Sixteenth Notes

Add a flag to the stem of a quarter note and it becomes an 8th note

Add a flag to the stem of an 8th note and it becomes a 16th NOTE

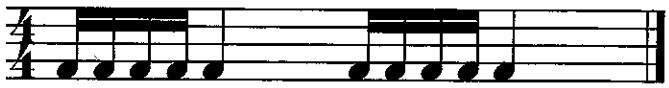
In $\frac{4}{4}$ time: Two 16th notes equal the duration of one 8th note. =

Four 16th notes equal the duration of one quarter note. =

In $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{4}{4}$ time:

a 16th note is equal to one-quarter count.

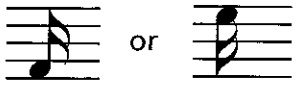
For four 16th notes, count "1 e & a" or "ti-ri ti-ri."



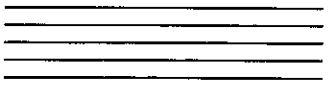
1 e & a 2 (e & a) 3 e & a 4 (e & a)
Ti-ri ti- ri Ta Ti-ri ti- ri Ta

16th notes can be drawn:

- with flags attached to the stems for one 16th note.



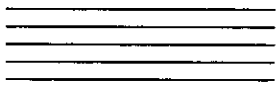
or



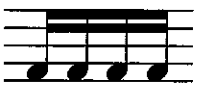
- or with 2 beams for two or more 16th notes.

Write four 16th notes.

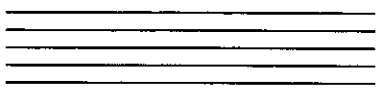
or



Write two 16th notes.

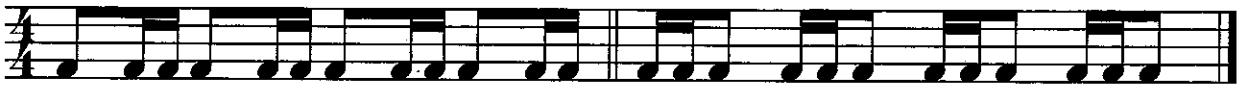


or



Write four 16th notes.

16th notes can also be combined with 8th notes:

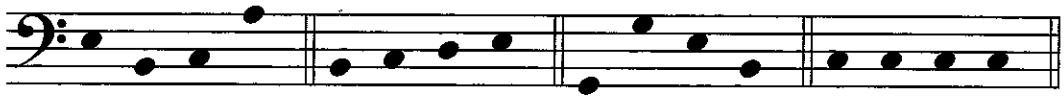


1 (e) & a 2 (e) & a 3 (e) & a 4 (e) & a
ti ti- ri ti ti- ri ti ti- ri ti ti- ri

1 e & (a) 2 e & (a) 3 e & (a) 4 e & (a)
ti- ri ti ti- ri ti ti- ri ti ti- ri ti

Exercises

1 Add stems with flags or beams to make 16th notes as indicated.



a. Flags **b.** Beams (two sets) **c.** Flags **d.** Beam (one set)

2 Fill in the correct number:

a.____ =

b.____ =

c.____ =

d.____ =

3 Write one note equal to the value of the notes preceding it.

a. + = _____

b. + = _____

c. + = _____

d. + = _____

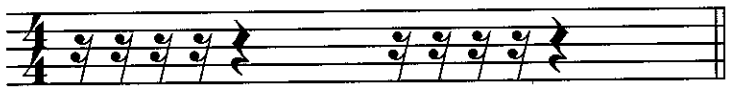
Sixteenth Rests

Add another flag to the stem of an 8th rest 𝄾 and it becomes a 16th REST 𝄿 .

In $\frac{4}{4}$ time: Two 16th rests equal the duration of one eighth rest. 𝄿 𝄿 = 𝄾

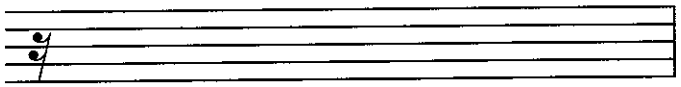
Four 16th rests equal the duration of one quarter rest. 𝄿 𝄿 𝄿 𝄿 = 𝄽

In $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{4}{4}$ time:
a 16th rest 𝄿 is equal
to one-quarter count.



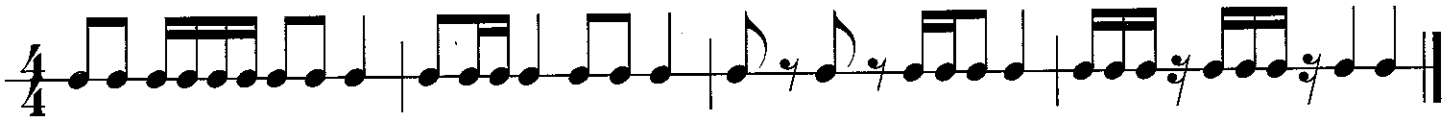
1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a

A 16th rest is drawn like this 𝄿 . Write six 16th rests.



Exercises

1 Write the counts under the following example. Clap the rhythm.

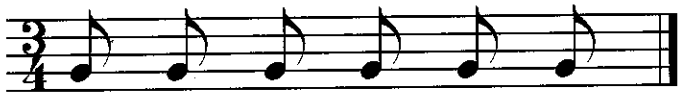


1 & 2 e & a 3 & 4 &

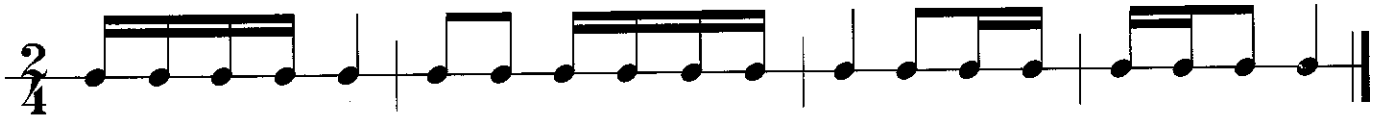
2 Fill in the correct number:

a.____ 𝄿 = 𝄽 b.____ 𝄿 = 𝅝 c.____ 𝄿 = 𝄾 d.____ 𝄿 = 𝅝

3 Change these 8th notes to 16th notes, then add 16th rests between them.

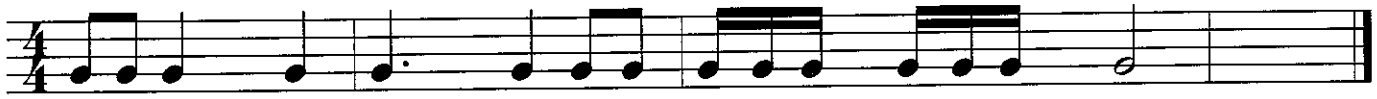


4 Write the counts under the notes below the staff.



1 e & a 2 &

5 Complete the measures below with the appropriate rests.
Write the counts under the notes and then clap the rhythm.



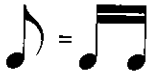
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

Dotted Eighth Notes

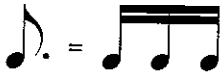
Remember: A dot after a note increases its length by one half of its original value.

An 8th note is equal to two 16th notes.

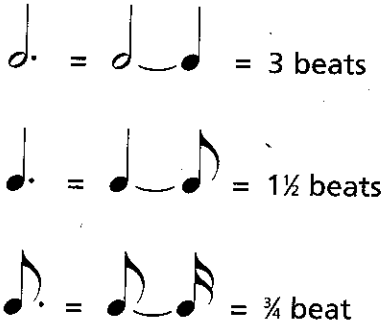


Adding a dot to an 8th note increases its value by half—¼ beat or a 16th note.

A DOTTED 8TH NOTE is equal to three 16th notes.

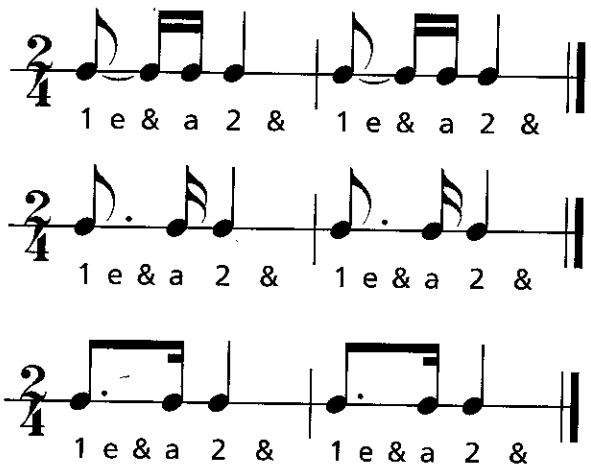


In $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{4}{4}$ time: a dotted 8th note equals ¾ of a beat.



A  is usually followed by a 

Here are three ways of writing the same rhythm:

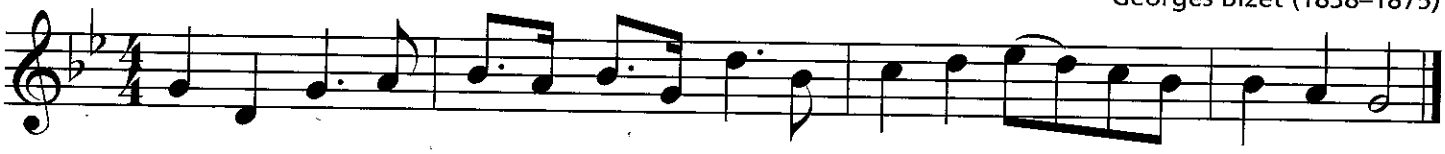


Exercises

1 Write the counts under the following example. Clap the rhythm.

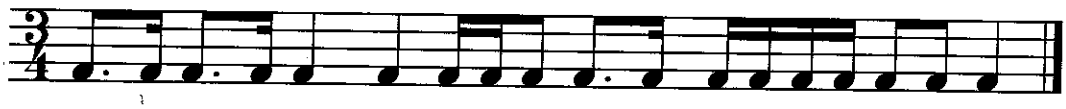
Theme from Farandole

Georges Bizet (1838–1875)

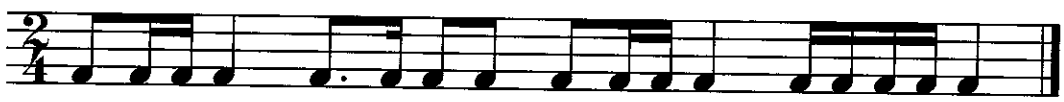


2 Add bar lines to the examples.

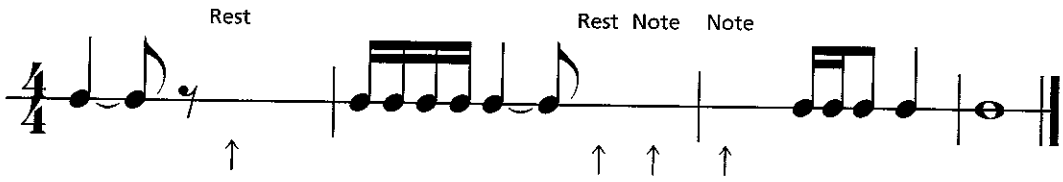
a.



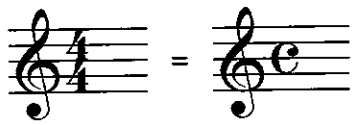
b.

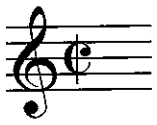


3 Complete the measures by adding a note or rest above each arrow.



Common Time and Cut Time (Alla Breve)

The time signature $\frac{4}{4}$ may also be written as $\mathbf{C}$, called COMMON TIME. 

When a vertical line passes through $\mathbf{C}$, it is known as CUT TIME $\mathbf{¢}$ (or ALLA BREVE).
The top and bottom numbers of $\frac{4}{4}$ are cut in half to $\frac{2}{2}$. 

In the time signatures of  or 

2 means there are 2 beats per measure.
2 means the half note 𝅗𝅥 receives 1 beat.

In $\frac{2}{2}$ time:

Notes	Rests				
𝅝 or	𝄻	= 2 beats	𝅗𝅥 or	𝄼	= 1 beat
𝅗𝅥. or	𝄻 𝄽	= 1½ beats	♩ or	𝄽	= ½ beat

𝅘𝅥𝅘𝅥 or	𝄾	= ½ beat
𝅘𝅥𝅯 or	𝄿	= ¼ beat

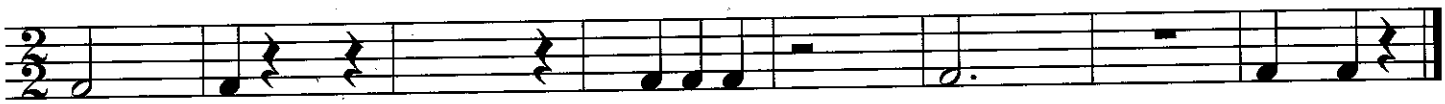
Exercises

1 $\mathbf{C}$ is known as _____time.

2 $\mathbf{¢}$ is known as _____time or_____ _____.

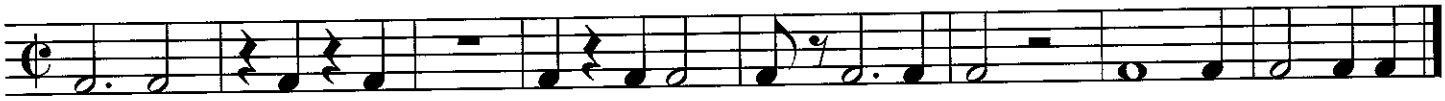
3 $\mathbf{¢}$ has _____ beats per measure and the _____ note receives one beat.

4 Complete the measures below. Use ♩ or 𝅗𝅥 notes and 𝄽 or 𝄻 rests. Clap the rhythm.

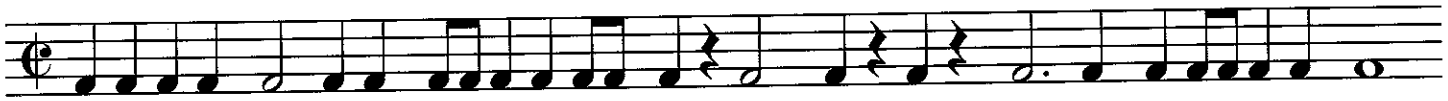


1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 &

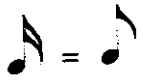
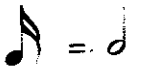
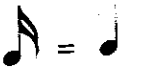
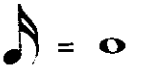
5 In the example below, circle the measures with the incorrect number of beats.



6 In the example below, draw bar lines and a double bar. Count and clap the rhythms.

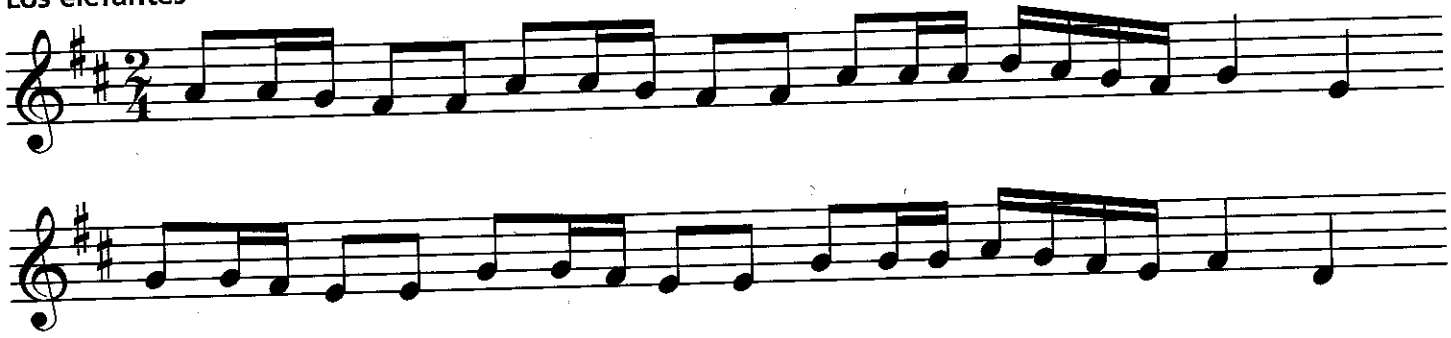


1 Fill in the correct number:

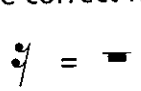
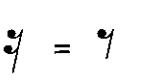
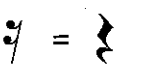
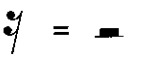
a. ____  b. ____  c. ____  d. ____ 

2 Add bar lines and a double bar to complete the example below. Clap the rhythm.

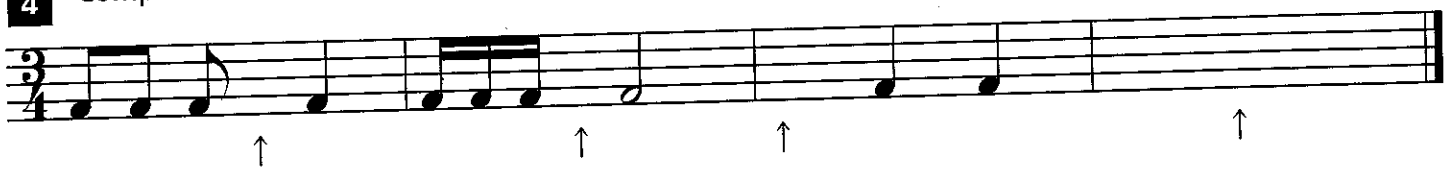
Los elefantes Argentinian Folk Song



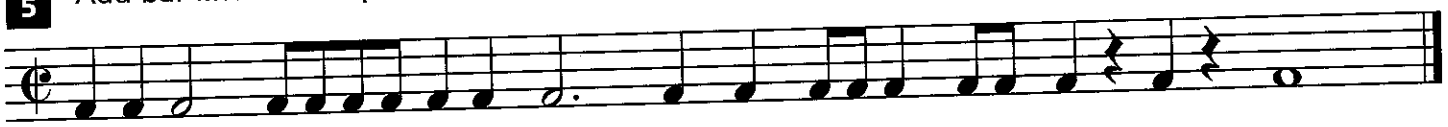
3 Fill in the correct number:

a. ____  b. ____  c. ____  d. ____ 

4 Complete the measures by adding one rest above each arrow. Clap the rhythm.



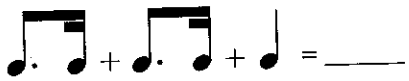
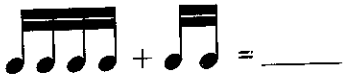
5 Add bar lines to complete the example below. Clap the rhythm.



6 Draw the stems and add dots where needed to equal 4 beats per measure.

7 Add bar lines, write the beats under the notes and clap the rhythm.

8 Write one note equal in value to the sum of the notes.

a.  b.  c. 

3/8 and 6/8 Time Signatures

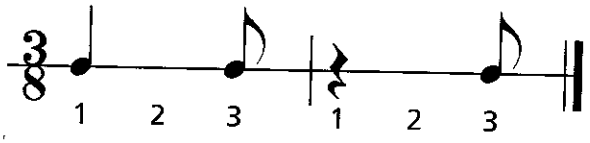
In 3/8 time:

3 means there are 3 beats per measure.
8 means the 8th note ♪ receives 1 beat.

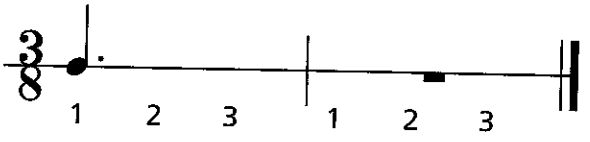
In 3/8 time:

♪ or 𝄾 = 1 beat

♩ or 𝄽 = 2 beats



♩. or 𝄼 = 3 beats



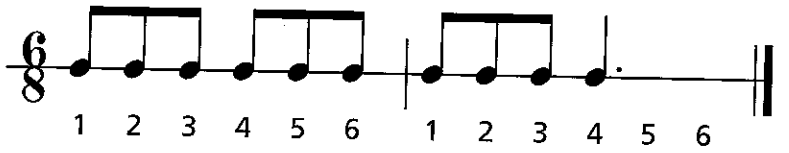
In 6/8 time:

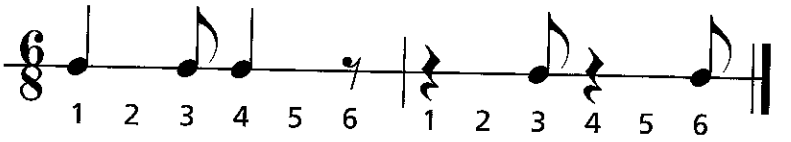
6 means there are 6 beats per measure.
8 means the 8th note ♪ receives 1 beat.

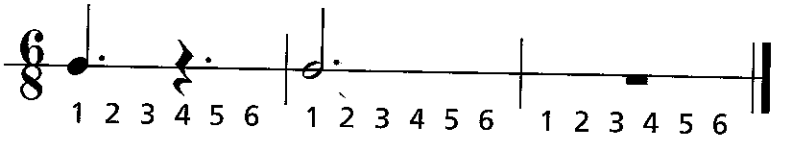
In 6/8 time:

♪ 𝄾, ♩ 𝄽 and ♩. receive the same number of beats as in 3/8 time.

In addition, 𝄽. = 3 beats, 𝅗𝅥. or 𝄼 = 6 beats







Exercises

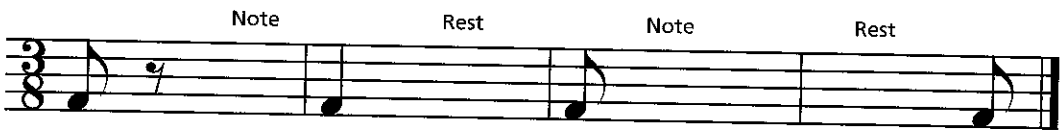
1 In the examples, circle the measures with the incorrect number of beats.

a.

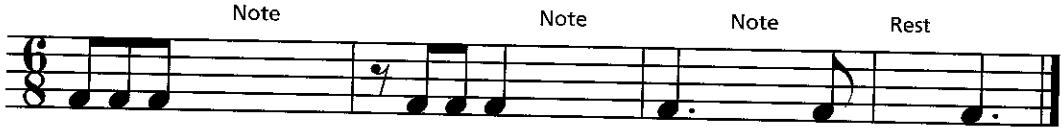
b.

2 Complete the measures, using one note or rest. Write the beats, then count and clap the rhythm.

a.



b.



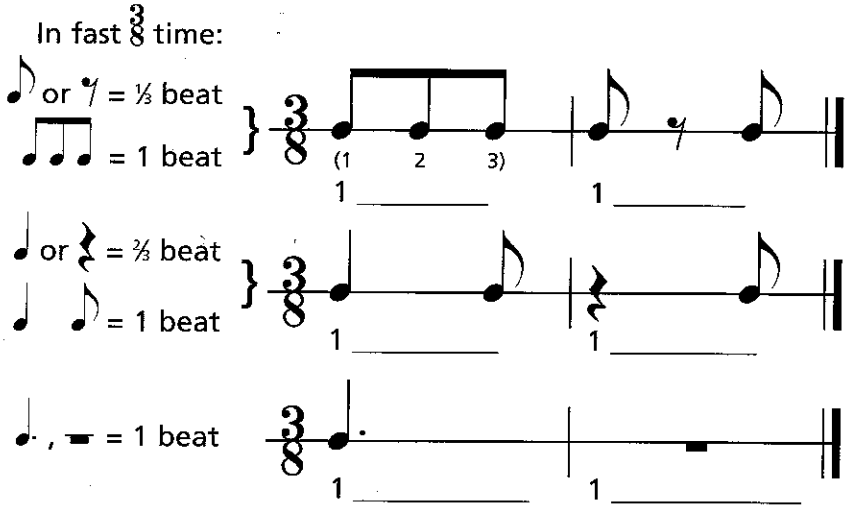
$\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{6}{8}$ Time Signatures at Fast Tempos

Remember that $\frac{4}{4}$ or C time can be cut in half to ¢ or $\frac{2}{2}$ time when the composer wants the music to be performed at a fast tempo.

$\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{6}{8}$ can also be performed at fast tempos: count each $\frac{3}{8}$ measure in 1 count and each $\frac{6}{8}$ measure in 2 counts.

There is a strong beat on 1 in $\frac{3}{8}$ time and on beats 1 and 4 in $\frac{6}{8}$ time. Because the tempo is fast, it is only necessary to count the strong beats.

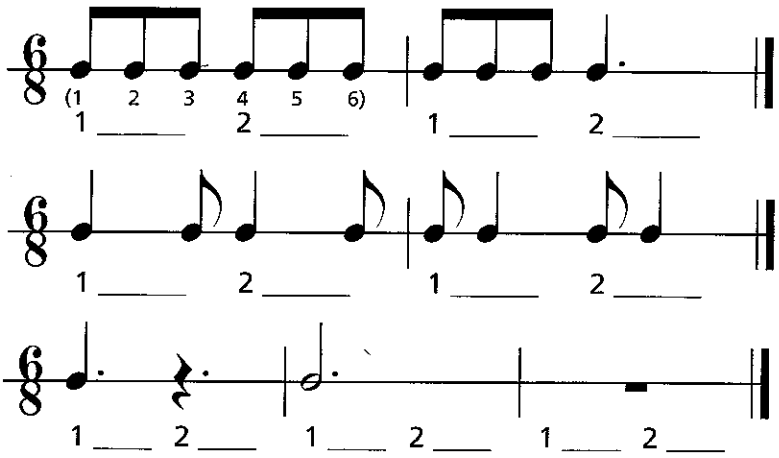
In fast $\frac{3}{8}$ time:



In fast $\frac{6}{8}$ time:

$\frac{6}{8}$, , and receive the same number of beats as in $\frac{3}{8}$ time.

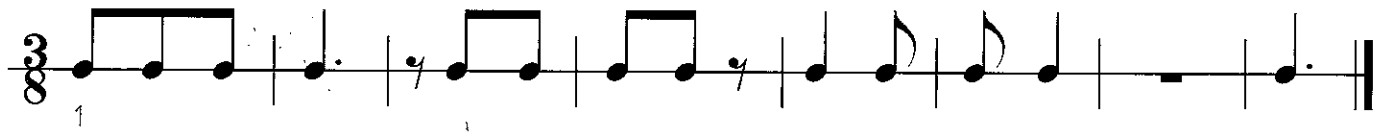
In addition, = 1 beat, or = 2 beats



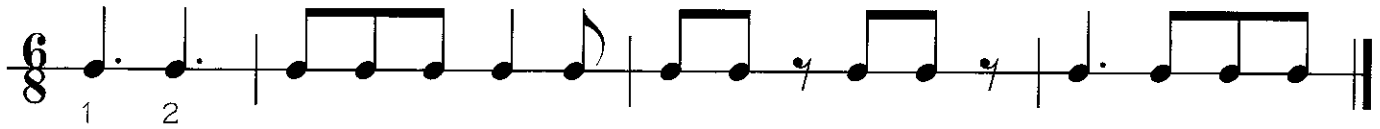
Exercises

1 Write the strong beats below the notes in a fast tempo.

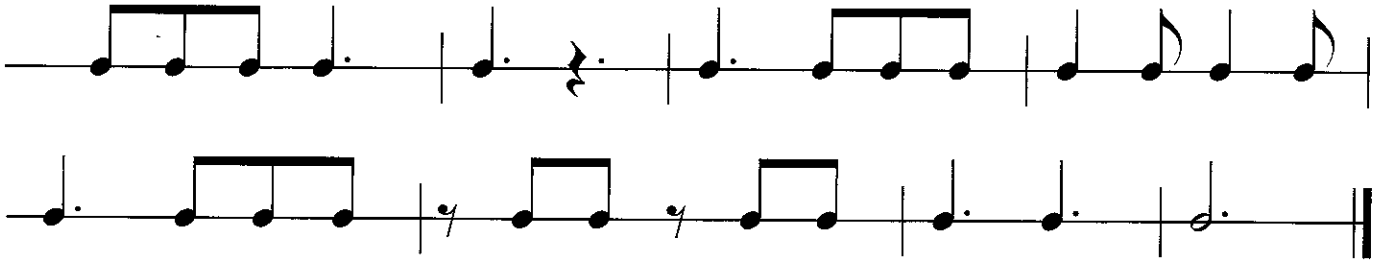
a.



b.



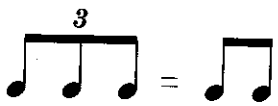
2 Write the correct time signature and the strong beats below the notes in a fast tempo.



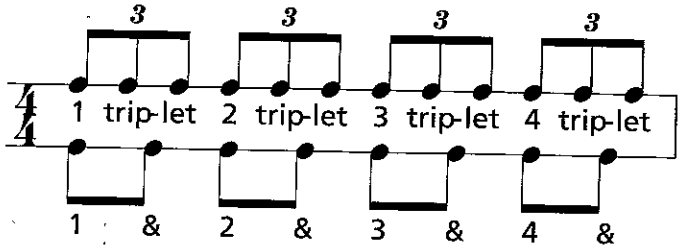
Eighth Note Triplets

When three notes are grouped together with a figure "3" above or below the notes, the group is called a TRIPLET. The 3 notes are played in the time of 2 notes of the same value. It is similar to playing $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{6}{8}$ at fast tempos.

8th NOTE TRIPLETS

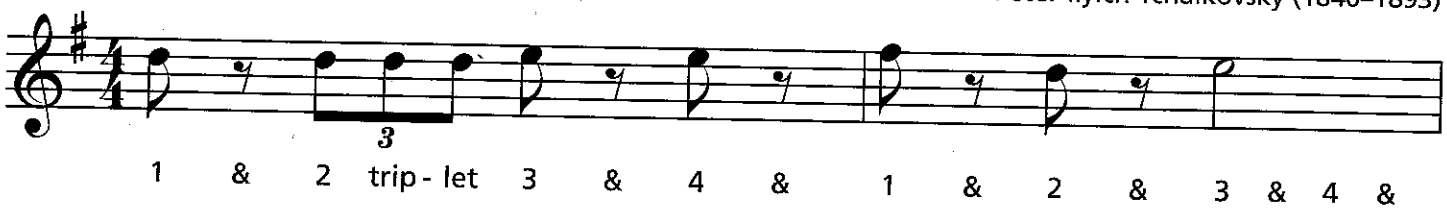


Count: trip - a - let 1 &
or: 1 trip-let



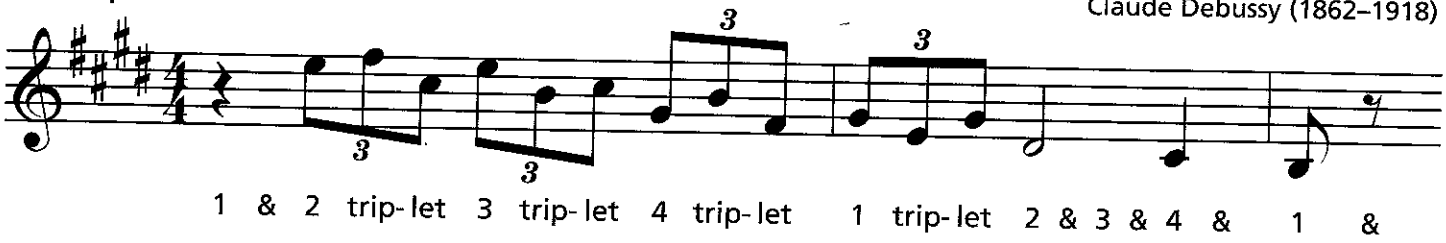
March (from the "Nutcracker Suite")

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)



Arabesque No. 1

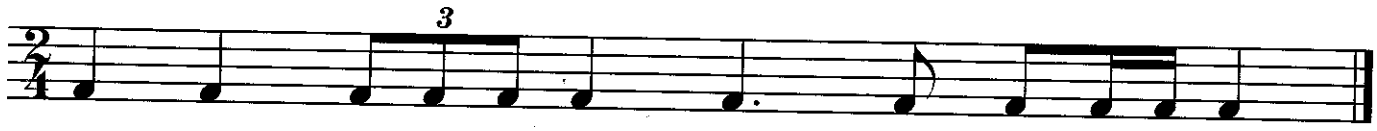
Claude Debussy (1862–1918)



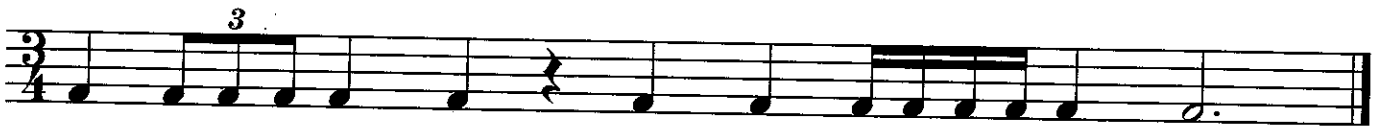
Exercises

1 For each example, add bar lines, write the beats under the notes and clap the rhythm.

a.



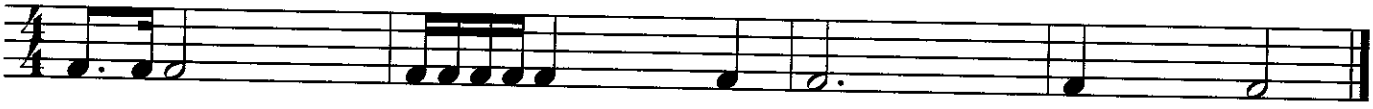
b.



2 Complete the incomplete measures below with eighth note triplets. Count and clap the rhythm.

a.

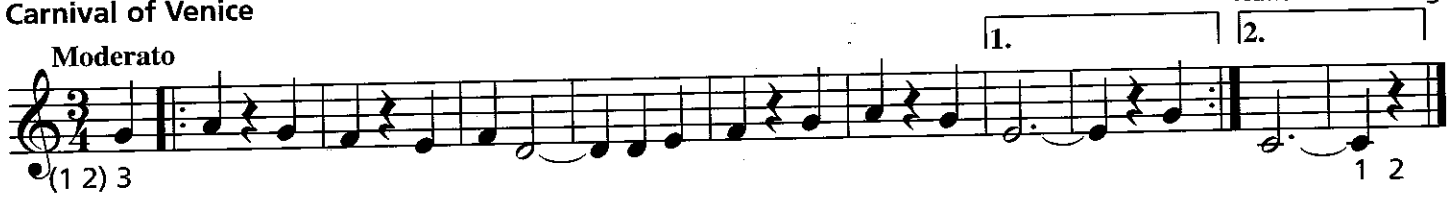
b.



Incomplete Measures (Pick-up Notes)

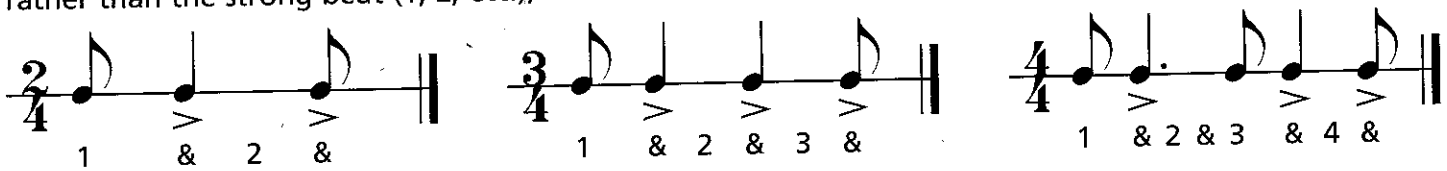
Some pieces begin with an incomplete measure. This note (or notes) is known as a PICK-UP NOTE. The following piece has only 1 beat in the first measure. The missing 2 beats are found in the last measure.

Carnival of Venice — Italian Folk Song



Syncopation

When the accent in a musical passage falls on the weak beat (&) rather than the strong beat (1, 2, etc.), it is called SYNCOPATION.

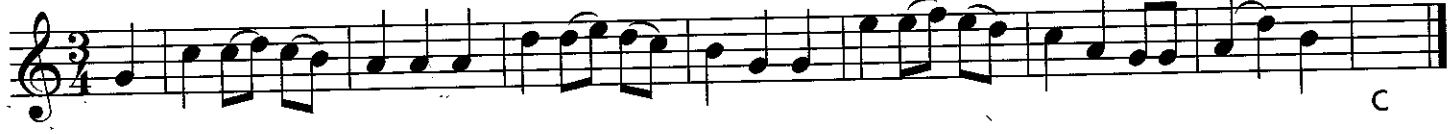


Exercises

1 Fill in the last measure of each example with the correct note value for the given note name.

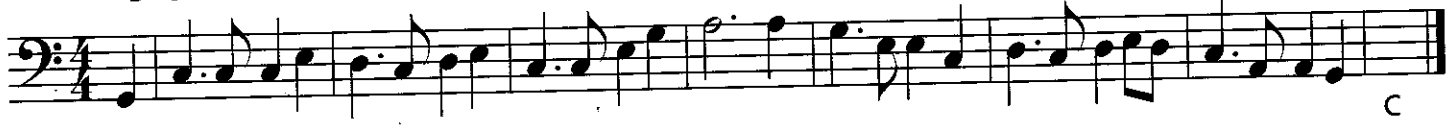
We Wish You A Merry Christmas — Traditional Carol

a.



Auld Lang Syne — Scottish Folk Song

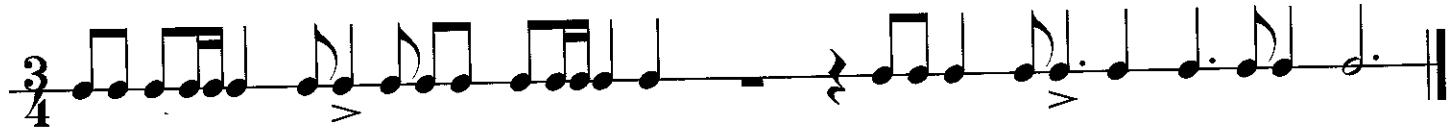
b.



2 Add bar lines and write the beats under each measure. Count and clap the rhythm.

a.

b.



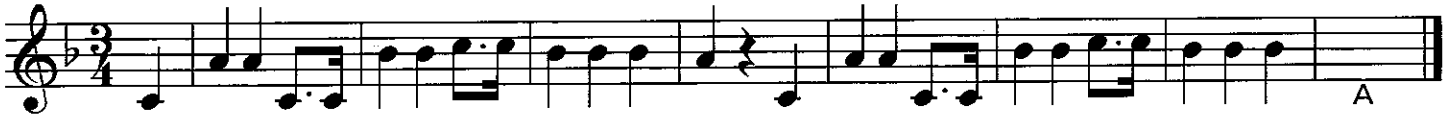
c.

REVIEW OF LESSONS 43–46

1 When the first measure is incomplete, the beginning notes are called _____ notes.

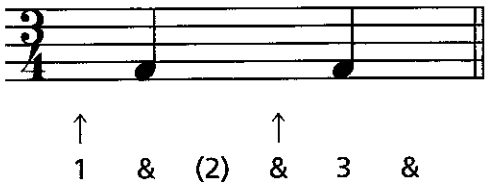
2 Complete the last measure with the correct note value for the given note name.

Star Song Austrian Folk Song



3 When the accent falls on the weak beat, it is called _____.

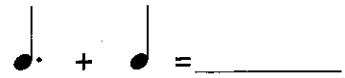
4 Fill in note values to create syncopation and complete the measure.

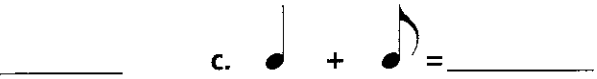


5 What type of note receives 1 beat in $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{6}{8}$ time signatures? (Circle one)

6 For $\frac{6}{8}$ time, write the total number of beats.

a.  =_____

b.  =_____

c.  =_____

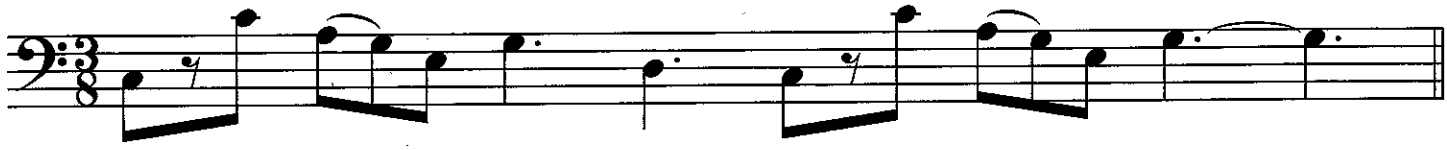
7 At fast tempos, $\frac{3}{8}$ is counted in _____, and $\frac{6}{8}$ is counted in _____.

8 At fast tempos, the note that is counted in 1 count in $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{6}{8}$ time is: (circle one)

9 Add bar lines and beats below the notes for the following examples at slow tempos.

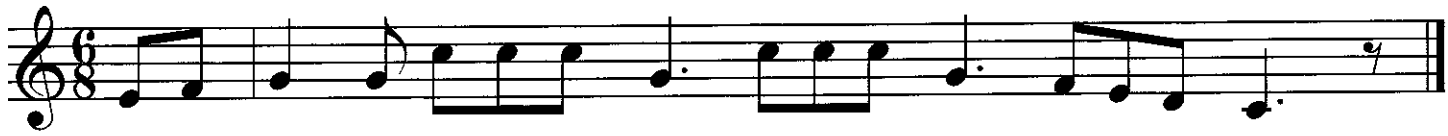
Take Me Out to the Ball Game Albert von Tilzer (1873–1956)

a.



The Flower Puerto Rican Game Song

b.



10 Three notes grouped together, which are played in the time of two notes of the same value, are called a _____.

11 Complete the incomplete measures below with 8th note triplets. Add beats below the notes.