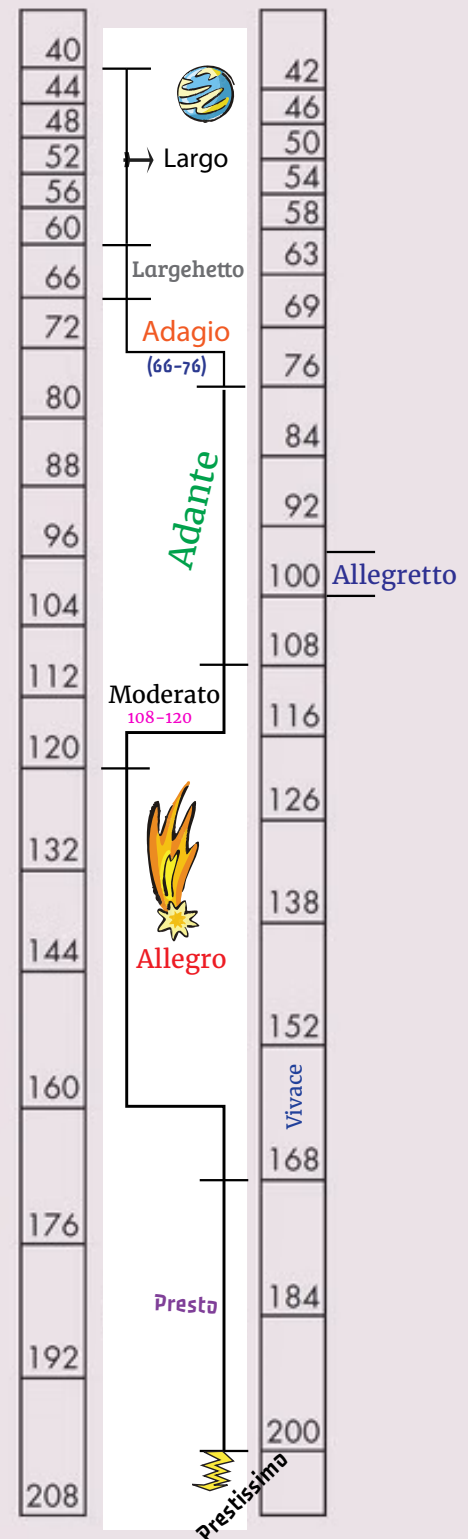


Rate of Musical Action



2. DYNAMIC MARKS (terms, signs, abbreviations) indicate the intensity of musical sound. The most frequently used marks are the following:

pianissimo (pp) = very soft
piano (p) = soft
mezzo piano (mp) = half soft
mezzo forte (mf) = half loud
forte (f) = loud
fortissimo (ff) = very loud

For gradual change of volume, the following terms are used:

crescendo (cresc.) = increasing in loudness
decrescendo (decresc.) = decreasing in loudness

Besides the basic dynamic marks, additional terms are used:

assai = very
più = more
poco = little

Ex. *più forte* = louder