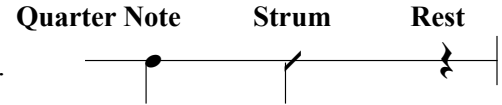


Lesson 2

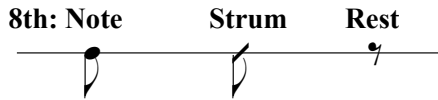
Rhythm

In Lesson 1, we learned about the beat. We also learned to read symbols that told us to either strum on the beat or to make the beat silent. This is called **rhythm**. Rhythm simply tells us *when* to play notes or chords and *how long* to let them ring out *based on the beat*. Beats, being markers in time, are the reference points.

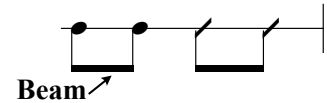
When a note, strum or rest (silence) lasts for 1 beat, it is called a **quarter note** (or **quarter rest**), since it lasts for a 1/4 of a measure.



A note lasting only *half* a beat is called an **eighth note** or **eighth rest**.



Since eighth notes last for half a beat, we can fit two in one beat. Two eighth notes on one beat are **beamed** together so that you know they both belong to one beat.



When playing two eighth notes, the first one is played right on the beat and the second one is played exactly at the halfway point between the first eighth note and the next beat. When counting eighth notes, the first one is called by whatever beat it lands on. i.e., "one" or "two." The second eighth note is always called "and."

Clap and count the following rhythm exercises. Pat your lap on the rests.

1 1 2 3 4 1 2 and 3 4

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

3 1 2 3 4 1 2 and 3 4

4 1 2 3 4 1 2 and 3 4

5 1 2 3 4 1 2 and 3 4

6 1 2 3 4 1 2 and 3 4

7 1 2 3 4 1 2 and 3 4

8 1 2 3 4 1 2 and 3 4