

## Music Notation

Written music, called *music notation*, sends a series of special instructions from the composer to the player. Those instructions are written in a kind of shorthand or code. If those instructions are followed accurately, the player will reproduce the musical piece exactly as the composer intended. The most important symbol in music notation is the *musical note*.

### MUSICAL NOTES


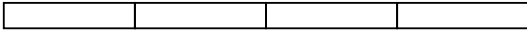


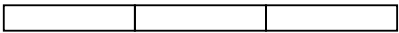


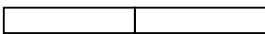


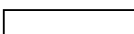

Musical notes carry information about the duration of a sound – the length of time that the sound is heard. The durations of a note are expressed as a fraction of the *whole note*, which is the longest note. The *half note* is played for half the duration of the whole note. The *quarter note* is sounded for one quarter of the duration of a whole note. The *eighth note* is half the duration of one quarter note. The sixteenth note is half the duration of one eighth note.

To represent a duration that lasts *three quarters* of a whole note, a half note with a dot is used. To represent a duration that lasts *three eighths* of a whole note, a quarter note with a dot is used. To represent a duration that lasts *three sixteenths* of a whole note, a dotted eighth note is used.

Any dotted note lasts the duration of the note represented plus a half of that note's duration.

#### Notice:

Eighth and Sixteenth notes and rests see on page 32.

	NOTES	RESTS
<b>Whole</b>	 	 4 beats
<b>Half with a dot</b>	 	 3 beats
<b>Half</b>	 	 2 beats
<b>Quarter</b>	 	 1 beat