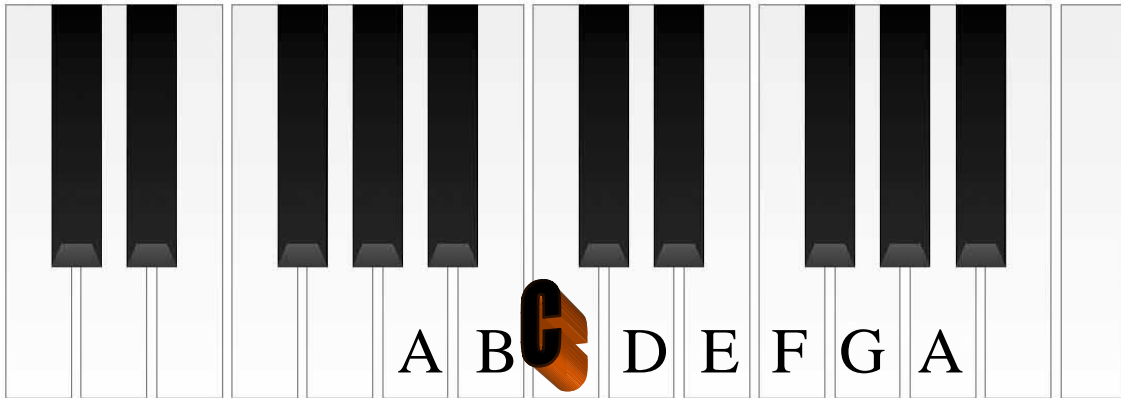# The Keyboard

The white note just to the left of a group of 2 black notes is the note "C"
Each white note is identified by alphabet letter. You can find a note's letter by counting up or down from C.
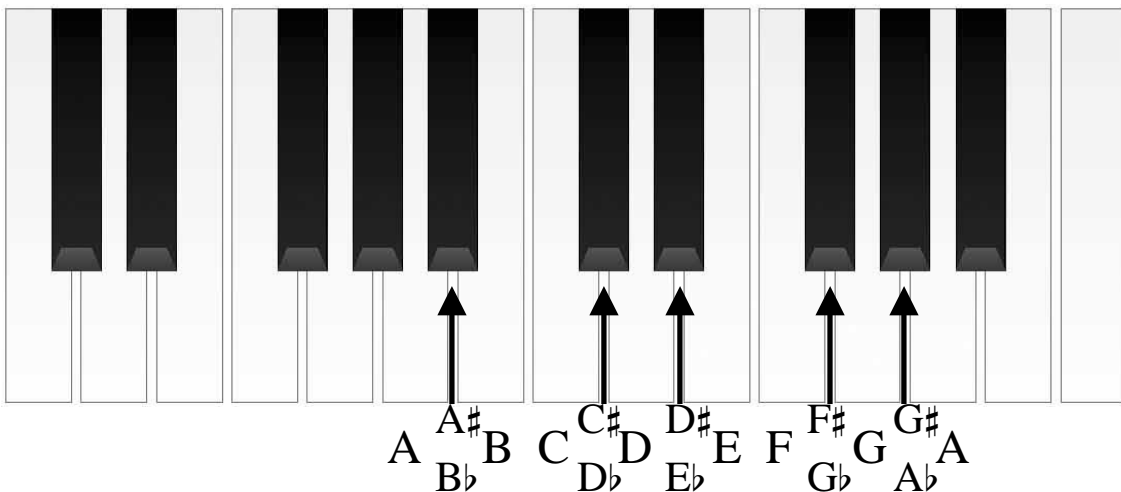
A B C D E F G A

Sharps raise the pitch of a note a half step. Flats lower the pitch of a note half of a step.

♯ means HIGHER

♭ means LOWER

Black notes often get called by two different names.
E♭ and D♯ are called enharmonic equivalents.

This note, for example, is both E♭ and D♯.

A A♯/B♭ B C C♯/D♭ D D♯/E♭ E F F♯/G♭ G G♯/A♭ A

If you lined up all the notes in order, you would have a chromatic scale.

Notes immediately next to each other in the chromatic scale are a half step apart.
Two notes that have one between them are a whole step apart.
Two half steps equals a whole step.

Below, for each key with an arrow pointing at it, LABEL the letter of the key, then identify the pitch distance as a whole step or a half step.

_____step   _____step   _____step   _____step

From F♯ to G is a _____ step.   From B to C♯ is a _____ step.

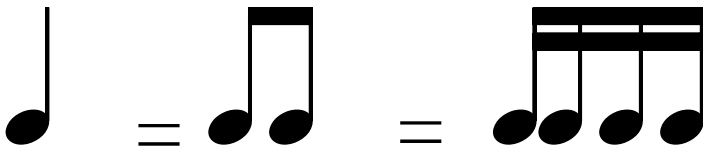From E♭ to F is a _____step.   From A♭ to G is a _____step.

D♯   A♭   F♭   A♯

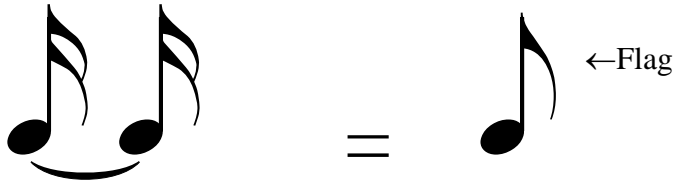_____   _____   _____   _____

Draw each note on the staff above, draw an arrow from it to its key. Label an enharmonic equivalent on the line underneath it.
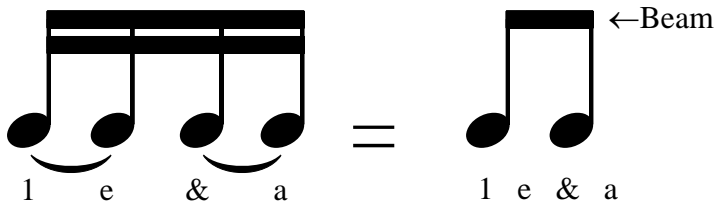
Sixteenth notes and dotted eights

A quarter note can divide into two eighths and subdivide into four sixteenth notes.

←Flag

Two sixteenth notes tied together form an eighth note.

←Beam

Eighth notes have a single flag or beam. Sixteenth notes have a double flag or beam.

1   e   &   a   1 e & a

The notes are connected by a "beam" to total up to a quarter note value that can be counted 1e&a.

Write 1e&a 2e&a under each measure. Make sure to line up the numbers directly under the notes to which they apply, and make sure that each measures begins with number 1.
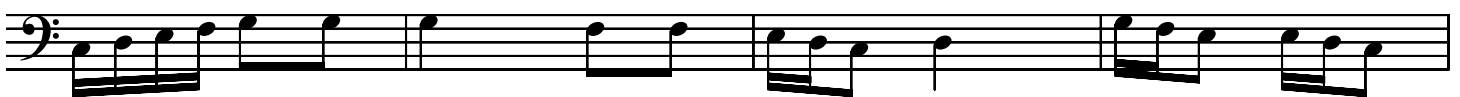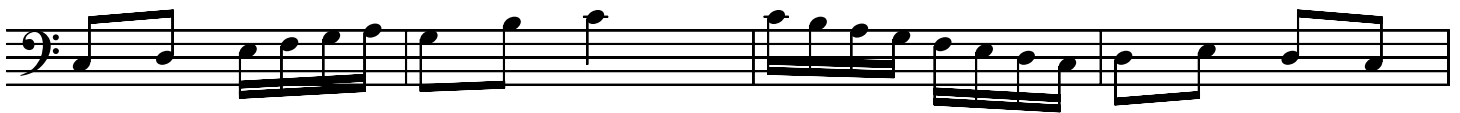
16th divisions
when the quarter note gets the beat

write 1 e & a under
each figure

How would you
write the these?

1 e & a   1 e & a   1 e & a
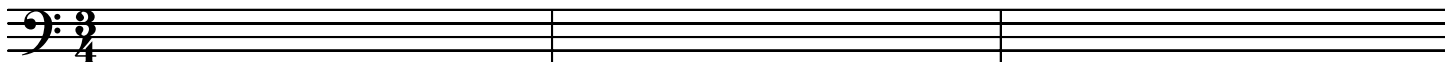
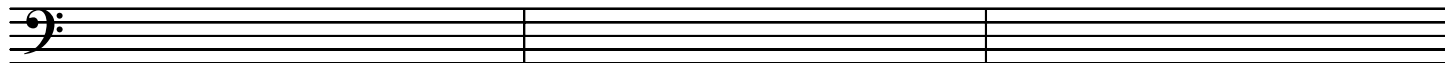1 e & a   1 e & a   1 e & a

Notate the following:

1 e & a 1 e & a   1 e & a 1 e & a   1 e & a 1 e & a

Quiz
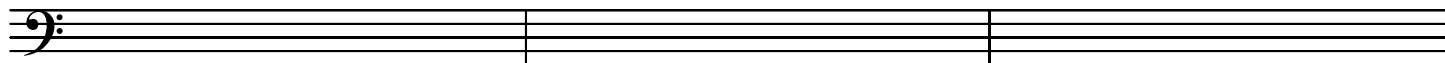
1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a
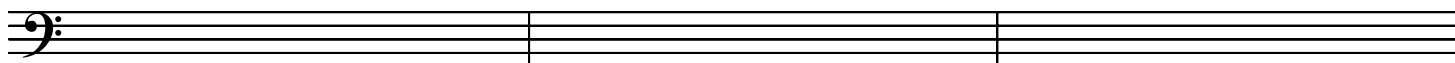
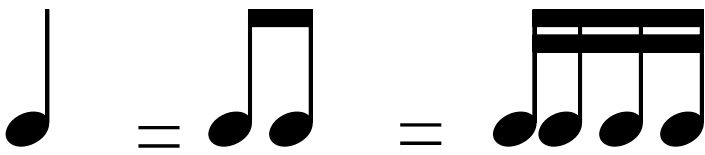1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a
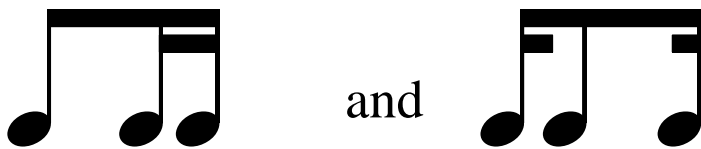
1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a

Beaming Beats
when the quarter note gets the beat

It is conventional to beam notes together if they combine to form one beat.

Groups of eight and sixteenth notes that combine to the value of a quarter note are beamed together.

shoud be
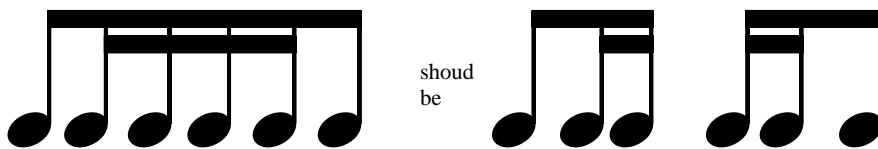
"Beamed Beats" are easier to read.
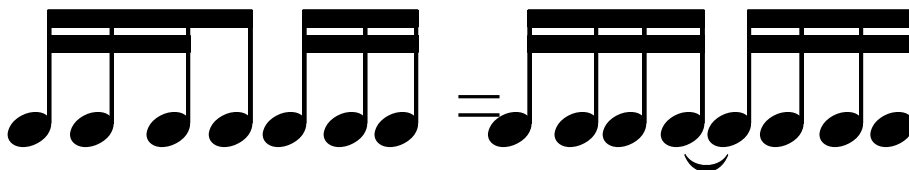
Notes whose duration crosses a beat are clearer when written as shorter notes tied together.

Rewrite each set of notes beaming the beats (quarter note).

Notate the following:

1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a

Quiz

1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a   1 e & a 2 e & a

Counting in $\frac{6}{8}$ and other compound meters

In compound meter time signatures,
divide the top number by three to get the number of beats,
combine 3 of the notes represented by the bottom number to get the beat duration
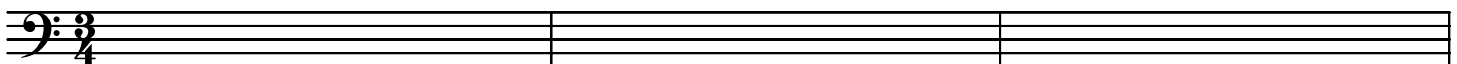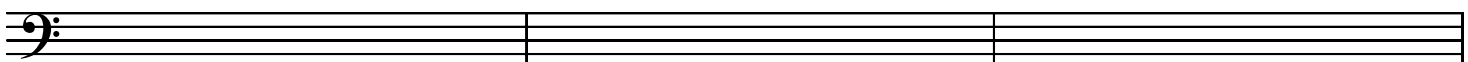
In $\frac{6}{8}$, the dotted quarter note gets the beat,
and the following is true.

♩. (dotted quarter note)= 1 beat

𝅗𝅥. (dotted half note)= 2 beat   (the dot adds 1/2 of the value of
the note, so a dotted quarter note
is the value of 3 eights)
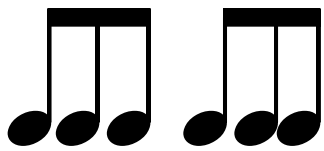
Each beat divides into three eights,which
are beamed together to show the beat.
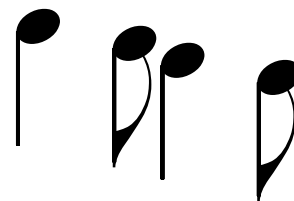
The beat often divides into a quarter
followed by an eighth note: Long-short.

Write the counts under each measure.

In class dictation: write the rhythm. Pitch for added challenge.

1 2 3 **4** 5 6   **1** 2 3 **4** 5 6   **1** 2 3 **4** 5 6   **1** 2 3 **4** 5 6

Counting in Compound and Simple meters

Write the Counts under each measure

1 e & a 2 e & a **OR 1** 2 3 4 5 6

In Class Dictations

_____   _____   _____
1 2 3 4 5 6   **1** e & a 2 e & a   **1** e & a 2 e & a

_____   _____   _____
1 2 3 4 5 6   **1** 2 3 4 5 6   **1** e & a 2 e & a

Meter

Meter is the grouping of beats into a framework.
Often, the framework is a regular recurring pattern of strong and weak beats.

Regular patterns have names:

Duple is a pattern in which the recurring group has 2 members

STRONG weak | STRONG weak | STRONG weak etc

Triple is a pattern in which the recurring group has 3 members

STRONG weak weak | STRONG weak weak | etc

Quadruple is a pattern in which the recurring group has 4 members. There are 2 common examples.

STRONG weak weak weak | STRONG weak weak weak etc

STRONG weak strong weak | **STRONG** weak strong weak etc

beat division

$2 = simple$
$3 = compound$

Meter is also described by how the beat is divided. If it divides in two, it is called simple, if it divides in three it is called compound. In naming a meter, the beat division is named first, following by the metric grouping. For example, you would say "compound duple" not "duple compound".

Write the meter for each example played or sung in class:

1)_____

2)_____

3)_____

4)_____

5)_____

Time signatures

Time signatures are used to reflect and dictate the meter. Time signatures divide time into measures, which are separated by bar lines, and correspond to the beat groupings. The top number is used to express the number of beats in a measure, while the bottom number expresses the duration of a beat. The way of figuring out beat divisions and number of beats differs for simple and compound meters.

simple meters
Meters with simple beat divisions are easier. In these, the top number is the number of beats, and the bottom number represents the value of the beat. If the bottom is 4, the beat is a quarter note. If 2, then a half note. If 8, then an eighth. (since it is in the bottom, you might consider it as a denominator – ¼, ½ etc)

$$top = number\ of\ beats$$
$$bottom = beat\ duration$$

compound meters
Meters with compound beat divisions are trickier. In these, divide the top number by 3 to get the number of beats. To determine the beat duration, add up the value of three notes represented by the bottom number. Another way of thinking about it is this: the bottom number is the division of the beat; the top number is the number of these divisions; write out all of the notes and then group them into threes. For example, in 6/8, write out 6 eighth notes, and then group them into three and three: you will see that you have 2 groups (beats) in which the total duration of a group is a dotted quarter note.

Determining simple or compound
Determining beat division can be tricky, but some basic principles can get you started. If the top number is divisible by 3, but not 3, then the meter is usually compound. Another way to express this same property is this: if the top number is 5 or less, then the beat division is usually simple. (Trickier examples will be presented on future worksheets covering asymetrical meters and mixed meters)

Complete the following table, when filling in the time signature, supply at least 1.

time signature	division of beats	number of beats	metric term
6 8			
	3		compound quadruple
	2	3	
9 16			

Singing in Minor Keys

For each examples, identify the Major key, then identify the minor key by finding 'La'
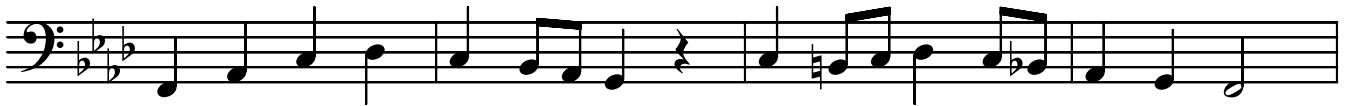then write solfege and letters for the melody that follows.

Key: _____

Key: _____

Key: _____

Key: _____

Key: _____

Key: _____

Key: _____

Key: _____