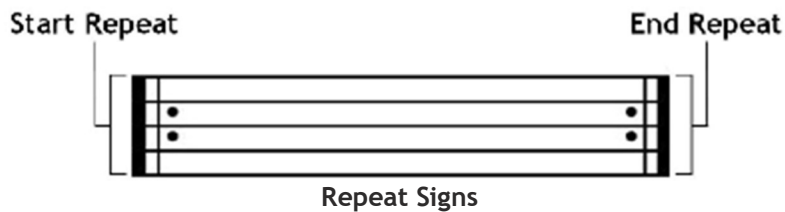# NAVIGATING THE MUSICAL "ROAD MAP"

Repeats

A repeat sign is a thick bar line next to a thin bar line and two dots. The dots face towards the section to be repeated. A repeat sign can be either a "start repeat" or an "end repeat."

Repeat Signs

If an end repeat appears without a start repeat before it, go back to the beginning of the music and sing it all again. The repeat is to be taken only one time unless otherwise specified.

Repeats - Example 1

In this example, sing the first four bars twice and then continue.

If a start repeat sign is shown, sing until the end repeat, go back to the start repeat, and then continue.

Repeats - Example 2

In this example, sing up to and including bar 2, repeat bar 2, and then continue singing through bar 3.

Endings

Endings - Example 1

In this example, sing to the end repeat in bar 4, then go back to bar 1. On the second time through, skip bar 4 (the first ending) and goes straight to bar 5 (the second ending).

Endings - Example 2

In this example, sing the repeated section four times: three times using endings 1 through 3, then taking the 4th ending the 4th time.

Da Capo, Dal Segno, Al Fine, Al Coda, etc.

D.C. al Fine

D.C. al Fine means go back to the beginning (da Capo) and sing to the instruction (al "Fine") (pronounced "feen") which signifies the end of the music.

In this example, sing bars 1 through 4, go back to the beginning, and end the piece at the end of bar 2.

D.C. al Coda

A coda is this symbol: The coda is used to identify a special ending. *D.C. al Coda* means go back to the beginning, sing to the instruction "To Coda," and then skip ahead to the coda symbol.
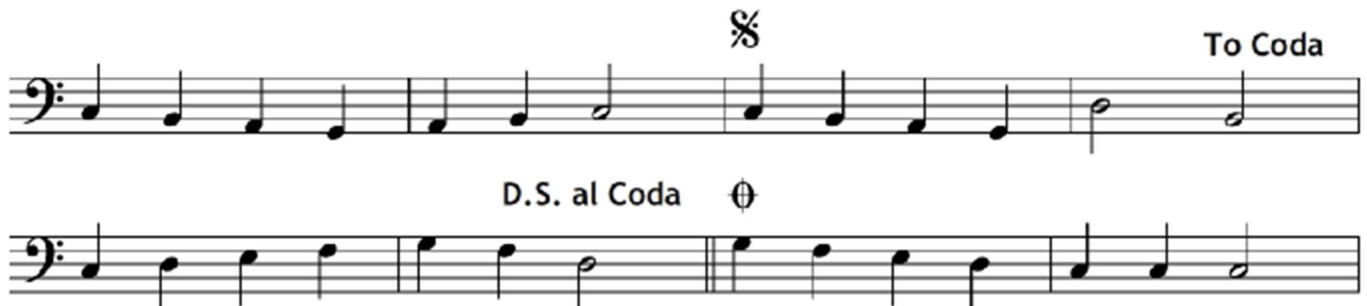
In this example: Sing bars 1 through 6. Go back to the beginning (D.C.). Sing bars 1 and 2. Skip to bar 7 (the Coda) and continue.

D.S. al Coda

D.S. is an abbreviation for *dal segno*, meaning "from the sign," and tells the singer to go back to the sign.

This is what the sign looks like:

D.S. is also followed by an instruction. *D.S. al Coda* means to go back to the sign, sing to the instruction "To Coda," and then jump forward in the music to the coda symbol.

In this example: Sing bars 1 through 6. Go back to the sign in bar 3 (D.S.). Sing bars 3 and 4, then skip to bar 7 and continue.

IMPORTANT: The **first** time you come across "To Coda," ignore it. **After** you see a D.C. or D.S. and go back to the beginning or to the sign, **then** you skip to the coda when you see "To Coda."