A time signature shows how the music is counted. The top number counts the beats per bar; the bottom number names the beat's note value.

4/4: common time

4/4 has four quarter-note beats per bar. Most popular **online metronome** music uses it. Count 1 2 3 4 with beat one strongest.

3/4 time

3/4 has three beats per bar, with a strong first beat. It is the rhythm of the waltz.

6/8: compound time

A bar of 6/8 holds six eighth notes, grouped into two sets *metronome* of three. That gives it a rolling feel, heard in jigs and slow ballads.

Irregular meters

Meters like 5/4 and 7/8 combine twos and threes, such as 3+2 or 2+2+3. A metronome with grouped accents helps you feel them quickly.