

Meter in Music

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This video supports the reading:

“Meter in Music” by Catherine Schmidt-Jones

<http://cnx.org/content/m12405/latest/>

Using fruit names to determine the meter:

Apple = two divisions of the beat = simple meter

Pineapple = three divisions = compound meter

Meter also is classified by the stressed beats (downbeats):

Duple (two beats)

Triple (three beats)

Quadruple (four beats)

The majority of Western art music (“classical music”) and American popular music makes use of simple meter.

Simple Meter Examples:

J. S. Bach Solo Violin works

“What’d I Say” Ray Charles

“Yesterday” Paul McCartney

“Satisfaction” The Rolling Stones

Compound Meter Examples:

J. S. Bach Solo Violin works

“Blueberry Hill” Fats Domino

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dl5hknXqXps>