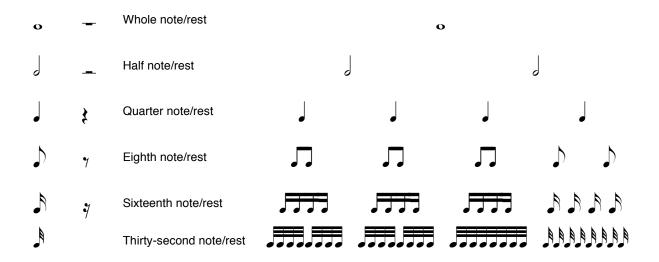
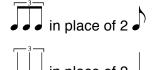
# **How to Count Anything**

### **Note Values**

Each note equals **2** of the next smaller note. Any note can be assigned any number of beats.



Triplets are played with 3 notes in the space of 2:



The Rule of the Dot:

A dot adds ½ the length of the note before. A dotted note equals 3 of the next smaller note.

$$w = w + h$$
  
 $w = h + h + h$ 

$$w \cdot = w + h$$
  $h \cdot = h + q$   $q \cdot = q + e$   $w \cdot = h + h + h$   $h \cdot = a + a + a$   $a \cdot = e + e$ 

$$w = w + h$$
  $h = q + q + q$   $q = q + e$   $w = h + h + h$   $h = q + q + q$   $q = e + e + e$ 

### **Time Signatures (Meter)**

T = Top number (Number of beats in a measure)

B = Bottom number (What kind of note gets 1 beat)

Shortcut: "There are T B notes per measure."

Example:  $\S$  "There are 9 eighth notes per measure."

Note: C means 4  ${\mathbb C}$  means  ${f \hat{z}}$ 

## **How to Count Anything**

### Tips for nailing the rhythm:

- 1. Clap it first!
- 2. Assign the beat
  - Assign the beat to a smaller note value.
  - Change the beat to larger values after the first step becomes easy.
- 3. Learn small patterns that are repeated.
- 4. Start slow.
- 5. Try playing without ties and then adding them in.

(This can also be done by splitting longer notes into several shorter ones or by filling in rests with notes.)

- 6. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat.
- 7. Learn to see beat groups.
- 8. Count it right from the beginning!

## **Brazilian Rhythms**

From Phrasing in Brazilian Music by Antonio Adolfo

### **Accenting Eighth Note Groups**

Samba

Hi-hat in samba or triangle in baião

Baião

Baião & Choro

### **Tying Eighth Notes**

Within the beat

Across the beat

Over the barline

## "Skipping" Eighth Notes

2<sup>nd</sup> beat

3<sup>rd</sup> eighth note

### The "Mother Cell"

In Na Bahia Tem:

A baião rhythm:

## **Brazilian Rhythms**

From Phrasing in Brazilian Music by Antonio Adolfo

Syncopated rhythms in Brazilian music are frequently played with a "laid back" feel. The short notes (first and last) become a little longer, stealing time from the long note. Occasionally, the figure will completely transform into triplets. Note that the underlying eighth/sixteenth notes will still be played "straight."

The only way to learn to play this correctly is to listen to a great number of authentic Brazilian performances. Now, however, you can relax your performance just slightly to keep it from sounding metronomic or overly classical.

Try some typical Brazilian rhythms:



It is possible to syncopate a simple melody...



By anticipating notes



By delaying notes (by lengthening previous or adding rests)



By diminishing note values

