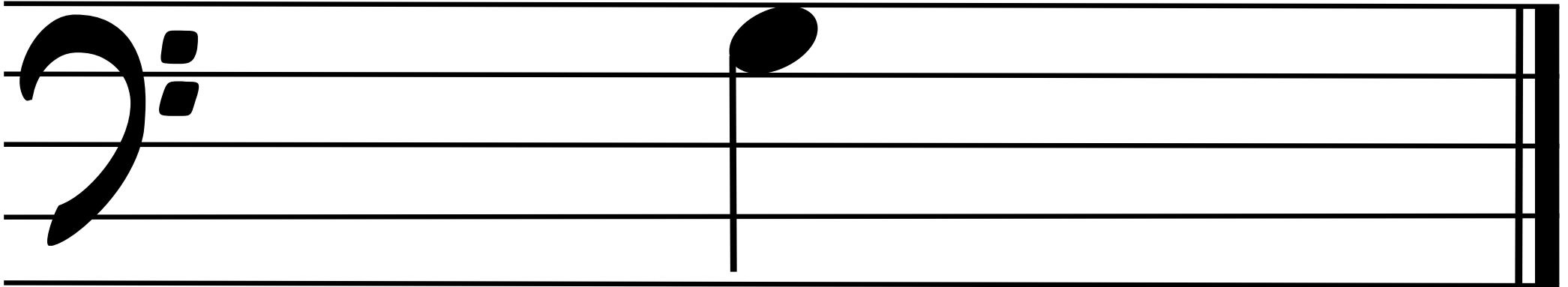
Ex 9ai - What is the pitch of the note?





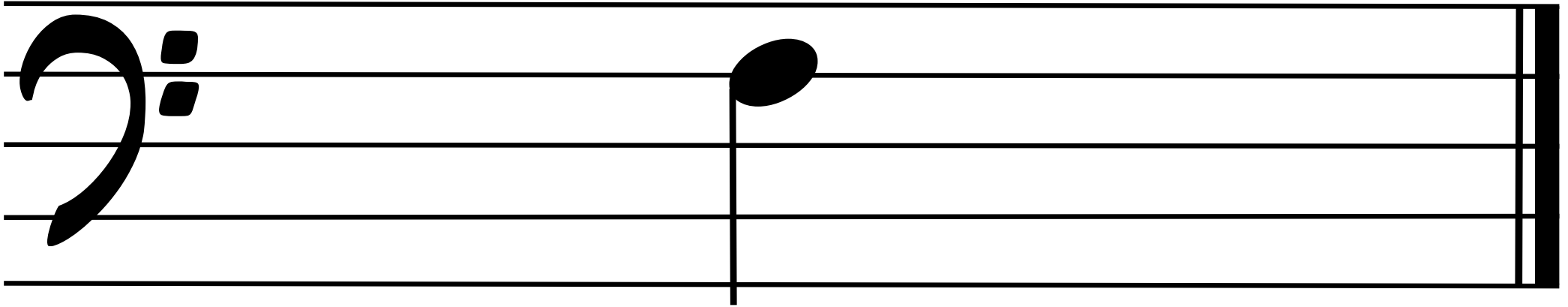
C

Ex 9aj - What is the pitch of the note?



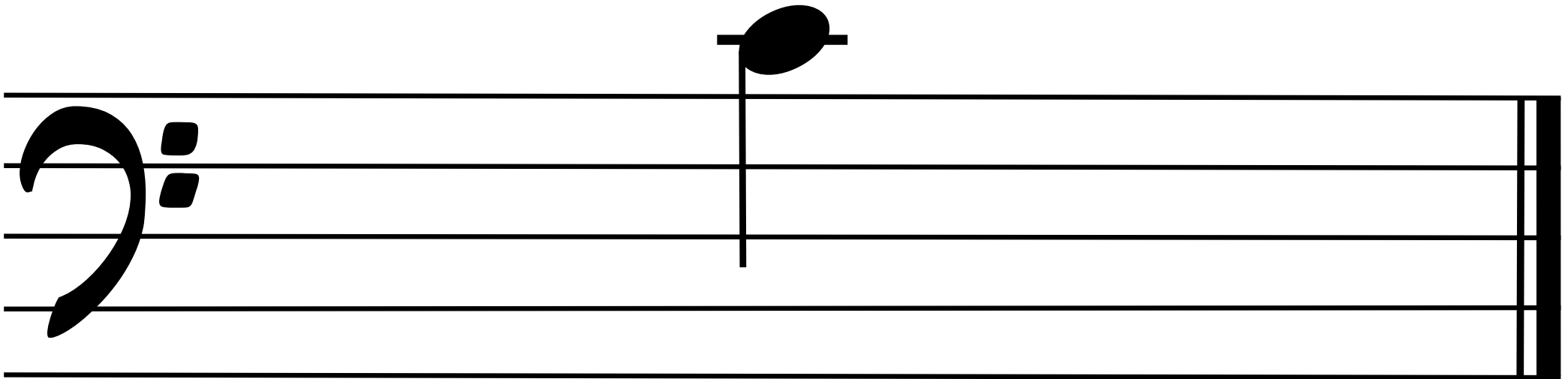
G

Ex 9ak - What is the pitch of the note?



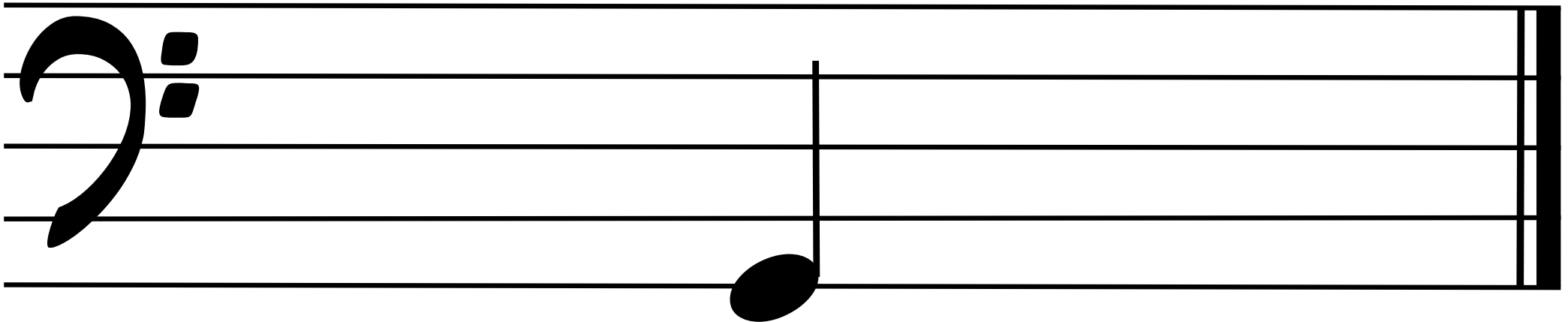
F

Ex 9a1 - What is the pitch of the note?



C

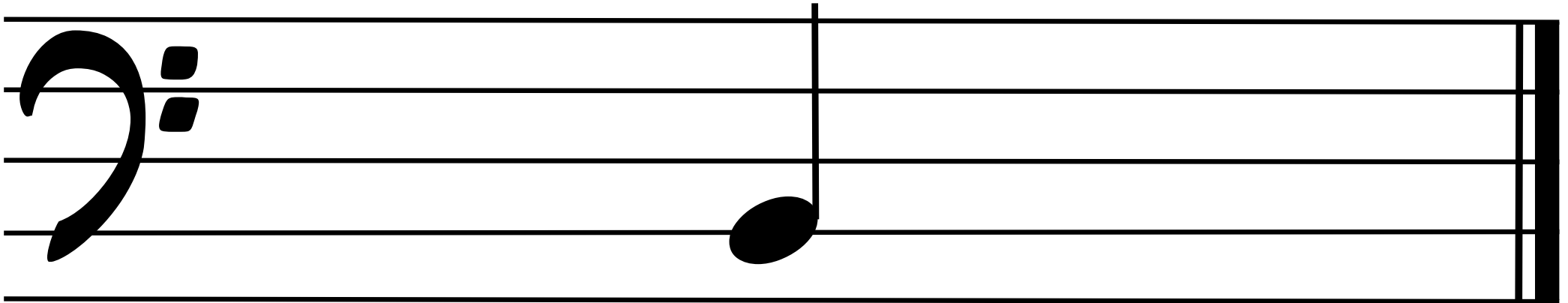
Ex 9am - What is the pitch of the note?





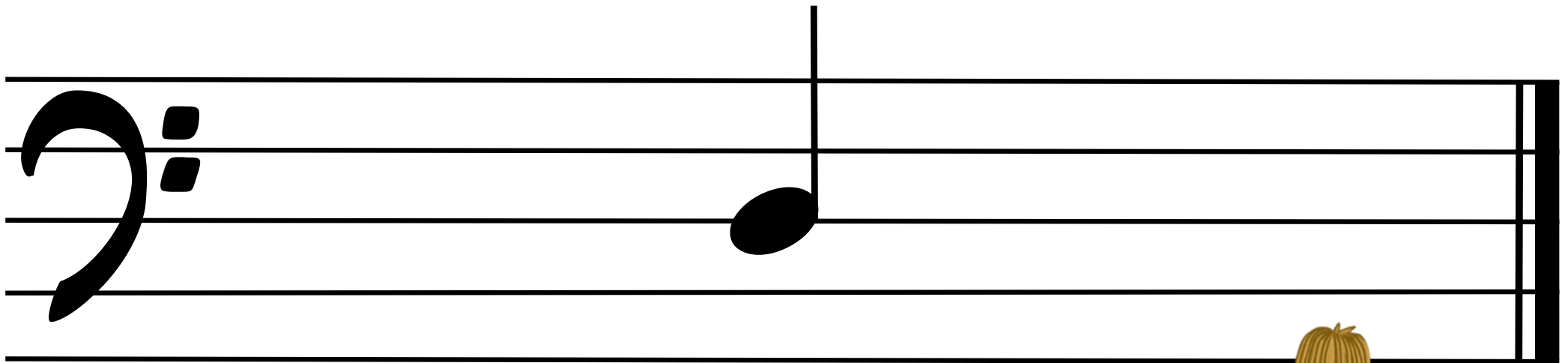
G

Ex 9n - What is the pitch of the note?



B

Ex 9aa - What is the pitch of the note?



D

## Section Nine - Key Points

A **Clef** is **written** at the **start** of the **stave**.

A **Clef** indicates the **range** of note pitches that a **stave** will **show**.

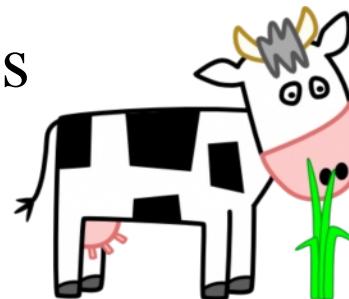
The **Bass Clef** line note pitches can be **remembered** using the words

**G**ood **B**oys **D**eserve **F**ine **A**pples



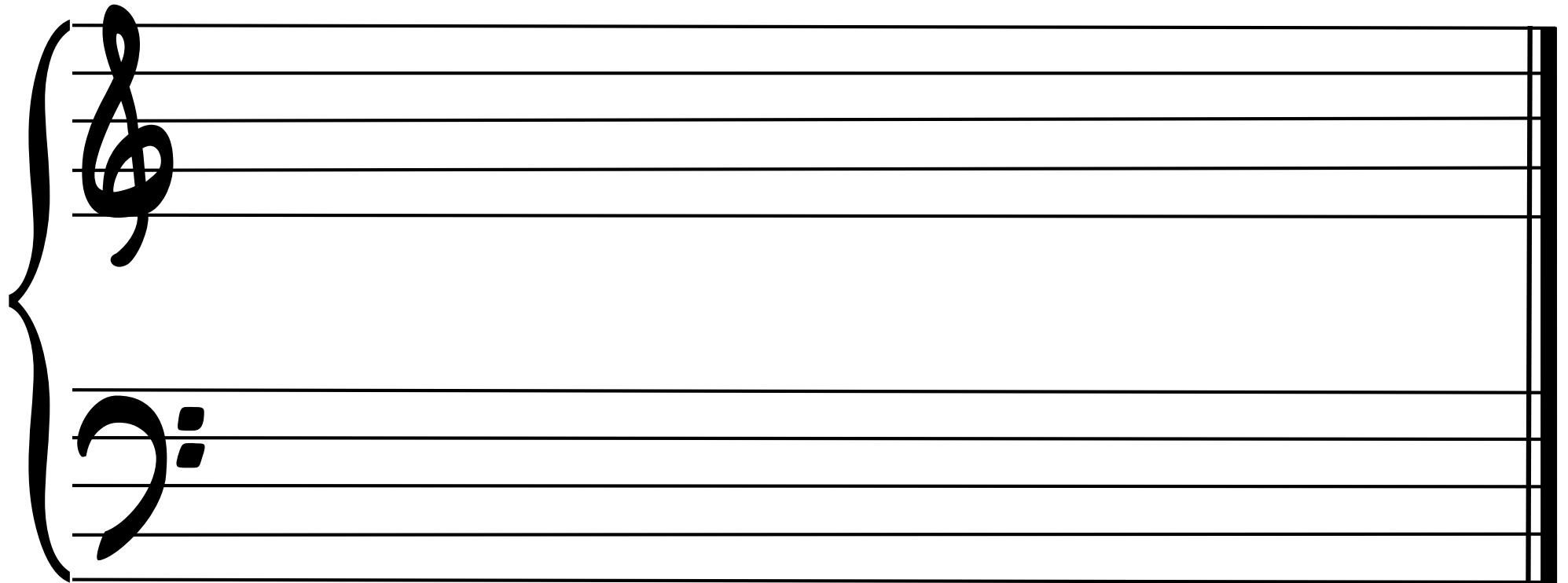
The **Bass Clef** space notes can be **remembered** using the words

**A**ll **C**ows **E**at **G**rass



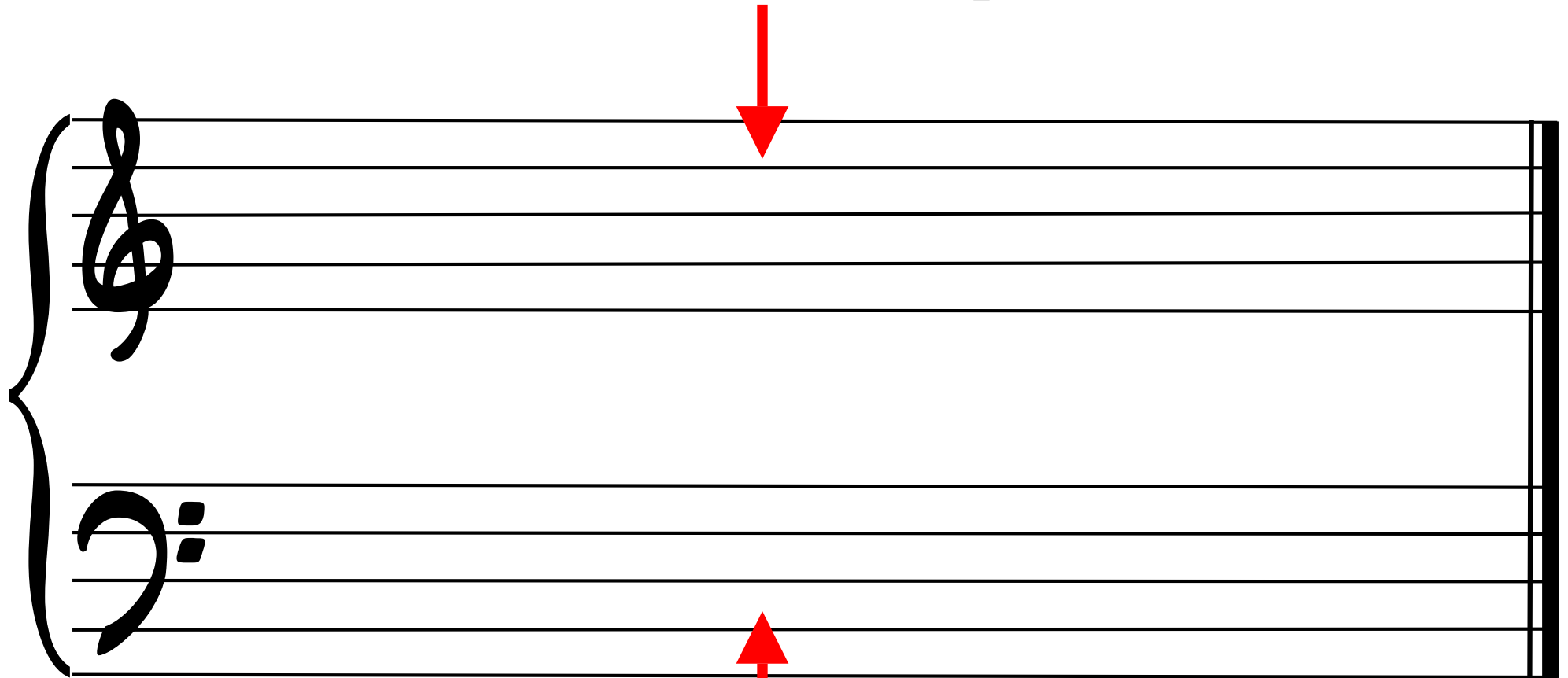
## **Section Ten - The Grand Stave.**

Music is often written using **two staves linked together**. This is known as the **Grand Staff**, it is mostly used for keyboard music.



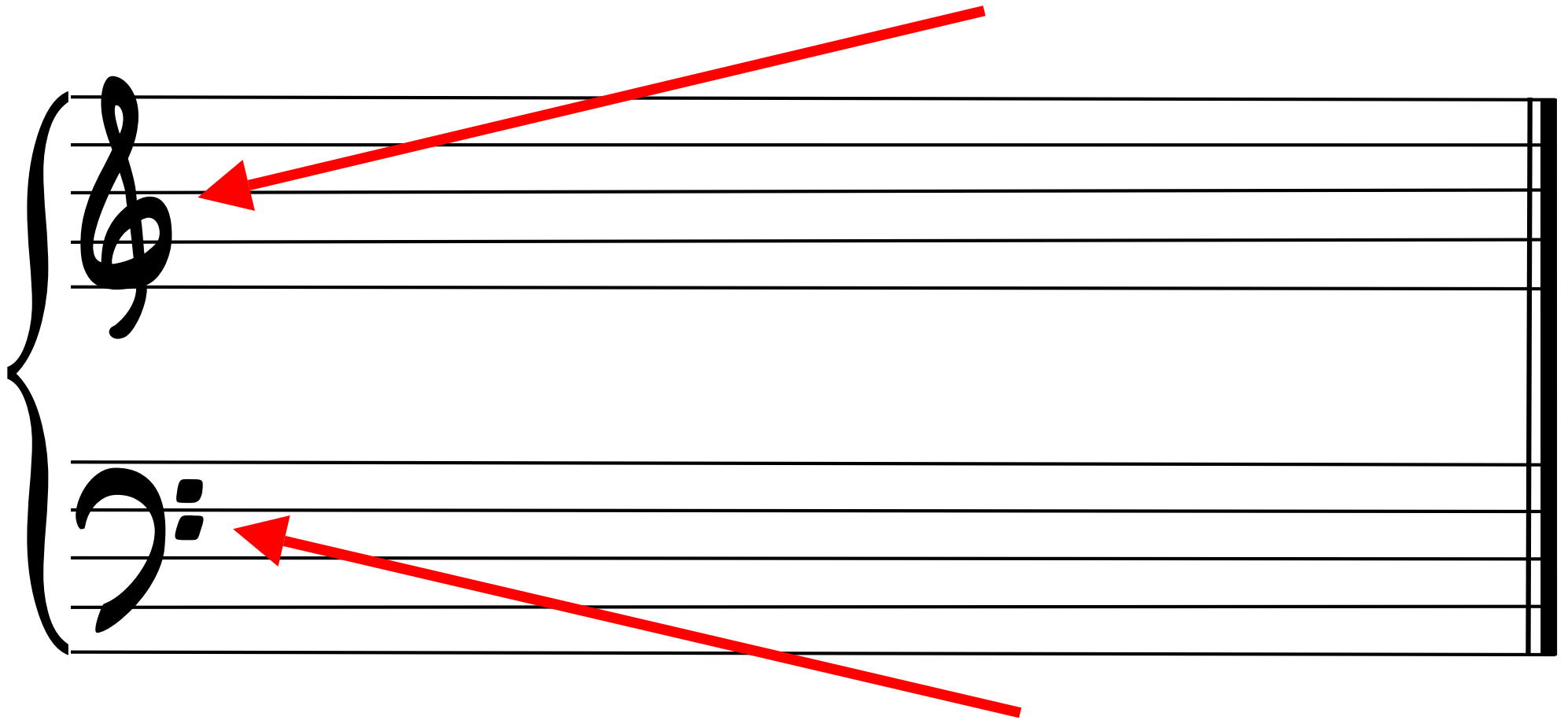


The **Grand Staff** contains a **top set** of lines,



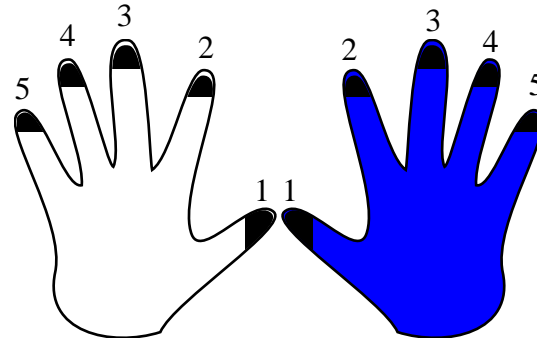
and a **bottom set** of lines.

The **top set** has a **Treble Clef**,

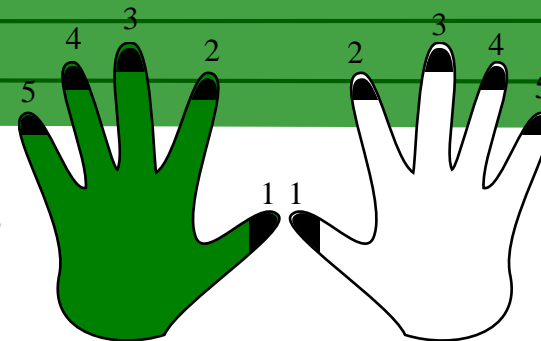


and the **bottom set** has a **Bass Clef**.

Notes on the **top set** of lines  
are played by the **Right Hand** ...



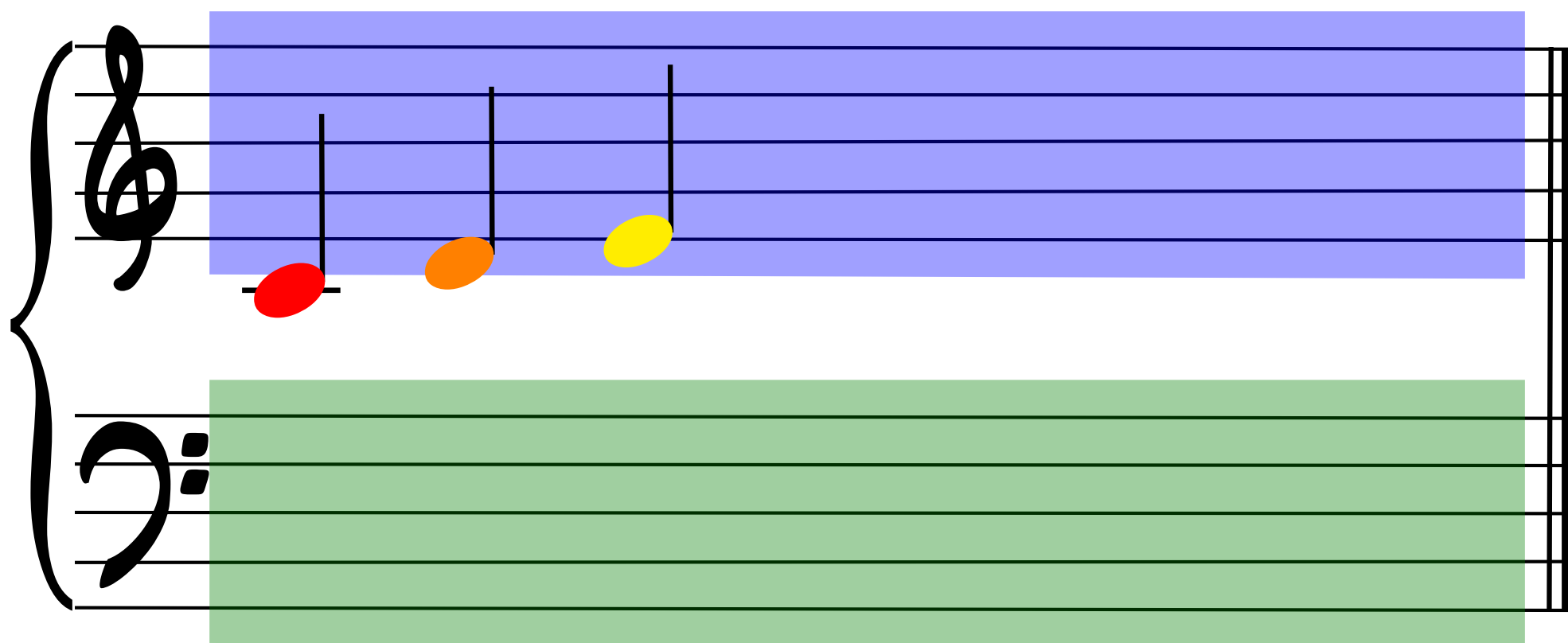
and **notes** on the **bottom set** of lines  
are played by the **Left Hand**.



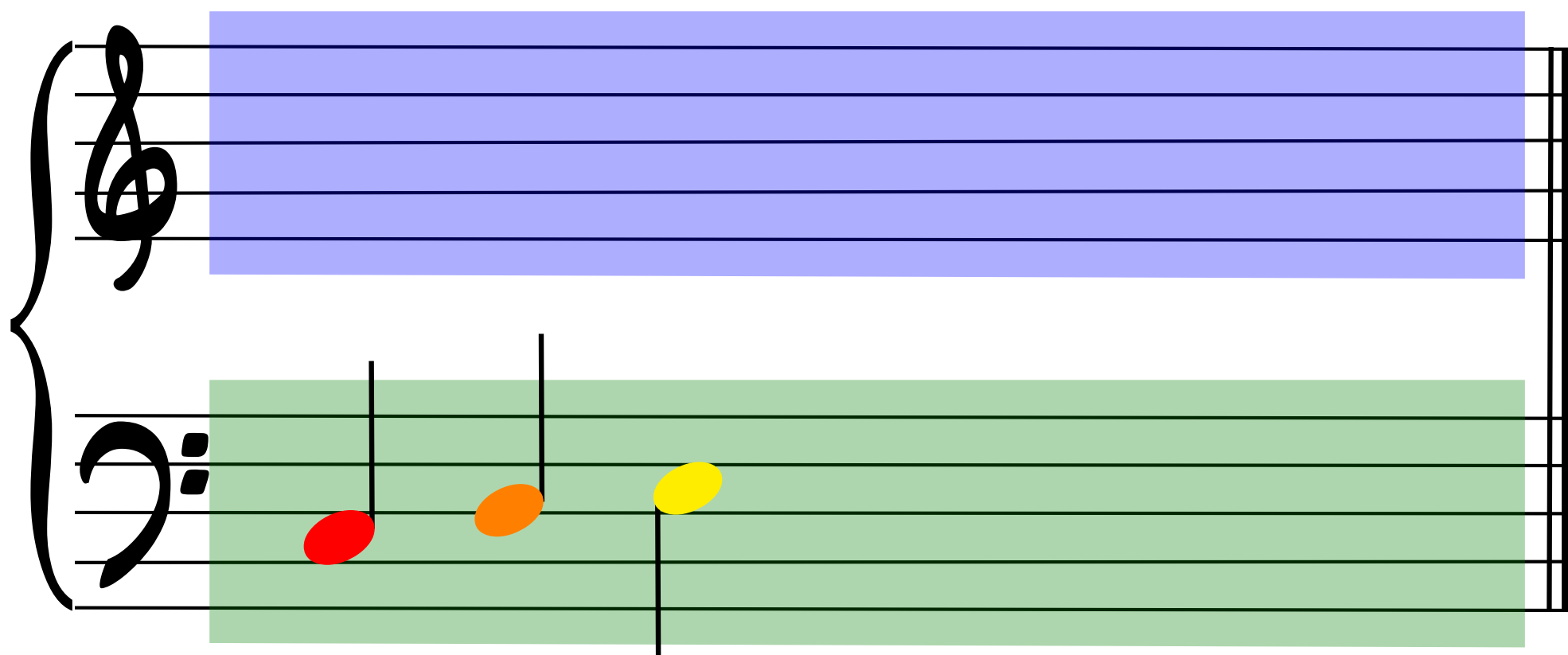
## **Exercise 10**

Look at the Grand Staves on the next few pages and work out which hand should play the notes.

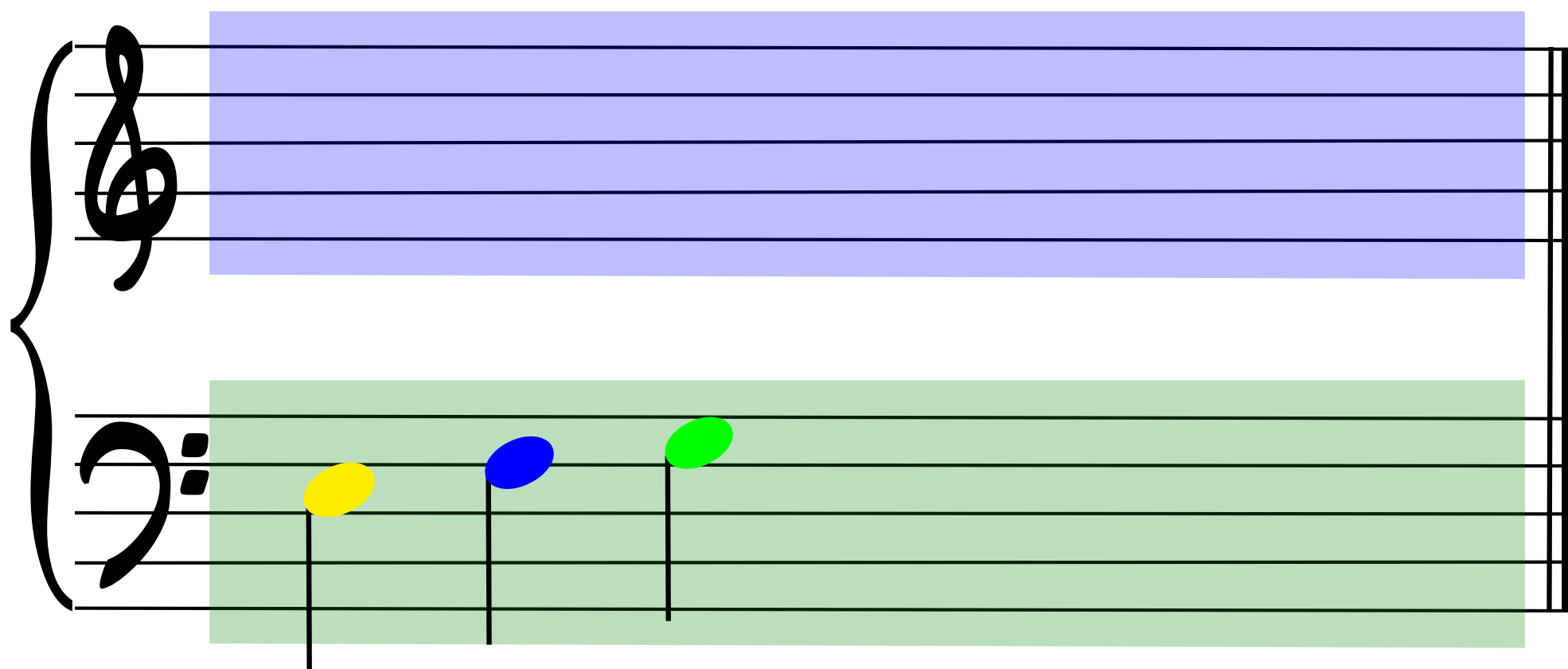
Ex 10a - Right Hand or Left Hand?



Ex 10b - Right Hand or Left Hand?



Ex 10c - Right Hand or Left Hand?

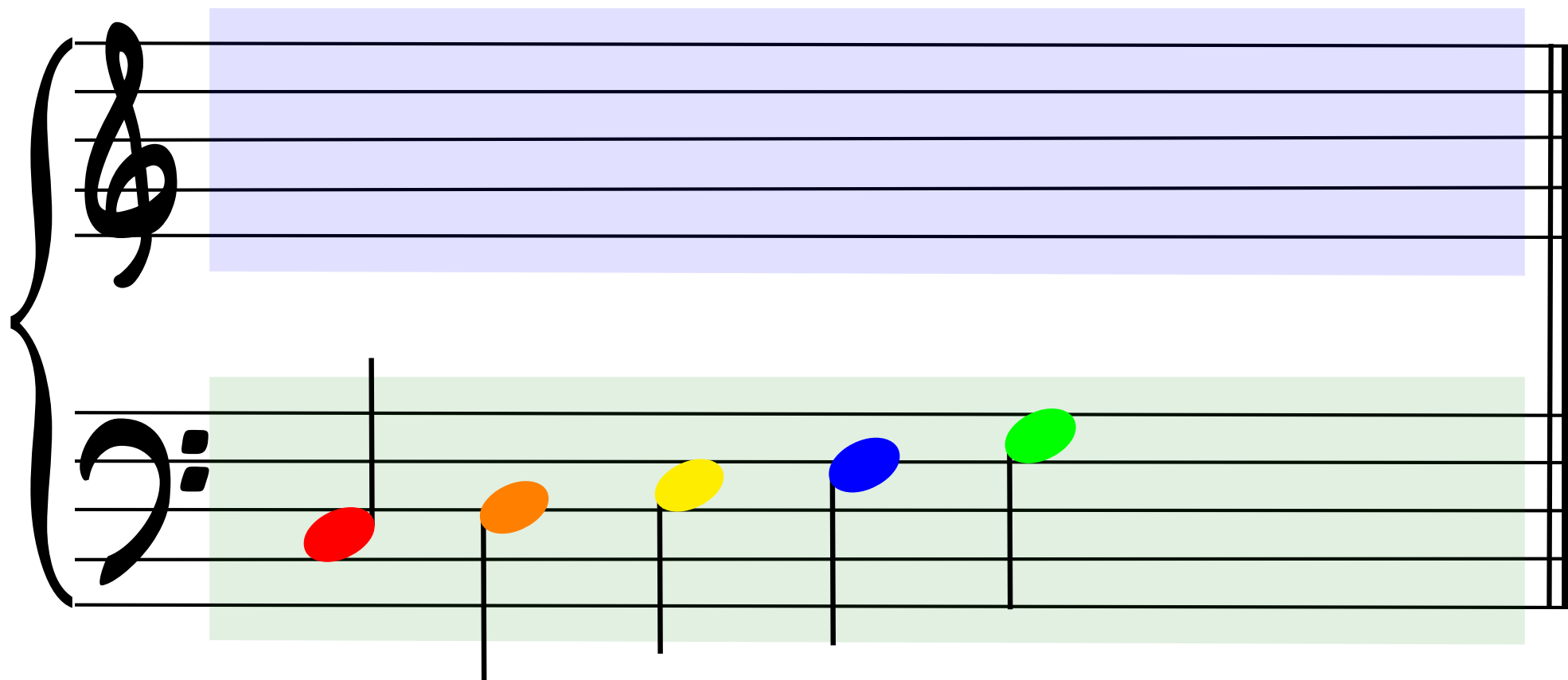


Ex 10d - Right Hand or Left Hand?

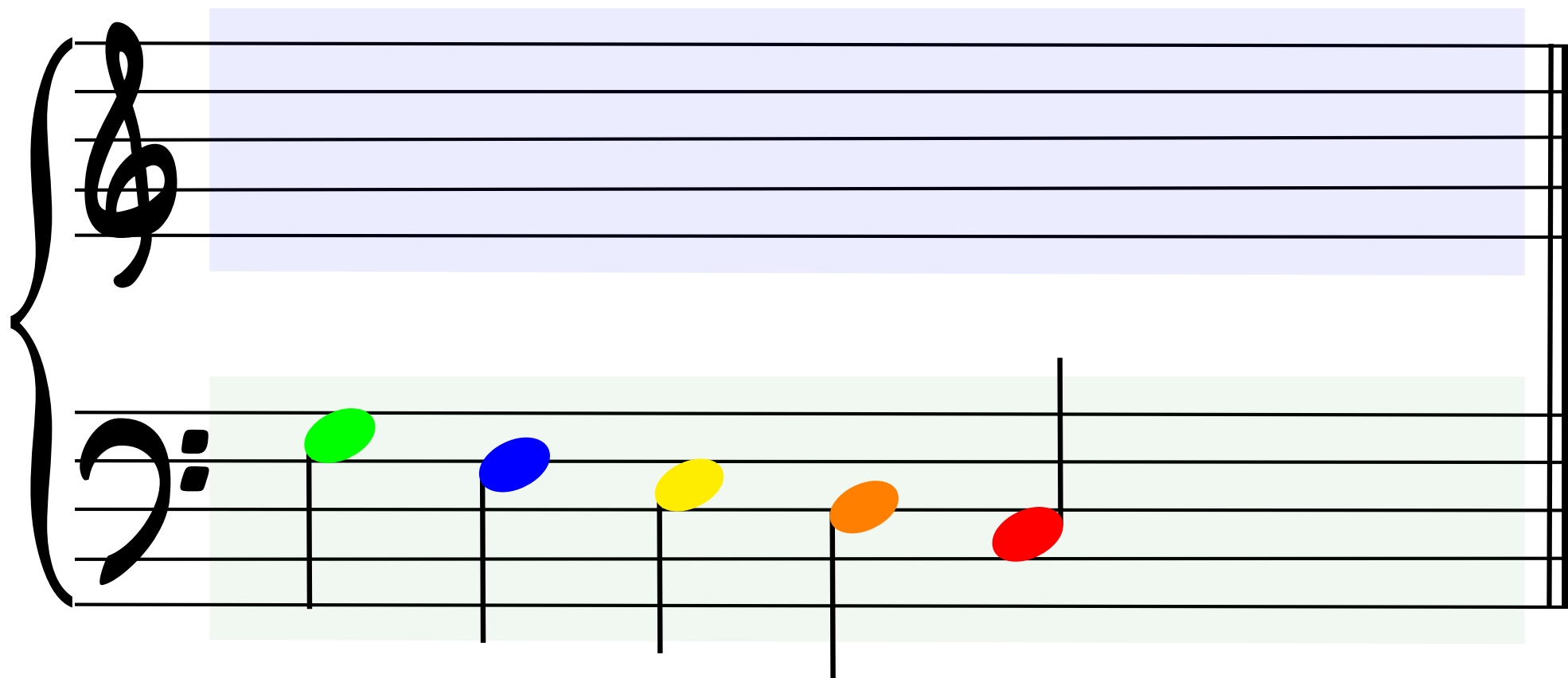
The image shows a grand staff with two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and contains two notes: a green note on the second line (F4) and a blue note on the second space (G4). The bottom staff has a bass clef and is empty. A purple highlight covers the treble staff, and a green highlight covers the bass staff. A large bracket on the left side groups both staves together.



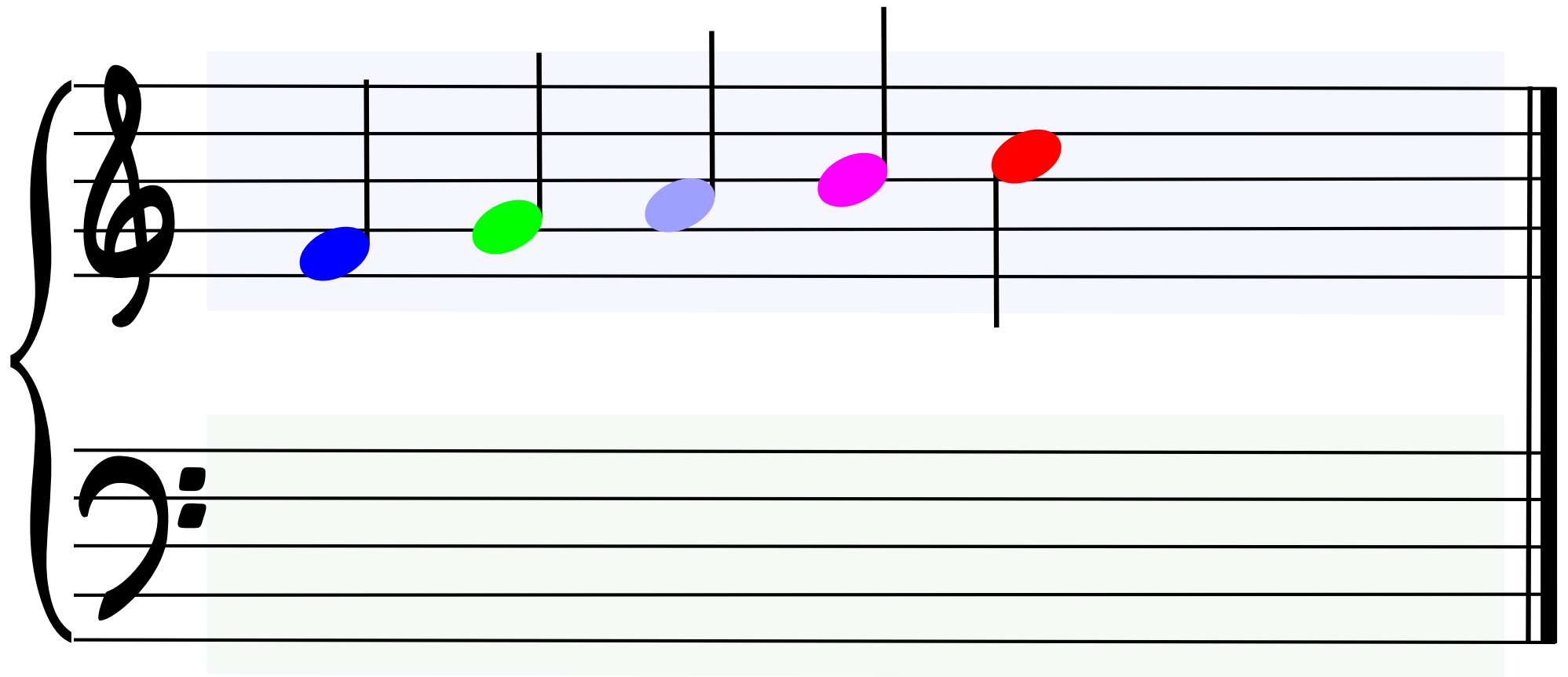
Ex 10e - Right Hand or Left Hand?



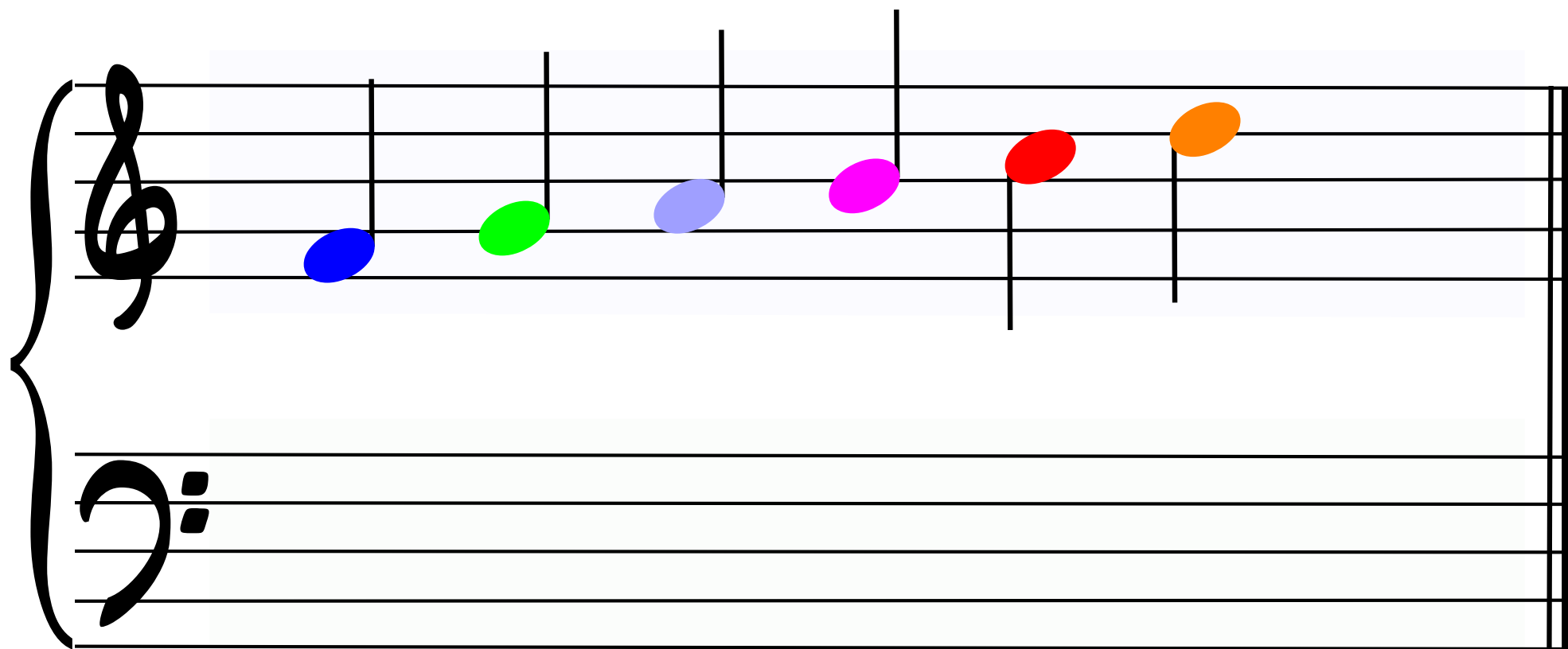
Ex 10f - Right Hand or Left Hand?



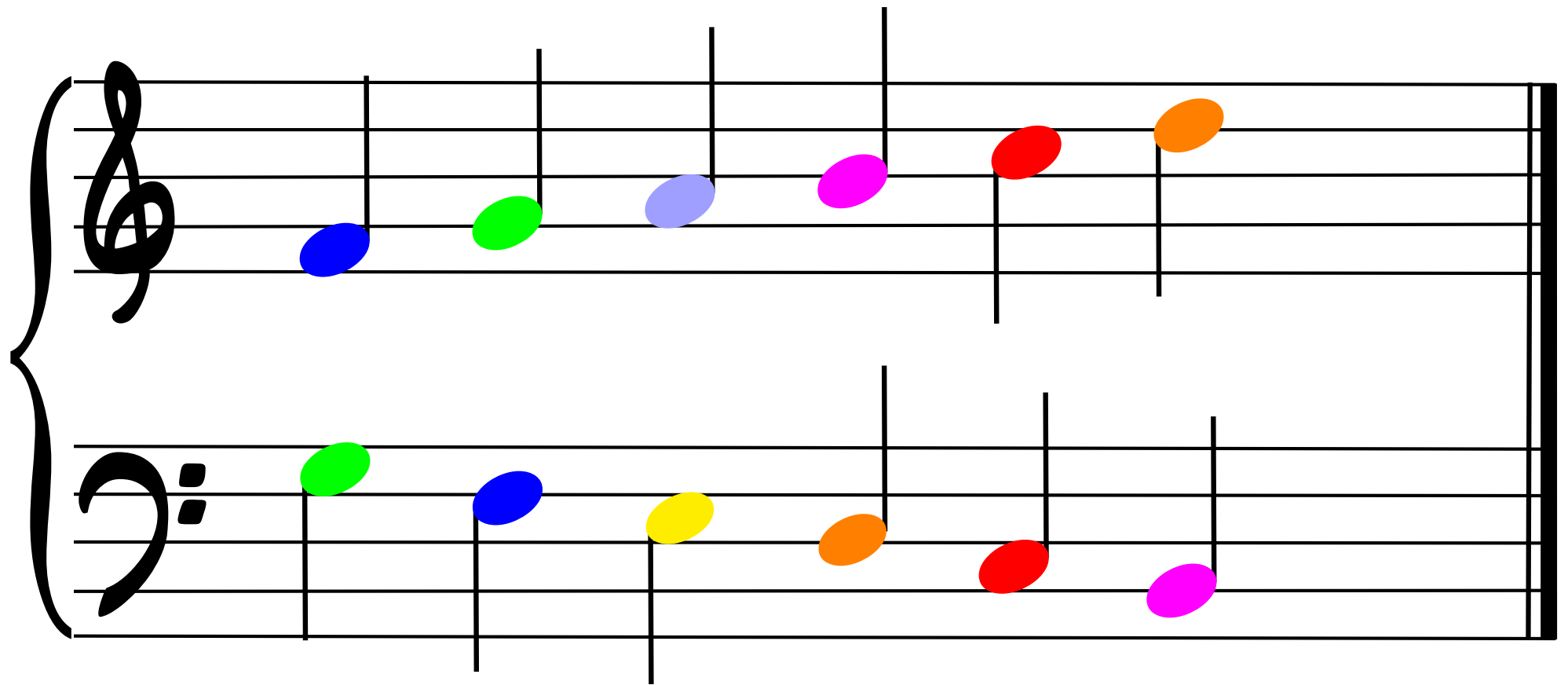
Ex 10g - Right Hand or Left Hand?



Ex 10h - Right Hand or Left Hand?



Ex 10i - Right Hand or Left Hand?



## Section Ten - Key Points

Music is often written using **two staves linked together**. This is known as the **Grand Staff**, it is mostly used for keyboard music.

The **Grand Staff** contains a **top set** of lines and a **bottom set** of lines.

**Notes** on the **top set** of lines are played by the **Right Hand** and **notes** on the **bottom set** of lines are played by the **Left Hand**.

## **Section Eleven - Ledger Lines**

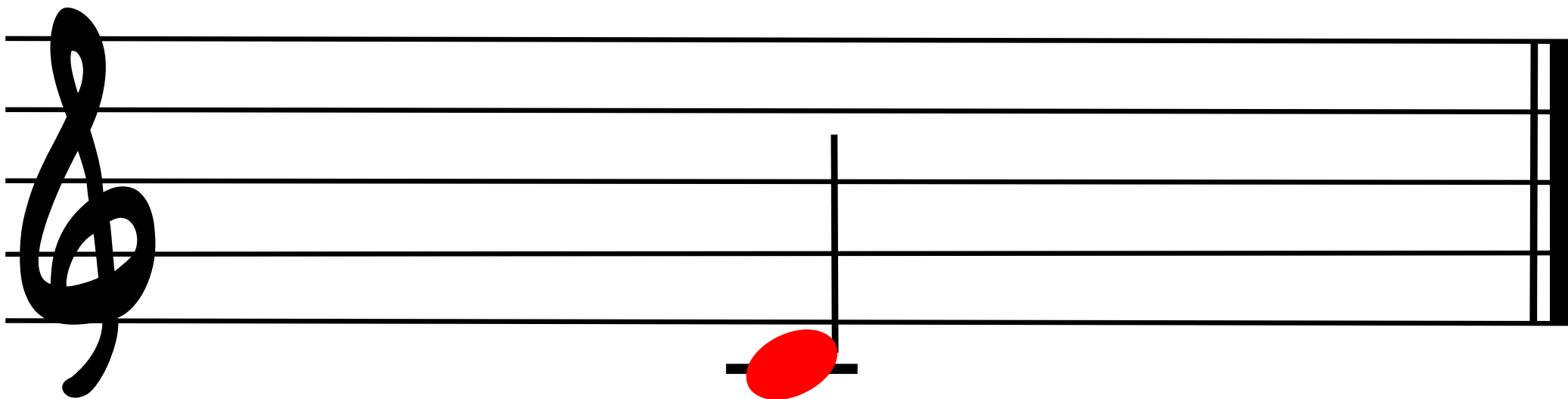
The following pages deal with **ledger line** notes on the stave.

It may be best to leave this section until it is required. A beginner doesn't need to understand ledger lines at first.

The note middle C which uses a **ledger line** has already been seen in the previous pages but this can be recognised without understanding ledger lines.

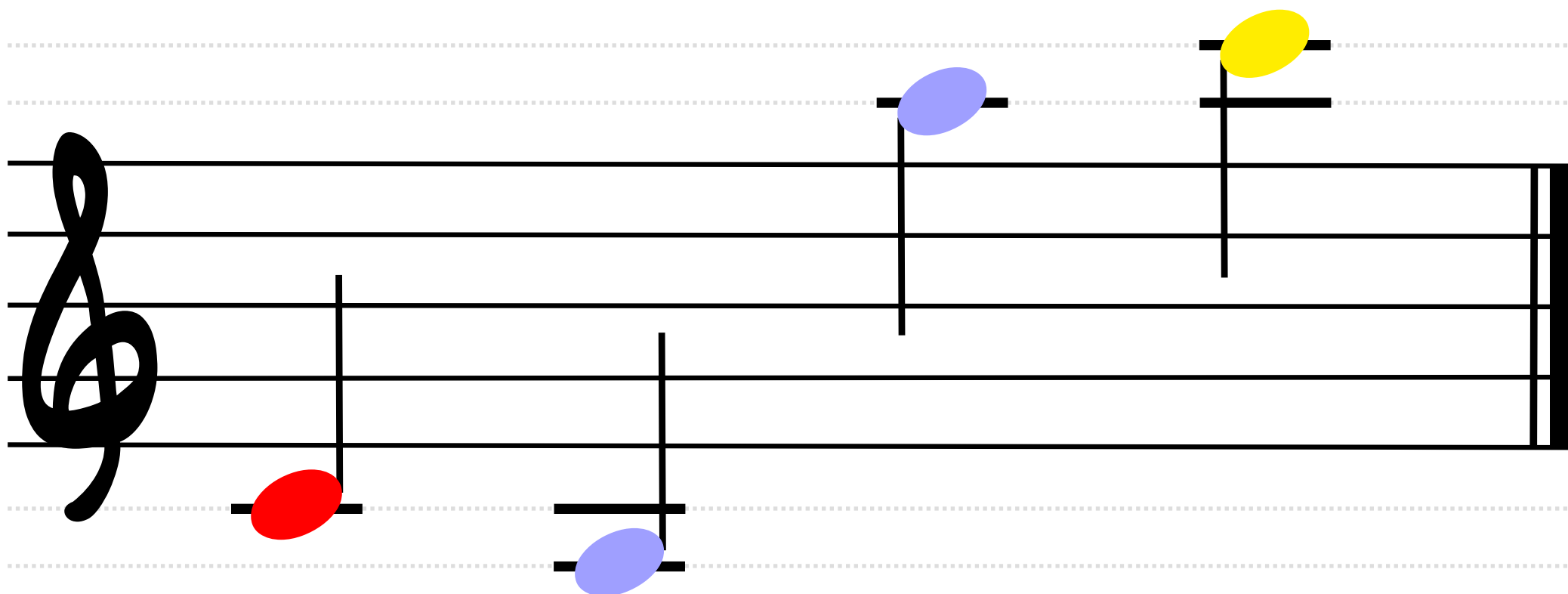


Look at the note below.  
You will notice that it has a little horizontal line through it.



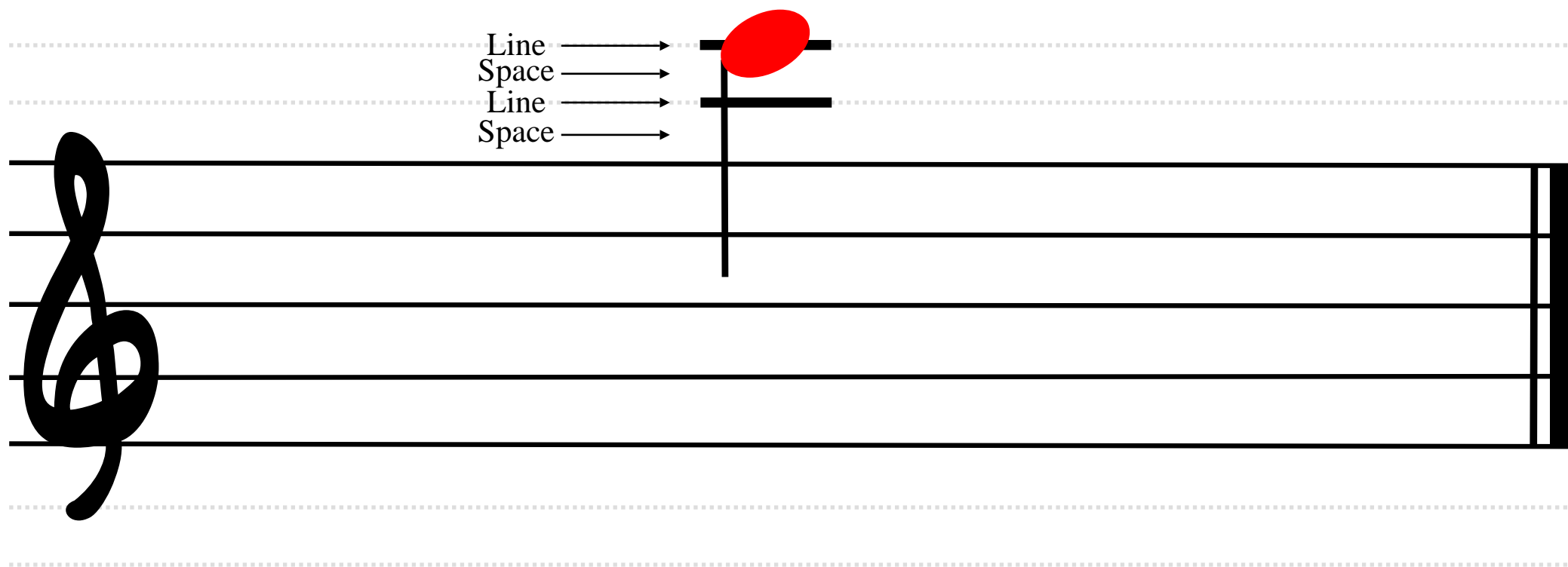
This is called a **Ledger Line**

Notes that are higher or lower than the range of the lines and spaces of the staff are written above or below the staff with **ledger lines** through them.



The ledger lines are added instead of adding one more line or several lines to the staff, which would make the notes hard to read.

The ledger lines make lines and spaces in the same way that the staff does (see page 3).



You can work out the pitch of notes with ledger lines by following the lines and spaces up or down from the stave to the note.

For example.....

The note on the top line of the staff is an F

So the note that sits above the top line is a G

Then the first ledger line will be A

The next space up will be B

Then the next ledger line will be C

The next space up will be D

Then we find out this note is E

This example shows working out a ledger line note that is below the staff (notice it is the bass clef).

The diagram shows a bass clef staff with a vertical bar line. Below the staff, a series of horizontal lines and spaces are shown, representing ledger lines. A note is placed on each line or space, and its pitch is identified. The notes are labeled G, F, E, D, C, B, and A from top to bottom. The note A is highlighted in blue.

The note on the bottom line of the staff is a G

So the note that sits just below the bottom line is a F

Then the first ledger line down will be E

The next space down will be D

Then the next ledger line down will be C

The next space down will be B

Then we find out this note is A

## **Exercise 11**

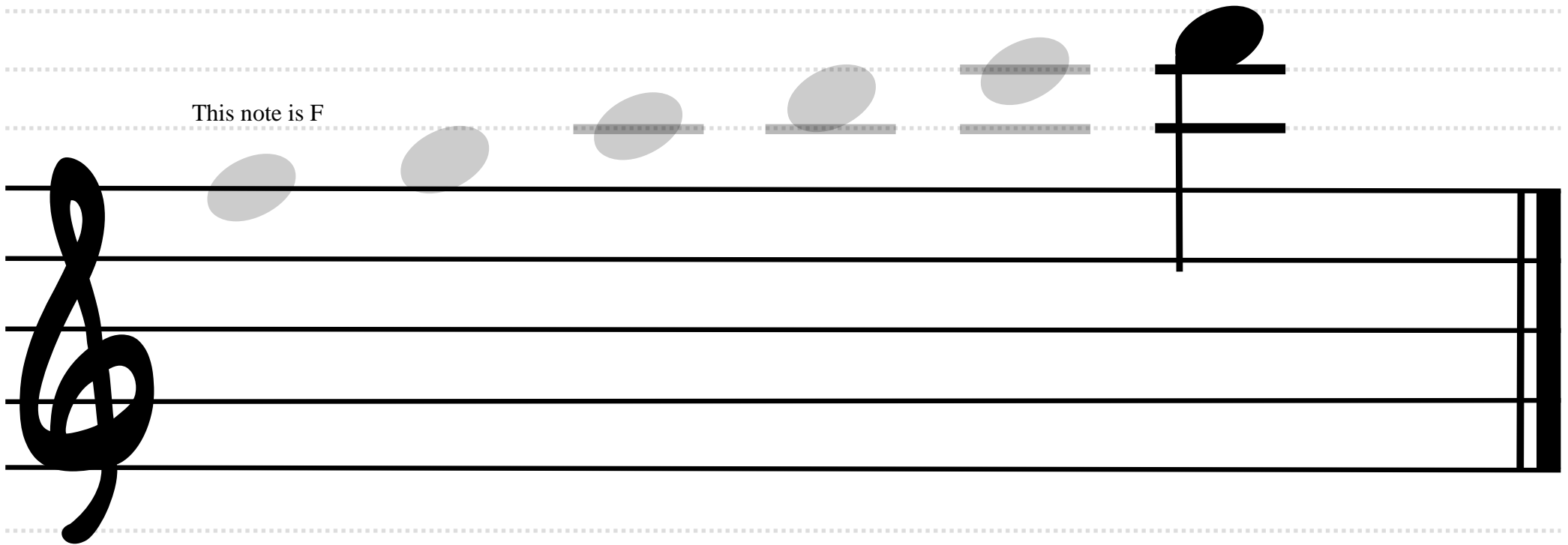
Work through the next few pages  
and try to work out what the pitch of the ledger line notes are.

# Ex 11a - What is the ledger line note?

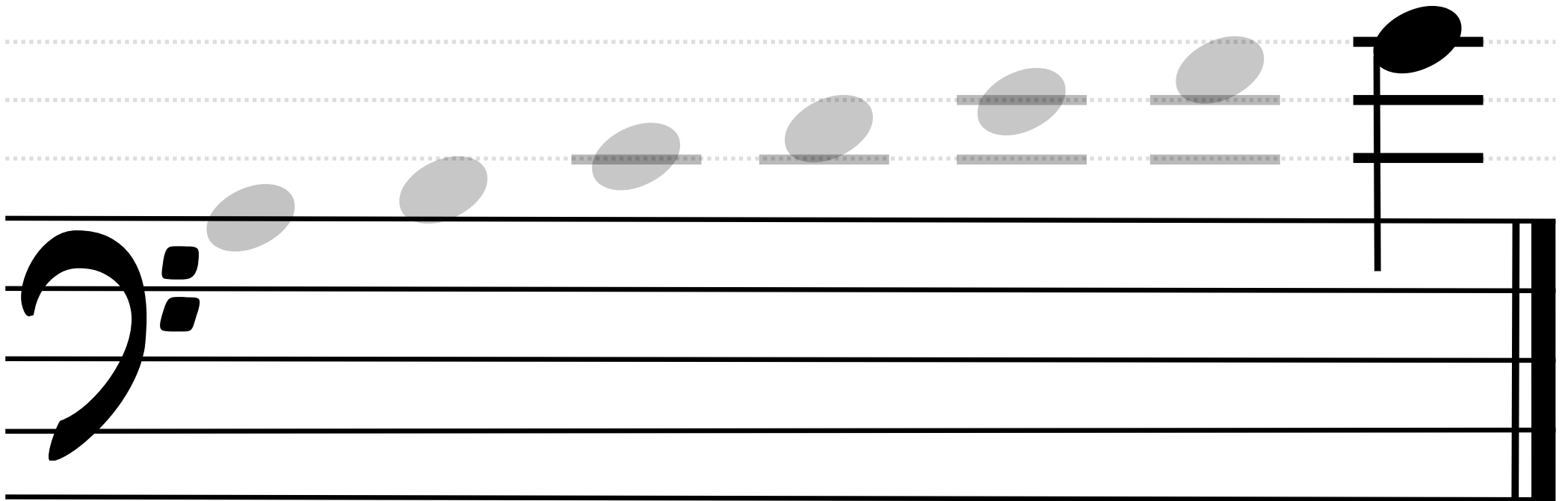
A musical staff with a bass clef. The staff consists of five horizontal lines. Below the bottom line, there are four grey oval shapes representing notes, each with a horizontal line extending to the right. The first of these is labeled "This note is G". To the right of these, there is a black ledger line note consisting of a vertical stem and a black oval note head, positioned below the bottom line of the staff.



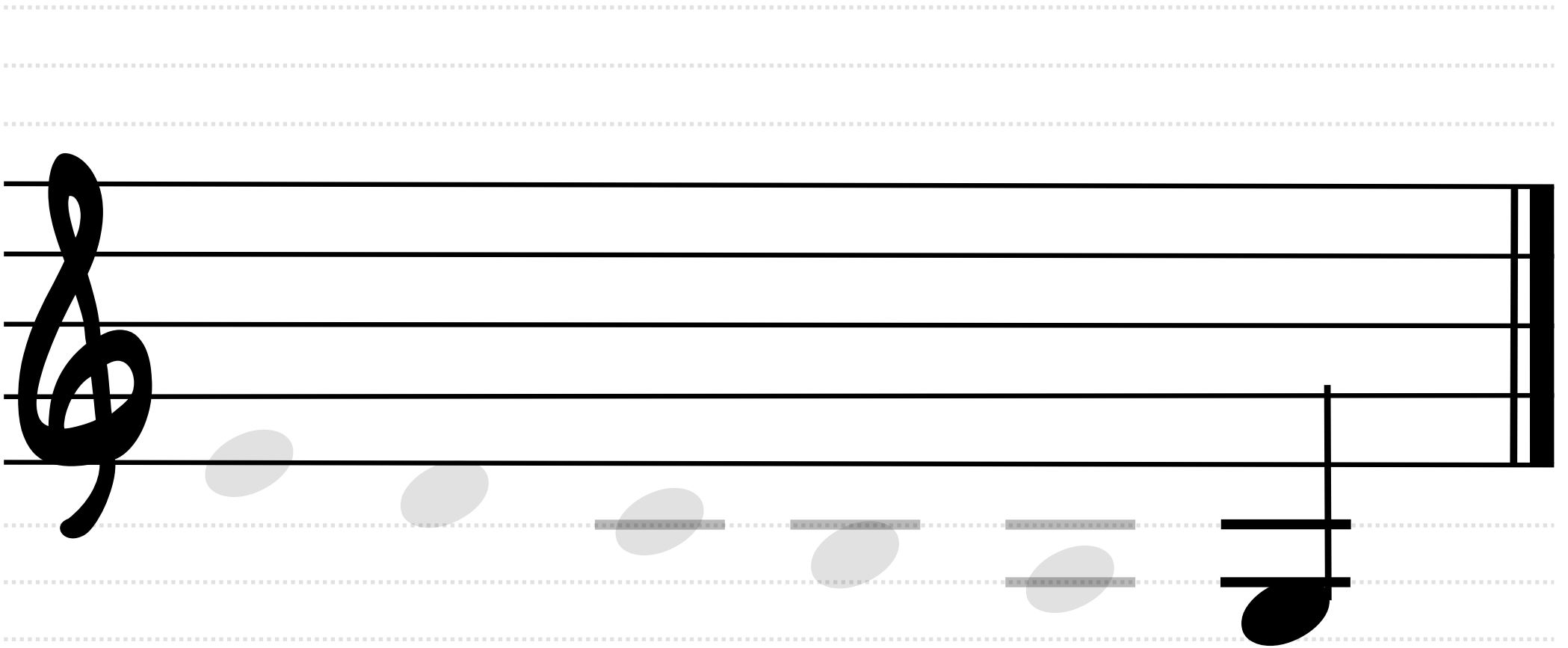
# Ex 11b - What is the ledger line note?



Ex 11c - What is the ledger line note?



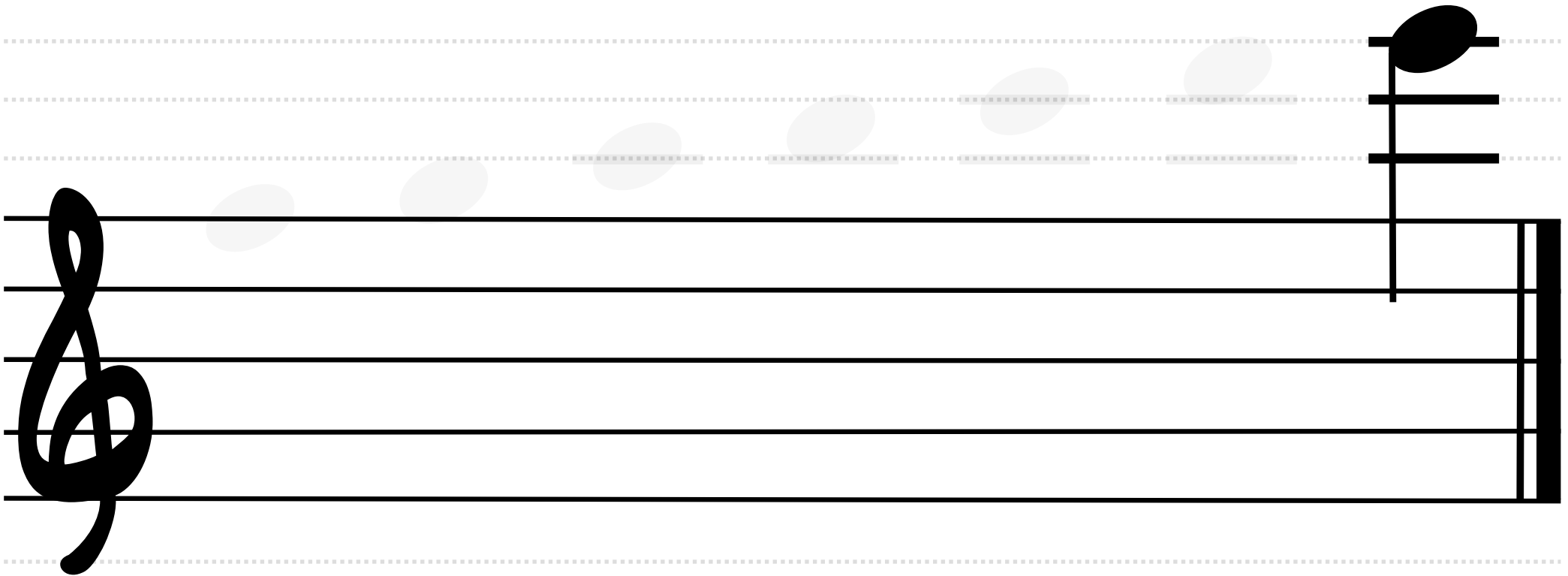
Ex 11d - What is the ledger line note?



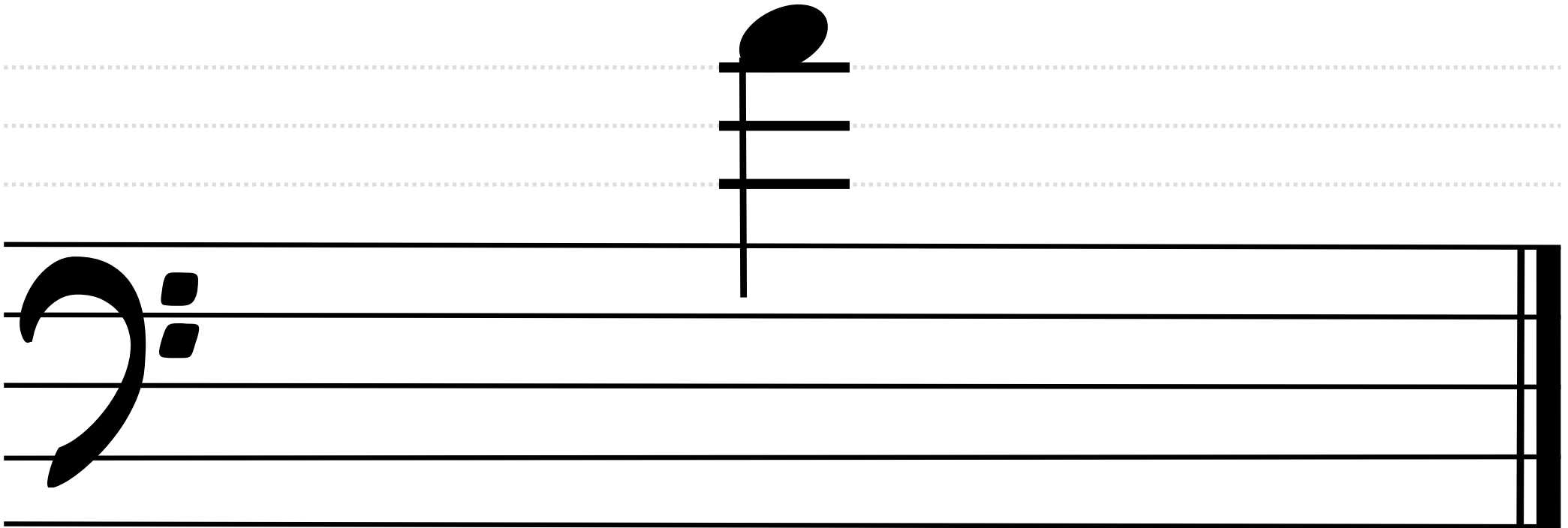
Ex 11e - What is the ledger line note?

A musical staff with a bass clef. The staff consists of five horizontal lines. Below the bottom line, there are four dotted lines representing ledger lines. A single note is positioned on the bottom-most dotted line. The note is represented by a vertical stem and a solid black oval head. The note is positioned on the bottom-most dotted line, which is two lines below the bottom line of the staff. The note is positioned on the bottom-most dotted line, which is two lines below the bottom line of the staff.

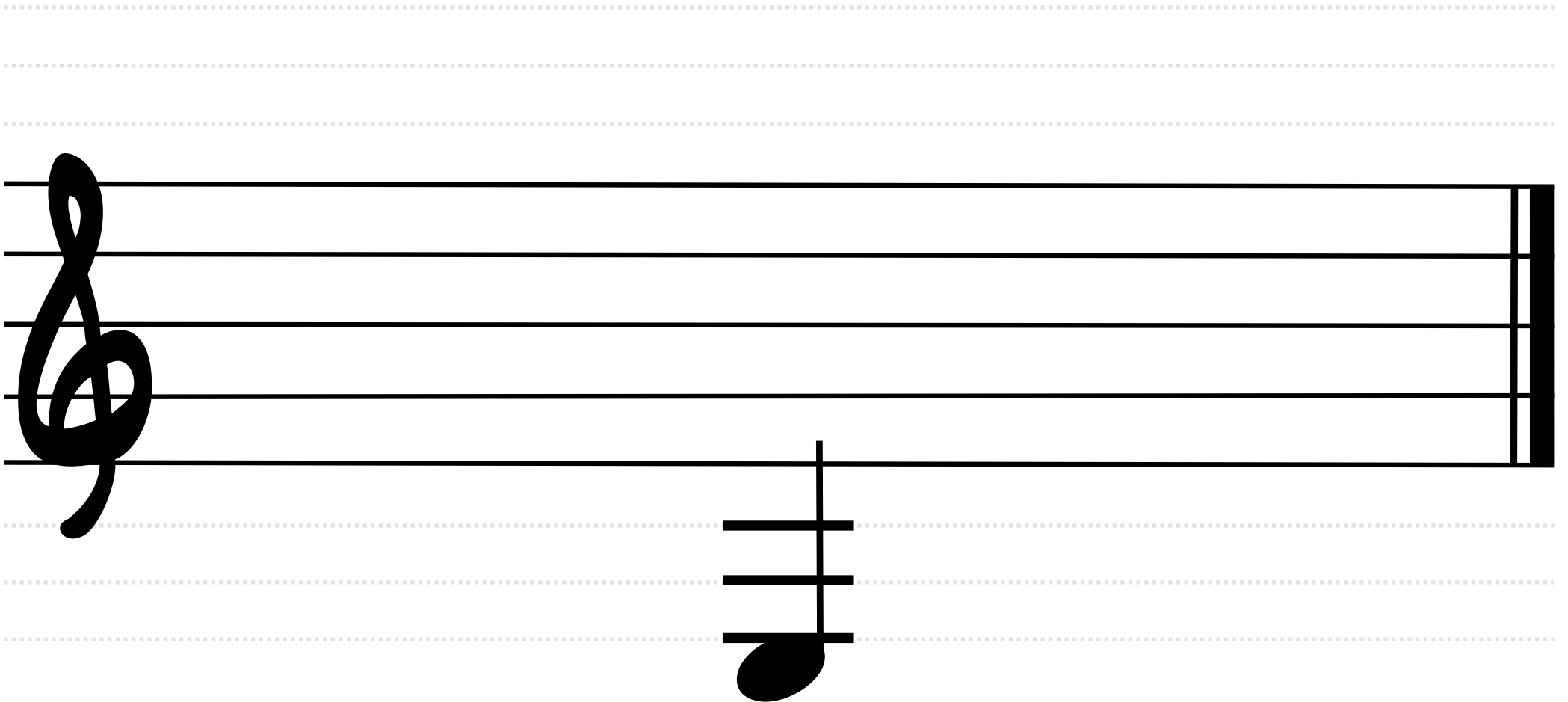
Ex 11f - What is the ledger line note?



Ex 11g - What is the ledger line note?



Ex 11h - What is the ledger line note?



## Section Eleven - Key Points

Notes that are higher or lower than the range of the stave have **Ledger Lines** written through them.

This is instead of writing a line the whole length of the stave which would be hard to read.

The **pitch** of ledger line notes can be **worked out** by **following** the **lines** and **spaces** from the **top** or **bottom** of the stave.



## **Appendix - Answers**

**Exercise 1**

- A. Space
- B. Line
- C. Space
- D. Line
- E. Line

**Exercise 2**

- A. Fourth Space
- B. Second Line
- C. First line
- D. Third Space
- E. Fourth Line
- F. First Line
- G. First Space
- H. Second Space
- I. Third Line
- J. Third Space
- K. Fourth Space
- L. First Line
- M. First Space
- N. Second Line
- O. Third Space

**Exercise 3**

- A. Second one higher, first one lower
- B. First one higher, second one lower
- C. Second one higher, first one lower
- D. Second one higher, first one lower
- E. First one higher, second one lower
- F. Second one higher, first one lower
- G. First one higher, second one lower

- H. Second one higher, first one lower
- I. Second one higher, first one lower
- J. First one higher, second one lower
- K. Second one higher, first one lower
- L. Second one higher, first one lower
- M. First one higher, second one lower
- N. First one higher, second one lower
- O. Second one higher, first one lower

**Exercise 4**

- A. Four notes lower
- B. Three notes lower
- C. Five notes higher
- D. Six notes higher
- E. Four notes higher

**Exercise 5** - Answers given after each test**Exercise 6**

- A. D
- B. E
- C. G
- D. A
- E. B
- F. F
- G. C
- H. C
- I. E
- J. D
- K. A
- L. G
- M. B
- N. E

- O. E
- P. F

**Exercise 7** Answers given after each test**Exercise 9** Answers given after each test**Exercise 10**

- A. Right Hand
- B. Left Hand
- C. Left Hand
- D. Right Hand
- E. Left Hand
- F. Left Hand
- G. Right hand
- H. Right Hand
- I. Both hands

**Exercise 11**

- A. C
- B. D
- C. G
- D. G
- E. F
- F. E
- G. A
- H. E

# Print Out & Cut Out Keyboard Note Strips

C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## North Kent Music Lessons

[www.northkentmusiclessons.co.uk](http://www.northkentmusiclessons.co.uk)

This publication © 2023 Richard James Scarff

This publication may not be copied whole or in part, shared, loaned or transmitted by electronic means or any other method without the permission of R J Scarff

