


Unit 1


Time Signatures and Rhythm

Time Signatures

The **time signature** is the two numbers written at the beginning of a piece.

- The top number tells how many beats are in each measure.
- The bottom number tells what kind of note gets one beat.

In a time signature with a **4** on the bottom, the **quarter note**  gets one beat.

In a time signature with an **8** on the bottom, the **eighth note**  gets one beat.

1. Tell how many beats in each measure for these time signatures.



4 Beats _____

2. What kind of note will get one beat in $\frac{4}{4}$? _____

3. What kind of note will get one beat in $\frac{6}{8}$? _____

4. Write in the counts for these rhythms. Play and count aloud.

From *Old French Song* by Tchaikovsky



1 and 2 and* _____

From *Écossaise* by Beethoven



* Use a + sign for the word "and".