



## Lesson Thirteen

Gigajam Keyboard School Lesson 013 IKS DR

### Developing Rests

#### Lesson Objectives





- Introduce eighth note rests.
- Develop the ability to perform melody using quarter notes, eighth notes and their equivalent rests.

#### Eighth Note Rests

You are already familiar with the symbol which represents Eighth Notes. Eighth Notes were studied in Lesson 004 (IKS DTHC). You must also be able to read and recognise the symbols which represent the equivalent Rests.

The following table illustrates the symbols used to represent Rests. Please ensure you understand all of this rhythm information and, if necessary, revise earlier lessons. This lesson concentrates on Eighth Note Rests.

Table 1 Table of Notes and Rests

Note Names	Note Symbol	Rest Symbol	Note Value	Comments
<b>Quarter Notes</b>			1 Beat	Single Note, that cannot be joined to another note.
<b>Eighth Notes</b>			1/2 a Beat	Can be a Single Note, but often found ' <b>beamed</b> ' with another 8th Note to form 1 beat. Also found in groups of 4 8th Notes.

#### Reading Rests

Reading Eighth Note Rests is essentially no different to reading Eighth Notes. (Eighth notes were first studied in Lesson 4. The fundamental difference is that Rests appear to interrupt the continuous rhythmic flow.

A continuous flow of Eighth Notes is easy enough to read and play on the keyboard. Eighth Notes are 'tracked' using the Counting Method '1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and'. It is possible to maintain this approach even when Rests are included.

Our first exercise shows two bars. The first bar is a continuous flow of Eighth Notes. The second bar is an almost continuous flow of Eighth Notes, except that the first note is missing - it has been replaced by an Eighth Note Rest. There is still a total of eight events in each bar.

## Learning to play rests

Initially, imagine the rest as a note. This usually makes it much easier to read and play. Read through the rhythm until you understand it. Read the rest as a note. Notice that this exercise is written as a monotone. This means a rhythm written only on one note. In this case, it's an F. This allows you to concentrate on the rhythm, without having to think about changing pitch. Play through the rhythm, reading the rest as a note.

As you play the rhythm, imagine how it would sound with the rest present. Work out which event in the bar needs to be silent. Now play the rhythm again, this time paying attention to the rest. You can still play the rest as a note but, if you do, try to play it a little quieter than the other 'real' notes. As you do this you will begin to hear how the rhythm will sound with the rest present.

Continue to reduce the volume of the rest-note until it is barely audible, leaving the 'real' notes sounding out loud and clear. Finally, you should be able to play the rhythm correctly with the rest in the right place. The bracket around the counting number 1 shows you where the rest occurs.

Use the multimedia files as always.

### Exercise 1 lesson013.iksdr.01



## Developing your ability to play rests

The following exercises will help you to practise reading and playing rhythms including Eighth Note Rests. Each exercise has a rest in a different place. Remember to read through each one first, concentrating on the rhythm, and following the procedure established above.

Make good use of the multimedia files so that you can check whether you are reading and playing the rhythm correctly.

### Exercise 2 lesson013.iksdr.02



**Exercise 3**  
lesson013.iksdr.03



1 2

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

**Exercise 4**  
lesson013.iksdr.04



1 2

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

## Multiple Rests

The next exercises each contain more than one Eighth Note Rest in Bar 2. This will develop your ability to both read and play the rhythms that the rests create.

Again make good use of the multimedia files so that you can check whether you are reading and playing the rhythms right.

**Exercise 5**  
lesson013.iksdr.05



1 2

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

**Exercise 6**  
lesson013.iksdr.06



1 2

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

**Exercise 7**  
lesson013.iksdr.07



1 2

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

**Exercise 8**



1

1 2 3 + +

## Combining Rests

The last section of this lesson concentrates on combining two different types of Rest in one bar. The note and rest values involved are both Quarter and Eighth Notes.

Make sure you count out each rhythm carefully first, before you attempt to play it. As usual, use the media files to check your work carefully. Each exercise is one bar.

**Exercise 9**  
lesson013.iksdr.09



1

1 + 2 + 3 4

**Exercise 10**  
lesson013.iksdr.10



1

1 2 + + 4

## Further practice

You now have a good knowledge of rests and how to use them to create more interesting rhythms.

In our next lesson we are going to build up lesson 12, where we introduced melody. Accordingly, it is really important that you have practised these exercises thoroughly so that the rhythm side of the following lessons doesn't interrupt your developing of melody and the other concepts lined up for later in the grade.