

# Chapter 8

## The Music Heading

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### 8.1 The Music Heading

At the beginning of a piece of braille music, any textual directions for style and pace (tempo and mood) are tabulated along with metronome indications, the key signature, and the time signature. Per section 1.7 of MBC-2015, this tabulation or combination is called the music heading.

Generally preceded by a blank line, the music heading is centered with at least three blank cells on each side. The music begins on the next line.

You have already learned to transcribe key signatures and time signatures. If there are no textual directions or metronome indications, your music heading will be the combination of the key signature and time signature. After centering this unspaced combination, begin the music on the next line of braille.

### 8.2 Textual Directions for Style and Pace

If there are textual directions at the beginning of the music, they are brailled as the first element of the music heading. These words are brailled in full spelling, without contractions or typeform indicators. The words are capitalized and punctuated according to the print, and are always terminated by a literary period when no other final punctuation is present.

Example 8.2.1

The image shows two examples of musical notation and their corresponding Braille representations. The first example is for the tempo marking "Andante" in a key signature of three flats and a 4/4 time signature. The Braille representation consists of two lines of Braille cells. The second example is for the dynamic marking "Very Brightly" in a key signature of two sharps and a 3/8 time signature. The Braille representation consists of three lines of Braille cells.



Example 8.3.2

**Andante** ♩ = 132

If the print copy shows two note values, instead of a note value and a number, the braille copy shows the two note values. Parentheses that enclose the metronome marking in print are omitted in braille.

Example 8.3.3

**Prestissimo** (♩ = ♩)

Metronome indications in print music sometimes show the word "circa" or "about," the abbreviation "ca.," or some other word to remind the musician that the metronome marking is an approximation. Any such word or abbreviation is transcribed at the beginning of the braille metronome indication and is followed by a space.

Example 8.3.4

♩ = circa 60	ca. ♩ = 60	about ♩ = 60

The metronome indication is usually placed between the textual words and the signatures. If there is not room for the entire centered heading on a single line of braille, then the metronome indication and the signatures are centered together on a separate line.

Example 8.3.5

**Lento assai, cantante e tranquillo** (♩ = 52)

## 8.4 Proofreading

In proofreading your music heading, carefully check the spelling of all words, including accented letters. Be sure that the words are uncontracted and that they end with a literary period followed by a space. Remember, too, that parentheses around metronome indications should be omitted.

### Drills for Chapter 8

(Correct transcriptions of these drills are at the end of this chapter)

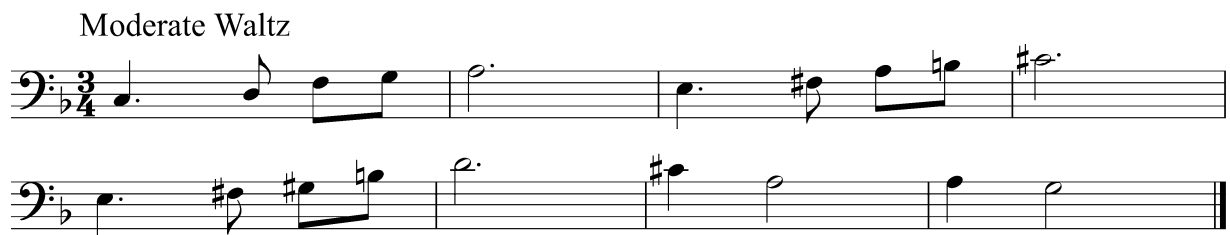
#### Drill 8.1

*Andante maestoso* (♩ = 92)



#### Drill 8.2

*Moderate Waltz*



#### Drill 8.3

*Modéré mais sans lenteur et avec élan*



Drill 8.4

**Smoothly (in 2)** (ca. ♩ = 90)



Drill 8.5

**Ben marcato** (♩ = 112)



## Exercises for Chapter 8

(Submit the following exercises to your instructor in BRF file format)

### Exercise 8.1

*Gently, with emotion* (♩ = 72)



Musical score for Exercise 8.1, featuring two staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked "Gently, with emotion" with a quarter note equal to 72 beats per minute. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef.

### Exercise 8.2

*Allegretto* (♩ = circa 112)



Musical score for Exercise 8.2, featuring one staff in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked "Allegretto" with a quarter note equal to approximately 112 beats per minute. The melody is written in the bass clef.

### Exercise 8.3

*Vivace* (♩ = 108)



Musical score for Exercise 8.3, featuring two staves in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked "Vivace" with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef.

### Exercise 8.4

*Leise und sehr egal zu spielen*



Musical score for Exercise 8.4, featuring three staves in 6/8 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The instruction is "Leise und sehr egal zu spielen" (Soft and very equal to play). The melody is written in the bass clef.

# Exercise 8.5

*With expression*

The musical score consists of three staves of music in 3/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a dotted quarter note B-flat4, and an eighth note G4. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note A4, a dotted quarter note B-flat4, and an eighth note G4. The third staff features a melodic line with a dotted quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a dotted quarter note B-flat4, and an eighth note G4. A dynamic marking of *8va* is placed above the first measure of the third staff, with a dashed line extending to the second measure. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

