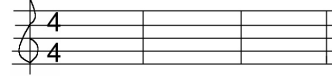


Basic Music Theory – Bars & Beats

Music theory encompasses many layers of what making music is and requires. We will not be going too deep into it since you would need an entire class and years to learn it all. We will look at some very basic musical elements in order to start creating our own compositions.

Measure/Bar - a section on a staff in between bar lines.



Time signatures define the amount and type of notes in each measure/bar. A measure/bar of 4/4 time has four notes in it. A measure/bar of 3/4 time has 3 notes in it. **MOST POPULAR MUSIC IS IN 4/4 TIME.**

Note – a notational symbol used to indicate time and pitch on a staff. There are:

Whole Note	
Half Note	
Quarter Note	
Eighth Note	
Sixteenth Note	

Beats & Notes

Beat – a pulse or stroke of measured time.

- A whole note is 4 beats.
- A half note is 2 beats
- A quarter note is 1 beat
- A 1/2 note is 1/2 a beat
- ETC.

A measure of 4/4 time has 4 quarter notes.

There's also 1/32 & 1/64 notes

Drums

A basic drum set consists of a **kick/Bass drum, snare drum, hi-hat cymbals, toms** and other **cymbals**.



The figures below illustrate a typical 4/4 drum pattern/beat with the **kick drum on Beats 1 & 3** of the **measure/bar** and the **snare drum on Beats 2 & 4**. The 1st image shows the **Hi Hats** playing a **1/4 note pattern**, while the 2nd and 3rd images show **1/8 note patterns**.

1/4 Notes

Beats	1	2	3	4
Kick	■		■	
Snare		■		■
Hi Hat	■	■	■	■

1/8 Notes

Beat	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kick	■				■			
Snare			■				■	
Hi Hat	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

1/16 Notes

Beat	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
K	■								■							
S					■								■			
HH	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

