



LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN



Timeline

1770	1778	1794	1800	1814	1827
Born in Bonn, Germany	At age 7, he plays his first public concert	He begins turning deaf	Composes his first ballet and his first symphony	Beethoven loses his hearing completely	Beethoven dies in Vienna, Austria

Beethoven's 9 Symphonies

Symphony No 1	1800 - Beethoven started to become popular
Symphony No 2	1802 - Beethoven's hearing was quickly disappearing.
Symphony No 3	1805 - This marked the start of the 'Romantic' period.
Symphony No 4	1807 - A much sadder and more moody piece of music.
Symphony No 5	1808 - Possibly the most well-known symphony in the world.
Symphony No 6	1808 - As a keen walker, Beethoven made this symphony all about nature.
Symphony No 7	1813 - One of his most popular pieces.
Symphony No 8	1814 - Beethoven was now composing completely deaf.
Symphony No 9	1824 - His final masterpiece was his longest and most complicated.

The Importance of Beethoven

The Greatest Composer in the World
Beethoven is seen by many as the greatest composer in the world. His work was emotional, complicated, broke musical rules and moved music from the Classical period to the Romantic period.

Determination

He still composed while almost completely deaf. During the first performance of his ninth symphony, he had to be turned around to see everyone stood clapping him as he did not hear them!

Famous Events

Deafness

Beethoven started to lose his hearing when he was 26 years old. In the last ten years of his life, his hearing was completely gone. We do not really know what caused it. The most likely cause may have been a disease from his early childhood.

Meeting Mozart

Apparently, Beethoven played piano at Mozart's home in front of him. Mozart was impressed and organised him to have lessons. Unfortunately, Beethoven's mother was poorly so he left without ever having the teacher he dreamed of.

As his hearing got worse, he could no longer hear high notes so instead he chose to use lower notes in his music which were easier for him to hear.