

Simple & Compound Meter

Simple Meter

Duple	Triple	Quadruple
$\frac{2}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{4}{4}$
$\frac{2}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{4}{8}$
$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{4}{2}$

→ In simple meter, the bottom number is what is counted as the beat.

Compound Meter

Duple	Triple	Quadruple
$\frac{6}{8}$	$\frac{9}{8}$	$\frac{12}{8}$
$\frac{6}{16}$	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{12}{16}$

Divide the top number by 3 to get the number of beats in each measure.

The bottom number (usually 8) shows the beat division:

Example: In $\frac{6}{8}$, there are 2 beats. Each beat has 3 eighth notes.

In $\frac{12}{16}$, there are 4 beats. Each beat is divided into 3 sixteenth notes.