

The Bars, Time-figures, Dots and Rests:—

3

Every piece of music is divided into equal Measures or portions of Time, by vertical lines, called Bars:—

Every bar must contain a certain number of notes regulated by the Figures, which always follow the signature.

A Double-bar, is used to denote either a part, or the whole of a composition, and when Dots are added, the part on the same side as the dots,

is Repeated. (i.e. played again.)

There are two kinds of Time in use, *Common and Triple*—common-time is indicated by $\frac{1}{4}$ or C each bar contains one Semibreve, two Minims or their equivalents.

The time called *alla cappella*, formerly used for Church-music only; but at the present time in general use, is indicated by $\frac{2}{2}$ or C, in fact, it is common-time with only two beats given to each bar, instead of four. This time is often incorrectly termed *Alla Breve*.

For all other Measures, Figures only are used, placed one over the other, the lower figure shows, into how many parts the Semibreve is divided, the upper figure shows how many of such parts are contained in each bar:—



There are three different kinds of Triple-time in use:—each bar containing, *Three Minims, three Crotchets, three Quavers* or their equivalents.

There are two *Compounds* of the above named times:—Compound common-time contains *Six Crotchets, Six Quavers, also Twelve Quavers* or their equivalents in each bar.

Compound triple-time contains *Nine Crotchets, nine Quavers, nine Semiquavers* or their equivalents in each bar.

A Dot placed after a note, or a rest, indicates that its length is to be increased by one-half.

Two Dots placed after a note, or a rest, indicate that its length is to be increased by three-fourths.

When the Dot is placed over a note, it means that the note is to be played *staccato*, (i.e. detached.)

A dotted Semibreve.	A dotted Minim.	A dotted Crotchet.	A dotted Quaver.	A double-dotted Minim.	A double-dotted Crotchet.
is equal to Three Minims.	is equal to Three Crotchets.	is equal to Three Quavers	is equal to Three Semiquavers.	is equal to Seven Quavers.	is equal to Seven Semiquavers

Rests are characters which indicate temporary silence. Each kind of note has its corresponding rest equal in duration to the note of the same name.

By a license the Semibreve rest is used to indicate a rest of one bar, in any time.

To indicate a rest of longer duration than one bar other characters are used. viz:—

S. BREVE.	MINIM.	CROTCHET.	QUAVER.	S. QUAVER.	D.S. QUAVER.	1	2	3	any number.

When the figure 3 is placed above three notes or three rests or any combination of three notes and rests, they are called a Triplet, and are played in the time of two ordinary notes of the same kind.