Bass Clef with 4-, 5-, and 6-Line Tab Staves: A Writing and Practice Guide

Worked example / complete source key

A page has one bass clef staff (5 lines), one four-line tab staff, one five-line tab staff, and one six-line tab staff. There are three gaps of 8 mm between the four staves. The page is 250 mm tall. Using hypothetical values, find the total line count and the remaining vertical space after subtracting gaps, assuming each staff occupies 15 mm of height.

Answer: Total lines = 5 + 4 + 5 + 6 = 20. Total staff height = 4 × 15 = 60 mm. Total gaps = 3 × 8 = 24 mm. Used space = 60 + 24 = 84 mm. Remaining space = 250 − 84 = 166 mm. This remaining space can hold rhythm bands and margins; the values are hypothetical and should be replaced by measurements of your equipment.