

Time & Meter

Time: All notes have a "time" associated with them. "Time" equals the number of beats you hold the note for (or how long the note lasts).

Meter: Is what determines how many beats are in each measure. Look at the top number of the fraction at the beginning of the piece - this number tells you how many beats are in each measure.

(COUNT: 1 2 3 4)

PIANO

WHOLE NOTE = 4 BEATS

WHOLE REST = REST FOR 4 BEATS

The image shows two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a whole note on the middle line. The second staff has a bass clef and a whole rest. The first measure is labeled 'WHOLE NOTE = 4 BEATS' and the second measure is labeled 'WHOLE REST = REST FOR 4 BEATS'. Above the staves is a count: '(COUNT: 1 2 3 4)'.

(COUNT: 1 2 3 4)

HALF NOTE = 2 BEATS

HALF REST = REST FOR 2 BEATS

The image shows two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and two half notes: one on the first space and one on the second space. The second staff has a bass clef and two half rests. The first measure is labeled 'HALF NOTE = 2 BEATS' and the second measure is labeled 'HALF REST = REST FOR 2 BEATS'. Above the staves is a count: '(COUNT: 1 2 3 4)'.

(COUNT: 1 2 3 4)

QUARTER NOTE = 1 BEAT

QUARTER REST = REST FOR 1 BEAT

The image shows two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and four quarter notes: one on the first space, one on the second space, one on the third space, and one on the fourth space. The second staff has a bass clef and four quarter rests. The first measure is labeled 'QUARTER NOTE = 1 BEAT' and the second measure is labeled 'QUARTER REST = REST FOR 1 BEAT'. Above the staves is a count: '(COUNT: 1 2 3 4)'.

(COUNT: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +)

EIGHTH NOTE = 1/2 BEAT (THAT'S HALF A BEAT)

EIGHTH REST = REST FOR 1/2 BEAT (THAT'S HALF A BEAT)

The image shows two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and eight eighth notes: four on the first space and four on the second space. The second staff has a bass clef and eight eighth rests. The first measure is labeled 'EIGHTH NOTE = 1/2 BEAT (THAT'S HALF A BEAT)' and the second measure is labeled 'EIGHTH REST = REST FOR 1/2 BEAT (THAT'S HALF A BEAT)'. Above the staves is a count: '(COUNT: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +)'.