





## Musical Elements – Duration 2

Sometimes music includes silence. **Duration** tells us the number of counts to stop playing, or **rest**. The length of silence is called the **rest value**. Here are the symbols for our main rests:

Four counts 

Two counts 

One count 

Half a count 

When we write music down, we group the notes and rests into **bars**, which makes everything much easier to read.



The counts in each bar give a steady beat that holds everything together. Music usually has the same number of bar counts all the way through.

A **time signature** tells us how many counts are in each bar.



Two  
counts



Three  
counts



Four  
counts

Try adding bar lines to these pieces of music.



Why is there a dot after the very last minim?

