

# Time Signatures

A **time signature** tells how many beats are in each measure and which note value gets the beat.

The numerator is the number on top. This number tells how many beats are in each measure.

The denominator is the number on bottom. This number tells which note value gets the beat.

1 - Whole note

2 - Half note

4 - Quarter note

8 - Eighth note

16 - Sixteenth note



There are 4 beats per measure, and the quarter note gets the beat.



*Alla breve* (cut time) - Equivalent to 2/2 time



**Common time** - This symbol is sometimes uses in place of 4/4 time