

Bitonale

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adagio

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music starts with a whole note chord of E2 and G2, followed by a series of eighth notes. The second staff continues the eighth-note pattern, with a key signature change to one flat (Bb) in the third measure. The third staff features a melodic line with a trill (t) and a key signature change to two flats (Bb, Eb) in the fourth measure. The fourth staff continues the melodic line with a key signature change to two sharps (F#, C#) in the fifth measure. The fifth staff continues the melodic line with a key signature change to one flat (Bb) in the sixth measure. The sixth staff concludes the piece with a final key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a double bar line.

In music for beginners, true polytonality, that is, the quality of being in more than one key at the same time, is unusual to say the least. In this case the two tonalities are E and G. The a-sharp ought to be a b-flat, but there was no straightforward way of typesetting that without confusion. It can be played entirely in second position.