

Counting and Subdividing in 4/4

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* Figures in parentheses () are counted but not played

1 (2, 3, 4) 1 (2) 3 (4) 1 2 3 4 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a 1 (trip) let (2) trip (let) 3 (trip) let (4) trip (let) 1-trip-let 2-trip-let 3-trip-let 4-trip-let

1 (trip-let 2) trip (let 3 trip) let (4 trip-let)

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

1 trip let + trip let 2 trip let + trip let 3 trip let + trip let 4 trip let + trip let

1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a

Counting is necessary to ensure proper note and rest placement. It is an invaluable tool to use when figuring out beats, patterns and songs. Once the material is learned by slowly practicing while counting, the student can then allow the "feel" of the material to dictate the playing rather than the counting, much like the use of training wheels while learning to ride a bicycle!