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Rhythm Lessons

A time signature has two parts


The first number (top) tells us how many beats in a measure.

STAFF

	4	= 4 beats in a measure
		(count is 1 2 3 4)

The second part (below) tells us what kind of note gets one beat.

STAFF

	4	= 4 beats in a measure
	4	= a quarter note gets one count

Example

I 4 = 4 beats in a measure
 4 = a quarter note equals one beat

II 3 = 3 beats in a measure
 8 = an eighth note equals one beat

Rhythm Lessons

C And F Chords

The fingering for C chord and F chord is thumb-3-5.
The chord name is marked above the chord.

C F C C F

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

F C C F F C F C

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

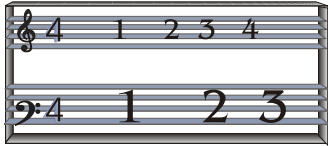
Exercise

At the Piano

1. This exercise is to practice moving your hand from one set of notes to the next set.
2. Count the beats out loud in a steady beat.
3. I recommend to practice this exercise 10 times, or until it becomes easy to play. Practice every day.

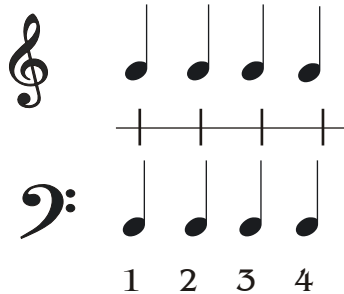
Rhythm Lessons

Hands Together

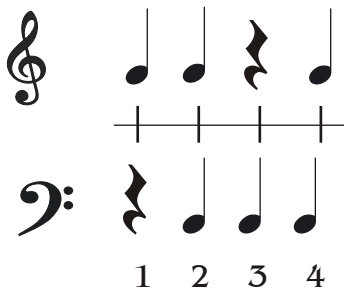


Each measure has 4 beats. The treble clef and the bass clef both play on these beats. The rhythms can be different in each hand, but they have to be played on the same beats.

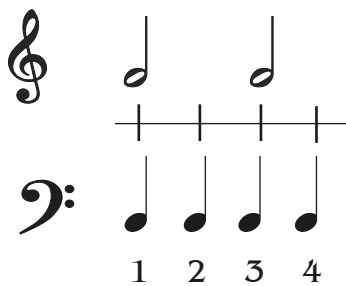
Example



The quarter notes in each hand will be played together on the 1-2-3-4 beats.



When a hand does not play a note on a beat a rest is required to fill the beats. Each beat has to be filled with a note or a rest.



In this example the right plays a half note on the 1 beat and the left hand plays a quarter note on the 1 beat. The half note is held through the 2 beat and the left hand plays a quarter note on the 2 beat. Both hands have different rhythms but must match the beats.

Johannes Brahms

C G

3 & 1 2 & 3 1 2 3 & 1 2 3 & 1 2 3 & 1 2 3 &

5 C

1 2 3 & 1 2 3 & 1 & 2 3 1 2 3 &

F C G C

1 2 3 & 1 2 3 & 1 2 3 1 2 3 &

F C G C

1 2 3 & 1 2 3 & 1 2 3 1 2

Pickup measures: This song is written in $\frac{3}{4}$ time, three beats in a measure and a quarter note = 1 beat. A pickup measure does not have to have the complete 3 beats, in the instance it has only 1 beat, so the counting would start on the 3 beat. Notice the last measure in this song, it has only 2 beats. If you put the 2 measures together you have the 3 beats. Pickup measures are very common in music.

Two new chords that can be used with "Cradle Song."
 These chords are called minor chords, listen and you will hear they sound different. The symbol for a minor chord is a small m, (Ex: Em) or E min.

E minor Chord

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

D minor Chord

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Exercise

1. Practicing E minor and D minor chord.
2. The time signature is 4/4, 4 beats in a measure and a quarter note = 1 beat.
3. Count out loud and use the correct fingering.

The following exercise is measure 3 (C Chord) practice using plus 1

Measure 9- 11

Practice this staff, measures 9-11, approximately 10-20 times. Both hands play the melody an octave apart. An octave is 8 notes, example, C to C = and octave. You can practice hands alone first, then add hands together.

Measure 15-17

Practice this staff, measures 15-17 approximately 10-20 times. Both hands play the same notes an octave apart.

Rhythm Lessons

Rhythm and Blues

Page 1

Composer
Alana LaGrange

1 F B \flat C F

1 & 2 & 3 4 1 & 2 & 3 4 1 & 2 & 3 4 1 2 3 4

5 F B \flat C F

9

1 2 & 3 4 1 & 2 & 3 4 1 2 3 4

12

Rhythm Lessons

Bluesette Analysis and practice sheet 2

Measure 4

The left hand plays octaves ascending using consecutive notes from F to B flat. Be sure to use the correct rhythm, holding the F on the 1 beat for 2 1/2 counts.

Measure 4

B \flat F

Measures 5 and 6

1. B flat chord is played in the right hand but in a different position. The rhythm is also played in a syncopation, meaning on the off beats.

Measure 5, R.H. marked by X's

Measures 5 and 6

B \flat

Measure 9

Play both the F and G with the thumb using the side of the thumb to play both notes at the same time. This leaves the hand in position to move to C7 easily.

Measure 9

G7

Measures 9 and 10
Practice measures 9 and 10 at least 10 times to get the correct fingering and rhythm.

Measures 9 and 10

G7 C7

