The middle line of a standard 5-line staff is used for unison notes (all 8 players). The line above that is used for high unison notes (4 players, Medium-Light cymbals) and the line below is used for low unison notes (4 players, Medium-Heavy cymbals).

Each space within the staff is used to indicate 2-player groupings – the top space is for the outside high players, the next space down is for the inside high players, etc.

Different articulation marks and noteheads are used to distinguish the 8 different playing techniques. Any note with a regular notehead and no articulation mark is a crash.

An accent mark ( > ) indicates emphasis on the performed note and can be applied to any of the techniques above.