



Vocal Music Virtual Learning

7/8 Honor Choir

Common & Complex Rhythm

May 20, 2020



7/8 Honor Choir
Lesson: 5/20/2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Identifying Common and Complex Rhythm

Warm Up Activity:
Identify the number of beats each rhythm gets:





Warm Up Answers:

1, 4, 2, 4, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$



The rhythm we've covered so far is interesting, but pretty basic. We can use rhythm in more challenging ways to create more creative and exciting music to listen to. Today, we'll discuss various rhythmic tools that can help add complexity to your existing knowledge.

Dots

-If you see a note with a dot after it, that is an indicator that the note is longer than the normal value. It's pretty easy to apply the dot, so let's look at an example:

Below is a dotted half note. A half note normally gets 2 beats. The dot tells you to take half the original value and add it. So, $2 + 1 = 3$. The dotted half note gets 3 beats.



Let's practice identifying some values!



Dotted Rhythms Answers:

1). Quarter note = 1 beat

Dot takes half = $\frac{1}{2}$

add them together $1 + \frac{1}{2} = 1\frac{1}{2}$

2). Eighth note = $\frac{1}{2}$ beat

Dot takes half = $\frac{1}{4}$

add them together $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$

3). Quarter Rest = 1 beat

Dot takes half = $\frac{1}{2}$

add them together $1 + \frac{1}{2} = 1\frac{1}{2}$

4). Whole note = 4 beats

Dot takes half = 2

add them together $4 + 2 = 6$

5). Half Rest = 2 beats

Dot takes half = 1

add them together $2 + 1 = 3$

Check out these rhythms below; you'll see that they are hybrids of rhythms you already know, as well as some new rhythms featuring syncopation. These are all pretty common rhythms for choir singers.





Using what you just learned with what you already know, try and identify the values for each rhythm on the previous slide. They look complicated, but the values are actually pretty normal.

Rhythm Value Answers:

First Row:



$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = 1$$



$$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$$



$$1 \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 2$$



$$\frac{1}{2} + 1 + \frac{1}{2} = 2$$

Second Row:



$$\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = 1$$



$$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} = 1$$



Extra Practice:

Teoria is another good site for extra practice. It's pretty comprehensive, and offers in depth knowledge into many music theory topics. The reading music section is helpful for this topic, but there are many other topics to explore. Check out Time Signatures, Eighth and Sixteenth Notes/Rests, and Dotted Notes/Ties.

[Teoria Theory Practice](#)