



Lesson Twenty Nine

Gigajam Drum School Lesson 29 IDS IWHN

Introducing Whole Notes and Half Notes (Quarter, Eighth and Sixteenth Notes)

Lesson Objectives

- Introduce **Whole Notes** and **Half Notes**.
- Develop familiarity with Whole Notes and Half Notes and their Rests.
- Develop our reading skills through the performance of a Snare Drum exercise using all of the **Simple Time Notation** studied thus far.

Whole Notes and Half Notes


Whole Notes and Half Notes are the only notes we have ignored so far.


In this lesson we are going to introduce them to you, so that you know what they look like and how they are played.

Lets start by looking at each of these notes firstly so that we are familiar with their appearance.

Whole Note


The **Whole Note** is a large empty circle, in appearance terms, and lasts for a whole bar of Common Time I.e. 4 beats. Hence the fact that it is called a Whole Note.


 This is the first note we have come across that does not have a **Stem** to it, and as such is quite clearly identifiable from other notes.


 The Whole Note rest is a single line, that hangs from the line of the Stave. Care has to be taken with this rest though, as the rest for a Half Note is identical save for the fact that it sits on the line.

Half Note

The Half Note is like a quarter note, save for the fact that it is empty, in appearance terms. It lasts for two beats, or half of a bar of Common Time, hence the fact that it is called a Half Note.











 The Half Note is quite easily recognised, but the rest causes a lot of problems because of its similarity to the Whole Note Rest.

 The Half Note rest sits on the line, as opposed to hang from the line as in the case of the whole note rest.

 Watch that one carefully!

Note Table

Here is a new table of all the Notes, with the Whole Note and Half Notes added to our Quarter Notes, Eighth Notes and Sixteenths. The symbols for their respective rests are there as well, together with their values and a few, hopefully, helpful comments.

Note Names	Note Symbol	Rest Symbol	Note Value	Comments
Whole Notes			4 Beats	Written as a single empty note with no stem. The rest is a single line that hangs from the line of the staff.
Half Notes			2 Beats	Written as an empty single note with a Stem which differentiates it from a Quarter Note. The rest is similar to that of the whole note, save for the fact that it sits on the line.
Quarter Notes			1 Beat	Single Note, that cannot be joined to another note.
Eighth Notes			1/2 a Beat	Can be a Single Note, but most commonly found 'beamed' with another 8th Note to form 1 beat. Also found in groups of 4
Sixteenth Notes			1/4 of a Beat	Can be a Single Note, or in a group of 2 sixteenth notes, but most commonly found 'beamed' in a group of 4 sixteenth's.

Snare Drum Study Incorporating Whole Notes and Half Notes

This lesson has only one exercise. The Snare Drum study that follows incorporates all the Simple Time Notation we have covered. There are rhythmic combinations, Ties, Dots, Whole Notes, Half Notes, Quarter Notes, Eighth Notes and Sixteenth Notes, along with all their respective rests.

Approach this exercise in the usual manner.

Exercise 1 lesson029.idsiwhn.01

