

# Mixed Percussion and Keyboards at Home [at Leeds ArtForms]

## Lesson 2

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 mixed percussion, and piano keyboards]

### Beats to the Bar 2: Bars

- 1 All music is divided into small units of time, usually lasting between 1 and 2 seconds. These units are called bars.
- 2 You can tell when a new unit/bars begins. The 1<sup>st</sup> note is usually a bit louder.
- 3 Bars are usually the same length of time, and you can measure how long in beats.
- 4 Most pop songs, folk songs and western classical music have 4 beats in each bar.
- 5 Here are 4 bars with four beats in each bar. The gap between each beat is the same very short length of time, maybe a quarter of a second.

| 1 |   |   |   | 2 |   |   |   | 3 |   |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

6 Every bar has four beats in it, but that does NOT mean that every bar has four notes in it. Look at the notes of the melody of the first line of *Mockingbird* below:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| C | A | A | A | A | G | G | G | C | C | G | G | G | F | F | - |

7. Note that bars 2 and 3 have 4 notes in each but only bar 3 has notes that fall exactly on each beat.

8. Now play your djembe [upturned bin], or clap your hands, along with *Mockingbird* [on *Play It A Home*], playing only the bass sound as written. Note that on bars 4 and 8, although you don't play any beats, you still wait for four beats.

**MOCKINGBIRD** 4 beats to bar  
 North American Nursery

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| F | C | C | F | C | A | A | A | A | G | G | G | C | C | G | G |
| C | A | A | A | A | G | G | G | C | C | G | G | G | F | F | - |

CHORDS  
**FAC CEG**

See reminder opposite of how to play the sounds for the djembe

See *Mockingbird* on *Play It At Home*

Mockingbird - djembe

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |

| Symbol | Name        | Sound                                      | How played                                    |
|--------|-------------|--|---|
| ■      | Bass        | Low thump                                  | Thump table or bin top with one hand          |
| /      | Slap/tone   | High hit                                   | Lightly tap the other sound with one hand     |
|        | Caterpillar | 4 quick repeated bass notes [thumps]sounds | Play 4 quick sounds on top, alternating hands |
| ·      | Space/rest  | A silence, a space between sounds          | Wait  |

*Foxwood Songsheets* copied by permission of Victoria Jaquiss [from *Foxwood Panyard*]

See and hear the songs played on *Play It At Home* [from *Foxwood Panyard* website]