

Counting and the Basic Time Signature:

Rhythm Counting Practice Sheet #2:

Here's where we begin to get it together.

Take each rhythm write in the counting based on the time signature.
 Practice clapping each rhythm sequence.

Remember A beat gets one count, but does not always get one clap.
 The note value tells you how many claps to apply.

4/4 time signature

Let look at time signature of 4/4. Quarter note gets one beat and one count. So our basic counting is "one - two - three - four" for the following measure.
 Review the basic time signature.

4/4		♪	♪	♪	♪		♪	♪	♪	♪	
Count:		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	
Clap:		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	

Work on these variations. Use and x for clap, and the → to continue to hold.

4/4		♪	→	♪	♪		♪	→	
Count:		-	-	-	-		-	-	
Clap:		-	-	-	-		-	-	

4/4		♪	♪	→		♪	♪	♪	
Count:		-	-	-		-	-	-	
Clap:		-	-	-		-	-	-	

4/4		♪	→		♪	♪	♪	
Count:		-	-		-	-	-	
Clap:		-	-		-	-	-	

Excellent you are on your way to mastery.

Getting It Down Cold
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2/2 time signature

Now look at the 2/2 time signature

$\frac{2}{2}$ | ♩ ♩ | ♩ ♩ |

Count: — — — —

Clap: — — — —

$\frac{2}{2}$ | ♩ | ♩ ♩ |

Count: — — — —

Clap: — — — —

Not much to do with 2/2 time until we learn to subdivide notes. That's coming up. Next lesson.

3/4 time signature

Next up let's look at the 3/4 time signature, we are back to counting quarter notes as our beat and with three beats per measure. Try these.

$\frac{3}{4}$ | ♩ ♩ ♩ | ♩ ♩ ♩ |

Count: — — — — — —

Clap: — — — — — —

$\frac{3}{4}$ | ♩ | ♩ | ♩ ♩ |

Count: — — — — — —

Clap: — — — — — —

$\frac{3}{4}$ | ♩. | ♩ ♩ ♩ |

Count: — — — — — —

Clap: — — — — — —

$\frac{3}{4}$ | ♩ ♩ | ♩. |

Count: — — — — — —

Clap: — — — — — —

Getting It Down Cold

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6/8 time signature

Now its 6/8 time using the eight note as our beat count. Remember the count 1 through 6. here's your base.

	$\frac{6}{8}$															
Count:			1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Clap:			x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	

Count With Other Notes:

	$\frac{6}{8}$															
Count:			-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	
Clap:			-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	

	$\frac{6}{8}$															
Count:			-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	
Clap:			-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	

	$\frac{6}{8}$															
Count:			-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Clap:			-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

	$\frac{6}{8}$															
Count:			-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Clap:			-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

	$\frac{6}{8}$															
Count:			-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Clap:			-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Great Practice. This should be feeling easy by now. If not, spend some time with your teacher or someone else that knows music and have them work with you on it. Getting this down is going to well worth the effort.

Congratulations on sticking with it. Your making progress and as long as you keep moving forward you're going to do great.