

## Note & Rest Values Part 3

Until now all notes and beats have been divided by two. But two is not the only number that we can divide notes and beats by. By far and away the most common division other than two, is three.

A division of three is called a triplet.

A triplet is made up of three notes, rests—or any combo of those—that fit into the space normally taken up by just two notes or rests.



Triplets have a rolling feel, and to count them, you can say: “trip-o-let”, or “trip-ah-let”.

When playing jazz, the triplet figure is really important, because it is the cornerstone of swing.

It is what gives swing, its “swing” feel.



If you're not sure what swing is, think of *In the Mood*, by Glenn Miller. It is a classic swing piece for big bands.

This is a very different feel to what we do in classical or concert band music. Being able to play a proper swing rhythm is critical if you want to play many forms of jazz.