

## WHEN YOU BECOME MORE EXPERIENCED



- Focus your attention on another part, such as the bass line or an inner line. Then try switching your attention to different musical lines at random points in the piece.
- Take note of stylistic features of the pieces, common to the composer and the stylistic period. Try and notice them when they occur in your own repertoire.
- Follow harmonic progressions, listen to the colour changes at key changes and modulations. Once again, transfer the listening skills you acquire to your own playing.
- Notice any interpretation differences between different recordings of the same piece.
- Build up your knowledge of stylistic approaches to interpretation, for example articulation and touch used in Bach, the use of rubato (particularly in the Romantic period) and so on.
- Listen to more works of the same composer and for the same instrument(s) and to other recordings of the same performer.
- Read about the time period, genre, composer and performer.
- If you are a pianist, or have basic piano skills, start developing your ability to simplify/reduce orchestral and vocal scores at sight.
- Notice the differences between editions.

BRACE - SHOWS THE SAME INSTRUMENT TYPE, IN THIS CASE - VIOLIN

GERMAN INSTRUMENT NAME ABBREVIATIONS

SQUARE BRACKET - SHOWS INSTRUMENTS OF THE SAME FAMILY IN THIS CASE - STRINGS

The diagram shows a vertical staff with five staves. The top two staves are labeled '1. Viol.' and '2. Viol.'. The third staff is labeled 'Br.'. The fourth staff is labeled 'Vcl.'. The bottom staff is labeled 'K-B.'. A blue brace groups the two violin staves. A blue arrow points to the 'Br.' label. A blue square bracket groups the 'Vcl.' and 'K-B.' staves.

## SOME EXTRA BASIC INFO



-Orchestral scores usually follow the following layout (from the top of the page to the bottom):

- Woodwind instruments - from highest to lowest
- Brass instruments - French horn, then from highest to lowest
- Percussion
- Harp
- Bowed string instruments - from highest to lowest.

Of course there are other instruments which are sometimes needed, such as the piano, but above is the general layout. Also, there are usually two groups of violins, which are written on separate staves. However the double woodwind instrument parts are often written on single staves for each type of instrument.

SYSTEM DIVIDERS MAKE IT MORE OBVIOUS WHERE A NEW SYSTEM BEGINS. A SYSTEM IS THE COLLECTION OF ALL THE INDIVIDUAL STAVES OF THE DIFFERENT INSTRUMENTS, WHICH ARE MEANT TO BE READ SIMULTANEOUSLY. IN A WAY, A SYSTEM IS LIKE ONE LINE OF MUSIC. IDEALLY, YOU NEED TO BE CONSTANTLY SCANNING THROUGH THE WHOLE SYSTEM, VERTICALLY AND HORIZONTALLY TO BE AWARE OF WHAT THE WHOLE ENSEMBLE IS DOING. NATURALLY, THOUGH, THE MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, JUST ALL THOSE STAVES SIMULTANEOUSLY.