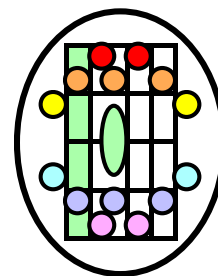


Basic Keyboard Skills - Rhythm Prep

PK-51

Examples From Familiar Melodies

From the Music Innovator's Workshop



Musical Time (Rhythm) on Key Maps

Please Note: Your music (key maps) show rhythm on a timeline. Learning to read musical time, which we call RHYTHM, is a major step in your education as a piano player. The next group of lessons in this course has been designed to help you learn how to read and play the rhythm of the pieces that you will be playing.

Notes on key maps show you visually just how long to play a note. How long you hold a note is proportional to how long it is (vertically) on the printed page. A note that is twice as long as another note on the same page is to be held twice as long (in time).

Measures--On key maps, measures are separated by heavy (or sometimes double) horizontal lines (measure markers). Beats within the measures are marked off by thin horizontal lines (beat markers). Each beat marker (and the space directly below it) stands for 1 beat of time. The space between 2 measure markers is called "one measure" of time.

Note Length (Rhythm)--Note lengths are proportional to the time that they take. A note that stretches between two beat lines (the first "lamb" in the song) is one beat long.

When two equal size notes take up one beat of space ("lit-tle" in the song), each note is one-half beat long.

The 2 notes for "Ma-ry" take up one beat of time, but they are not the same length. The first is $\frac{3}{4}$ beat and the second is $\frac{1}{4}$ beat (which is proportional to their physical length on the page).

A note that stretches across two beat spaces ("snow" at the end of the song) is two beats long.

Basic Units of Time--The basic unit of time on key maps is the beat. The beats can be seen clearly on the maps merely by paying attention to the beat lines that run horizontally across the musical staff. We refer to (equal-length) subdivisions of beats as pulses.

When discussing musical time on maps, note length is expressed in beats. Therefore, the answer to the question, "How long is the note?" will be expressed as so many beats or as such and such a fraction of a beat. In the song on this page: 1st note - $\frac{3}{4}$ beats. --- 2nd note - $\frac{1}{4}$ beat. --- 3rd note - $\frac{1}{2}$ beat.

b: 1 Beats: 4

Mary had a little lamb,
Little lamb,
Little lamb,
Mary had a little lamb,
its fleece was white as snow.

Series of 1 Beat Notes

On this and the following pages you will find examples of familiar songs that demonstrate certain common rhythm patterns. Notice that all of the songs in this unit are based on 10F (ten-finger) hand positions. This means that you place your hands with THUMBS ON E AND F, with the fingers spread out over the nearby keys. Fingers REMAIN IN PLACE for the entire song. Notes with RED borders are played by the LEFT HAND.

<p style="text-align: center;">Beats: 4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Beats: 4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Beats: 4</p>
<p>Twinkle kle twinkle kle little star, How I wonder der what you are;</p>	<p>A B C D E F G, H I J K L M N O P,</p>	<p>Are you sleeping, Are you sleeping, Brother John? Brother John?</p>

Half-Beat Pairs

The half-beat pairs are tagged with yellow.

<p>Beats: 4</p> <p>Morn- ing bells are ring- ing, Morn- ing bells are ring- ing.</p>	<p>Beats: 4</p> <p>Let the winds and wa- ters be Ming- led with our mel- o- dy, Sing and float!</p>	<p>Beats: 4</p> <p>One for my mas- ter and one for my dame, And one for the lit- tle boy who lives down the lane."</p>	<p>Beats: 4</p> <p>Ma- ry had a lit- tle lamb, Lit- tle lamb, lit- tle lamb, Ma- ry had a lit- tle lamb, its fleece was white as snow.</p>
<p>Beats: 4</p> <p>Lon- don bridge is fal- ling down, fal- ling down, fal- ling down.</p>			

Three-Pulse-Groups

The three-pulse groups are tagged with green.

<p>Beats: 2</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Musical notation for the first phrase. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a green bar above it labeled '4'. The second staff has a green bar above it labeled '2'. There are three red circles: one on the first staff, one on the second staff, and one on the third staff. The notes are green circles and ovals.</p>	<p>Beats: 4</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Musical notation for the second phrase. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a green bar above it labeled '4' and a yellow bar above it labeled '5'. The second staff has a green bar above it labeled '3'. There are three red circles: one on the first staff, one on the second staff, and one on the third staff. The notes are green circles and ovals.</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Musical notation for the third phrase. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a green bar above it labeled '4'. The second staff has a green bar above it labeled '1'. There are three red circles: one on the first staff, one on the second staff, and one on the third staff. The notes are green circles and ovals.</p>
<p><i>"Pus- sy- cat, Pus- sy- cat, where have you been?"</i></p> <p><i>"I've been to Lon- don to vis- it the Queen."</i></p>	<p><i>Rain- drops on ros- es, and whis- kers on kit- tens.</i></p>	<p><i>Here we go; round the mul- ber- ry bush, The mul- ber- ry bush, the mul- ber- ry bush;</i></p>

Four-Pulse Groups

The four-pulse groups are tagged with blue.

<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>The notation shows a 4-beat measure divided into two 2-beat halves. The first half contains a blue circle (1) and a blue circle (1). The second half contains a blue circle (1), a blue circle (2), a blue circle (5), and a blue circle (2). A yellow oval is at the end of the measure. A vertical yellow bar highlights the first two beats.</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>The notation shows a 4-beat measure divided into two 2-beat halves. The first half contains a blue circle (1) and a blue circle (2). The second half contains a blue circle (1), a blue circle (2), a blue circle (2), and a blue circle (2). Yellow ovals are placed between the two halves. A vertical yellow bar highlights the first two beats.</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>The notation shows a 4-beat measure divided into two 2-beat halves. The first half contains a yellow oval and a blue circle (1). The second half contains a yellow oval and a blue circle (1). A vertical yellow bar highlights the first two beats.</p>
<p><i>For I'm goin' to Lou'siana, for to see my Suzanna, Singing pollywollydoodle all the day.</i></p>	<p><i>Supercalifragilistic, expialidocious. Even though the sound of it is something quite atrocious.</i></p>	<p><i>Um diddle diddle diddle, Um diddle ay! Um diddle diddle diddle, Um diddle ay!</i></p>

Two-Beat Long-Short Pairs

The two-beat long-short pairs are tagged with yellow.

<p>Beats: 4</p> <p>Do you know the Muf- fin man, the Muf- in man, the Muf- in man?</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>Joy to the world! the Lord has come: Let earth re-</p>	<p>Beats: 4</p> <p>ceive her King; Let... It's a small world af- ter all, a small world af- ter all, Si- lent night, ho- ly night,</p>
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Three-Pulse Long-Short Pairs

The three-pulse long-short pairs are tagged with green.

<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>The farm- er in the dell,</p> <p>The farm- er in the dell,</p> <p>Heigh- o, the der- ry- o, The farm- er in the dell.</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>Een- sy, ween- sy, spi- der went up the wa- ter spout.</p> <p>Down came the rain and washed the spi- der out.</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>For he's a jol- ly good fel- low, For he's a jol- ly good fel- low, For he's a jol- ly good fel- low, Which no- body can de-ny.</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>W cl is th ... w la to re ... ol M ry la ... is sl -il</p>
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Four-Pulse Long-Short Pairs

The four-pulse long-short pairs are tagged with blue.

Beats: 3

Oh,
my
dar-
ling
Oh,
my
dar-
ling
Oh,
my
dar-
ling
Clem-
en-
tine.

Beats: 4

If
you're
hap-
py
and
you
know
it,
then
your
face
will
sure-
ly
show
it,

If
you're
hap-
py
and
you
know
it,
clap
your
hands!

Half Beat Grouped With Two Quarter Beats

Beats: 4

<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>Flies in the but- ter- milk, shoo, fly, shoo!</p>	<p>Beats: 2</p> <p>Win- nie the Pooh, Win- nie the Pooh, Chub- by lit- tle tub- by all stuffed with fluff...</p>	<p>Beats: 4</p> <p><i>William Tell Overture - Rossini</i></p>	<p>Beats: 4</p>
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