Grade 4

Improve your theory!

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FABER MUSIC

Stage 1

New duple, triple and quadruple time signatures

Facts box

	Simple time			Compound time		
	𝅗𝅥	♩	♪	𝅗𝅥.	♩.	♪.
Duple	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{2}{4}$	$\frac{2}{8}$	$\frac{6}{4}$	$\frac{6}{8}$	$\frac{6}{16}$
Triple	$\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{9}{4}$	$\frac{9}{8}$	$\frac{9}{16}$
Quadruple	$\frac{4}{2}$	$\frac{4}{4}$	$\frac{4}{8}$	$\frac{12}{4}$	$\frac{12}{8}$	$\frac{12}{16}$

Reminder!

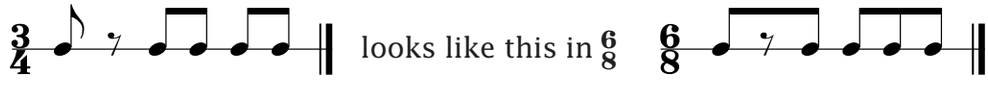
Duple time = two beats per bar

Triple time = three beats per bar

Quadruple time = four beats per bar

A few helpful hints ...

- Rhythms should be written in a way that makes each beat clear.
- Group ♪ ♪ and ♬ within beats using beams.
- Only use ties where they are needed to make beats clear.
- The same rhythm may be used in different time signatures, but it will look and sound different:



Clap these two rhythms, the first while tapping a ♩ pulse and the second while tapping a ♩. pulse.

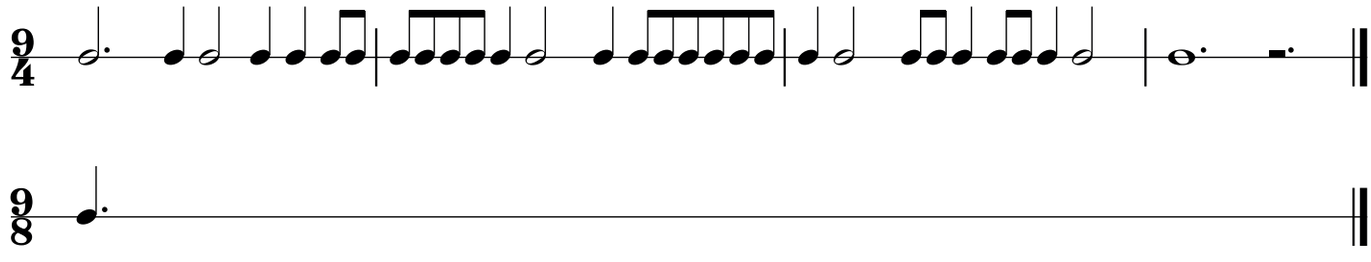
1 Insert the correct time signatures at the start of these rhythms.

2 Complete these sentences:

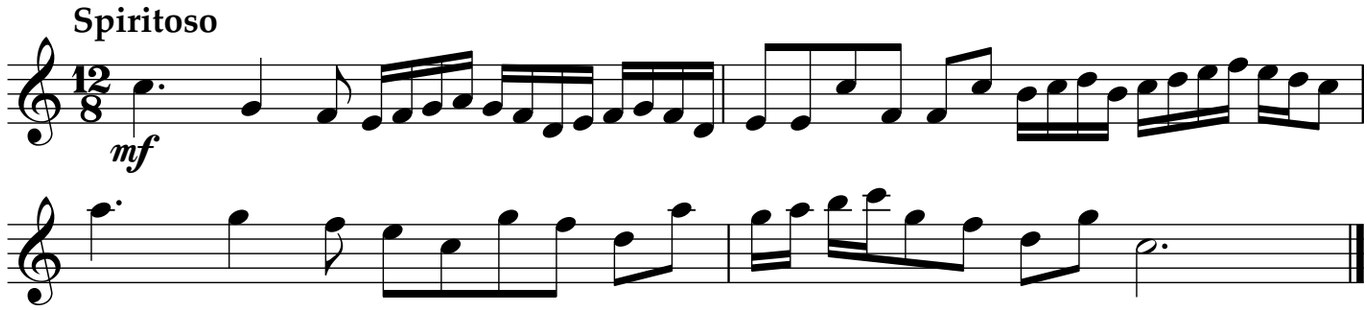
A 𝅗𝅥. lasts for twice as long as a _____ and half as long as a _____.

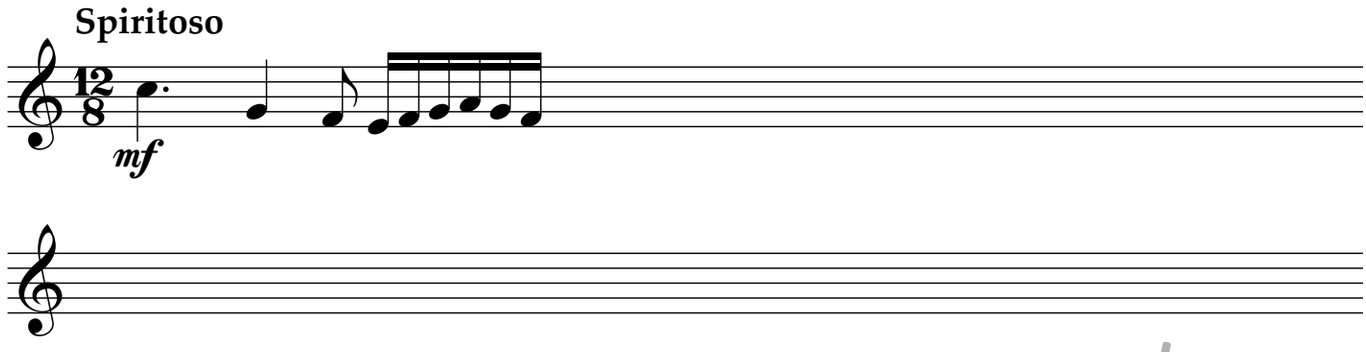
A 𝄾. lasts for _____ as long as a 𝄽.

3 Rewrite this rhythm, halving all of the note-values. The first note has been given.



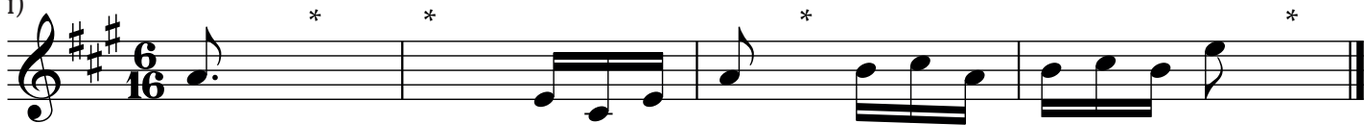
4 Rewrite this melody with the notes grouped correctly into ♩. beats. The opening has been given.



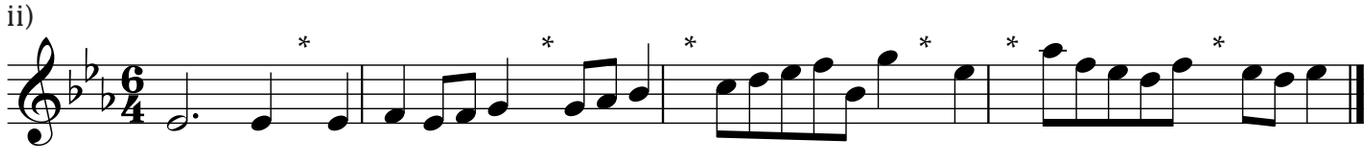


5 Add the correct rests at the * to complete these rhythms.

i)

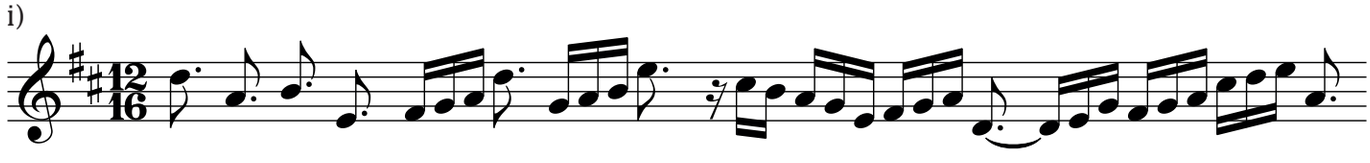


ii)

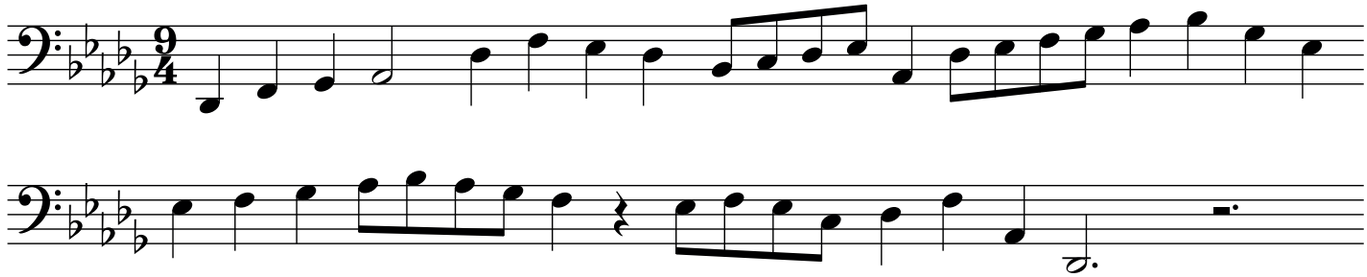


6 Add bar-lines to the following extracts.

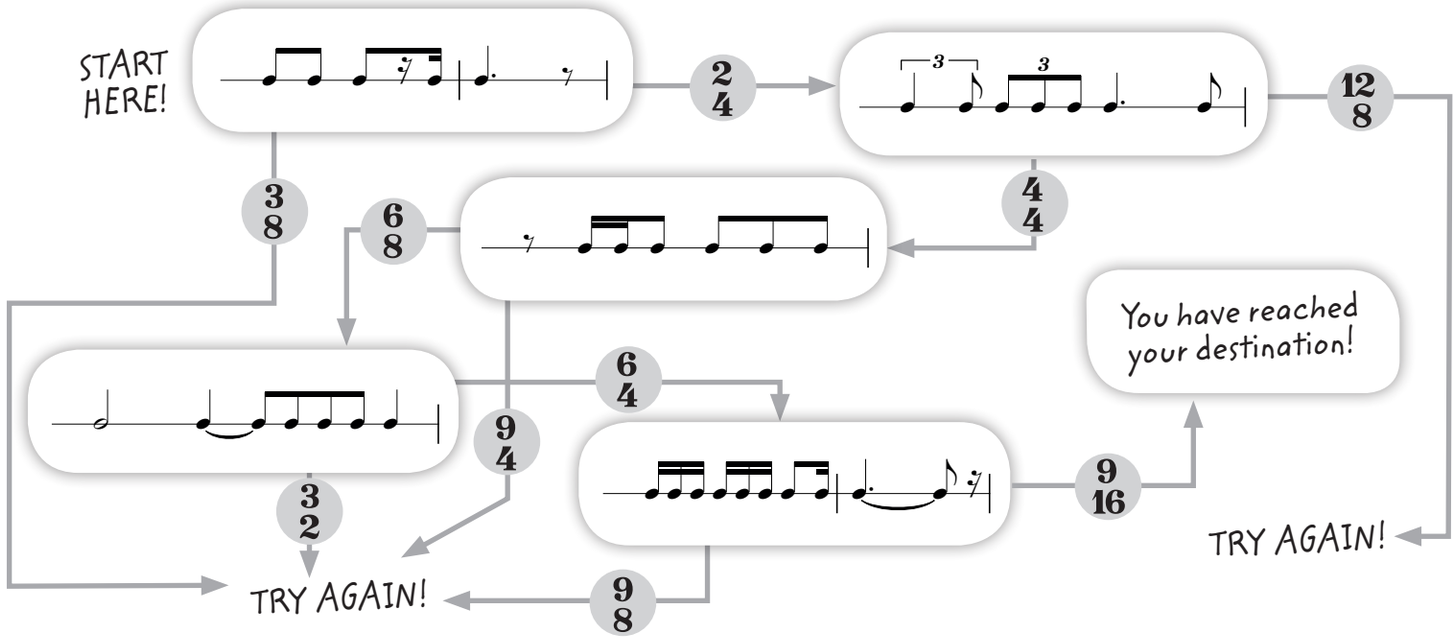
i)



ii)

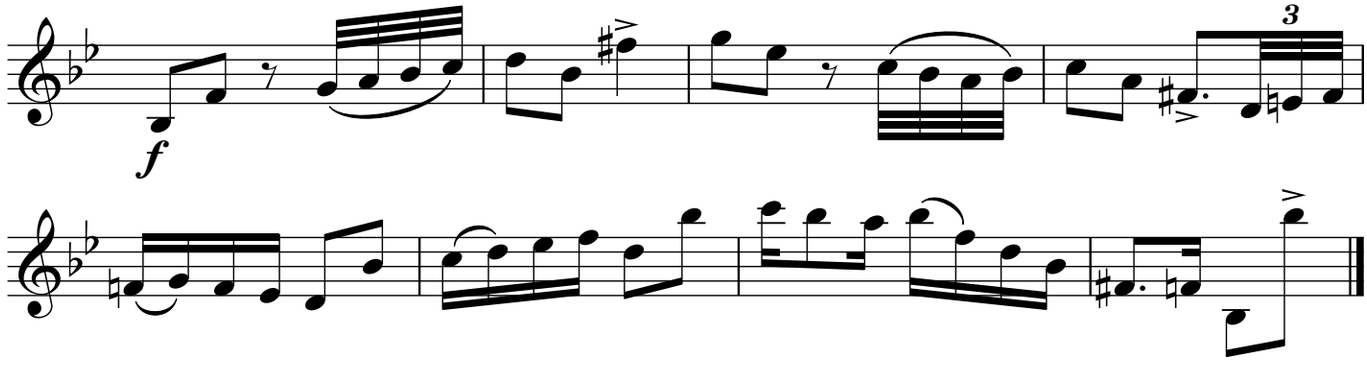


7 Travel through this musical maze, following the route of the correct time signatures, to reach the destination.



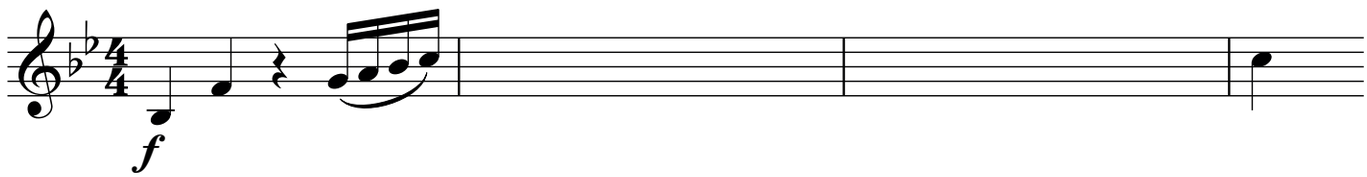
8 Have a look at this piece. Counting or tapping the pulse, clap the rhythm and then answer the questions below.

You never know what's coming around the corner



- Add the correct time signature at the start.
- Think about the character of the music and the tempo you would play it, then add an appropriate performance marking at the start.
- Mark the phrases with a ⌐¬ above the music.
- Which notes will probably sound like a bit of a surprise? Circle them in the music.

  Try to play the piece (or get someone to play it for you) and see if you are right.
- Rewrite the first three bars in $\frac{4}{4}$ doubling all the note-values – the opening bar has been completed for you.



Making connections to your pieces

Choose a piece or song you are currently learning that uses interesting rhythms, and write out the first few bars on the staves below.

- What kind of time signature is used (e.g. 'compound duple time')? _____

  Explain the top and bottom numbers. _____

- What is the key? _____
- In the workspace, write down all of the performance instructions you can find and describe their meaning.
- Rewrite the first two bars of your piece in the workspace, transposing either up or down by one octave and using the most appropriate clef.

Workspace

More connections

Tap the pulse and clap the rhythm of your tune, then make up your own tune to the rhythm.

Aural/listening

track 1

Listen to these four short pieces and decide on the time signature from the following:

$\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{6}{8}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{9}{8}$

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____

Theory box of fun

In his ground-breaking book ***The Art of Strict Musical Composition*** (1776), Johann Kirnberger wrote: '$\frac{4}{4}$ time has a very emphatic and serious motion and is suited to stately choruses, fugues in church pieces, and pieces where pomp and gravity is required, whereas the character of $\frac{3}{4}$ appears to be gentle and noble. But $\frac{3}{8}$ has a liveliness that is somewhat frolicsome.' Do you agree with Johann?