



MUSIC DYNAMICS REFERENCE POSTER



DYNAMICS = THE VOLUME OF THE MUSIC

SYMBOL	TERM	MEANING	SOUND
<i>ppp</i>	pianississimo (pee-an-iss-iss-ee-moh)	Very, very soft	
<i>pp</i>	pianissimo (pee-an-iss-ee-moh)	Very soft	
<i>p</i>	piano (pee-ah-noh)	Soft	
<i>mp</i>	mezzo piano (mez-zoh pee-ah-noh)	Moderately soft	
<i>mf</i>	mezzo forte (mez-zoh for-teh)	Moderately loud	
<i>f</i>	forte (for-teh)	Loud	
<i>ff</i>	fortissimo (for-tiss-ee-moh)	Very loud	
<i>fff</i>	fortississimo (for-tiss-iss-ee-moh)	Very, very loud	

CHANGE IN DYNAMICS

CRESCENDO

gradually getting louder



<
(cres.)

DECRESCENDO

gradually getting softer



>
(decresc.)

DIMINUENDO

gradually becoming softer



(dim.)



TIP: Good musicians listen, watch the conductor, and follow the dynamic signs to shape the music.