

Grouping in Compound Time Signatures

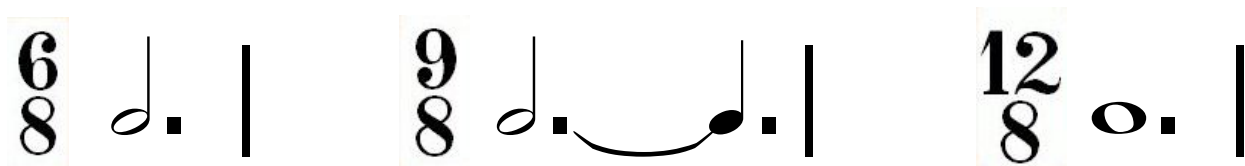
1) Group together any notes and rests that ADD UP TO 1 BEAT!

In $\frac{6}{8}$ $\frac{9}{8}$ $\frac{12}{8}$ one beat = ♩. which can lead to many possible groups:



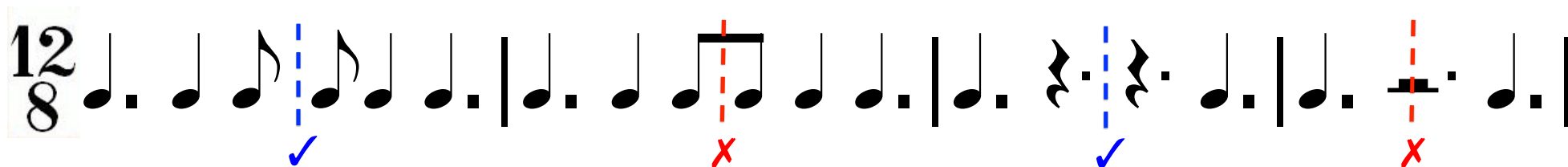
The image shows two rows of musical notation. The first row shows seven groups of notes and rests, each grouped under a bracket. The groups are: 1) two eighth notes; 2) two eighth notes; 3) two eighth notes; 4) a quarter note and an eighth note; 5) an eighth note and a quarter note; 6) a quarter note and two eighth notes; 7) a quarter note and two eighth notes. The second row shows seven groups of notes and rests, each grouped under a bracket. The groups are: 1) a quarter note and an eighth note; 2) an eighth note and two eighth notes; 3) a quarter note and an eighth note; 4) a quarter note and an eighth note; 5) an eighth note and a quarter note; 6) an eighth note and two eighth notes; 7) an eighth note and two eighth notes.

2) Notes that last a full bar in compound time



The image shows three examples of notes lasting a full bar in compound time signatures. The first example is in $\frac{6}{8}$ time and shows a dotted quarter note. The second example is in $\frac{9}{8}$ time and shows a dotted half note. The third example is in $\frac{12}{8}$ time and shows a whole note.

3) Never beam or put rests across the middle of a four beat bar!



The image shows three examples of musical notation in $\frac{12}{8}$ time. The first example shows a four-beat bar with a beam connecting the first and second notes, marked with a blue checkmark. The second example shows a four-beat bar with a beam connecting the second and third notes, marked with a red X. The third example shows a four-beat bar with a rest connecting the second and third notes, marked with a blue checkmark. The fourth example shows a four-beat bar with a rest connecting the third and fourth notes, marked with a red X.

4) Use ties to avoid isolated notes

6/8 | 9/8

5) Every full silent beat gets a rest. So lots of dotted rests!

6/8 | 9/8

12/8

A dotted minim rest can be only be used like this for two beats in quadruple time

12/8

See the different treatment between dotted minim rests and dotted minim notes (see Rule 3)

6) If the silence is not a full beat, then every subdivision gets a rest.

6/8