

Counting With The Musical Clock

The musical clock is similar to the clock we use to tell time. In the same way a clock helps us know when something starts and how long it lasts before it stops, the musical clock tells us when to start the music as well as how long to play before we stop. Both clocks keep us all synchronized and coordinated.



Looking at the clock face, we can see the seconds, minutes, and hours as they tick past. If we made a sound for fifteen seconds and timed those fifteen seconds on the clock, we can easily see how long to hold the sound by watching the second hand tick off the fifteen seconds. Holding a sound for one entire minute, we can see and count off each of the sixty seconds the sound is to be held. ...

Just as the relationship between the seconds, minutes, and hours never changes, the relationship between the different types of notes never changes.... However, unlike the time clock, the musical clock can move at different speeds. It is important to remember that even though the speed can change, the relationship between the notes never changes.

The relationship between notes can be seen on the ruler.

Taking a look at a ruler, we can see how an inch can be broken into many different parts.



One inch is made up of many different parts. The whole inch is equal to the sum of all of its parts.

The whole inch is made up of combinations of $1/2$, $1/4$, $1/8$, $1/16$ ths.

The whole note is made up of combinations of $1/2$, $1/4$, $1/8$, $1/16$ ths.