FREE SAMPLE · CASE 1

# Piano Note Detective

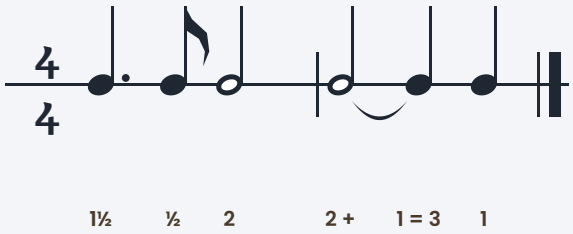
## Dots & Ties Duration Cases

A dot makes a note half again as long. A tie joins two notes into one long sound. Count dotted quarters and tied notes, tell a tie from a slur, and find the password that starts the old clock again.



IN THIS FREE SAMPLE

- Case 1: the dot adds half
- Beats of dotted notes
- Fill a bar of 4/4
- Answers with reasons




1 **Spot the dots and ties**

2 **Count each length**

3 **Add the beats**

4 **Clap and play**

Digital download · Print at 100% on US Letter · For students who count eighth notes · Five sittings of about 15 minutes · With a piano or keyboard

# How the case file works

**Five cases, about 15 minutes each.**

For a student who counts quarter, half and eighth notes. A dot after a note adds half of its value: a dotted half lasts 3 beats, a dotted quarter 1½. A tie is a curve between two neighboring notes of the same pitch: play the first, hold it through the second. A slur looks similar but covers a group of notes, even one that ends on the note it began with: play them all, smoothly.

## EACH CASE

| | |
|---|---|
| **The story** | Read it aloud together. It says what the detective is looking for. |
| **Learn** | The rule for this case, with a picture. Point at it while you read it. |
| **Tasks** | Short tasks that use the rule. Each one has a single right answer (except play tasks). |
| **Clue** | The last task gives a clue for the final question. |

## YOU NEED

- A pencil
- Hands for clapping and a piano or keyboard
- Five short sittings, one case each

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Count steadily "1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &": a dotted quarter on beat 1 lasts through "1 & 2", and the eighth after it comes on the "&" of 2.
- A tie adds the two lengths together, and the key is pressed once.
- A tie joins two neighboring notes on the same line or space; a curve over a group of notes is a slur.

**NOT A METHOD BOOK**

Rhythm-reading practice for students, not music lessons. Simple meters only (2/4, 3/4, 4/4).

# Case 1: The Dot Adds Half

Dotted half = 3 beats; dotted quarter = 1½

THE STORY

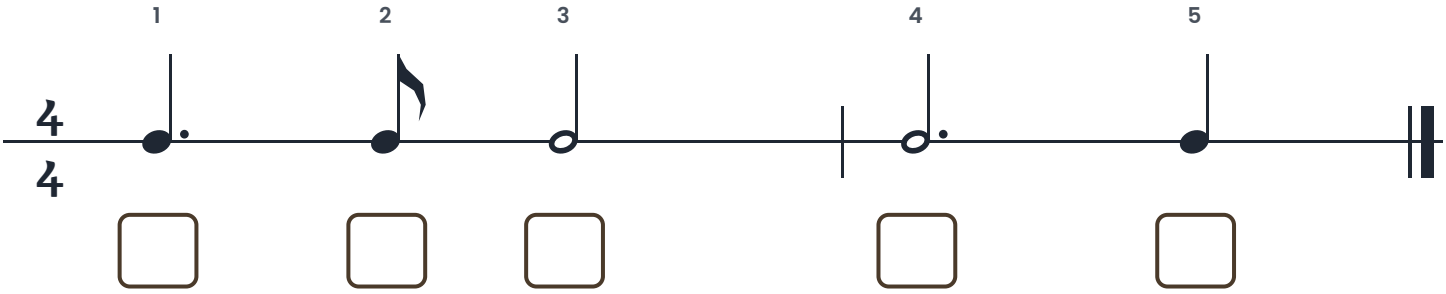
**The old clock in the music room has stopped. Next to it lie five duration cards: each solved card gives one letter of the password that starts it again.**

LEARN

- A dot adds half of the note's value: a half note (2) plus 1 makes a dotted half (3).
- A quarter note (1) plus ½ makes a dotted quarter (1½).
- A dotted quarter is often followed by an eighth note: together they fill two beats.



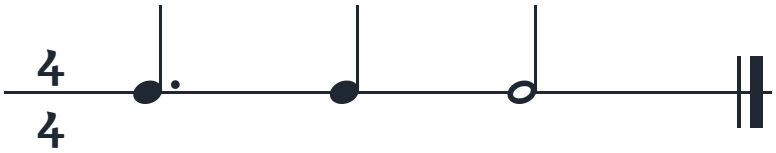

1 How many beats does each note last? Write ½, 1, 1½, 2 or 3.

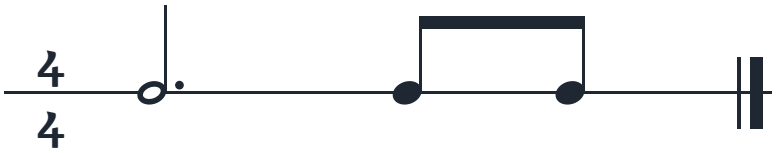


# Case 1: The Dot Adds Half (continued)

**2** Does each bar of 4/4 hold exactly four beats?

1.  yes no

2.  yes no

3.  yes no

4.  yes no

# Case 1: The Dot Adds Half (continued)

3 This bar of 4/4 needs four beats. Which note fills the box?



B



C



D



Circle the letter that fills the box: B C D

CLUE 1

The first letter is the letter of the note that fills the box in task 3.

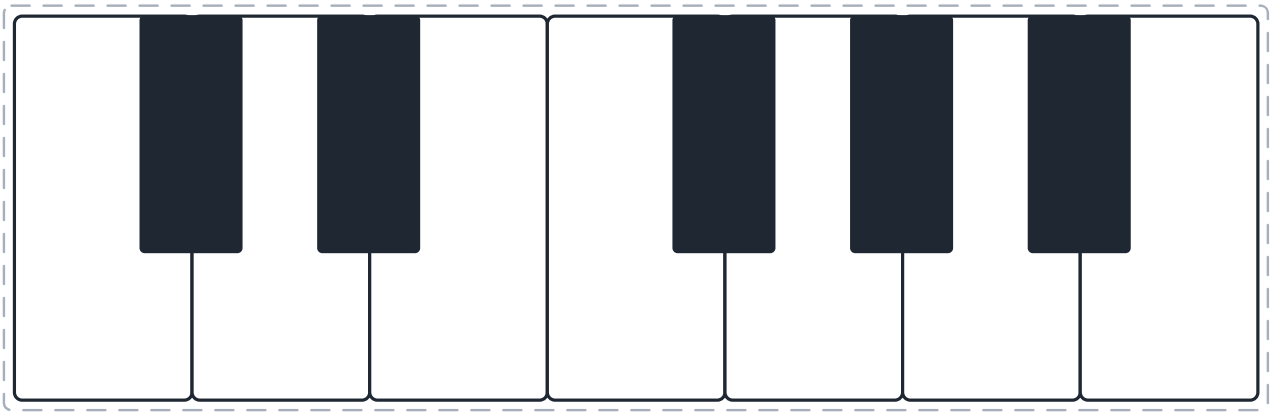
Clue:

In the full case file, the clues from every case solve the final question.

# Paper keyboard

**Cut out the rows and tape them in order, low to high. White keys are about as wide as a real piano's.**

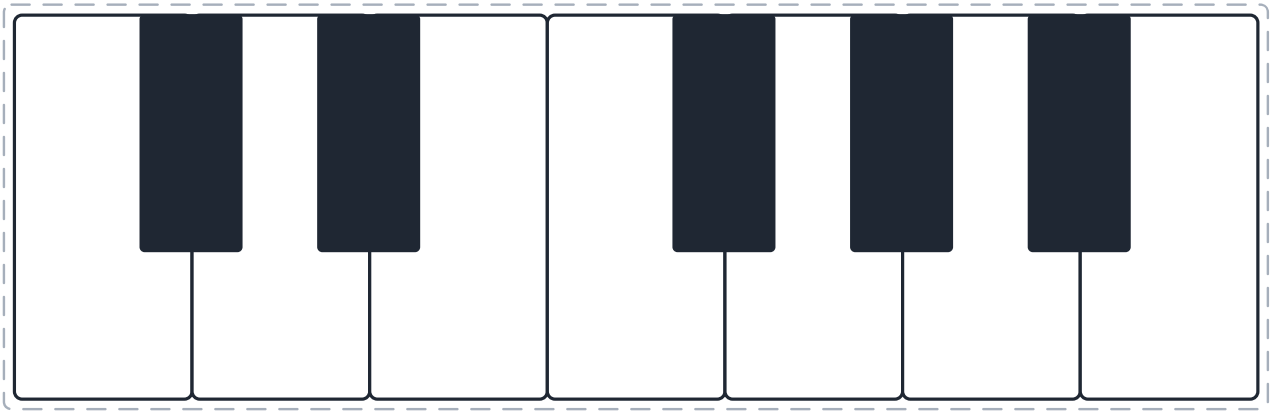
Low



Middle




High



Only Middle C is labeled: finding the other keys is the detective's job. Tape the rows edge to edge (low on the left) to make one long keyboard.

# Case 1 answers

**Every answer comes with its reason. Read the reasons aloud: they teach.**

## CASE 1 · THE DOT ADDS HALF

| | |
|---|---|
| **Task 1** | 1 1½ · 2 ½ · 3 2 · 4 3 · 5 1 |
| **PND27-C1-T1** | A dotted quarter note lasts 1½ beats (the dot adds half: 1 + ½). An eighth note lasts ½ beat. A half note lasts 2 beats. A dotted half note lasts 3 beats (the dot adds half: 2 + 1). A quarter note lasts 1 beat. |
| **Task 2** | 1 yes · 2 no · 3 yes · 4 yes |
| **PND27-C1-T2** | 1½ + ½ + 2 = 4 beats: right. 1½ + 1 + 2 = 4½ beats: not 4. 3 + ½ + ½ = 4 beats: right. 1½ + ½ + 1½ + ½ = 4 beats: right. |
| **Task 3** | C: quarter note (1 beat) |
| **PND27-C1-T3** | Bar 1 needs 4 beats. It has 3 (1½ + ½ + 1), so 1 beat is missing: quarter note. |
| **Clue 1** | C (the answer to item 1 of task 3) |

**THE FULL CASE FILE**

The full Dots & Ties Duration Cases has four more cases: ties, tie or slur, bars with dots and a clap-and-play case, with duration cards, a notebook, the final question, hints and a certificate.