

INTRODUCTION TO 3/4 AND 2/4 TIME (WALTZ AND MARCH)

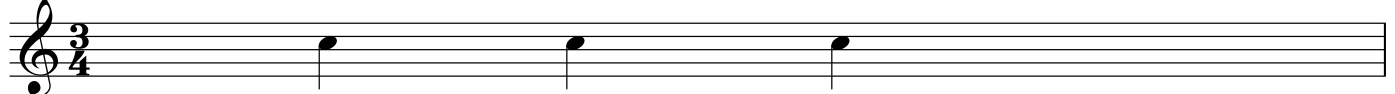
BEN PORTNER

Up until this point we've only been dealing with 4/4 time signatures. This is the time signature that is used in most western music. However it is important to have a grasp on other time signatures as well since they will come up in the curriculum and other styles of playing

The first time signature we are going to deal with is 3/4 time. Instead of having 4 beats per measure, 3/4 time will have 3 beats per measure. Just like the earlier exercises we will go over some basic rhythms to get a feel for the time signature. This time signature is also known as a waltz. A piece like the "Blue Danube Waltz" by Johann Strauss is a great example of this time signature.


1 2 3

TA TA TA




2 1 2 3

TA TEE + TEE TA



3 1 2 3 +

TA TEE TEE TEE TEE



4 1 + 2 3 +

TEE TEE TA TEE TEE



1 2 e + ah 3 +
5 TA TEE REE TEE REE TEE TEE

1 e + ah 2 e + ah 3 +
6 TEE REE TEE REE TEE REE TEE REE TEE TEE

1 + 2 e + ah 3
7 TEE TEE TEE REE TEE REE TA

Now let's do some more complex rhythms

1 + ah 2 + 3 e +
8 grass hop per air plane lol li pop

1 e + 2 e + 3 e + ah
9 lol li pop lol li pop lam bour gi ni

1 + ah 2 + 3 e + ah
10 grass hop per air plane lam bour gi ni

1 2 e + ah 3 + ah

11 car lam bour gi ni grass hop per

1 e + ah 3 + ah 3 e +

12 lam bour gi ni grass hop per lol li pop

Now let's move on to 2/4 measure. Rather than having 3 or 4 beats per measure 2/4 has two beats per measure. Two feel is sometimes called cut time and has a march type of rhythm. Let's work on some rhythms to get a feel for this time signature.

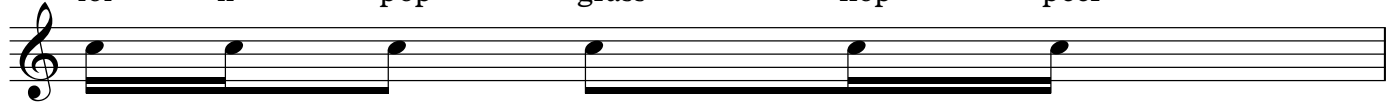
13 TA TA

14 TEE TEE TA


15 TEE REE TEE REE TEE TEE

16 grass hop per lol li pop

17 1 e + 2 + ah
lol li pop grass hop peer

Musical notation for line 17: A single treble clef staff with a treble clef. The notes are: lol (quarter), li (quarter), pop (quarter), grass (quarter), hop (quarter), peer (quarter). There are two bar lines: one after 'pop' and one after 'hop'. Above the staff, the syllables are aligned with the notes: '1' above 'lol', 'e' above 'li', '+' above 'pop', '2' above 'grass', '+' above 'hop', and 'ah' above 'peer'.

18 1 e + ah 2 + ah
lam bour gi ni grass hop per

Musical notation for line 18: A single treble clef staff with a treble clef. The notes are: lam (quarter), bour (quarter), gi (quarter), ni (quarter), grass (quarter), hop (quarter), per (quarter). There are two bar lines: one after 'gi' and one after 'hop'. Above the staff, the syllables are aligned with the notes: '1' above 'lam', 'e' above 'bour', '+' above 'gi', 'ah' above 'ni', '2' above 'grass', '+' above 'hop', and 'ah' above 'per'.

19 1 e + ah 2 e +
lam bour gi ni lol li pop

Musical notation for line 19: A single treble clef staff with a treble clef. The notes are: lam (quarter), bour (quarter), gi (quarter), ni (quarter), lol (quarter), li (quarter), pop (quarter). There are two bar lines: one after 'gi' and one after 'li'. Above the staff, the syllables are aligned with the notes: '1' above 'lam', 'e' above 'bour', '+' above 'gi', 'ah' above 'ni', '2' above 'lol', 'e' above 'li', and '+' above 'pop'.