

Italian Terms Glossary



Tempos (Speeds)

<u>Italian</u> <u>Meaning</u>

Adagio Slow

Andante A slow walking pace

Moderato Medium pace

Allegro Lively
Presto Very fast

Changing Tempos

Ritardando to gradually get slower Accelerando to gradually get faster

Rubato to change speed to allow for expression





Dynamics (Volumes)

<u>Italian</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	Notation
pianissimo	very soft	pp
piano	soft	p
mezzo-forte	moderately soft	mp
mezzo-piano	moderately loud	mf
forte	loud	f
fortissimo	very loud	ff

Changing Dynamics

Crescendo to gradually get louder

Diminuendo to gradually get softer