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PRELIMINARY EXERCISES

Rhythmic Notation:

○ = whole note, ½ = half-note, ¼ = quarter-note, ½. = dotted half-note
(The dot placed after any note adds to it one-half of its value.)

The Quarter-Note as pulse
Each unit of the pulse is called a beat.

Basic Notation:
¼ = 1 beat, ½ = 2 beats, ¾ = 3 beats, ○ = 4 beats.

1



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Chapter I

Rhythmic Organization, the Bar-line and Meter.

A vertical line divides the pulse into bars or measures. The first beat after each bar-line is always the downbeat (strong).

Two quarter-note beats per bar: $\frac{2}{4}$ meter =  Conductor's symbol: 1 ↓ downbeat 2 ↑ upbeat

(A tie connecting two notes may go across the bar-line.)

4









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Chapter II

Dividing the Beat into Two Equal Parts The Eighth-Note


Notation: The eighth-note can be notated  or ; also 

$\frac{2}{4}$ meter =   (see No.4 for conductor's symbol)

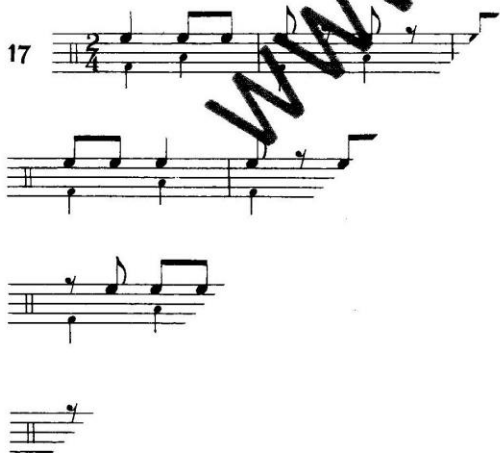
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Notation: The eighth-rest 

17



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Sixteenth-notes can also be tied across the bar-line.

$\frac{2}{4}$ meter

41

The image displays a musical exercise labeled '41' in 2/4 time. It consists of eight staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The notation features a series of sixteenth-note patterns, with several notes tied across bar lines to illustrate the concept mentioned in the text. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid across the middle of the musical notation.



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The following eight exercises should not be begun without a glance at the smallest rhythmic values. In all music of this kind the maximum speed with which the smallest values can be performed determines the tempo for the entire piece.

$\frac{2}{4}$ meter

71

Exercise 71 is a rhythmic exercise in 2/4 meter, consisting of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid across the entire page, including this section.

$\frac{6}{8}$ meter

72

Exercise 72 is a rhythmic exercise in 6/8 meter, consisting of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid across the entire page, including this section.



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Chapter XII

Two Rhythms

Every pianist has to be able to perform two independent rhythmic lines simultaneously. In chamber music and ensemble playing this ability is of equal importance to performers of single-line instruments and singers.

In each of the preliminary exercises stage 1 (with subdivisions) should be practiced with increasing velocity until stage 2 (on a single beat) can be performed.

Preliminary Exercises:

	Stage 1	Stage 2
1 2 against 3		
2 3 against 2		
3 4 against 3		
4 3 against 4		
5 2 against 5		
6 3 against 5		



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97

Musical notation for measures 97 and 98. Measure 97 is in 12/8 time and measure 98 is in 4/4 time. The notation is presented in a grand staff with two staves.

Musical notation for measures 99 and 100. Measure 99 is in 12/8 time and measure 100 is in 4/4 time. The notation is presented in a grand staff with two staves.

Musical notation for measures 101 and 102. Measure 101 is in 12/8 time and measure 102 is in 4/4 time. The notation is presented in a grand staff with two staves. A finger number '5' is written above the fifth finger in the right hand of measure 102.

Musical notation for measures 103 and 104. Measure 103 is in 12/8 time and measure 104 is in 4/4 time. The notation is presented in a grand staff with two staves.

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Mixing divisions of 5 and 7

$\frac{2}{4}$ meter

62

The musical score consists of eight staves of music. The first staff is marked with a '62' and a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/4. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often grouped into triplets (marked with '3') and quintuplets (marked with '5'). Some patterns are marked with '7', indicating septuplets. The notation includes stems, beams, and slurs to indicate the grouping of notes. A large, diagonal watermark 'www.hickeys.com' is overlaid across the middle of the page, partially obscuring the musical notation.



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