

lesson 10

REVIEW OF TIME SIGNATURES

The grouping of counts into measures is indicated by the Time Signature, which appears at the beginning of each song.

The top number of the Time Signature tells how many counts in each measure. The bottom number tells what kind of note is to receive one count.

$\frac{4}{4}$ = 4 counts in each measure.
Each quarter note (♩) gets one count.

C = Common Time. This sign is often used as a substitute for 4/4 Time.

$\frac{2}{4}$ = 2 counts in each measure.
Each quarter note (♩) gets one count.

$\frac{3}{4}$ = 3 counts in each measure.
Each quarter note (♩) gets one count.

$\frac{6}{8}$ = 6 counts in each measure.
Each eighth note (♩) gets one count.
(or: 2 three-note groups of eighth notes in each measure.)

$\frac{3}{2}$ = 2 counts in each measure.
Each half note (♩) gets one count.

$\frac{3}{2}$ = 3 counts in each measure.
Each half note (♩) gets one count.

$\frac{C}{2}$ is often called Cut Time, and is designated by this sign: **C**.
The **C** of Common Time is cut in two. **C** (4/4) becomes $\frac{C}{2}$ (2/2).

Fill in the blanks:

1. The largest note possible in 3/4 Time is
2. **C** means the same as
3. In 3/2 Time, the note gets three counts.
4. In $\frac{C}{2}$ Time, the whole note gets counts.
5. In 6/8 Time, the note gets one count.
6. The most common Time Signs have a as the bottom number.

