


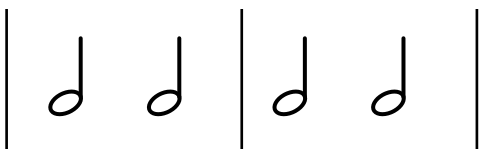
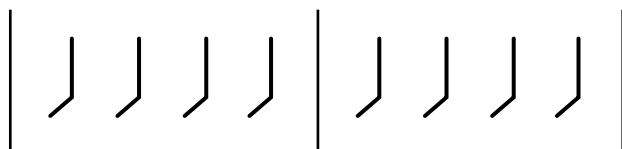
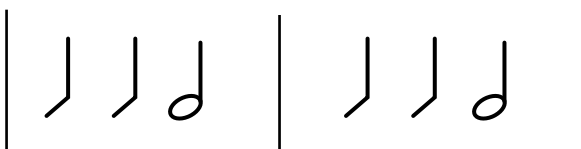
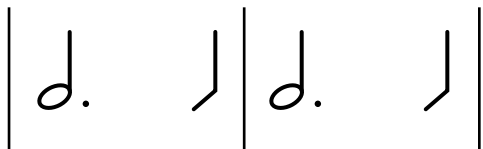
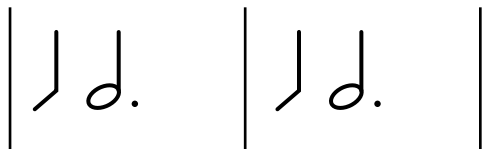
## Reading Timing

Every song has what is called a fundamental pulse to it. How fast these pulses occur is called the *Tempo*. When you tap your foot to music ... chances are, your foot will tap the floor on each pulse. The time from one pulse to the next is called *one beat*. The duration of time between beats in a song should be consistent. These pulses are also called *Down Beats*. Dead center between two downbeats is called the *Offbeat*. This is when your foot is at the top of its tapping path (between taps). Probably 70% of all the notes played in music are hit right on the downbeat or on the offbeat. So if you can tap your foot and count 1+2+3+4+ . . . I guarantee you can learn to read timing.

Of course, timing can get a lot more complicated when the beat is subdivided further. Beats are routinely subdivided into 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 sections. To help us do that, a count is assigned to each subdivision. All of the examples are written for 4/4 time (4 beats per measure ....more about this later).

The numbers in ( ) indicate that a note is hit at that time. D stands for Down Stroke, U for Up.

### Timing Examples and Exercises

<p>(1)</p>  <p>Count (1) 2 3 4 (1) 2 3 4</p> <p>Stroke D D</p>	<p>(2)</p>  <p>Count (1) 2 (3) 4 (1) 2 (3) 4</p> <p>Stroke D D D D</p>
<p>(3)</p>  <p>Count (1) (2) (3) (4) (1) (2) (3) (4)</p> <p>Stroke D D D D D D D D</p>	<p>(4)</p>  <p>Count (1) (2) (3) 4 (1) (2) (3) 4</p> <p>Stroke D D D D D D D D</p>
<p>(5)</p>  <p>Count (1) 2 3 (4) (1) 2 3 (4)</p> <p>Stroke D D D D D D D D</p>	<p>(6)</p>  <p>Count (1) (2) 3 4 (1) (2) 3 4</p> <p>Stroke D D D D D D D D</p>