

Day Five: Examples in $\frac{3}{4}$ Time

Tip for Today:

When sight reading, you need to feel the time signature so you can play musically. For some reason, many students ignore the time signature and end up with a piece that sounds like a list of notes rather than music! This happens most frequently with examples with three crotchet beats in each bar, because students forget to feel “1 2 3, 1 2 3” while they play. This time signature has a strong first beat, then two weaker beats, so count the “1” with a strong feeling.

Preparation:



Here's how it could sound if students forgot to feel the time signature.



To feel this time signature, count silently “1 2 3, 1 2 3” before you start playing, and keep it up:



Let's Try:

Try tapping the rhythm while counting. Before you play, “count yourself in” by counting two bars: “1 2 3, 1 2 3.”

More Practice:

Write the counts in underneath this example. Next, tap the rhythm. Count two bars before playing.

