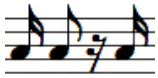
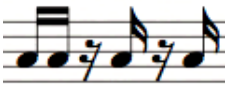
TIME, RHYTHM, and SOUND

The Connection

by

Reynard Burns





Every sound has a duration, a period of time that the sound is heard.
Every period of silence also has a duration,
a period of time when nothing is heard. It is the combination
of these periods of sound and silence that result in
various rhythms that can be simple or complex.

As we play through the pages that follow, we can use an actual clock
to establish a speed or tempo, much like a speed limit
sign tells a driver how fast to drive.

Note symbols are representations of periods of time.
The length of time a sound is heard can be expresed
the same way as distance is measured.
For example, one minute of sound or silence,
can be comparable to the distance of one inch.

A sound that lasts for eight seconds has a beginning and an end.
An inch also has a beginning and an end.

You can use the clock to help keep your speed (tempo) steady.
Using a clock that ticks every second, start the next quarter
note with each tick or one second advance of the second
hand on the clock.

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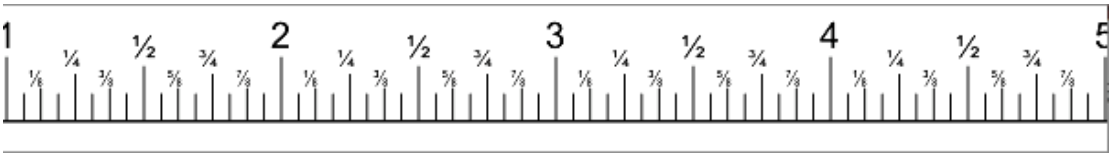
Time, Rhythm and Sound

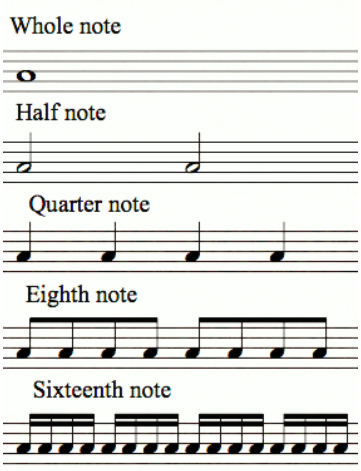
The Connection

This chapter applies the musical clock to counting and playing.
In the same way a minutes include all of
the seconds and the hour includes all of the minutes,
a musical note includes all of its smaller parts.

When measuring distances, we use inches, feet, and yards as a common standard of measurment.
By using the same terms we establish a universal vocabulary.



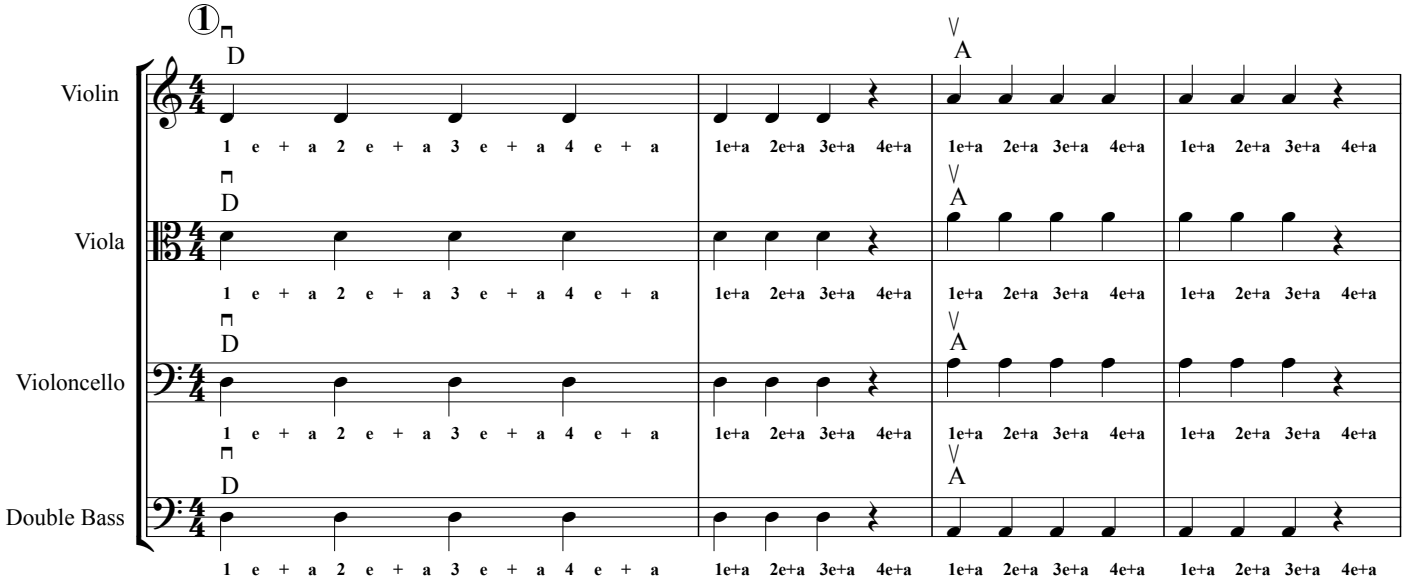
The musical vocabulary used for measurement of durations works similarly.
Just as we understand an inch can be divided into halves, quarters, eighths and sixteenths,
whole notes can also be divided into halves, quarters, eighths and sixteenths.



Note Duration

Playing quarter notes. Each of the quarter notes in this section must sound for one entire second beat or count. For each of the quarter rests, there must be one entire second ,beat, or count, of silence. When playing the notes use as much of the bow as you can without slowing down the tempo (speed). STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF ALWAYS COUNTING THE SIXTEETH NOTES. IT MAY BE HELPFULL TO AIR BOW AND COUNT OUT LOUD BEFORE PLAYING.

Tip the bow and change the elbow position when changing to the neighboring string during the rests instead of lifting. The object is to maintain contact with the string at all times.



In addition to emphasizing the concept of sound duration and its relationship to counting, students are also given the symbols for bow direction and introduced to crossing strings.