

## Intro to making counting rhythms feel like filling out U.S. tax returns by hand (for rhythms that do not have triplet brackets)

### Preparing the document

1. Make a copy of the time signature, printed noteheads, stems, flags, beams, and rests.
2. Make a copy of the printed lyrics laid carefully under the corresponding noteheads.
3. Use Table A to associate each notehead and rest with a number of pulse dots.
4. In Table B, find the row with the time signature found in the exercise. Use the listed counting syllables and vertical separators to decorate the pulse dots in the exercise.
5. For common time (C 4/4),  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, or  $\frac{2}{4}$  time,
  - a. Search for noteheads and rests whose first/leftmost/earliest pulse dots land on either of the counting syllables “e” or “a”.
    - i. If there is not even one notehead and not even one rest whose first/leftmost/earliest pulse dot lands on either of the counting syllables “e” or “a”, erase every single “e” and “a” and its associated pulse dot and then proceed to *substep* 1 below. Otherwise, skip to step 6.
      1. Search for noteheads and rests whose first/leftmost/earliest pulse dots land on “&”.
        - a. If there is not even one notehead and not even one rest whose first/leftmost/earliest pulse dot lands on “&”, erase every “&” and its associated pulse dot.
6. For  $\frac{12}{8}$ ,  $\frac{9}{8}$ , and  $\frac{6}{8}$  time, you can probably erase all the dots that have no counting syllable.
7. Make a new copy of the printed lyrics written with each syllable labeling just the first/leftmost/earliest pulse dot of the notehead the syllable is associated with. For every pulse dot belonging to every rest, write in a grunt syllable (“uh”). The lyrics referred to in the remaining steps are hand copied lyrics obtained from this step.
8. For every syllable of hand copied lyrics that has an ending consonant sound, cross out the ending consonant sound and recopy that ending consonant sound at the beginning of the next hand copied syllable (or rest).
9. For every pulse dot that has no syllable, write in a copy of the vowel sound found soonest by looking to the left of the pulse dot with no syllable.

### Rehearsing

1. Practice sounding out the counting syllables at a uniform pace (the number of seconds of time that elapse between the onset of one syllable and the onset of the next syllable should be identical for all pairs of consecutive syllables).
2. Practice sounding out the counting syllables at a uniform pace, *except* with the first counting syllable replaced by the corresponding syllable of handwritten and edited lyrics.
3. Practice sounding out the counting syllables at a uniform pace, *except* with the first two counting syllables replaced by the corresponding syllables of handwritten and edited lyrics.
4. Practice sounding out the counting syllables at a uniform pace, *except* with the first three counting syllables replaced by the corresponding syllables of handwritten and edited lyrics.
5. Continue sounding out the counting syllables at a uniform pace, with more and more of the counting syllables replaced by the corresponding syllables of handwritten and edited lyrics until the entire set of counting syllables has been replaced by corresponding syllables of handwritten and edited lyrics.
6. Now add pitch.

# Table A Converting combinations of notehead, stem, & flag/beam styles into pulses

**AA** 1 pulse

**AB** 2 pulses

**AC** 3 pulses

**AD** 4 pulses

**AE** 6 pulses

















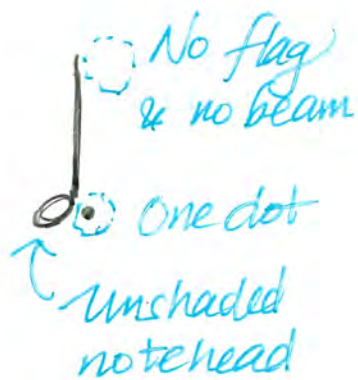
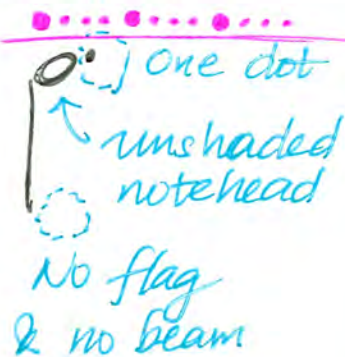
AA 1 pulse	AB 2 pulses	AC 3 pulses	AD 4 pulses	AE 6 pulses
 <p>Stem Two flags</p>	 <p>One flag</p>	 <p>One dot One flag</p>	 <p>No flag &amp; no beam</p>	 <p>One dot No flag &amp; no beam</p>
 <p>Two beams (on left or right)</p>	 <p>one beam (on left or right)</p>	 <p>one dot one beam (on left or right)</p>	<p>No flag &amp; no beam</p>	<p>No flag &amp; no beam</p>
 <p>Two flags</p>	 <p>One flag</p>	 <p>One flag one dot</p>	 <p>No flag &amp; no beam</p>	 <p>No flag &amp; no beam one dot</p>
 <p>Two beams (on left or right)</p>	 <p>one beam (on left or right)</p>	 <p>one beam (on left or right) one dot</p>		
7	7	7.	7	7.

Table A continued

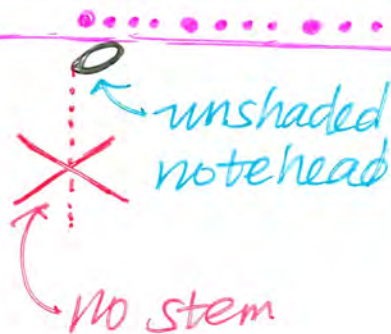
**A#** 8 pulses



**AG** 12 pulses



**AH** 16 pulses



# Table B Organizing pulses according to time signature

<u>Time signature</u>		<u>Counting syllables</u>								
<u>BA</u>	C or 4/4	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 e + a</td> <td>2 e + a</td> <td>3 e + a</td> <td>4 e + a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> </tr> </table>	1 e + a	2 e + a	3 e + a	4 e + a	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •
1 e + a	2 e + a	3 e + a	4 e + a							
• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •							
<u>BB</u>	3/4	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 e + a</td> <td>2 e + a</td> <td>3 e + a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> </tr> </table>	1 e + a	2 e + a	3 e + a	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •		
1 e + a	2 e + a	3 e + a								
• • • •	• • • •	• • • •								
<u>BC</u>	2/4	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 e + a</td> <td>2 e + a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> </tr> </table>	1 e + a	2 e + a	• • • •	• • • •				
1 e + a	2 e + a									
• • • •	• • • •									
<u>BD</u>	12/8	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 + a</td> <td>2 + a</td> <td>3 + a</td> <td>4 + a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> </tr> </table>	1 + a	2 + a	3 + a	4 + a	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •
1 + a	2 + a	3 + a	4 + a							
• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •							
<u>BE</u>	9/8	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 + a</td> <td>2 + a</td> <td>3 + a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> </tr> </table>	1 + a	2 + a	3 + a	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •		
1 + a	2 + a	3 + a								
• • • •	• • • •	• • • •								
<u>BF</u>	6/8	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 2 3</td> <td>4 5 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• • • •</td> <td>• • • •</td> </tr> </table>	1 2 3	4 5 6	• • • •	• • • •				
1 2 3	4 5 6									
• • • •	• • • •									