

Music Theory

Worksheet No. 4

(Lesson 26)

In this worksheet, use this image of a keyboard for reference. Soon we will remove the letter names, but for now we can use them.



Identifying Downbeats and Upbeats

Label every downbeat with a **D** and every upbeat with a **U** in the following music excerpts.

1.



2.

Simple Gifts

Joseph Brackett, Jr., 1848



On the next pages are the answers. Try hard to think through all of your answers before you look at the correct answers!

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ANSWER KEY

Two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time. The first staff contains four measures of music with the following rhythmic patterns (D = downbeat, U = upbeat):
Measure 1: D U D D
Measure 2: D U D U D U D U D
Measure 3: D
Measure 4: D U D U D U
The second staff starts with a measure rest (5) and contains four measures of music with the following rhythmic patterns:
Measure 5: D U D U D U D U D
Measure 6: D U D D
Measure 7: D U D U D U D U D
Measure 8: D

Simple Gifts

Joseph Brackett, Jr., 1848

Four staves of musical notation for the piece 'Simple Gifts' in 3/4 time. The rhythmic patterns (D = downbeat, U = upbeat) for each staff are:
Staff 1: D U D D U D U D U D D U D D D D U D U D D
Staff 2: D U D U D U D U D D D U D D U D D U D D U D
Staff 3: D D U D U D U D U D D U D D D D U D U D U
Staff 4: D D U D D U D U D D D D U D D D

TIP: Remember that if you were counting a piece using numbers, any beat that gets a number would be considered a downbeat. Any beat that gets an “and” or something other than a number would be considered an upbeat.
This might become more clear after the next lesson – so if this one was hard, come back to it after the next lesson and see if it makes more sense.

Keep Going!

Don't be afraid to re-watch the videos again!