

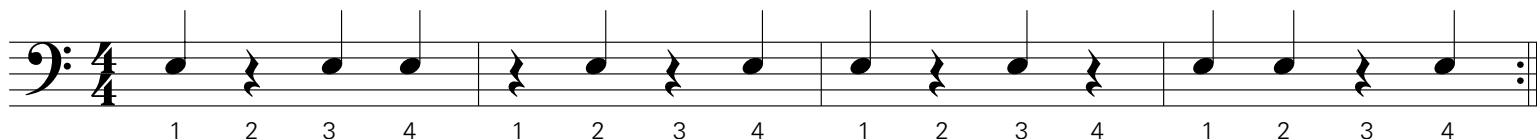
# LESSON 1

## Quarter Notes & Eighth Notes

In  $\frac{4}{4}$  time, a QUARTER NOTE (♩) is worth one beat. We will think of it as the basic unit of time. A QUARTER REST (♩) is worth one beat of silence.



Use the following four measure exercise to try out the quarter notes and quarter rests.

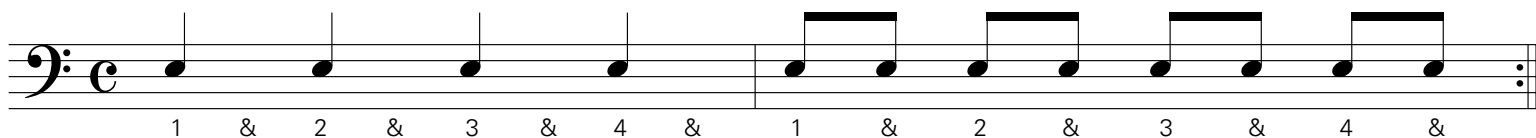


In creating this book, we wanted you to realize that reading music can quickly expose you to some fascinating rhythms. This first line of reading (above) is actually *cáscara* (spanish for shell) and is commonly played in salsa music. Here are some fun variations for reading.

1. Learn as written on the snare drum.
2. Play on the bass drum (right foot).
3. Play on the hi-hat (left foot).
4. Read the notes with the snare drum and the rests with the bass drum.
5. Play each measure on a different surface. Example: measure one—snare drum, measure two—high tom, measure three—middle tom, measure four—floor tom.
6. Repeat number five while hitting the bass drum on the rests.
7. Assign each beat to a different drum. Example: beat one—snare drum, beat two—high tom, beat three—middle tom, beat four—floor tom.
8. Repeat number seven while hitting the bass drum on the rests.
9. Make up your own!



If you divide a beat into two even parts, you will have a pair of EIGHTH NOTES. (Repeat several times)



REPEAT BAR SIGN means play the material from the previous measure again.

On Exercise 1, count the eighth note pulse, "1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &." Keeping a consistent count independent of your hands will help you maintain your place throughout the song.

## EXERCISE 1



Musical staff 1: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures of music. The first measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The second measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The third measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The fourth measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. Below the staff, the counting "1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & etc." is written under the first four measures.

Musical staff 2: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures of music. The first measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The second measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The third measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The fourth measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. A double bar line with a slash and a dot is placed between the second and third measures.

Musical staff 3: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures of music. The first measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The second measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The third measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The fourth measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest.

Musical staff 4: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains four measures of music. The first measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The second measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The third measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. The fourth measure has a quarter note G2, an eighth note G2, and a quarter rest. A double bar line with a slash and a dot is placed between the second and third measures.

Pick two lines from Exercise 1 and re-write them below. Be sure to maintain even spacing.

Musical staff 5: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff is empty, divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

Musical staff 6: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff is empty, divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.