

○ Whole Notes ○

○ is a **whole note**. It is the head of an entire *Family of Notes* and is the most important of all the notes in music. Notice that whole notes are not perfectly round circles. They are drawn as egg-shaped ovals.

Correct: ○

Incorrect: ○

There are two important things to know about whole notes.

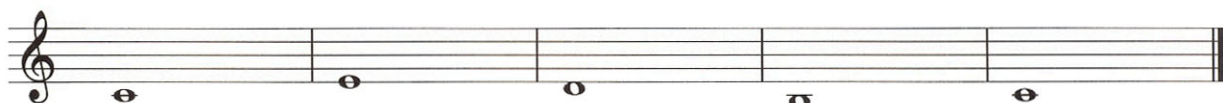
- They are *always* called whole notes. That will *never* change.
√ No matter how many counts they get, the name stays the same.
- Whole notes can receive *any number of counts*.

Although you are probably most familiar with four-count whole notes, much music is written in which whole notes do not get four counts. To introduce you to this kind of music, we are going to have some fun. In the exercises that follow, look inside the big blue whole note to see how many counts to give the notes in each exercise.

Play with a steady beat. Make sure that you give the whole notes the correct number of counts.

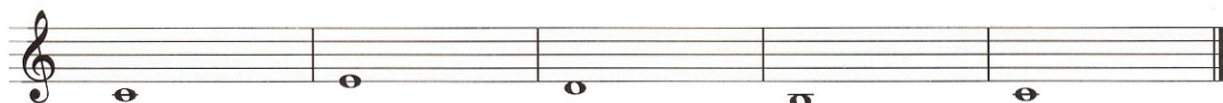
1

○ = 7



2

○ = 1



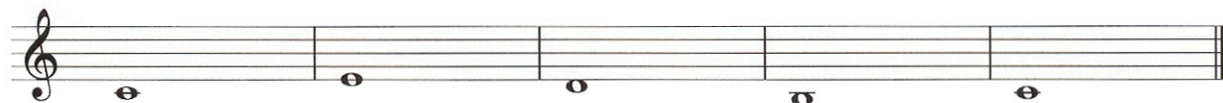
3

○ = 5



4

○ = 2



You should not do too many exercises from this book at one time. They are very easy to play, but you will learn more if you don't do too many at once. Play two or three of them after you warm up each day, and then go on to practice your other music.