

# Simple Time

$\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{2}{8}$     $\frac{3}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{3}{8}$     $\frac{4}{2}$   $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{4}{8}$

In simple time, each separate beat is divisible by 2



2 even beats = simple duple



3 even beats = simple triple



4 even beats = simple quadruple



## Simple Time



In simple time, there will always be either a 2, 3, or 4 at the top.

All these time signatures can be broken down into even (not dotted) parts.

The terms duple, triple & quadruple refer to the number of beats per bar.

$2/2$   $2/4$   $2/8$  = simple duple

$3/2$   $3/4$   $3/8$  = simple triple

$4/2$   $4/4$   $4/8$  = simple quadruple

# Compound Time

In Compound time, each separate beat is divisible by 3



2 dotted beats = Compound duple



3 dotted beats = Compound triple



4 dotted beats - Compound quadruple

# Compound Time

$\frac{6}{2}$

$\frac{6}{4}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{6}{16}$

In compound time, there will always be either a 6, 9, or 12 at the top.

$\frac{9}{2}$

$\frac{9}{4}$

$\frac{9}{8}$

$\frac{9}{16}$

The beats are divided into dotted notes (compound = more than one. in this case one and a half).

$\frac{12}{2}$

$\frac{12}{4}$

$\frac{12}{8}$

$\frac{12}{16}$

Any key signature with 6 on top is compound duple  
ie: 2 dotted notes per bar

Any key signature with 9 on top is compound triple  
ie: 3 dotted notes per bar

Any key signature with 12 on top is compound quadruple  
ie: 4 dotted notes per bar