

# DYNAMICS are...

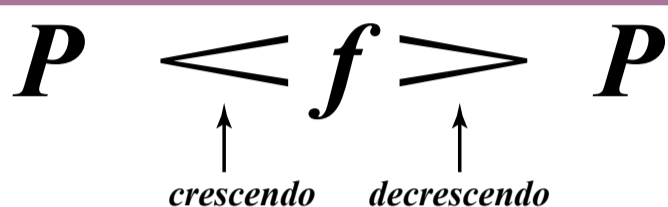
the markings which tell the performers how loud or quiet to play.

*p*  
means *piano* = quiet

**crescendo**  
means 'getting louder'.

*f*  
means *forte* = loud

**decrescendo**  
means 'getting quieter'.



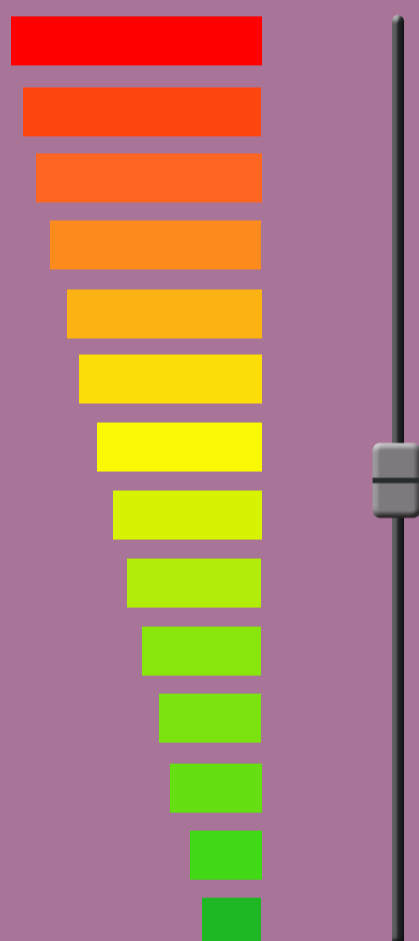
Some other important terms:

**Fortissimo** (*ff*)  
...means 'very loud'.

**Mezzo forte** (*mf*)  
...means 'moderately loud'.

**Mezzo piano** (*mp*)  
...means 'moderately soft' or 'moderately quiet'.

**Pianissimo** (*pp*)  
...means 'very softly' or 'very quietly'.



Also useful to know:

**crescendo**

(**getting louder**) is sometimes abbreviated to **cresc.**

**decrescendo**

(**getting quieter**) is sometimes abbreviated to **decresc.**

**diminuendo**

(**also means 'getting quieter'**) is sometimes abbreviated to **dim.**

**Sforzando**

(**means to play 'with force'**) is sometimes abbreviated to **sf z.**