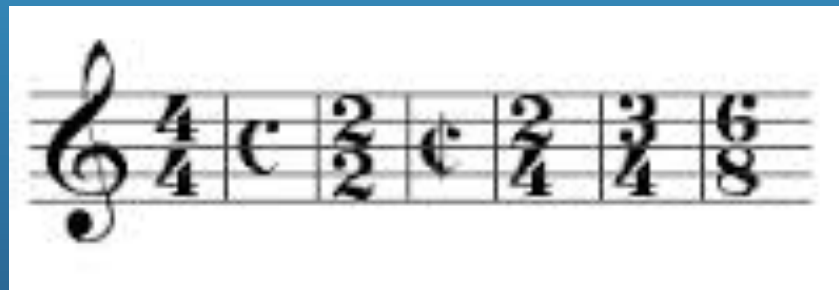
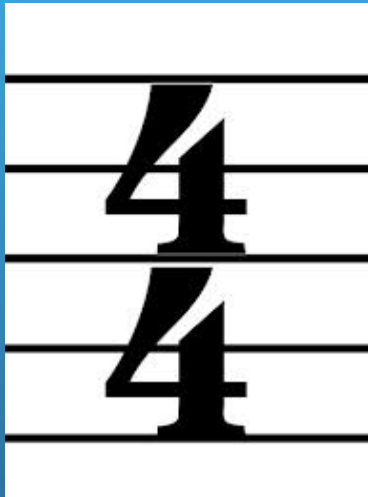


# Time Signatures & Counting

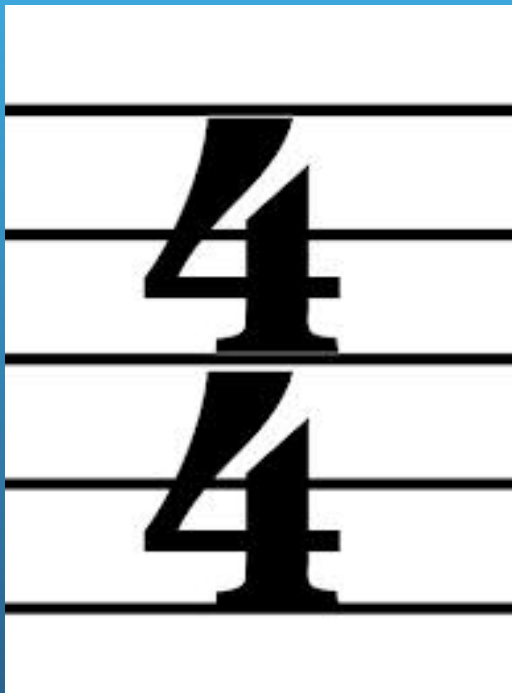
What do those numbers mean, anyway?

# Time Signatures

- These are examples of time signatures!



# What's that mean?



Top # = HOW MANY BEATS IN A BAR

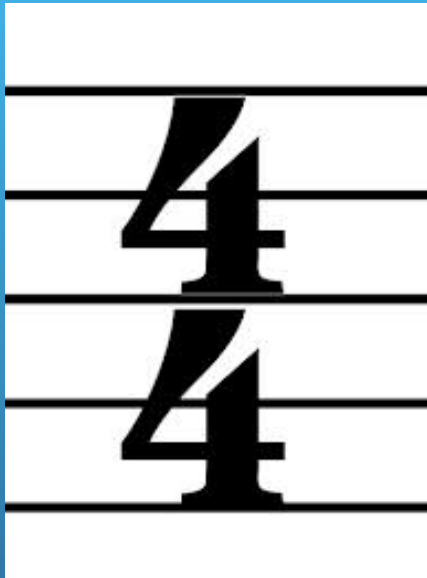
Bottom # = WHAT KIND of NOTE


GETS 1 BEAT

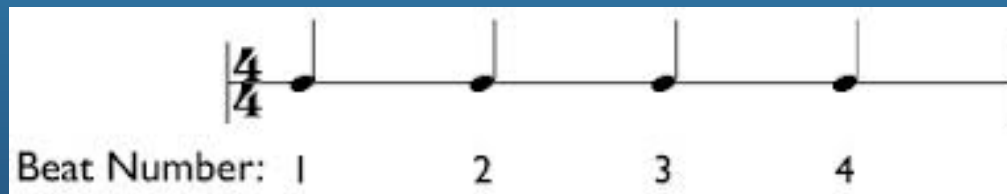
# So what's a BEAT?

- The BEAT is a steady pulse.
- It is what our feet or toes should be tapping at all times.
- When we turn on the metronome it clicks the BEAT!
- The BEAT is what the director's arms conduct!
- The BEAT is when your feet move when you dance.
- The BEAT will (for most of our time together), almost always be a quarter note.

# Let's Break it Down



- In this time signature the top number is 4, so there are FOUR beats per measure/bar.
- The bottom number is 4, meaning a QUARTER NOTE  gets 1 beat.



# Another Way to Look at It

- Think of the bottom number *AS* the type of note it is




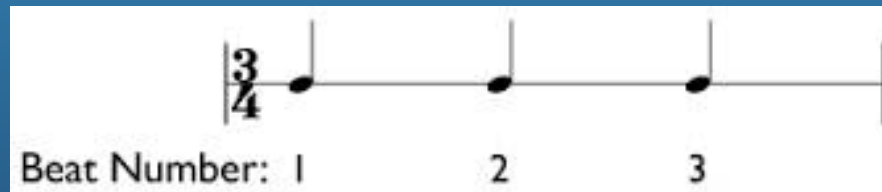
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# Another Example



- In this time signature the top number is 3, so there are THREE beats per measure/ bar.
- The bottom number is 4, meaning a QUARTER NOTE  gets 1 beat.



# Basic Guidelines for Counting

- 1) The first note (or rest) in EVERY BAR will ALWAYS be labeled beat 1.
- 2) Every single bar will have the numbers 1 through the top number of the time signature.
- 3) A half note (  ) will always have two numbers written underneath it, because it's worth 2 beats.
- 4) A whole note (  ) will always have 1 ( 2 3 4 ) written underneath it, because it's worth 4 beats.



# Writing in “the BEATS!”

- Notice that the **number on top** indicates **HOW MANY** quarter notes fit into each bar.

The image shows three musical staves, each with a treble clef and a time signature. The first staff is in 4/4 time, with a 'Time Signature' label pointing to the '4' and a 'Bar line' label pointing to the vertical line. It contains two measures of four quarter notes each, with beat numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 under each note. The second staff is in 3/4 time, with a '3' above the time signature. It contains two measures of three quarter notes each, with beat numbers 1, 2, 3 under each note. The third staff is in 2/4 time, with a '2' above the time signature. It contains two measures of two quarter notes each, with beat numbers 1, 2 under each note.

# Examples with different values

- Notice how the half note gets two counts and the whole note gets four counts.

Count: 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Quarter Note Half Note Whole Note

This diagram shows a musical staff in 4/4 time. The first measure contains two quarter notes on the first and second lines, with counts 1 and 2 written above them. The second measure contains a half note on the second line, with counts 3 and 4 written above it. The third measure contains a whole note on the second line, with counts 1, 2, 3, and 4 written above it. Red lines connect the labels 'Quarter Note', 'Half Note', and 'Whole Note' to their respective notes.

Clap: X X X X X X

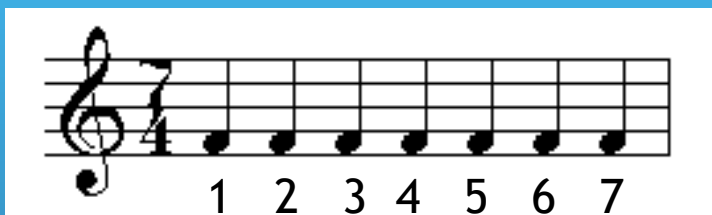
Count: 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

This diagram shows a musical staff in 4/4 time with a sequence of notes: a half note on the first line, a quarter note on the second line, a quarter note on the second line, a quarter note on the second line, a quarter note on the second line, and a half note on the second line. Below the staff, 'Clap' is indicated with an 'X' above every note. 'Count' is indicated with numbers 1 through 4 above each note.

1(2 3 4) 1(2) 3(4) 1 2 3 4

This diagram shows a musical staff in 4/4 time with four measures. The first measure has a whole note on the first line with counts 1, 2, 3, and 4 written below it. The second measure has a half note on the first line with counts 1 and 2 written below it. The third measure has a quarter note on the first line with counts 3 and 4 written below it. The fourth measure has four quarter notes on the first, second, third, and fourth lines with counts 1, 2, 3, and 4 written below each note.

Here are some unusual ones...



# Questions?

Time for application!