

Reading Rhythms 1

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Now that we have studied the notes used in rhythmic notation, we can begin to practice reading measures (bars) of these notes.

A dot placed after a note increases the value of that note by a half. For example, a dotted minium will increase in value from 2 beats to 3 beats.

Notes that are tied together have their values combined. You only play the first note but sound the note for its value plus the value of the note tied to it. See the examples below.

This dotted note sounds for 3 beats

The crochet rest completes the bar

The second crochet now sounds for 3 beats because it is tied to a minium

1 bar examples

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

$\frac{3}{4}$ 1 + 2 + 3 +

2 bar examples

$\frac{4}{4}$ 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +