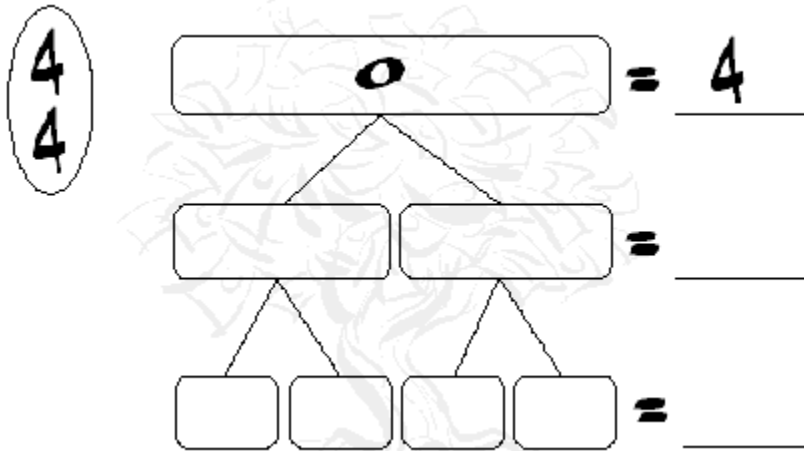


Counting Music – What We Already Know

1. Describe what the top and bottom numbers of this time signature mean.

3 _____
4 _____

2. Complete this rhythm tree diagram. Draw the correct note value in each box and place the number of beats it receives in the blank after the equal sign. The first one is done for you.



3. Draw the correct note(s) given on each line to complete the measure.

Whole Notes	Half Notes	Quarter Notes	Half Notes	Quarter Notes	Quarter/Half Notes
-------------	------------	---------------	------------	---------------	--------------------

4/4 _____ || 2/4 _____ || 3/4 _____ ||

4. Place arrows above the music to show the number of times your feet tap on each note. The first one is done for you. Then write the correct counts below each note.

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

4/4 _____ ||

Counting Music – What We Do Now

Write arrows above each note or rest to show how many times your foot taps. Write the counting below the music (remember to use underlines when notes are held for more than one beat and parentheses for rests).

1.

2.

3.

4.

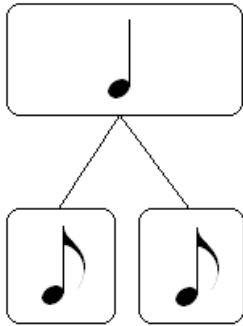
5.

6.

7.

Eighth Notes

Until now, we have based all of our counting on whole beats. All of the rhythms we have studied have been made up of one or more beats ... that is why the quarter note is at the bottom of the rhythm tree. Now I want you to think about what would happen if we split a quarter note into two equal parts.



Now we have a new rhythm called EIGHTH NOTES. Eighth notes are different than the rhythms we have learned so far because they are LESS THAN A BEAT in length. They are the first rhythm that is part of a beat, rather than a whole beat or beats. They can look three different ways ... but they are all eighth notes.

Alone



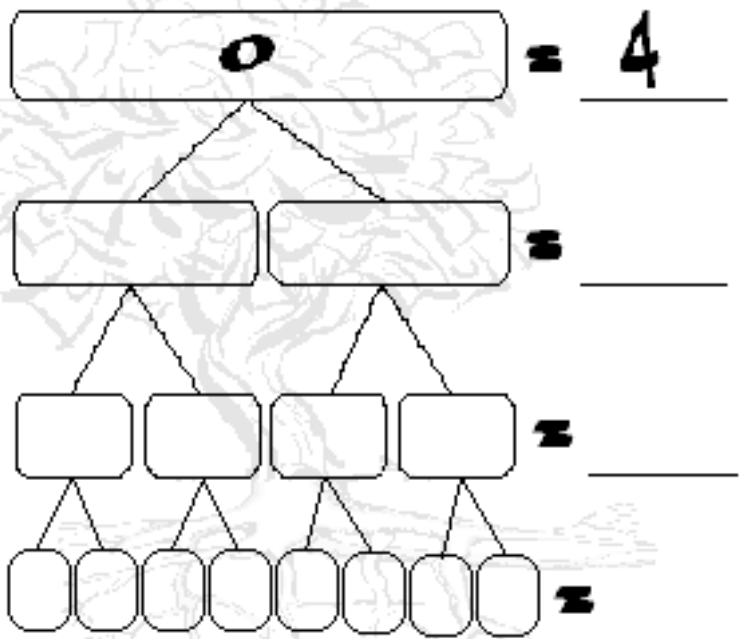
In Pairs



In Groups of Four



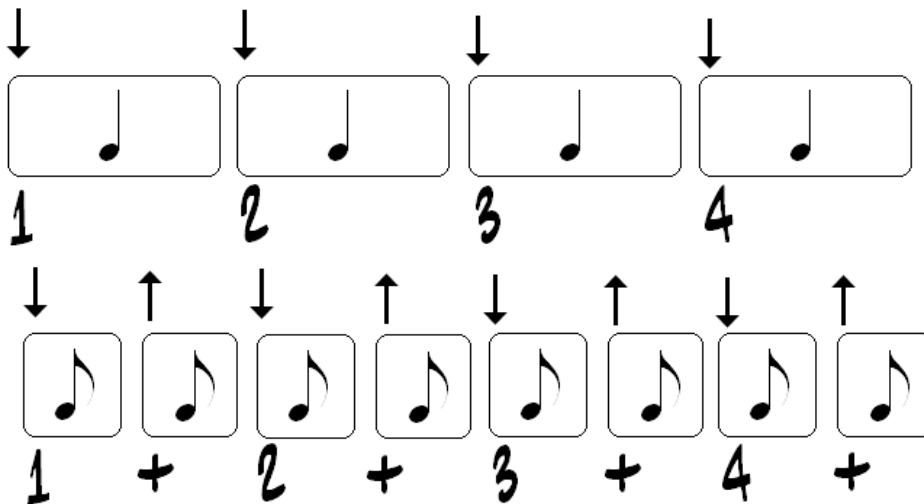
4
4



It takes two eighth notes to make up one beat ... therefore, they are each worth $\frac{1}{2}$ of a beat. Add the eighth notes to the rhythm tree diagram below. They are like the roots of the tree.

Counting Eighth Notes

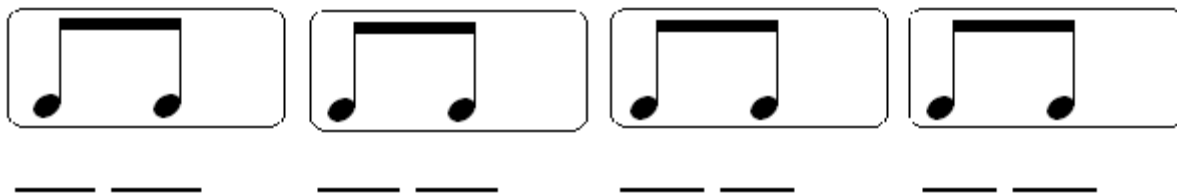
Because eighth notes are $\frac{1}{2}$ of a beat we have to think up a different way to count them with the rules we already have when we count quarter, half, and whole notes. Below is an example of how we count four quarter notes and where our feet tap during the time we play them.



In order to change these quarter notes to eighth notes we divide each one in half and add plus signs to the notes that do not fall on the beat (when our toes tap down on the ground). The arrows show us that these notes will be played when our toes are up. Notice, nothing else changed ... the beats are still in the same places.

It is very important that your foot only taps on the beginning of each beat and not on each eighth note.

Now that you have seen the diagram with single eighth note we can look at it again with pairs. This is a more common way of seeing eighth notes since it is easier to pick out the beat. You can add in the counts and arrows. They should be the same as the last example if you do it right.



Practice counting and filling in arrows for the following exercises with eighth notes.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.