

1:1 Rhythm Ratio

In the **Tone Note® Music Method for Bass Book1®** you learn that the bottom number of the time signature is called **value**. When the value number is 4, then **one beat** of sound is **one quarter note**. **One beat** of silence is **one quarter rest**. This relationship can be written as a ratio.

A **ratio** compares the amount of things. In other words, a ratio tells you how many things there are compared to another thing. In the value 4 example, **one beat** has **one counting part** and this one counting part is the **beat number**. One beat with one counting part is a 1 to 1 rhythm ratio.

Here is something important. The **colon** sign **:** is used to separate the rhythm ratio numbers. Therefore, a one to one rhythm ratio is written 1:1.

In the following 1:1 rhythm ratio exercises, quarter notes, quarter rests and training wheel beat numbers are used. These exercises also have various meter numbers. The **meter number** tells you how many beats to count in each bar. Since these exercises have no pitch, only rhythm, you will clap-shake them.

The method of **clap-shake** is simple. You gently **clap** your hands one time on the quarter **notes**. Keep your hands together and give a slight **shake** downward on the quarter **rests**. Be sure to count the beat numbers of the notes and the rests. Use a metronome and begin at a slow “tempo of thought” pace. With practice, you will achieve a faster “tempo of technique.” Notice that each exercise ends on “silent beat one” after the last beat of the last bar.

1. $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ 1 2 3 4 | (1) (2) (3) (4) | 1 (2) 3 (4) | (1) 2 3 (4) || (1)

2. $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ 1 2 | 1 (2) | 1 2 | (1) 2 || (1)

3. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ 1 2 3 4 5 | 1 (2) (3) 4 5 || (1)

4. $\frac{7}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | (1) 2 3 (4) 5 6 (7) || (1)

In the following exercises, the training wheel beat numbers and “silent beat one” rests have been removed. However, count all the invisible beat numbers out loud as you **clap** the **notes** and **shake** the **rests**. Use a metronome and begin at a slow tempo. Don’t forget, practice makes you faster!

5. $\frac{4}{4}$

6. $\frac{3}{4}$

7. $\frac{6}{4}$

8. $\frac{2}{4}$

9. $\frac{4}{4}$

10. $\frac{3}{4}$

11. $\frac{5}{4}$

12. $\frac{8}{4}$

In the next lesson, we’ll explore the **1:2 rhythm ratio**, which is **one beat** with **two counting parts**. ‘til next time, play and have fun ~ I’ll be listening!

GRAMMY® nominated music educator **Mike Overly** clarifies the bass learning process with the *Tone Note® Music Method for Bass, Bass EncycloMedia* and *Fretboard Flashcards for 4, 5, and 6 String Bass*. Available from bassbooks.com, amazon.com and 12tonemusic.com. Ask for them!