

Musical Terms and Expressions

Tempo and Rhythm

Adagio slow tempo (tempo=speed at which the piece is played)

Andante walking tempo (somewhat slow but faster than *adagio*)

Andantino tempo faster than *andante*

Moderato medium tempo

Allegretto moderately fast tempo

Allegro fast tempo

Spiritoso spirited or lively tempo

ritard gradually slow down

rallentando play more and more slowly

a tempo return to the original tempo of the piece