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)
- **Allegrissimo (Allegro vivace)** – very fast (172–176 bpm)
- **Presto** – very, very fast (168–200 bpm)
- **Prestissimo** – even faster than Presto (200 bpm and over)

Terms for tempo change:

- **Rallentando** – gradually slowing down
- **Ritardando** – gradually slowing down (but not as much as rallentando)
- **Ritenuto** – 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.