

#1 RHYTHMIC NAMES & RELATIONSHIPS
(Whole Notes, Half Notes, and Quarter Notes)

A Word to the Wise:
 If pitch provides the vertical plane, then rhythm sets the horizontal foundation. The choir proceeds together better when that foundation is secure.

Notes for the Know-it-all: Even if you hate math, you can still love music. Who knows, maybe music's rhythm will improve your understanding of mathematics.


Analogy: No matter where you set a pie, it's how you slice it that counts.

Activity: Using your music, locate whole notes, half notes and quarter notes.

"The pleasure from music comes from counting. Music is unconscious arithmetic." **Leibnitz**


1. This is a whole note: 

- A. Generally speaking, whole notes have the greatest time value
- B. In other words, whole notes are generally sung for the longest time.

2. This is a half note: 

- A. It looks like a whole note with a stem.
- B. Stems can go either up or down.
- C. A half note lasts *half* as long as a whole note.

D.  +  = 

3. This is a quarter note: 

- A. It looks like a half note with the note-head filled in.
- B. Stems can go either up or down:
- C. A quarter note lasts *half* as long as a half note.

D.  +  = 

4. Since two quarter notes equal one half note, and two half notes equal one whole note, it follows that four quarter notes must equal one whole note:

Note Relationships



5. Write in the equivalent note value:

 +  =  +  +  +  =

 +  =  +  +  =