1.2 Rhythmic Values

Rhythm

Rhythm is a general term used to describe the motion of music in time. The fundamental unit of rhythm is the pulse or beat.

Notation of Duration

The notation of duration is illustrated in the following chart:

Name	Note	Rest	Equivalents		
Breve (Double Whole Note)	⊨ or o		Two Whole Notes	o	o
Whole Note	o	<u> </u>	Two Half Notes		
Half Note		<u> </u>	Two Quarter Notes		
Quarter Note			Two Eighth Notes	J	
Eighth Note	<u></u>	9	Two Sixteenth Notes	Ţ	
Sixteenth Note	A		Two Thirty-second Notes	J	
Thirty-second Note			Two Sixty-fourth Notes		
Sixty-fourth Note			Two One Hundred Twenty-eighth Notes		

Tie

The tie is a curved line that connects two adjacent notes of the same pitch into a single sound with a duration equal to the sum of both note values.



Dot

The dot lengthens the value of the note by half again its note value – the value of the note plus half the value of the note.



A second dot lengthens the dotted note value by half the length of the first dot.

Dots may also be used with rests and affect them in the same way.

Irregular Division and Subdivisions of Notes

A note value may be divided or subdivided into any number of equal parts. Those divisions and subdivisions that require added numbers are called irregular divisions and subdivisions.

