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# Sound-Off: How to Count Time

## 4 Kinds of Notes



QUARTER NOTE  
ONE COUNT



HALF NOTE  
TWO COUNTS



DOTTED HALF NOTE  
THREE COUNTS



WHOLE NOTE  
FOUR COUNTS

COUNT: 1 2 3 4

COUNT: 1 2 3 4

COUNT: 1 2 3

COUNT: 1 2 3 4

## Time Signatures

Each piece of music has numbers at the beginning called a *time signature*. These numbers tell us how to count time. The TOP NUMBER tells us how many counts are in each measure. The BOTTOM NUMBER tells us what kind of note gets one count.

FOUR COUNTS TO A MEASURE

**4**

A QUARTER NOTE GETS ONE COUNT

THREE COUNTS TO A MEASURE

**3**

A QUARTER NOTE GETS ONE COUNT

TWO COUNTS TO A MEASURE

**2**

A QUARTER NOTE GETS ONE COUNT

**Important:** Go back and fill in the missing time signatures of the songs already learned.