Music Graph Paper: Grid-Aligned Staves for Clear Notation

Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

A grid square is 3 mm and the staff line spacing is 3 mm. How many grid squares equal one staff space?

Answer: One grid square equals one staff space.

Reason: Staff space equals staff line spacing, which is 3 mm. The grid square is also 3 mm, so one square equals one space.

Check: Count the grid squares between two adjacent staff lines; there should be exactly one.

Task 2

A staff system is 12 mm tall from the first line to the fifth line. What is the staff line spacing?

Answer: 3 mm.

Reason: A five-line staff has four spaces between the first and fifth lines. 12 mm divided by 4 equals 3 mm per space.

Check: Measure the distance between two adjacent lines; it should be 3 mm.

Task 3

A page is 180 mm wide with 10 mm margins on each side. The grid square is 2 mm. How many grid squares are available horizontally?

Answer: 80 grid squares.

Reason: Available width is 180 - 20 = 160 mm. 160 mm divided by 2 mm per square equals 80 squares.

Check: Count the squares across the usable width; there should be 80.

Task 4

A measure spans 6 grid squares. The grid square is 2.5 mm. What is the measure width in millimetres?

Answer: 15 mm.

Reason: 6 squares multiplied by 2.5 mm per square equals 15 mm.

Check: Measure the distance between two bar lines; it should be 15 mm.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Grid square size is stated and divides the staff line spacing evenly.
- [ ] Staff lines are drawn at consistent spacing across the page.
- [ ] Clefs are placed with their reference point on the correct staff line.
- [ ] Noteheads are centred on lines or in spaces consistently.
- [ ] Bar lines are vertical and cross all five staff lines.
- [ ] A legend states grid size, staff spacing, and grid-to-space relationship.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are allowed if notehead size and spacing remain consistent and legible.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?