

Glossary of Musical Terms

Composer: person who creates and writes down the music

Dynamics: “louds” and “softs”

Forte: loud

Piano: soft

Articulation: the way the notes are played (for example legato or staccato)

Staccato: choppy articulation

Legato: smooth articulation

Tempo: speed (fast/slow/medium)

Pitch: how high or low a tone is

Timbre: sound peculiar to a particular instrument

Tutti: all instruments playing at the same time