

Quarter Notes

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by Bruce Gust

Knowing how to read music is a skill that, while it's not always necessary, when it is needed, there's no way around it.

In most churches, the Praise and Worship set can be prepared for by referring to a pre-recorded CD that's been passed out prior to rehearsal. There, you can hear the progression and the melody and have a good idea of what you need to play come downbeat.

But there are other situations where you're dealing with an original arrangement and the only template you have to consider is the manuscript sitting on your stand. And if you don't know how to read it, you're in an awkward spot.

Thing is, it's not really that difficult to learn. It's like anything else that's worthwhile in life - it takes time and sacrifice. But this isn't rocket science. It's just a matter of spending a little time learning what certain patterns that you're already familiar with look like when they're written out using musical notation.

For the next three months, I'm going to be basing my contribution to iLevite.com on a three part series geared for the person who wants to learn how to read music. This particular article kicks off that series with the all important quarter note.

All of what you're about to read / here comes from my book, "The Starting Line," which is actually three books broken up into three different texts. If you follow the link below, you'll be given access to a "comp" version of Book One, which includes a detailed text and a series of audio examples that effectively teach what the quarter note is and how it looks in musical literature.

Once you click on the link, open up the documents entitled, "Chapter One" and "Chapter Two" located under the "Part Two: Reading" pull down menu.

If you have any questions, please give me a holler at bruce@brucegust.com.

Here's the link: <http://brucegust.com/StartingLine/eBookOne/eBookOneComp.asp>

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