

## Beat vs Rhythm

**Beat:** The basic unit of time, the pulse of the song. It is regularly repeating and always the same.

**Rhythm:** The arrangements of sounds as they move through time. In a song the rhythm follows the lyrics and the notes. Rhythm in the song will vary and change each measure.

### What do Beat & Rhythm Sound Like?



Let's start with **BEAT!** Clap along following the Stars on the chart for "When I Am Baptized"



Next, we will follow a pattern clapping to the **RHYTHM!** Clap each time you see a new color!

### We conduct to the beat!

Songs have different beats, or that steady pulse behind the song. There are four common beat patterns:

3/4 - 3 beats to each measure

4/4 - 4 beats to each measure

2/4 - 2 beats to each measure

6/8 - 6 beats to each measure

### Finding "Time Signature"

The time signature of a song tells us what the beat will be for each song. Let's look at some examples!

# CONDUCTING PATTERNS

Time signature	Number of beats per measure	Beat pattern
$\frac{3}{4}$	3	
$\frac{4}{4}$	4	
$\frac{2}{4}$	2	
$\frac{6}{8}$	6	

## Adding Emphasis

- LOUD - Large beat pattern - arms farther away from body
- SOFT - Small beat pattern, arms close to body
- FAST - Quick beat pattern, sharp motions
- SLOW - Slow beat pattern, graceful motions

## Conducting Patterns

**3/4 time signature** = 3 beats per measure - A "Triangle"

- Pretending like you are drawing a triangle in the area, one side on each beat. The first note after the bar is the down beat and should be your straight down movement. Then to the side, then back up to the starting point.

**4/4 time signature** = 4 beats per measure - A "Plus Sign"

- Picture a plus sign in your mind. Your first beat will go straight down. Then go to the left, then to the right, and back up to the top.

**2/4 time signature** = 2 beats per measure - An "Ocean Wave"

- Picture a shell bouncing on an ocean wave. The shell goes out with the wave and then back out to the ocean. Bring your hand down and curve up just a little, then swish like an ocean wave bring the shell back to the ocean.

**6/8 time signature** = 6 beats per measure - A "Christmas Tree"

- Picture your Christmas tree. Start by drawing the trunk with a strong downward movement. Next bounce twice to the left touching the low hanging ornaments, then twice to the right. Finally trace your hand back up the slanted edge of your Christmas tree back to the top.

## Using hands to show meaning:

- Demonstrate Pitch: Use your hand to demonstrate the movement in pitch by holding your hand flat and moving it up or down to emphasize the movement of the notes.
- Holding a note
- Ending the song