Music Learning Workshop

Summary Chart of Beats and Time Signature

This chart will help you see how many beats each note gets when the bottom numeral is a 2, 4, or an 8. You have to enough subdivisions to be able to count. Counting 16^{th} notes in 2/2 time would require 8 subdivisions of a half note. Note exactly an easy thing to count.

Beat	Beat	Half note	Quarter note	Eighth note
counts	Bottom #	(2)	(4)	(8)
for notes	typical Time signature	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Note Symbol	Note Name	Beats/note		
0	Whole	2	4	8
0.	Dotted half	1 1/2	3	6
0	Half	1	2	4
	Dotted quarter	3/4	1 1/2	3
	Quarter	1/2	1	2
)	Dotted eighth	3/8	3/4	1 1/2
	eighth	1/4	1/2	1
A	sixteenth	1/8	1/4	1/2

By continuing to divide by two to get 32nd notes and by two again 64th notes. At this time that is too much and we will explore these notes in our advanced concepts when the time is right.