


















Keep Your Rhythm

Counting the notes:

NAME	REST	NOTE	BEATS
Note values correspond to $\frac{1}{4}$ time			
Whole			4
Dotted Half			3
Half			2
Dotted Quarter			1½
Quarter			1
Dotted Eighth			$\frac{3}{4}$
Eighth			$\frac{1}{2}$
Sixteenth			$\frac{1}{4}$

■ You pick up a piece of music and you want to dive into it, but the rhythms are unlike anything you've seen before and the time signatures are constantly changing. How will you get through it? How do you count the rhythms? Before you begin playing, skim through the music looking for tricky rhythms you may want to work out first, or places where the time signature changes. The chart below will help beginners to the art of reading music understand individual note values and how to subdivide the beat.

Counting the measures:

TIME SIGNATURE	BEATS PER MEASURE	SAMPLE MEASURE	Key
$\frac{3}{4}$ or C	2		3 The top number represents how many beats are in a measure.
$\frac{2}{4}$	2		4 The bottom number represents what note gets the beat. (If it's a 4, the quarter note gets the beat. If it's a 2, the half note gets the beat.)
$\frac{3}{4}$	3		
$\frac{4}{4}$ or C	4	