

## Rhythmic Concepts

**Music-** Sound organized in time.

**Beats-** Beats are the recurring pulse of the music we play.

**Tempo-** Tempo defines the speed of the beats. It is usually defined by beats per minute. A metronome marking of 60 means 60 beats a minute or 1 beat per second, 120 is 2 beats a second.

**Sub-division-** The even division of time felt in each beat. The most common sub-divisions are 2, 3 and 4 per beat. The sub division felt can change frequently in a performance. Subdividing the beat increases rhythmic accuracy.

**Whole Notes-** Our notation system is based on a whole note. The bottom number of a time signature defines the value of a whole note. Once a whole note length is established the other rhythmic values can be determined.

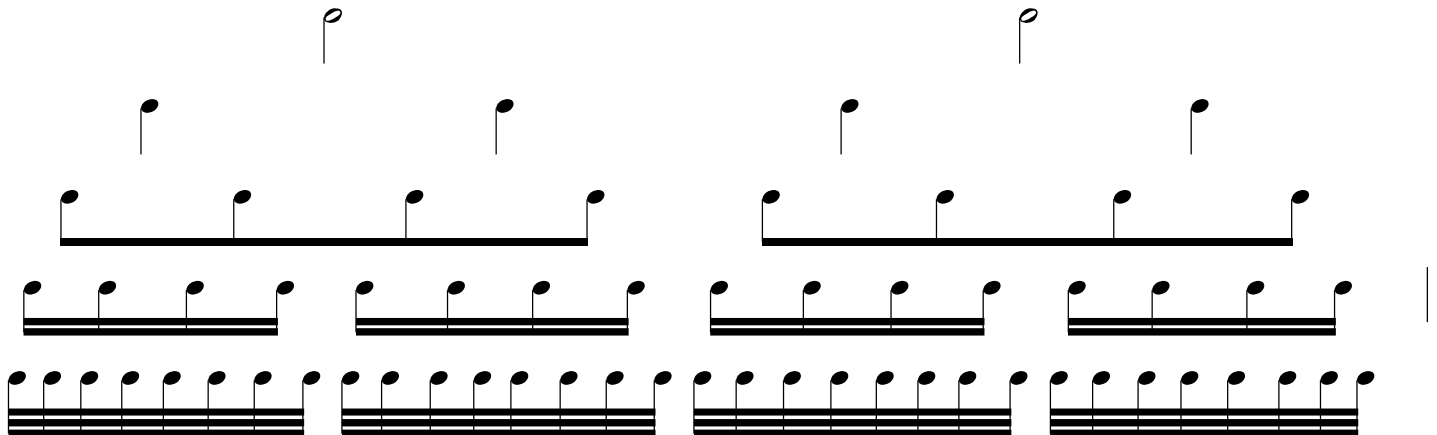
**A quarter note does not always equal one beat! A whole note does not always equal four!**

**Simple time signatures** have a subdivision of 2 notes per beat. Any time signature can be considered a simple time signature depending on the tempo. The most common simple time signatures have a 4 or 2 as the bottom number. However time signatures with an 8 or 16 on the bottom could be considered simple time if the tempo is slow enough that each 8th note or 16th note gets one beat.

**Compound time signatures** have a subdivision of 3 notes per beat. The most common simple time signatures have an 8 or 16 as the bottom number. However, time signatures with a 4 or 2 on the bottom could be considered compound time if the top number is divisible by 3 and if the tempo is fast enough that three quarter or half notes get one beat.

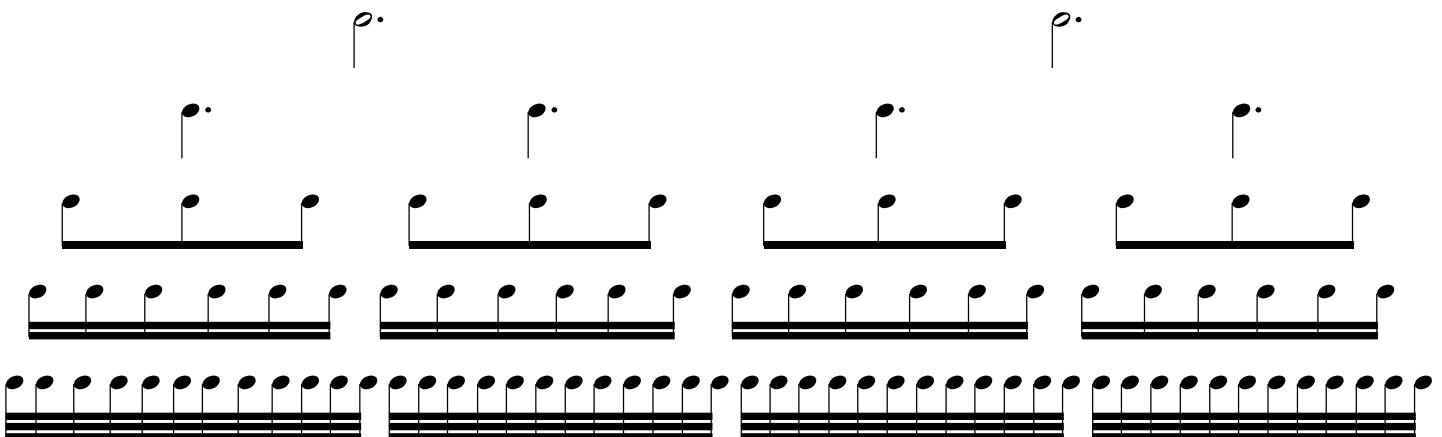
## Rhythmic Values

o



## Dotted Rhythmic Values

o.



## Rhythmic Concepts

### *Simple Time Signature Counting- 4 on bottom*

4 beats 2 beats 1 beat

(x) (x) (x) (x) + (x) + (x) + (x) e + a (x) + a (x) e + (x) e a (x) a (x) e

### *Simple Time Signature Counting - 4 on bottom with common triplets*

(x) trip - let (x) let (x) trip (x) a trip a let a (x) trip a let a (x) a trip let a (x) a trip a let (x) a trip let (x) trip let a (x) trip let a

### *Simple Time Signature Counting- 2 on bottom*

2 beats 1 beat

(x) (x) (x) + (x) e + a (x) + a (x) e + (x) e a (x) a (x) e

### *Simple Time Signature Counting- 2 on bottom with common triplets*

(x) trip let (x) let (x) trip (x) a trip a let a (x) trip a let a (x) a trip let a (x) a trip let (x) trip let a (x) trip let a

eighth note gets the beat

### *Simple Time Signature Counting- 8 on bottom*

4 beats 2 beats

(x) (x) (x) (x) + (x) + (x) + (x) + (x) (x) (x) e + a (x) + a (x) e + (x) e a (x) a (x) e

### *Simple Time Signature Counting- 8 on bottom with common triplets*

eighth note gets the beat

(x) trip let (x) let (x) trip (x) a trip a let a (x) trip a let a (x) a trip let a (x) a trip a let (x) a trip let (x) trip let a (x) trip let a

## Rhythmic Concepts

### Compound Time Signature Counting- 8 on bottom

4 beats      2 beats      1 beat

(x)      (x)      (x)      (x) trip let      (x) let      (x) let      (x) trip

(x) a trip a let a (x) trip a let a (x) a trip let a (x) a let

(x) a trip a let (x) a trip let (x) trip a let (x) trip let a

### Compound Time Signature Counting- 16 on bottom

4 beats      2 beats      1 beat

(x)      (x)      (x)      (x) trip let (x) let (x) let (x) trip

(x) a trip a let a (x) trip a let a (x) a trip let a (x) a let

(x) a trip a let (x) a trip let (x) trip a let (x) trip let a

dotted half gets the beat

### Compound Time Signature Counting- 4 on bottom

2 beats      1 beat

(x)      (x)      (x) trip let (x) let (x) trip (x) let (x) a trip a let a

(x) trip a let a (x) a trip let a (x) trip a let a (x) a let (x) a let

dotted whole gets the beat

### Compound Time Signature Counting- 2 on bottom

1 beat

(x)      (x) trip let (x) let (x) trip (x) let (x) a trip a let a

(x) trip a let a (x) a trip let a (x) a let (x) a trip a let (x) a trip let (x) trip a let (x) trip let a