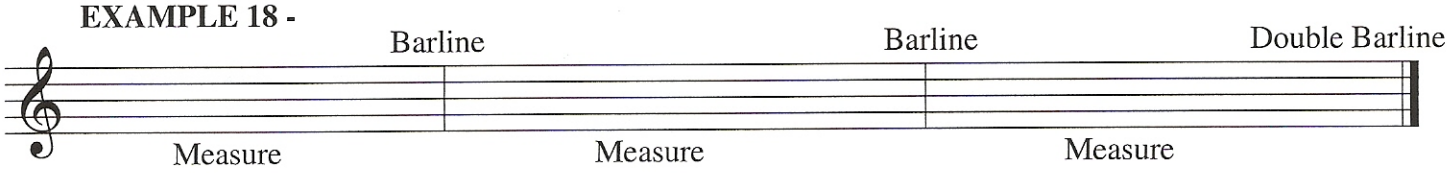
LESSON V:

Barlines; Measures; Time Signatures; Ties and Slurs

Music written on the staff is divided into sections called "measures." "Bar lines" show both the beginning and end of measures. The end of a piece is shown by a "double barline."

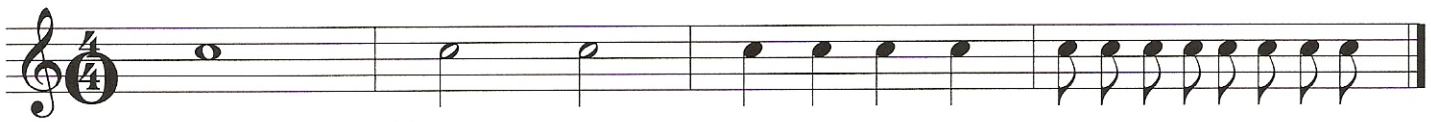
EXAMPLE 18 -



Time signatures are placed at the beginning of a piece of music after the clef. Time signatures have two numbers. The top number shows how many BEATS there are in a measure.

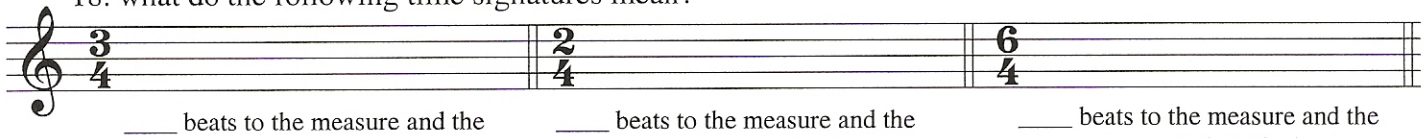
EXAMPLE 19 - In this time signature the top number, 4 means that there are FOUR BEATS in each measure.

EXAMPLE 20 - In the same time signature the bottom number, 4, means that the QUARTER NOTE is worth one beat. In 4/4 time a whole note gets FOUR beats; a half note gets TWO beats, and a quarter note gets ONE beat.



Based on what you saw above, that 4/4 time signatures mean four beats to the measure and the quarter note gets the beat,

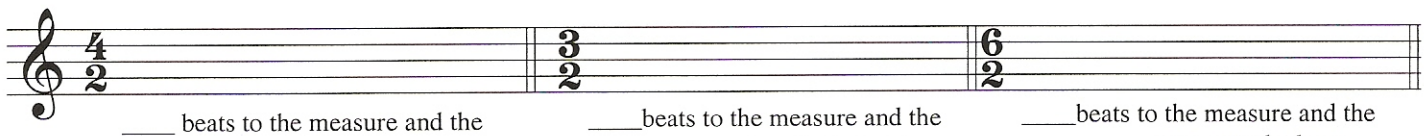
18. what do the following time signatures mean?



____ beats to the measure and the _____note gets the beat.

____ beats to the measure and the _____note gets the beat.

____ beats to the measure and the _____note bets the beat.

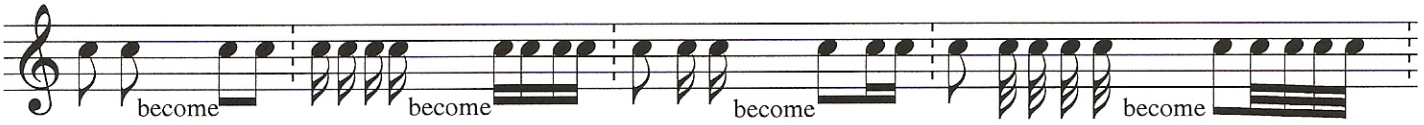


____ beats to the measure and the _____note gets the beat.

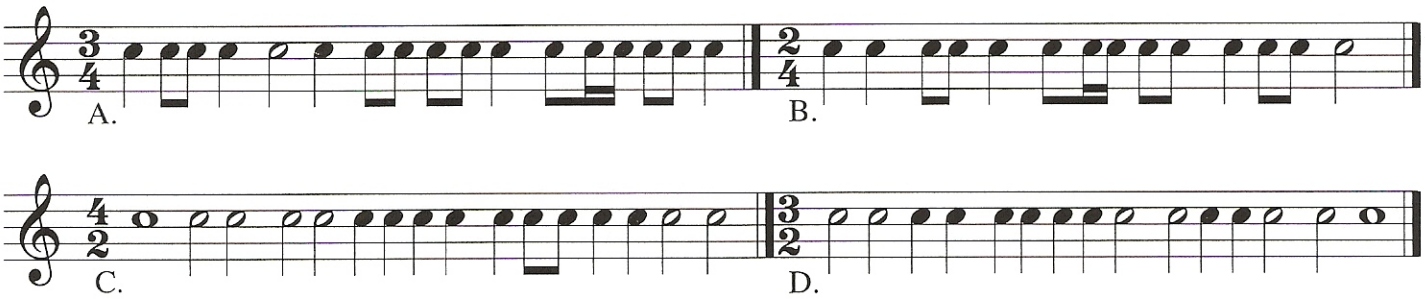
____beats to the measure and the _____note gets the beat.

____beats to the measure and the _____note gets the beat.

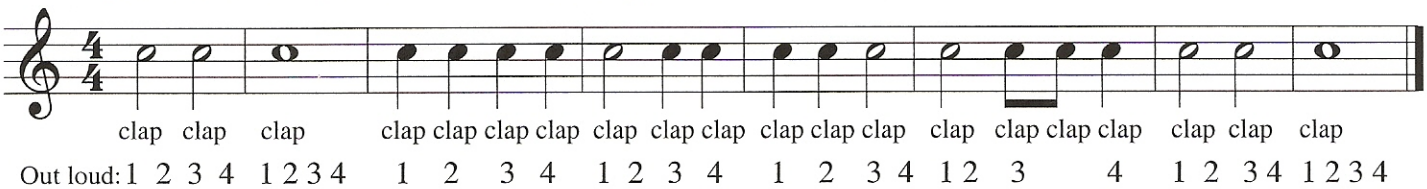
EXAMPLE 21 - Eighth notes, sixteenth notes, etc., can be grouped together by a beam. This makes it easier to read the rhythm quickly. The notes are beamed within a beat:



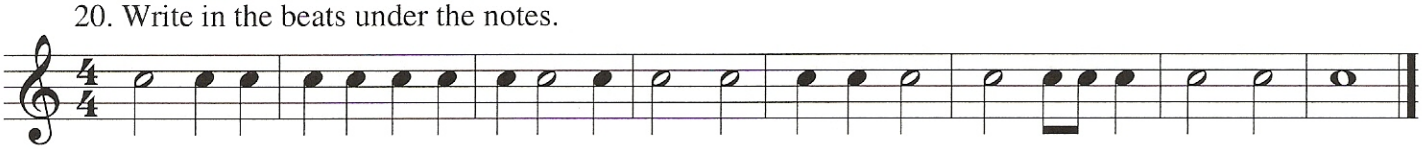
19. Add barlines to the following in order to have the correct number of beats per measure.



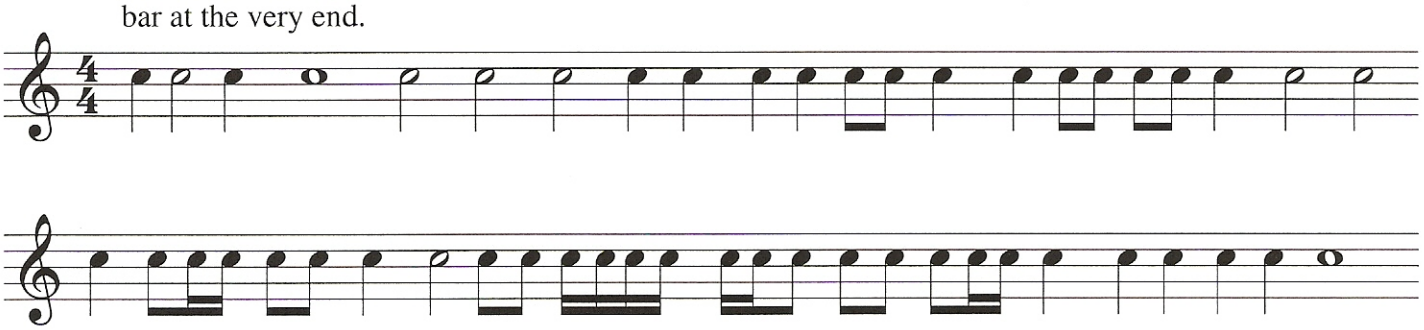
Practice: Count the beats out loud while clapping the rhythm of the notes.



20. Write in the beats under the notes.



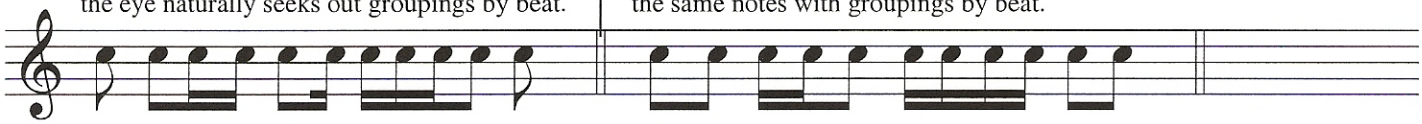
21. Insert barlines in this 2-line exercise. Be sure each measure has exactly 4 beats in it. Put a double bar at the very end.



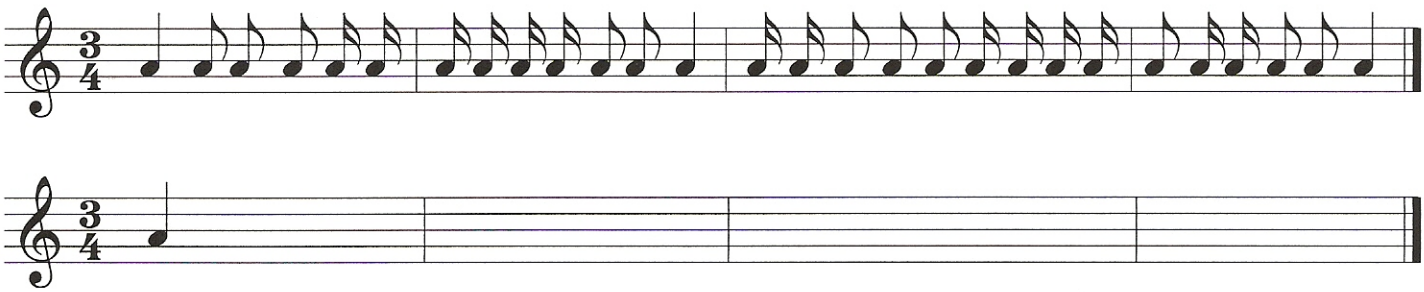
EXAMPLE 22 - Beam smaller note values by beat, not across beats.

This shows how NOT to beam notes.
It is virtually impossible to read because
the eye naturally seeks out groupings by beat.

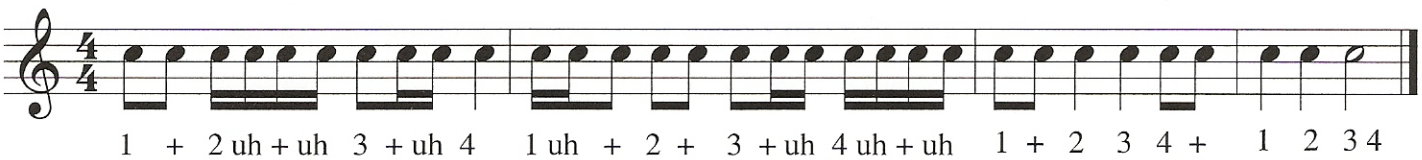
And here is the CORRECT way to beam
the same notes with groupings by beat.



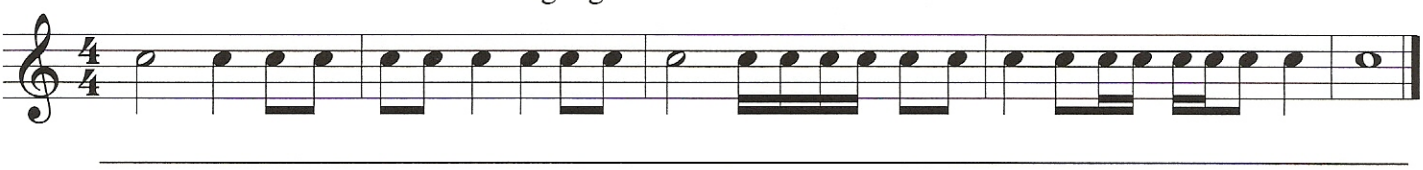
22. On the blank staff, beam the smaller note values together by beat.



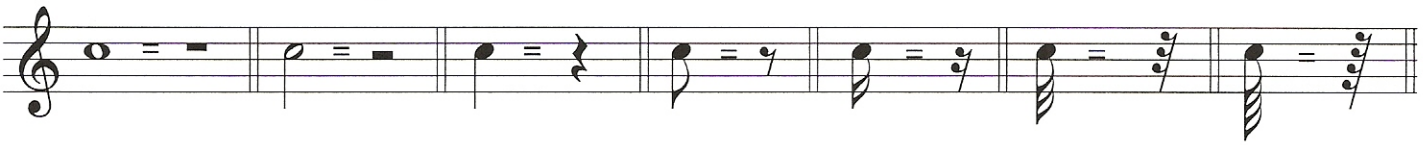
EXAMPLE 23 - Here's a way of counting notes whose value is less than a full beat - count "one-and (+)" or "one-uh-and (+) uh"



23. Now write in the counts including eighth notes and sixteenth notes as shown above.



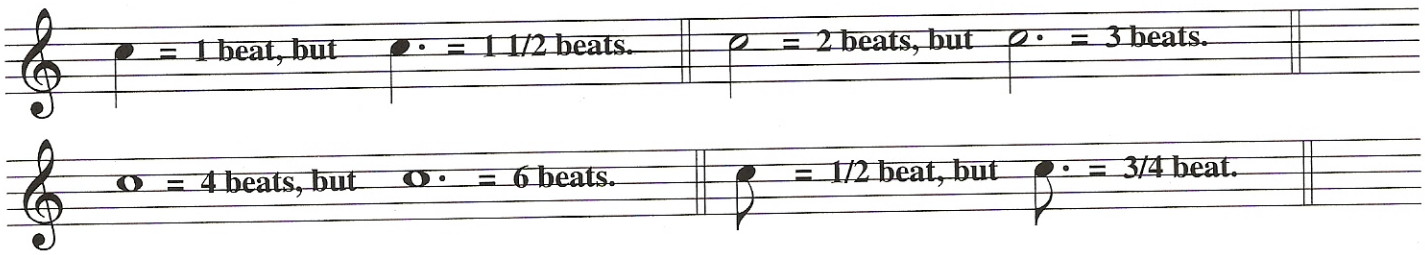
EXAMPLE 24 - An important part of music is silence. Without occasional silence, the constant sound of music would be tiresome. There are ways to indicate the length of silence as well as the length of notes. These silences are called "rests."



Whole note = whole rest.	Half note = half rest.	Quarter note = quarter rest.	8th note = 8th rest.	16th note = 16th rest.	32nd note = 32nd rest.	64th note = 64th rest.

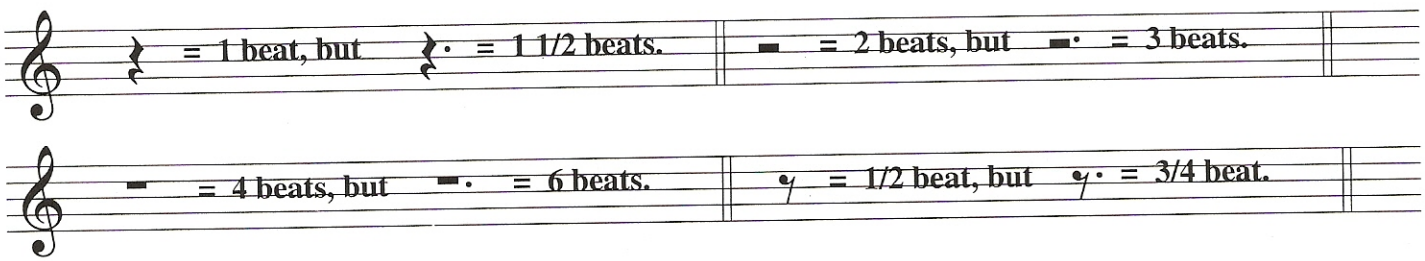
EXAMPLE 25 - Dotted Notes

Sometimes we don't want to double a note value. If we add a dot behind the note it adds one half the value of that note. In 4/4 time, a quarter note = one beat. If we add a dot to the quarter note, it is now worth one-and-a-half beats. The same is true for any note value.

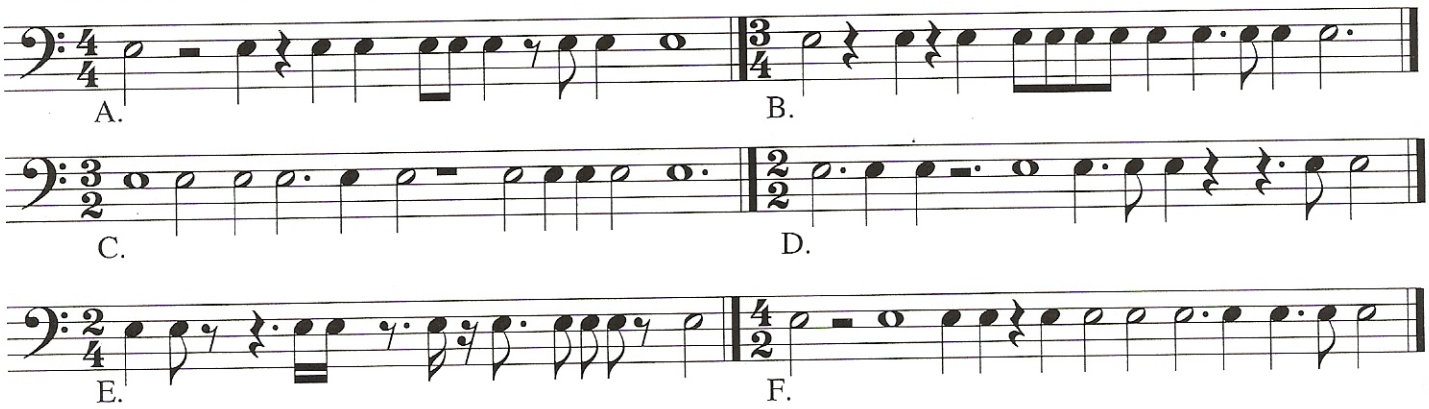


EXAMPLE 26 - Dotted Rests

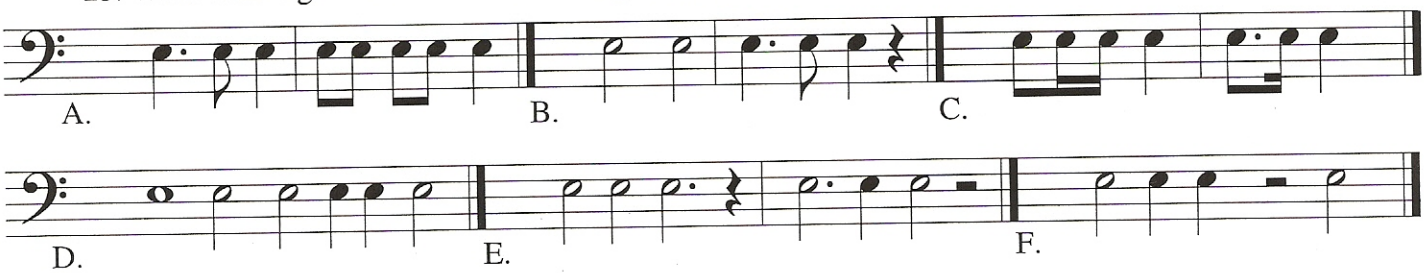
The same is true for rests.



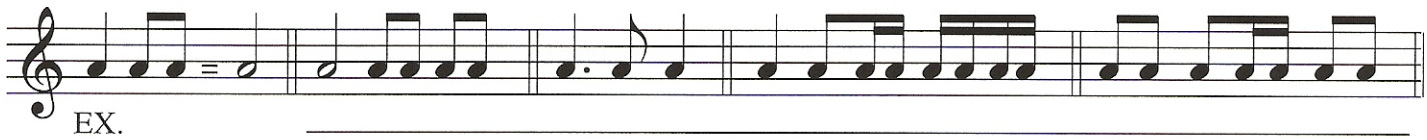
24. Practice by inserting barlines in the following exercises.



25. Write time signatures for the following measures.

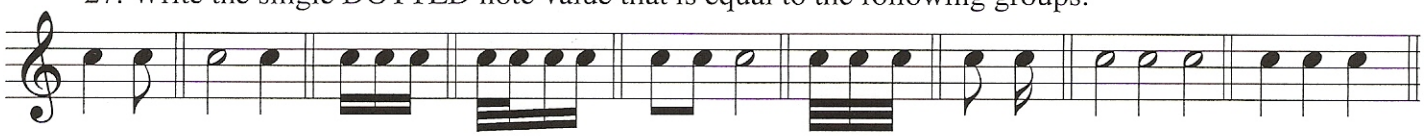


26. Write the SINGLE note value, dotted or undotted, that is equal to the following groups.



EX. _____

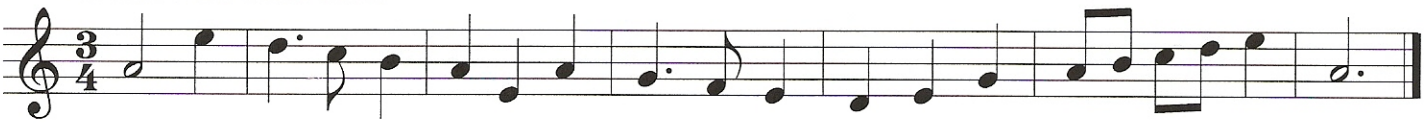
27. Write the single DOTTED note value that is equal to the following groups.



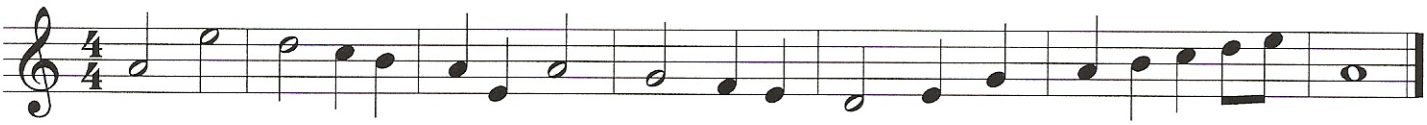
_____

EXAMPLE 27 - Choose a time signature. Alter the notes to any rhythm you wish. Insert barlines. Just be certain that you have the correct numbers of beats in each measure according to your time signature.

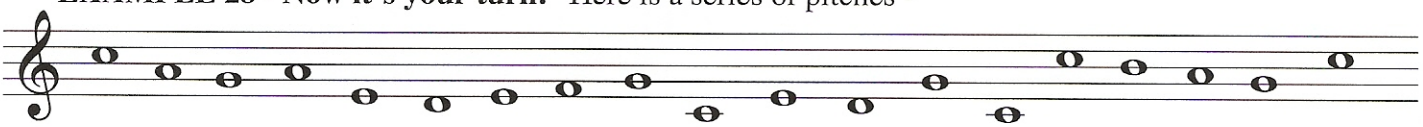
MIGHT BECOME THIS



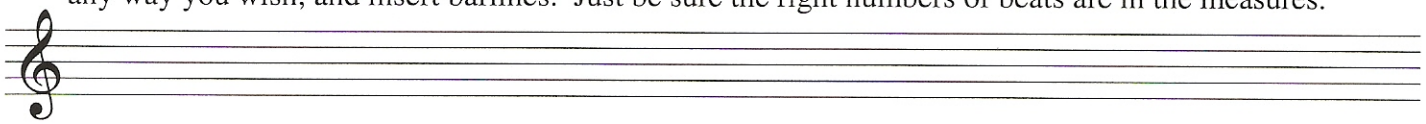
OR THIS



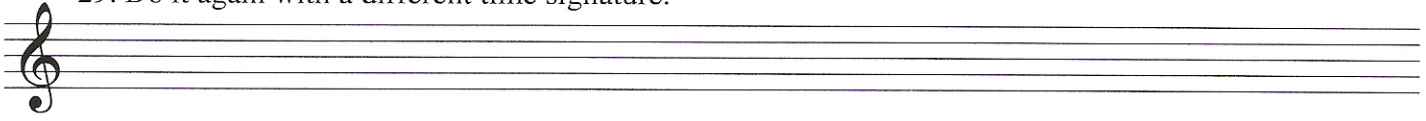
EXAMPLE 28 - Now it's your turn! Here is a series of pitches -



28. On this blank staff add your time signature, change the rhythmic values of the pitches above in any way you wish, and insert barlines. Just be sure the right numbers of beats are in the measures.

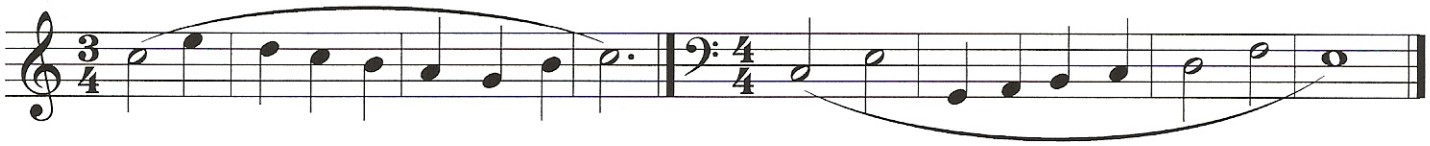


29. Do it again with a different time signature.

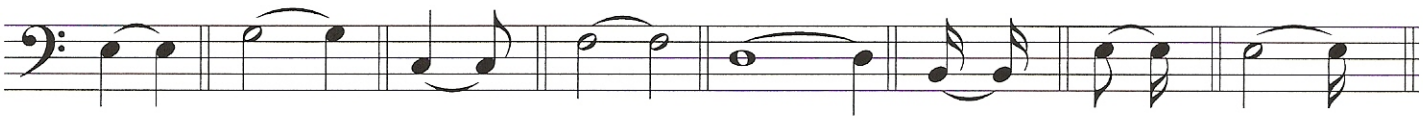


Slurs and Ties

EXAMPLE 29 - A SLUR is a curved line over or under a group of notes. It means that those notes should be played or sung as smoothly as possible without any spaces between them.

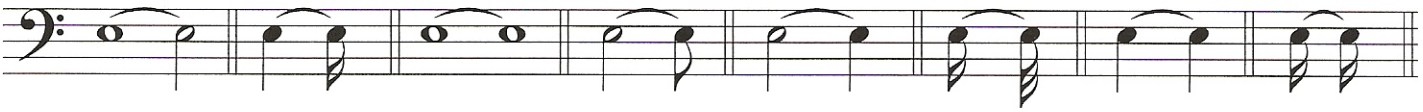


EXAMPLE 30 - A TIE is a curved line that connects 2 notes of the same pitch. The two notes are then held (and counted) as if they were one.



1 2 1 2 3 1 1/2 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 34 5 1/4 1/4 1/2 1/4 1 2 1/4

30. How many beats are the following tied notes worth?



_____beats _____beats _____ beats _____ beats _____beats _____beats _____beats _____beats