

# Rhythm & Meter Chart

## Worship Team Training

Worship Team Training - Branon Dempsey

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**Rhythm:** the organization of time within music comprised of regular recurring pulses within beats and spaces; it is produced by humanized or mechanical sounds, which define the meter, pulse and articulation of music.

### Rhythm Note Names & Counts

Whole Note = 4 beats      Whole Rest = 4 beats

Half Note = 2 beats      Half Note = 2 beats

Quarter Note = 1 beat      Quarter Note = 1 beat

8th Note = 1/2 beat      8th Rest = 1/2 beat  
*or written*

16th Note = 1/4 beat      16th Rest = 1/4 beat  
*or written*

32nd Note = 1/8 beat      32nd Rest = 1/8 beat  
*or written*

**Dots " . "** Dots add half the value of a note.

2, 2 + 1, 1 = 6 beats      2 + 1 = 3 beats      1 + 1/2 = 1 & 1/2 beats      1 + 1/4 = 1 & 1/4 beats      1 + 1/8 = 1 & 1/8 beats

### Counting Rhythm Durations

*Subdividing is dividing notes into a simple form of counting.*

Whole      Half      Quarters      Eighths      Sixteenths

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

Subdivisions

1 note = 2 beats      2 notes = 4 beats      8 notes = 4 beats      16 notes = 4 beats      16 notes = 4 beats

Count Halfs      Count Quarters      Count Eighths      Count Sixteenths      Count Eighths

### 8th's & 16th's Compound Rhythms

1 e &      2 e &      1 & a      2 & a      1 e a      2 e a      e & a      e & a

2 Meter

Meter: the pattern of a steady and consistent succession of rhythmic pulses. A meter is defined by a sense of time indicated by a symbol (Time Signature) and its reflective notation.



**Top Number:** Tells how many beats per bar (measure).

In this case there are "4" beats per bar.



**Bottom Number:** Tells what kind of note gets the beat.

"4" means Quarter Note. = 1/4

Example Time Signatures (Commonly Used)

**Duple Meter (in 2 or 4)**

**Triple Meter (in 3)**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Triple meters and rhythms were originally developed by a French notation system (In the 14th Century Church) which defined "triple" meaning 3 as Perfect or Major. European Church Composers considered the triplet as a means of conveying "Father, Son and Holy Ghost." as well as signifying royalty and kingship. Duple meters and rhythms were designated as "minor" and imperfect time because of their shorter and unbalanced durations.

**Triplets** Triplets are triple rhythms inserted into duple meter time signatures (bottom system shows origin of triple meter).