

LESSON 4

Date: _____

BEAM RULES

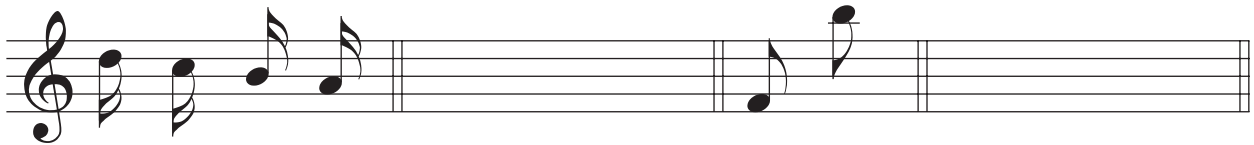
Where possible, combine multiple flagged notes using beams to allow for more visible structuring of the intended metres and rhythms. The following conventions will be used in Level 2. In any music exercises going forward, students are expected to apply these conventions when writing music.

In each of the follow examples, rewrite the music using beams, where possible.

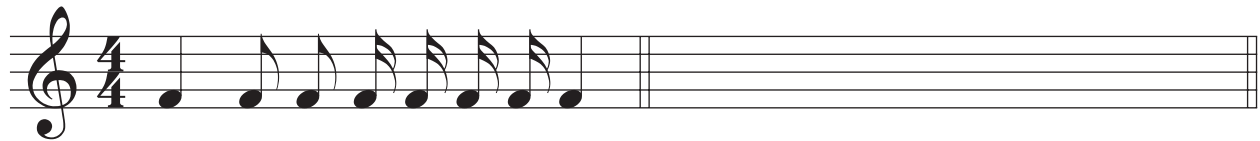
1. Notes with one flag have one beam, notes with two flags have two beams etc. (Note: the following examples are not connected to a time signature. When a time signature is involved, more specific conventions are used.)



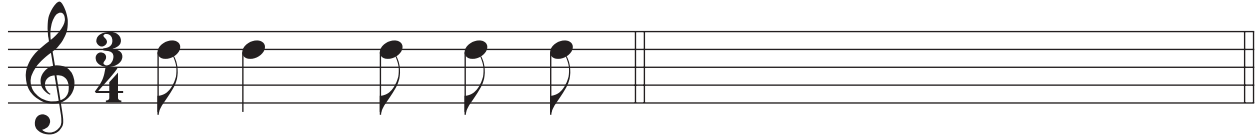
2. If a group of notes is to be beamed, the note furthest from the middle line determines the stem direction for all the notes under the beam. (Note: The angle of a beam should reflect the general shape of the melody. However, in certain cases, the beam angle must be adjusted so the result is less visually disruptive. This in turn impacts the length of the note stem.)



3. Use beams to group notes into whole beats.

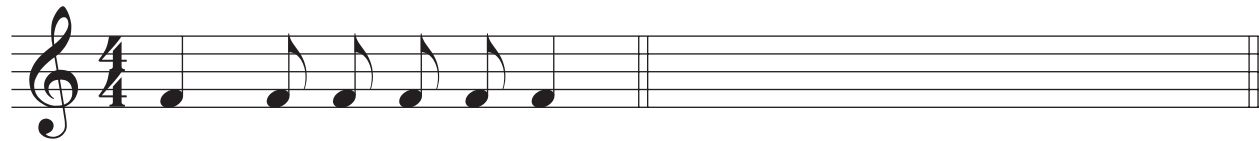
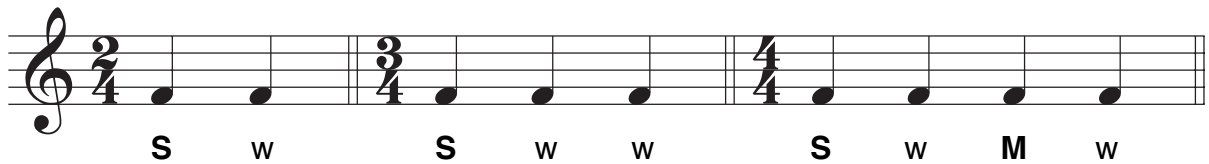


4. Dotted notes and syncopations will at times necessitate the use of flagged notes.



5. Always beam a strong beat to a weak beat, never beam a note or group of notes from a weak beat to a strong beat.

S = **strong** beat w = weak beat M = medium **strong** beat



PRACTICE — PART A

1. Rewrite each group of flagged notes using beams.



2. Rewrite the following rhythms using beams in place of flags, where possible. Use the following success criteria to ensure musical accuracy.

- a) circle the beats, reading the the music from left to right
- b) rewrite any flagged notes using beams, within the circled beat groups, where possible
- c) draw bar lines to reflect the given time signature



PRACTICE — PART B

4. Rewrite the following excerpts using beams in place of flags, where possible.

