NOTES and BEATS
For Beginners

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Notes and Beats for Beginners

1. Crotchets - stems down

A crotchet is always completely coloured in and the stem always drops down on the left. Trace and colour the time signature and crotchets. Draw two crotchets in the second bar.

The top number tells you how many beats to count. How many beats are we counting? ........................................

The bottom number tells you the value of each beat. We are counting crotchet beats.

Crotchets are also called Quarter Notes. The word ‘Quarter’ also means ‘One Fourth’ of a whole. If you cut a circle into quarters you will have four pieces of the circle. That’s why the 4 on the bottom of the time signature means that we are using crotchet beats.

The bottom number tells you the value of each beat. We are counting crotchet beats.

Time Signature
Notes and Beats for Beginners

2. Crotchets - stems up

A crotchet is always completely coloured in. Notice that the stem rises up on the right.
Trace and colour the time signature and crotchets. Draw two crotchets in the second bar.

The **TOP number of the TIME SIGNATURE** tells you **HOW MANY** beats to count in each bar.

How many beats are we counting here? ..................................

The **bottom number tells you the value of each beat.**
We are counting crotchet beats.

Draw a time signature that tells you that there are two crotchet beats in each bar.
3. More Crotchet Beats

Trace and colour the treble clefs, time signatures and crotchets.

Crotchet stems rise up on the right but fall down on the left.

Two crotchet beats in each bar

Add another three crotchet beats

Four crotchet beats in each bar

Can you see where three crotchetts need to be added?
4. Add the Bar Lines

Trace and colour the treble clefs, time signatures and crotchets. Each bar has the correct number of crotchets.

You need to add the bar lines.

Two crotchet beats in each bar

Four crotchet beats in each bar
5. Quaver Groups

Trace and colour the treble clefs, time signatures and quaver groups.

A group of two quavers has the same value as one crotchet.

Add quaver groups where they are needed.

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Two crotchet beats in each bar

Four crotchet beats in each bar

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6. Three Beats in a Bar

Trace and colour the treble clefs, time signatures and notes.
In the top line, draw bar lines to divide the groups of three beats.
In the bottom line, add crotchets or quaver groups to give each bar three beats.
7. Crotchet Rests

Trace and colour the treble clefs, time signatures, notes and rests.
A crotchet and a crotchet rest have the same value.

Add bar lines where they are needed.

Add two crotchets, one group of quavers and one rest to give each bar four beats.
8. Crotchets and Minims

Two crotchets have the same value as one minim.
Two crotchet beats are equal to one minim beat.

Add two crotchets, one group of quavers and one rest to give each bar four beats.
9. Minims and Minim Rests

A minim rest looks like a little box.
It sits on top of the third line.
It is worth two beats, just like a minim.

Add bar lines in the proper places:

Add one crotchet, one minim and one rest to give each bar four beats.
10. Semibreves and Rests

A semibreve looks a little like a circle. It is worth four beats and is also called a whole note. A semibreve rest hangs down from the fourth line.

Add bar lines in the proper places:

Add one semibreve rest, one crotchet and one minim to give each bar four beats.

1 2 3 4  1 2 3 4  1 2 3 4