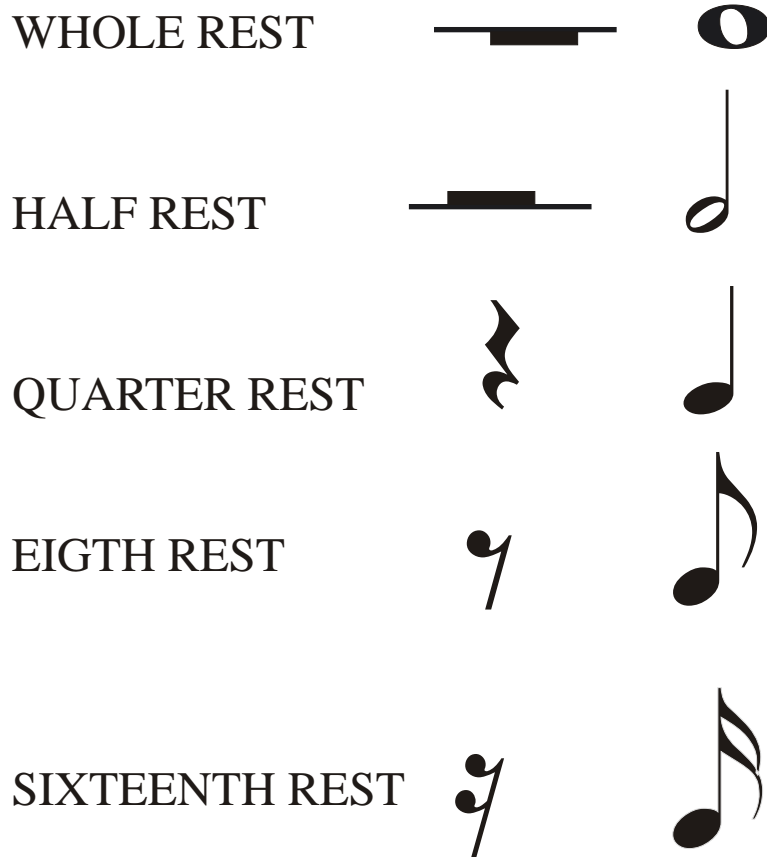


# Rhythm for the Beginning Student

Rests are moments of silence. When we speak, we also have moments of silence and pauses. For every kind of note, such as a whole note, half note, or quarter note, there is a rest with the same name and time values.



Although rests stand for silence, their time-value is a part of the rhythm. The fingers must be raised from the keyboard for rests, while the counting of the measure continues.

Rests are part of the rhythm, so the player must maintain the rhythmic plan, whether in rests or in notes.

# Rhythm for the Beginning Student

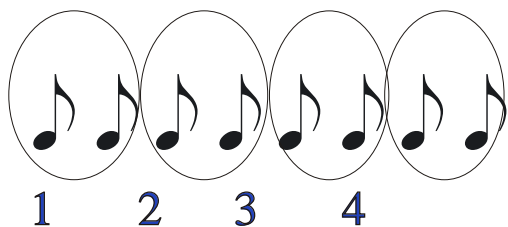


THIS IS CALLED AN EIGHTH NOTE.

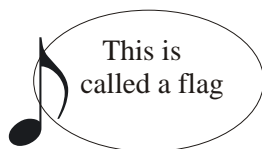
EIGHTH NOTES GET A HALF A BEAT.



TWO EIGHTH NOTES = ONE BEAT.



This is a grouping of eighth notes.



When eighth notes are written in groups a heavy cross-bar is often used in place of the flag. The purpose of the cross bars is to make the music easier to read.

Whole Note = 4 beats



Half Note = 2 beats



Quarter Note = 1 beats



Eighth Note = 1/2 beat



# Rhythm for the Beginning Student

## The Dots in Music Notation

### STACCATO

Dots used above or below a note show they must be played staccato

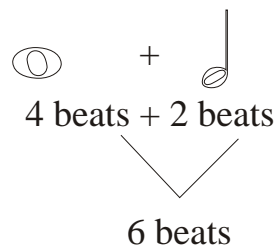


### DOTTED NOTES AND RESTS

A dot placed after a note or a rest makes its time-value half again as great.  
This example is using a 4/4 time signature

A dotted whole note

⊕ whole note + half note



A dotted half note

 half note + quarter note = 3 beats

A dotted quarter note

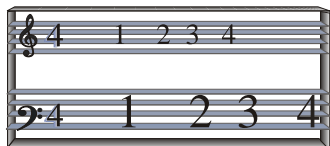
 quarter note + eighth note = 1 ½ beats

A dotted Eighth note

 Eighth note + sixteenth note + ½ + ¼

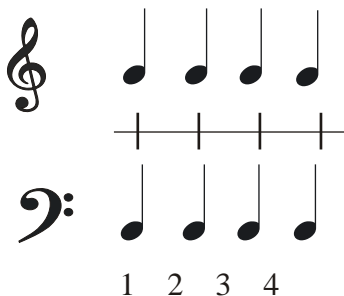
# Rhythm for the Beginning Student

## Hands Together

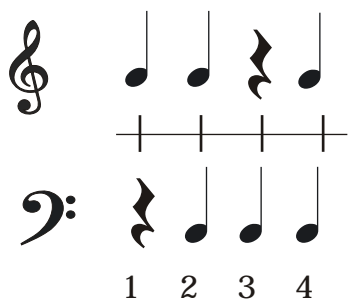


Each measure has 4 beats. The treble cleff and the bass cleff both play on these beats. The rhythms can be different in each hand, but they have to be played on the same beats.

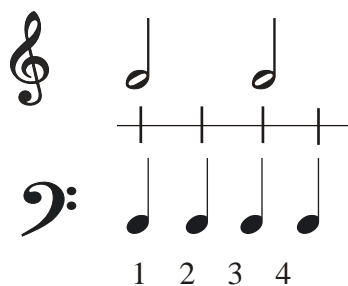
### Example



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.

# Reading Notes



The C's are the only notes that are mirrored.

Sits on the 3rd space  
In the bass clef

Sits on the 3rd space  
in the treble clef

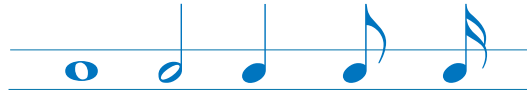
Middle

Start with middle C and count up to the next C. Did you count 8 keys?

Start with middle C and count the lines and spaces. Count to 8 and this is where this C always sits.

Do the same with the left hand except count down.

# Reading Notes



Practice makes perfect!

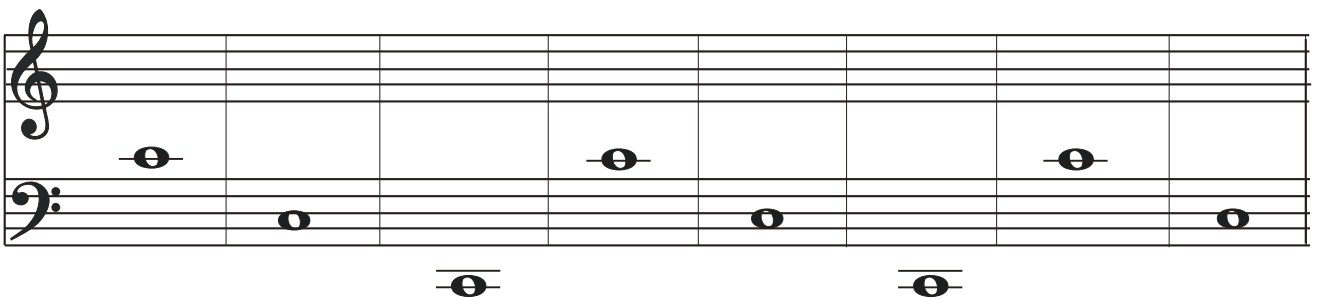
At the Piano

With the right hand, practice playing the C's on the music below.



At the Piano

With the left hand, practice playing the C's on the music below.



# Beginning Compositions

## Waltz on C Chord Practice Sheet

1. Placement of fingers: Place your fingers in the 5 finger position, thumb on C, 2 on D, 3 on E, 4 on F and 5 on G. This is the right hand fingering for this song.
2. This is the beginning of hands together. Practice the measures using hands together.
3. Measures 1, 2 and 3 are repeated in this song 3 times. Practice these measures and you have learned measures 1, 2,3-4,5,6-16-17-18.
4. Finding patterns in a song helps to learn the song faster. There is another pattern in measures 8,9-10,11 and 12,13. This pattern is described below.

|           |   |            |   |            |   |
|-----------|---|------------|---|------------|---|
| Measure 1 | 2 | Measures 2 | 3 | Measures 3 | 4 |
|           |   |            |   |            |   |

|           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Measure 1 | Measure 2 | Measure 3 |
|           |           |           |

Patterns: Measure 1 starts on F,  
 Measure 2 starts on E  
 Measure 3 starts on D  
 This is a descending pattern,  
 or a pattern moving "down."

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| Measure 8 | Measure 9 |
|           |           |

Measures 8 and 9 begin another pattern.  
 Can you find the descending pattern?

|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Measures 10 | Measure 11 |
|             |            |

|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Measures 12 | Measure 13 |
|             |            |

# Beginning Compositions

## Waltz on C

The musical score is written in 3/4 time. It consists of four systems of two staves each. The first system shows the beginning with a treble clef and a bass clef. The right hand starts with a quarter note C4 (finger 1), followed by quarter notes D4 (finger 2) and E4 (finger 3). The left hand starts with a dotted half note C3 (finger 1). The second system continues the right hand melody: quarter notes F4 (finger 1), G4 (finger 2), and A4 (finger 3). The left hand remains on C3. The third system continues: quarter notes B4 (finger 1), C5 (finger 2), and B4 (finger 3). The left hand remains on C3. The fourth system concludes: quarter notes A4 (finger 1), G4 (finger 2), and F4 (finger 3). The left hand remains on C3. The piece ends with a double bar line.

1. Play this song hands together. Be sure to play both hands together on the 1 beat.
2. The time signature is 3 counts to a measure and quarter note=1beat.
3. A dotted half note is held for 3 beats. Be sure to hold the C's in the left hand for 3 beats while the right hand is playing.