

PIANO LESSON FIVE PRACTICE PDF

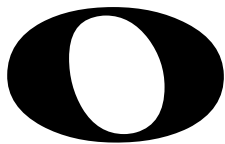
RHYTHMS

The musical rhythm is how long or how quickly a note is played.

A pattern of short and long.

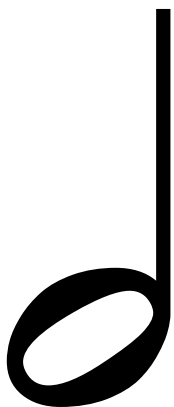
We have different symbols for rhythms. each indicates a different duration for how long to hold a note.

Our longest common rhythm is the semi-breve or whole-note



In most music a semi-breve will last for 4 beats.
So when we semi-breve we play and hold and
count 1-2-3-4 in time with the tempo (speed)
of the music

We can split the semi-breve in half by adding a stem

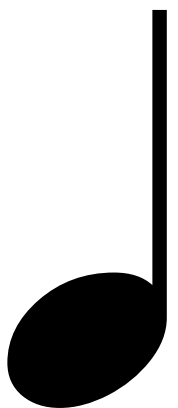


This is now a 2 beat note. which we call a minim
or a half-note. We count 1-2 on each minim.

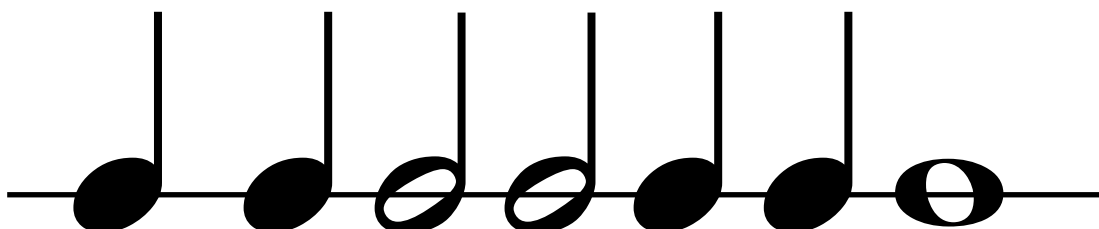
By filling in the note we half it again

A 1 beat note is called a crotchet
or quarter-note.

We play crotchets on every beat
1-2-3-4



Try playing this rhythm counting 1-2-3-4



To play faster than a crotchet we start to split up the beats.



A half beat note is called
a quaver or eighth-note

We count these as 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
When 2 quavers are next to each other
in music their stems join up



We keep making the notes faster by halving their value

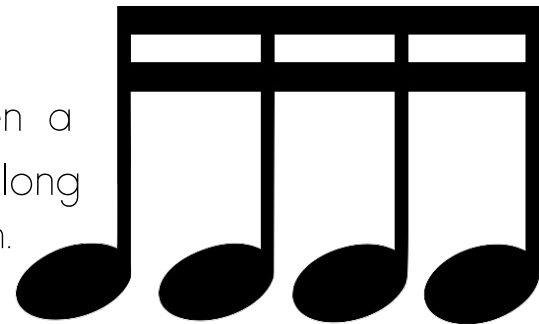
A semi-quaver or 16th note would have 2 stems

We count them in different ways. The 2 most used are:

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

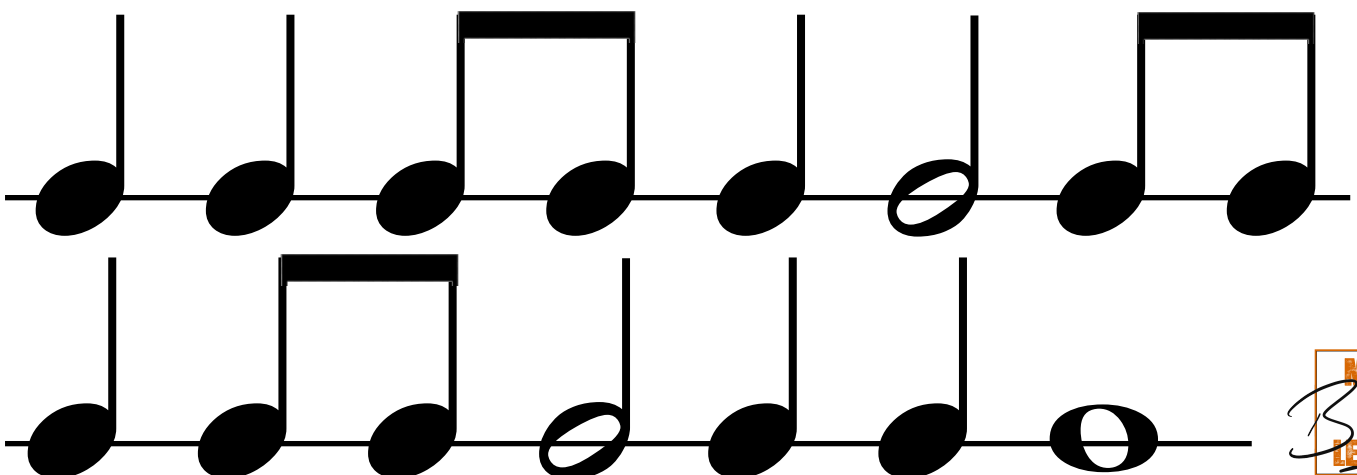
1 & then a 2 & then a 3 & then a 4 & then a

If doesn't matter how you count them so long
as you keep them all the same equal length.



**YOUR RHYTHMS ARE DIRECTLY RELATED
TO THE TEMPO OF THE SONG
THE FASTER THE TEMPO THE FASTER
YOUR RHYTHMS**

Try and clap this rhythm



DOTTED RHYTHMS

A dot after a note means to play it for an extra half of whatever it's length is.

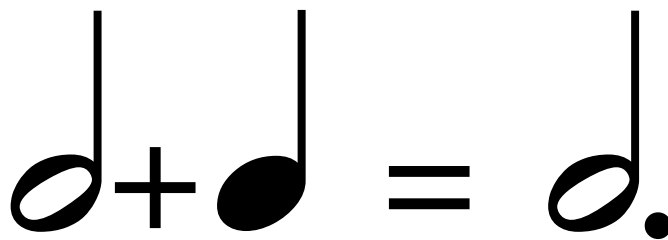


For example a dotted minim - dotted half-note

A minim usually lasts for 2 beats

Half of 2 is 1 - $2 + 1 = 3$

So a dotted minim would hold for 3 beats



MAKE YOUR MUSIC MORE FUN WITH RHYTHMS

You can use rhythm to make your music more interesting.

As we continue to learn more about sheet music understanding your rhythms will be really important but right now we are enjoying playing by listening and using chords and this is the best way to start getting used to rhythm - by feeling it!

Try playing along to some of the songs we've already talked about but now try to recreate the same patterns that you are hearing.

Play along! And have some fun.

IDENTIFYING RHYTHM PATTERNS

When you are trying to identify the rhythms used in a song it is good to think about the physical movement that we can assign to each rhythm.

Walking crotchets - Jogging Quavers - Striding minims
Running Semi-Quavers & Giant Semi-Breves

These movements can help you work out what's going on in the music. Can you say 'walk-ing walk-ing' in time with the notes?

Then they're probably playing crotchets.

Does it feel like the music is jogging?

Then they're probably playing quavers.

At this point it doesn't really matter what they are playing the idea is to listen to the track and try to play along by feeling the music, the rhythms, and playing!

RESTS

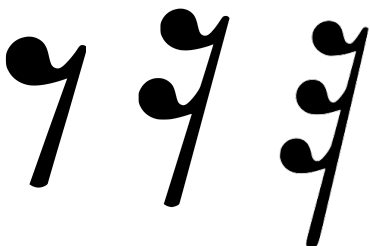
Just as important as any note we also have rests (silent beats) in music. Each rhythm has a rest sign which means to not play for however long the rhythm is.

A 4 beat semi-breve rest hangs from the line 

A 2 beat minim rest sits on the line 

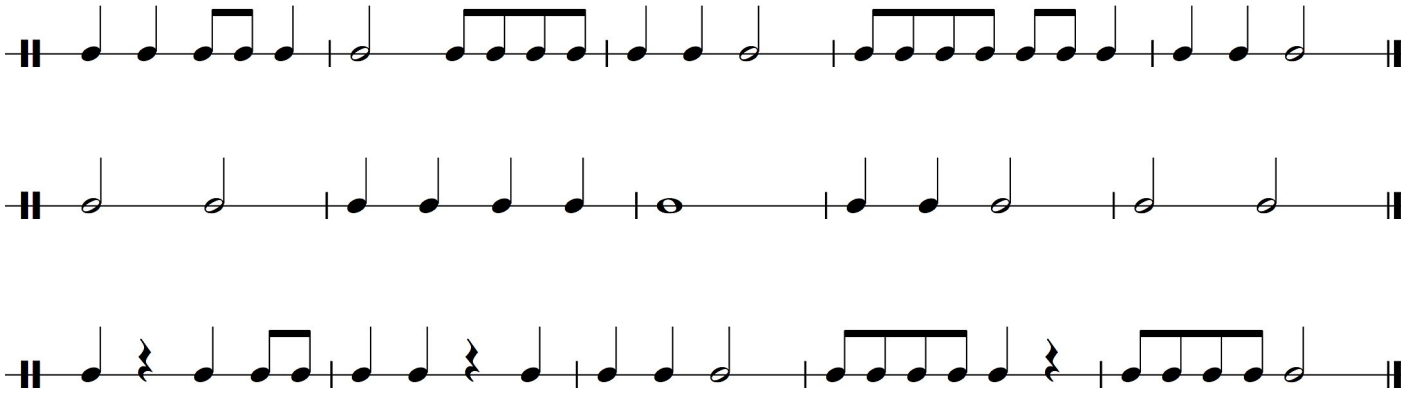
A squiggle is a 1 beat crotchet rest 

For quavers and faster rhythms we use a little flag. Each flag represents a stem in the same way as the normal note.

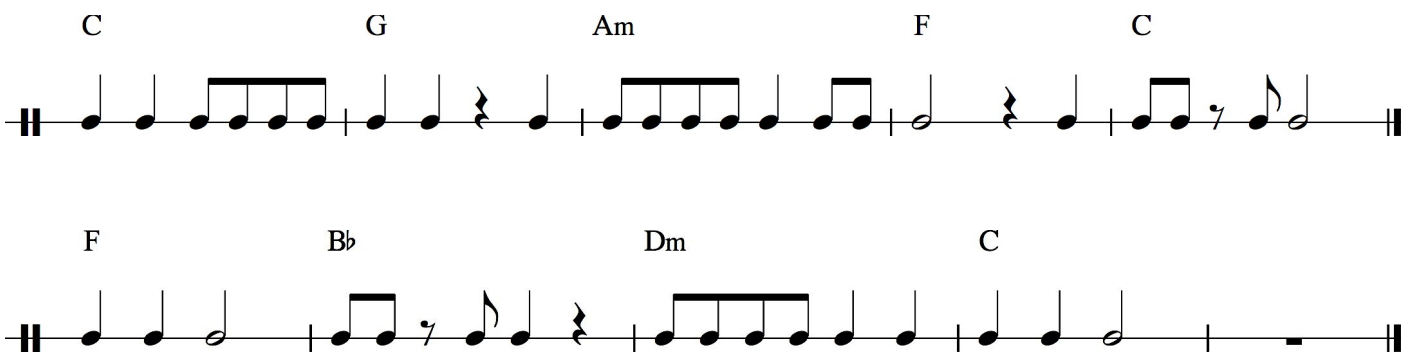


RHYTHM GAMES

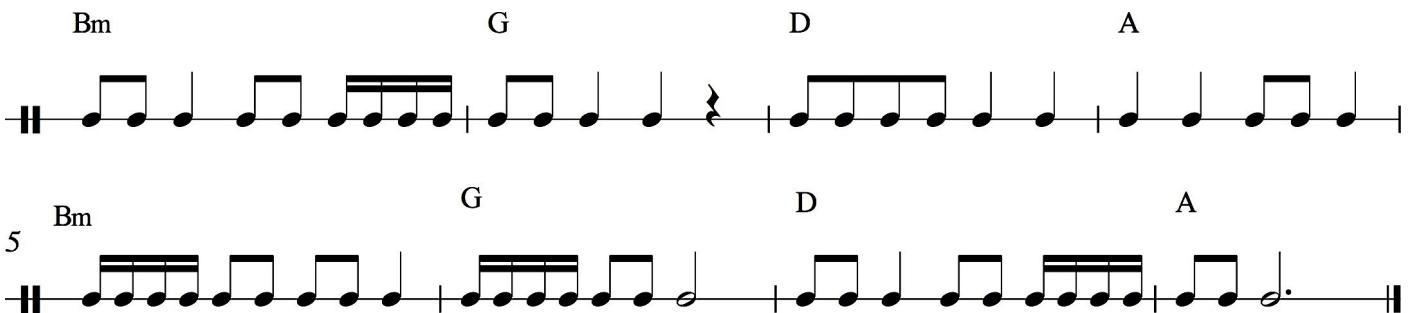
Try playing these rhythms on single notes or simply by clapping or tapping on a table or your knees.



Now try playing the chords with the rhythms written:



Final game - can you play through both lines without stopping?



If you have any questions the let me know

See you soon for lesson 6!