

Basic Tempo Markings

From slowest to fastest:

Larghissimo	very, very slow	(24 bpm and under)
Grave	very slow	(25–45 bpm)
Largo	broadly	(40–60 bpm)
Lento	slowly	(45–60 bpm)
Larghetto	rather broadly	(60–66 bpm)
Adagio	slow and stately (literally, "at ease")	(66–76 bpm)
Adagietto	slower than andante	(72–76 bpm)
Andante	at a walking pace	(76–108 bpm)
Andantino	slightly faster than Andante	(80–108 bpm)
Marcia moderato	moderately, in the manner of a march	(83–85 bpm)
Andante moderato	between andante and moderato	(92–112 bpm)
Moderato	moderately	(108–120 bpm)
Allegretto	moderately fast	(112–120 bpm)
Allegro moderato	close to but not quite allegro	(116–120 bpm)
Allegro	fast, quickly, and bright	(120–168 bpm)
Vivace	lively and fast	(168–176 bpm)
Vivacissimo	very fast and lively	(172–176 bpm)
Allegro vivace	very fast	(172–176 bpm)
Presto	very, very fast	(168–200 bpm)
Prestissimo	even faster than Presto	(200 bpm and over)

From slowest to fastest:

Rallentando	gradually slowing down
Ritardando	gradually slowing down (but not as much as rallentando)
Ritenuito	immediately slowing down
Stringendo	gradually speeding up (slowly)
Accelerando	gradually speeding up (quickly)

By adding an -issimo ending, the word is amplified. By adding an -ino or -etto ending, the word is diminished.