

Notes, Ticks, Tails & Rests

- Sounds in music may be long or short and we have signs called notes to tell us this.

1. A *semibreve* is a round open note



2. A *minim* is a round open note with a tail



3. A *crotchet* is a black note with a tail



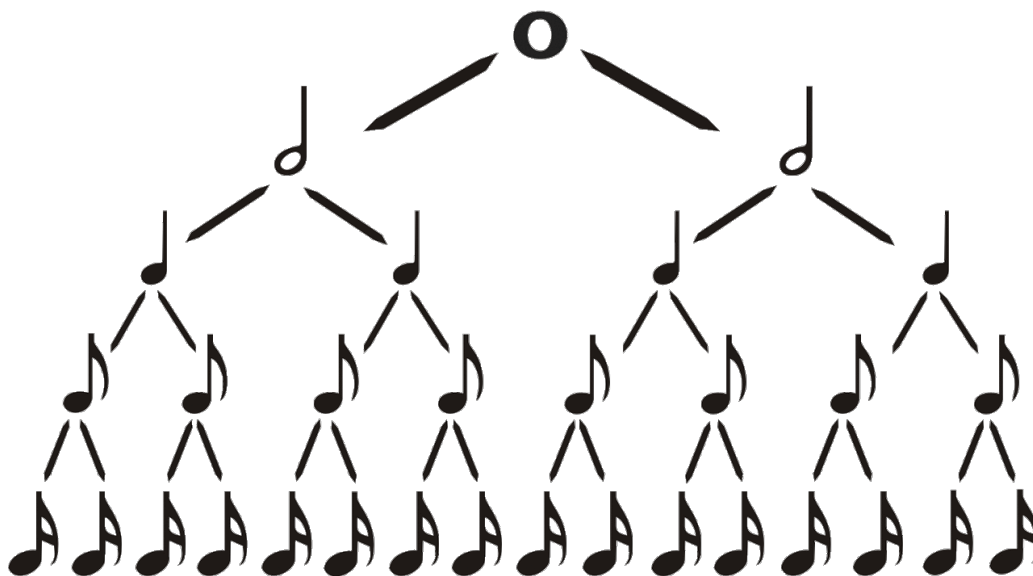
4. A *quaver* is a black note with a tail and a tick



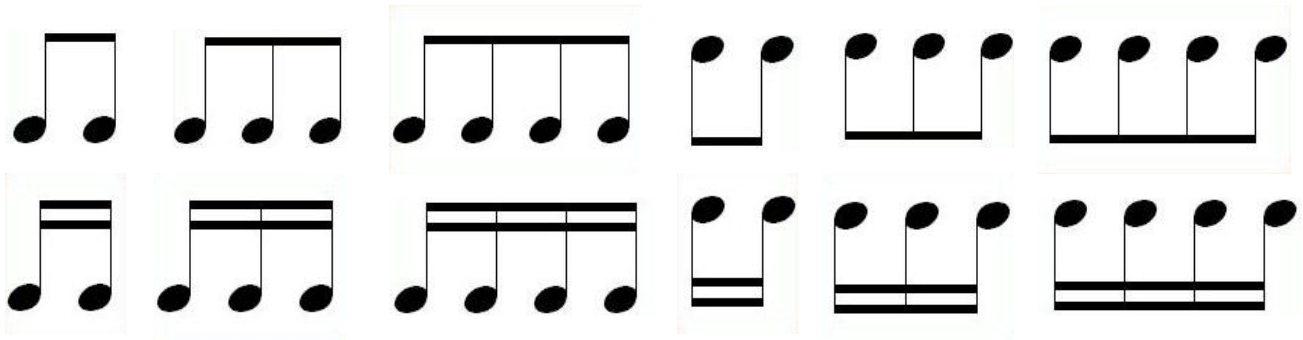
5. A *semiquaver* is a black note with a tail and two ticks



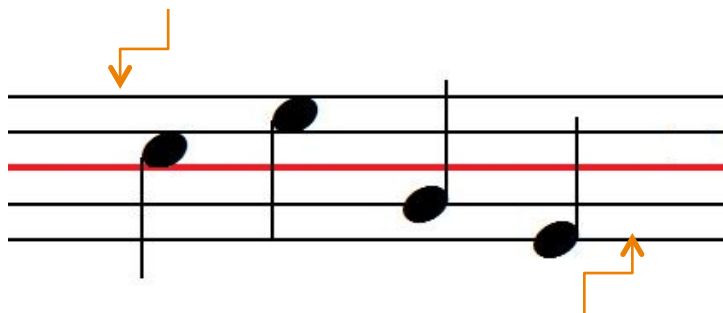
- There are other notes that are shorter than a semiquaver (such as demisemiquavers, hemidemisemiquavers and others) and there is one note longer than a semibreve (known simply as a 'breve', which has largely fallen out of use), but you do not need to know these notes yet. The 5 notes listed above cover the vast majority of music you will ever hear. Each one is worth twice as much as the next. So 1 semibreve = 2 minims, 1 minim = 2 crotchets, 1 crotchet = 2 quavers and 1 quaver = 2 semiquavers. So, how many semiquavers in a semibreve? ...16!



- Notes with ticks (quavers and semiquavers), may be joined together making a group.



- Tails are **down** on the **left** when the head of the note is **above** the middle line of the staff. Tails are **up** on the **right** when the head of the note is **below** the middle line of the staff. This makes the music easier to read and keeps tails facing inwards towards the middle of the staff. Notes on the middle line can go either way, depending on the direction of its neighbour notes.



- Notes are sounds. **Rests** are silences. Every note sound has an equivalent silence called a rest:

NOTES



Semibreve



Minim



Crotchet



Quaver



Semiquaver

RESTS

