

# Explore the Compose tool

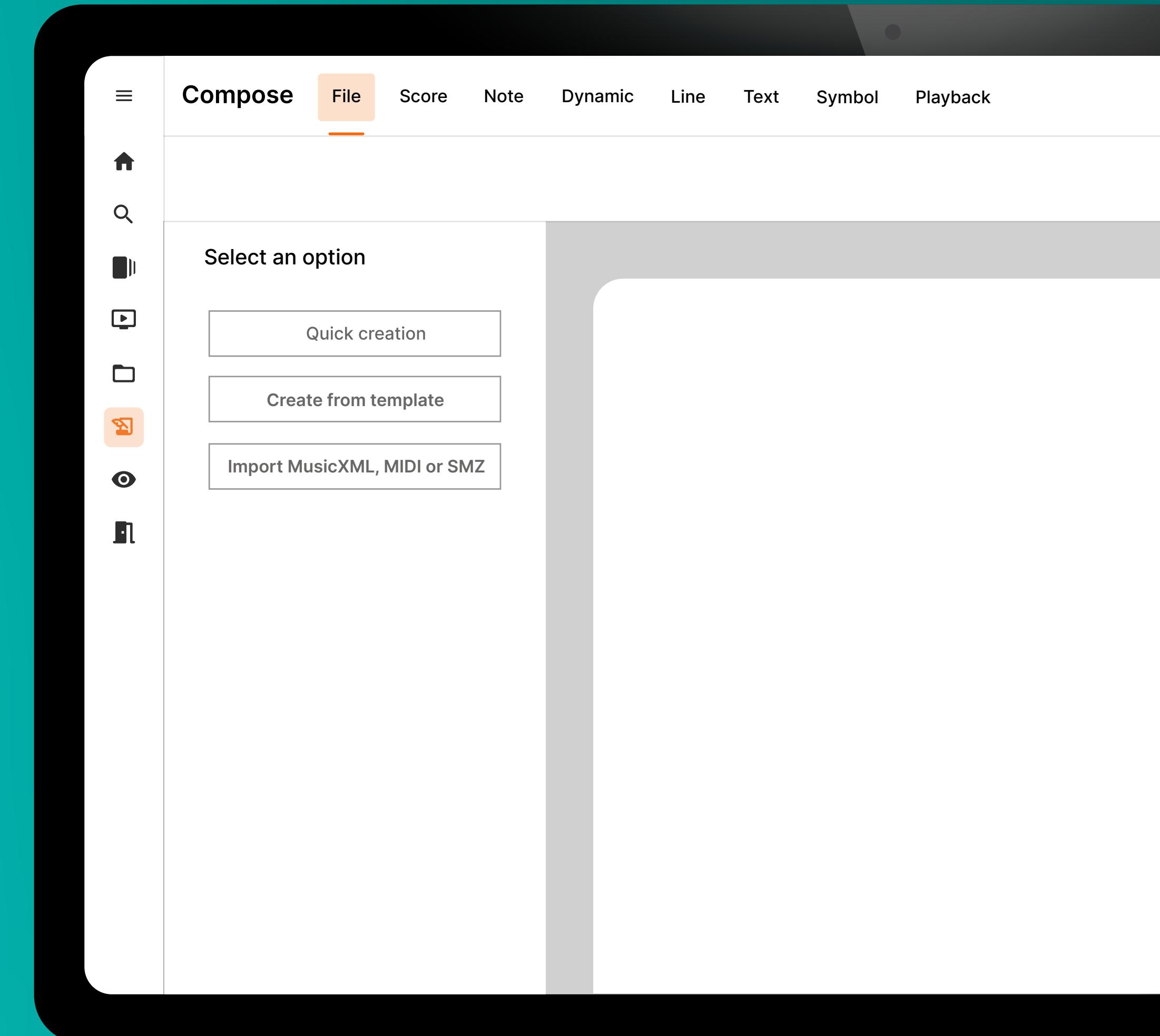
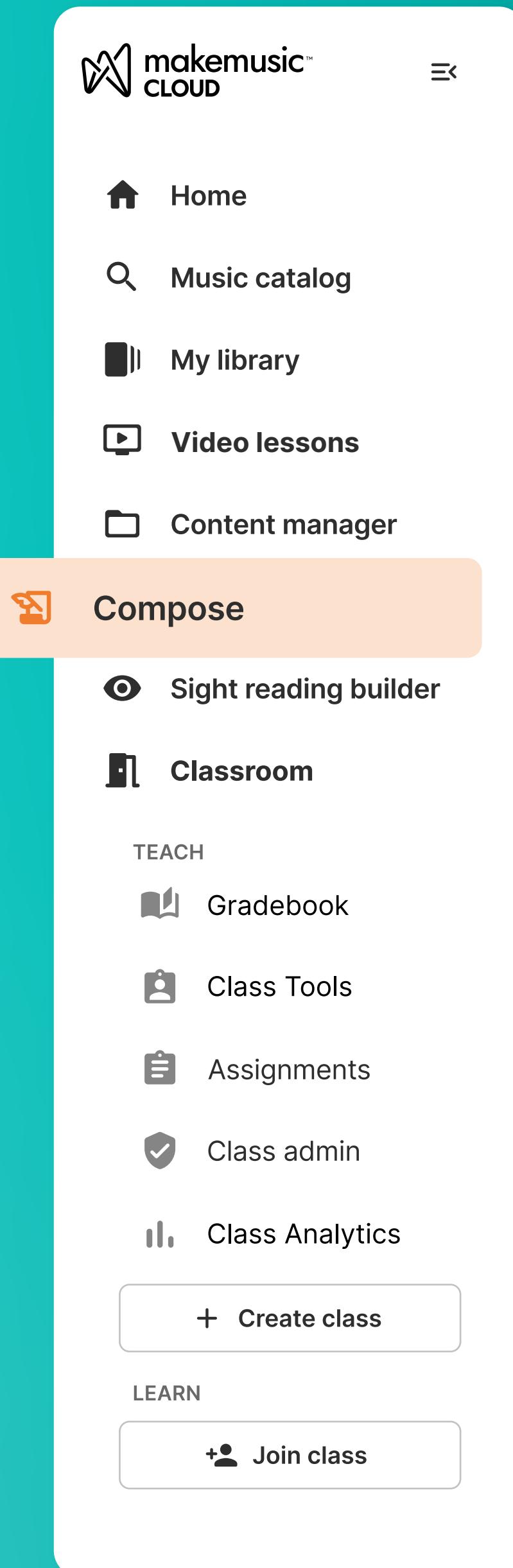
This beginner guide will help you get started!

**Open **Compose** from the main menu in MakeMusic Cloud**

## Select **Quick Creation**

(you can always add or change your instruments later!)

**Quick creation**



## Notation entry basics:

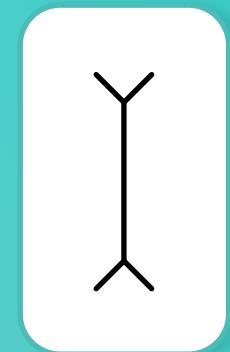
The top menu helps navigate Compose's categories of tools and options

Select a tool from this row and the left panel will show its options

The screenshot shows the Compose software interface. The top menu bar includes 'Compose', 'File', 'Score' (which is highlighted in orange), 'Note', 'Dynamic', 'Line', 'Text', 'Symbol', and 'Playback'. The left panel has a sidebar with icons for Home, Search, Score, Video, Folder, and a red-highlighted 'Score' icon. Below the sidebar is a grid of musical symbols, with the top-left cell containing a treble clef and a 'G' symbol highlighted in orange. The main workspace shows a 4/4 time signature with three measures of rests. Text fields for 'Click to add Title', 'Click to add Subtitle', and 'Click to add Composer' are visible. The bottom of the screen shows measure numbers 1, 5, and 9.

# Let's add some notes and rests:

Using the **Note** menu,  
select either the  
**Activate notes** option  
or the **Entry cursor** tool



Then select a note value

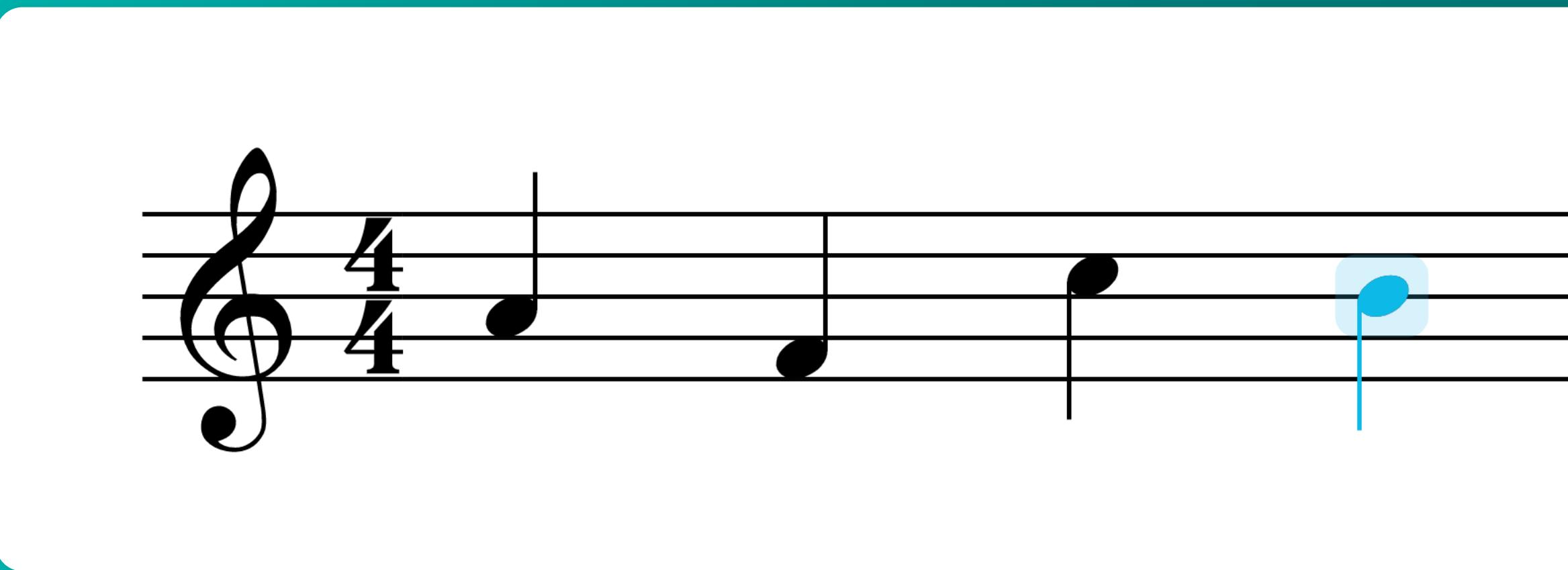


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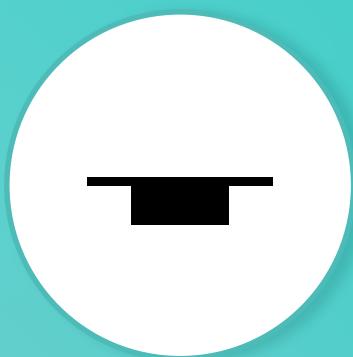
With **Activate notes**, add notes with your mouse by clicking on the staff

With the **Entry cursor**, add notes with keyboard arrows or a MIDI keyboard

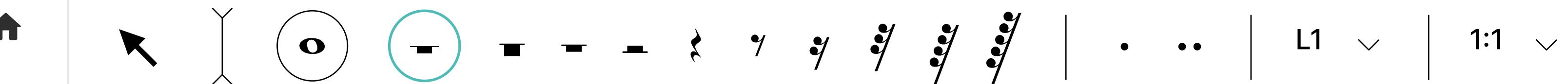
You can adjust your notes by clicking and dragging them up or down to make them higher or lower on the staff



To add rests, select a note and use the delete key or click the **Activate rests** item and enter the desired rest.

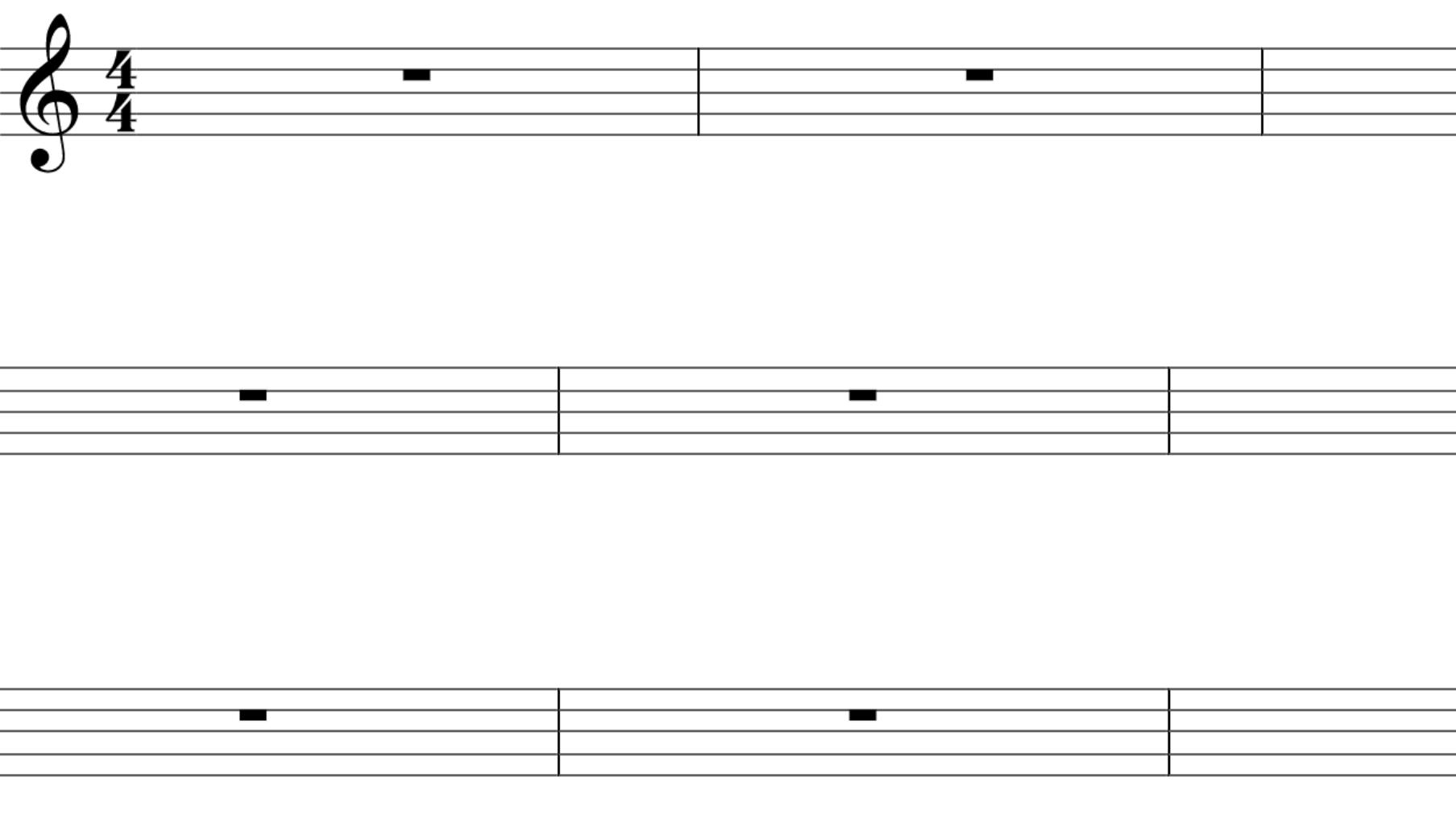


≡      **Compose**      File      Score      Note      Dynamic      Line      Text      Symbol      Playback



# Click to add Title

*Click to add Subtitle*

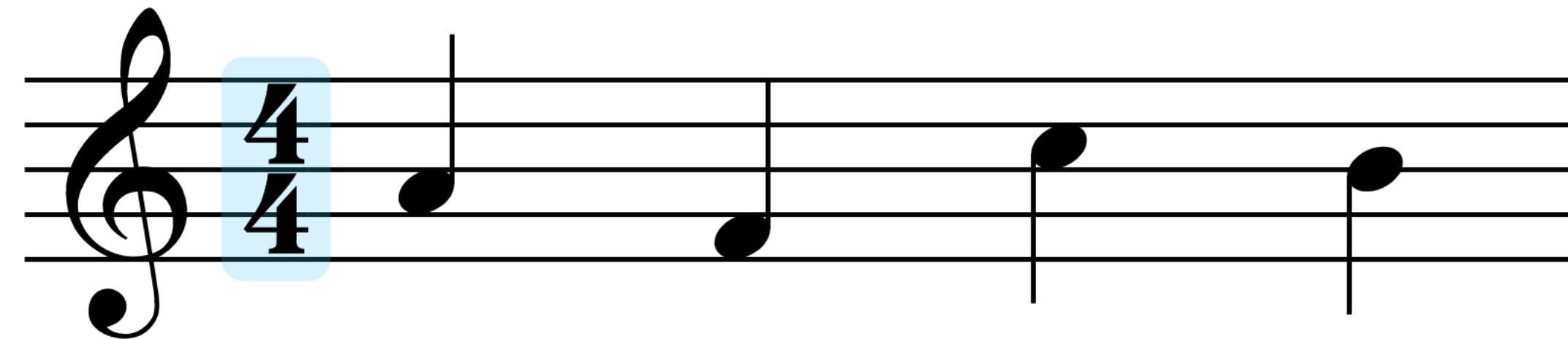
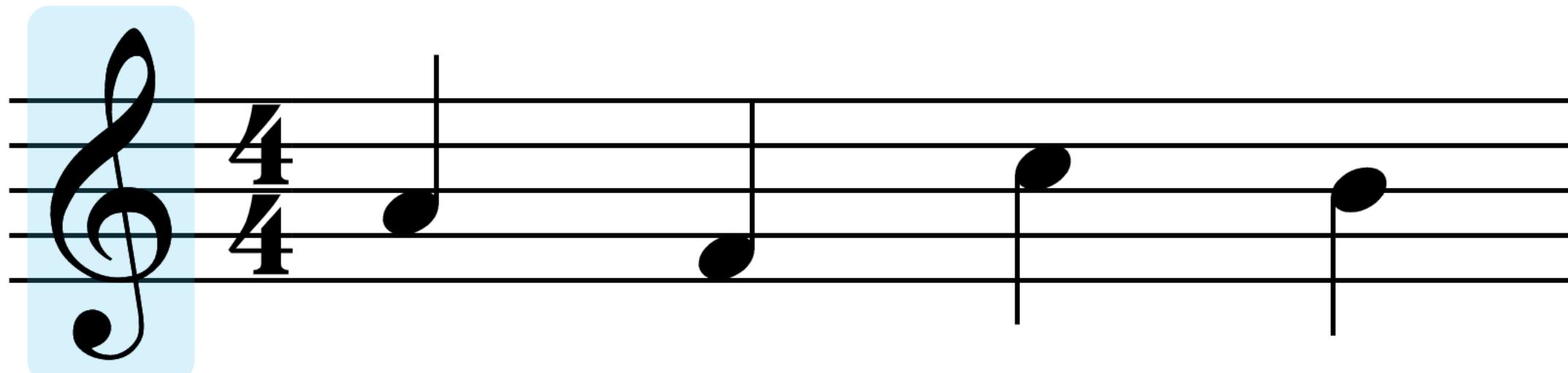


Use the **Selection** tool to adjust other elements of your score



Select the time signature or the clef in your composition to edit

View options for your selected element on the left panel.

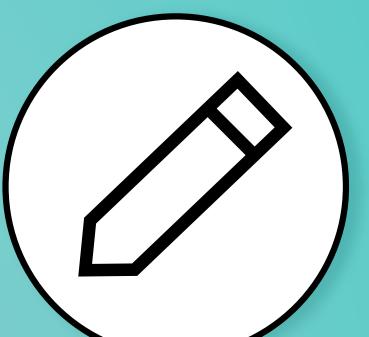


Add or edit  
instruments included  
in your score:

Select **Score** and  
then the **Staves and  
measures** tool



Select the pencil icon  
to view options



Compose File Score Note Dynamic Line Text Symbol Playback

Staff properties

Instrument Family: Woodwinds

Instrument: Flute

Full Staff Name:

Abbreviated Staff Name:

► Staff name display options

► Transposition options

► Measure numbers

► Groups, brackets, hide/show

Apply changes

► Add, remove, reorder instruments

Click to add Title

Click to add Subtitle

Click to add Composer

1 5 9 13 17

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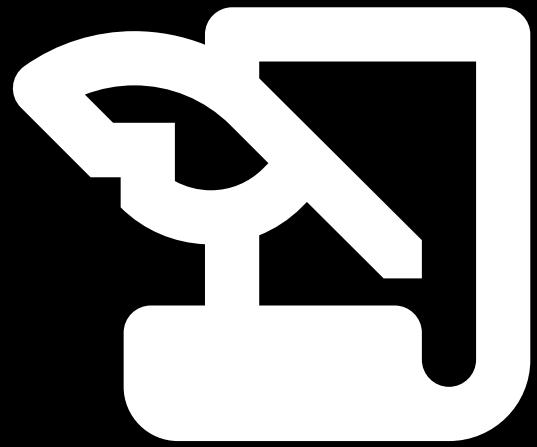
To hear your composition, use the playback controls at the top right



Use the **File** menu to share and save your composition in a variety of ways!

- Save to your MakeMusic Cloud account
- Save to Music XML
- Save to PDF
- Assign (teachers)
- Open in Practice

To learn more or find an answer to a specific question, check out the **Compose Quick User Guide** by following this link or by selecting  in Compose.



Happy composing!