Tenor Clef Staff Paper: Copy, Compose, and Label Notes

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Write and label four notes on tenor clef staff paper: the bottom line, the space above the bottom line, the third line from the bottom, and the space above the third line.

Answer: Bottom line: D3. Space above bottom line: E3. Third line from bottom: A3. Space above third line: B3.

Reason: In tenor clef the lines from bottom to top are D3, F3, A3, C4, E4. The spaces are E3, G3, B3, D4. The bottom line is D3, the space above it is E3, the third line is A3, and the space above it is B3.

Check: Recount each note from the fourth-line C4 reference: C4 is the fourth line; one line down is A3; one space down is B3; two lines down is F3; the bottom line is D3. Confirm each label matches.

Task 2

A learner writes a note on the second space from the bottom and labels it A3. Using tenor clef, is the label correct? If not, give the correct label and explain the error.

Answer: The label is not correct. The second space from the bottom is G3, not A3.

Reason: The spaces from bottom to top are E3, G3, B3, D4. The second space is G3. A3 is the third line from the bottom, so the learner confused a space with a line.

Check: Count spaces from the bottom: first space E3, second space G3. Then count lines: third line A3. Compare the position type (space versus line) before accepting the label.

Task 3

Compose a three-note passage on tenor clef staff paper using only the fourth line, the space above it, and the line above that space. Label each note and state the interval direction from the first note to the third.

Answer: Fourth line: C4. Space above: D4. Line above that space: E4. The passage moves upward from C4 to E4.

Reason: The fourth line is C4. The space above it is D4. The next line above is E4. The direction from the first note to the third is upward by two staff degrees.

Check: Verify each position by counting from the fourth-line C4: one space up is D4, one line up from that space is E4. Confirm the direction is upward and the labels are C4, D4, E4.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

On a system with tenor clef, a note is written one space below the bottom line. Another note is written one line below the bottom line. Label both notes and explain how you counted.

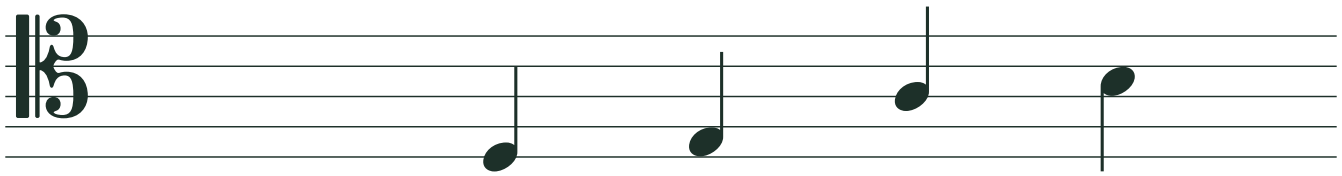
Answer: One space below the bottom line is C3. One line below the bottom line is B2.

Reason: The bottom line is D3. One space below it is C3. One line below the bottom line is B2. Counting outward from the staff changes the letter name by one staff degree per step.

Check: Start at the bottom line D3, step down one space to C3, then step down one line to B2. Check that each step changes the letter name by one and that the direction is downward.

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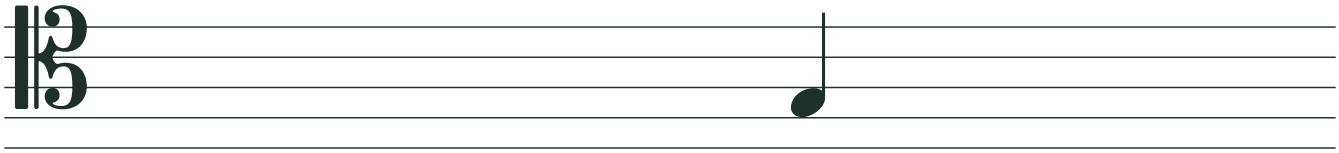
Task 1 / exact tenor-clef note names



D3 E3 A3 B3

Tenor Clef Staff Paper: Copy, Compose, and Label Notes

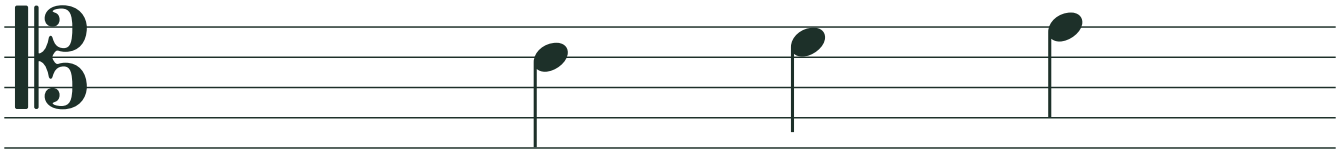
Task 2 / exact tenor-clef note names



G3

Tenor Clef Staff Paper: Copy, Compose, and Label Notes

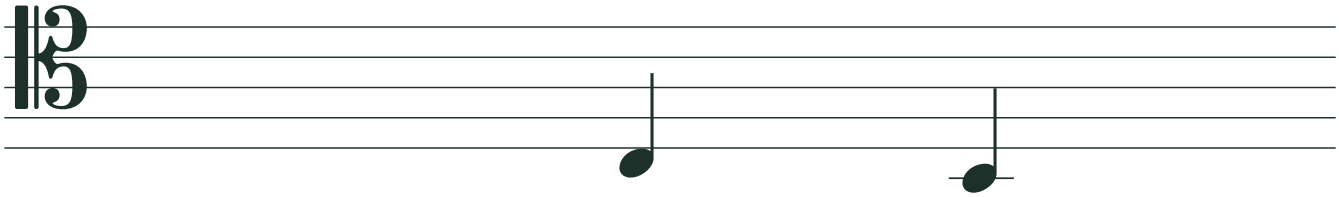
Task 3 / exact tenor-clef note names



C4 D4 E4

Tenor Clef Staff Paper: Copy, Compose, and Label Notes

Task 4 / exact tenor-clef note names



C3 B2

Tenor Clef Staff Paper: Copy, Compose, and Label Notes

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Clef reference: the tenor clef opening is aligned with the fourth line on every system, or the reference is otherwise clearly marked.
- [ ] Note placement: every note head is centered on a line or in a space, with no ambiguous positions.
- [ ] Label accuracy: every note name matches the tenor clef reference, counted from the fourth-line C4.
- [ ] Consistency: stem direction and clef shape follow one readable convention, even if that convention differs from the example.
- [ ] Legibility: another reader can identify the clef, the notes, and the labels without guessing.

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