

The type (shape) of musical notes (♩ Quarter Note ♪ Half Note ○ Whole Note) fixes the note values (duration) and the combination of the different values forms the rhythm.

7 Note Values

There are seven note values (and 7 musical rests of the same duration): the ○ Whole Note, the ♪ Half Note, the ♩ Quarter Note, the ♪ Eighth Note, the ♪ Sixteenth Note, the ♪ Thirty-Second Note, the ♪ Sixty-Fourth Note.

Rhythmic Equivalences Between the Different Note Values

The value of each note duration is always double the value that follows it:




- 1 ○ Whole Note = 2 ♪ Half Notes
- 1 ♪ Half Note = 2 ♩ Quarter Notes
- 1 ♩ Quarter Note = 2 ♪ Eighth Notes
- 1 ♪ Eighth Note = 2 ♪ Sixteenth Notes
- 1 ♪ Sixteenth Note = 2 ♪ Thirty-Second Notes
- 1 ♪ Thirty-Second Note = 2 ♪ Sixty-Fourth Notes

And so:









- A ○ Whole Note = 4 ♩ Quarter Notes, 8 ♪ Eighth Notes, 16 ♪ Sixteenth Notes, 32 ♪ Thirty-Second Notes, 64 ♪ Sixty-Fourth Notes
- A ♪ Half Note = 4 ♪ Eighth Notes, 8 ♪ Sixteenth Notes, 16 ♪ Thirty-Second Notes, 32 ♪ Sixty-Fourth Notes
- A ♩ Quarter Note = 4 ♪ Sixteenth Notes, 8 ♪ Thirty-Second Notes, 16 ♪ Sixty-Fourth Notes
- A ♪ Eighth Note = 4 ♪ Thirty-Second Notes, 8 ♪ Sixty-Fourth Notes
- A ♪ Sixteenth Note = 4 ♪ Sixty-Fourth Notes

British Names













- ○ Whole Note = Semibreve
- ♪ Half Note = Minim
- ♩ Quarter Note = Crotchet
- ♪ Eighth Note = Quaver

-  Sixteenth Note = Semiquaver
-  Thirty-Second Note = Demisemiquaver
-  Sixty-Fourth Note = Hemidemisemiquaver





Dotted Notes

A dot behind a music note increases the duration of this note by half of its original value. For example, as 1  Half Note = 2  Quarter Notes, half of a  Half Note = 1  quarter note. So the duration for 1 dotted  Half Note will be 2  Quarter Notes + 1  Quarter Note = 3  Quarter Notes.

The value of the dotted notes for each type of music note is as follow:

- 1 dotted  Whole Note = 3  Half Notes
- 1 dotted  Half Note = 3  Quarter Notes
- 1 dotted  Quarter Note = 3  Eighth Notes
- 1 dotted  Eighth Note = 3  Sixteenth Notes
- 1 dotted  Sixteenth Note = 3  Thirty-Second Notes
- 1 dotted  Thirty-Second Notes = 3  Sixty-Fourth Notes

Triplet

A triplet is the ternary division of a note value. It is a rhythm playing three notes in the space of two. For example, a  quarter note triplet consists of three  quarter notes over the same amount of time as two  quarter notes or a single  half note.