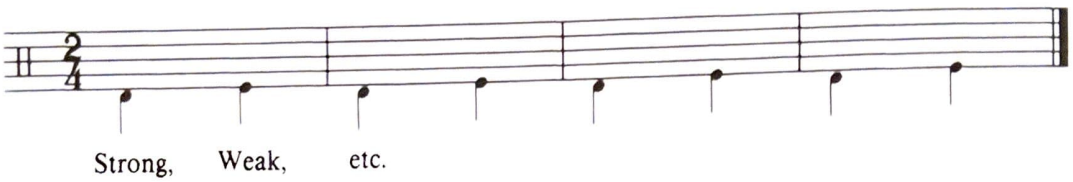
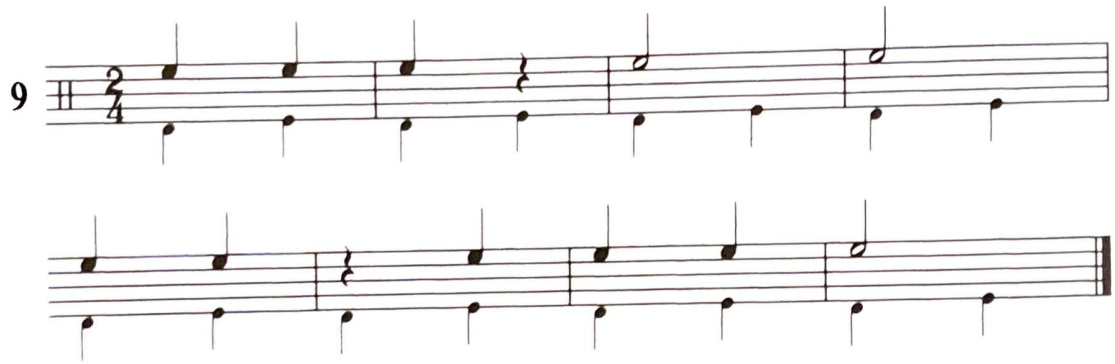
When you use a hammer to drive in a nail, you are either hitting the nail or raising your arm to hit it again. Hitting the nail would be a strong beat (a downbeat); raising your arm would be a weak beat (an upbeat).

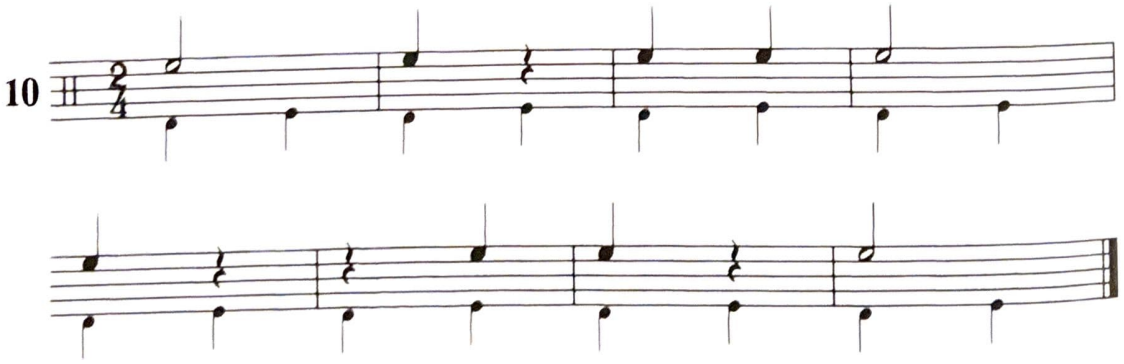
In $\frac{2}{4}$ time the first beat is always the downbeat, the second is the upbeat. In our book we shall show strong beats lower than weak beats on the staff. Like this:



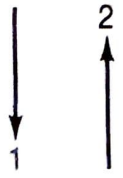
Strong, Weak, etc.



Did you make the downbeat different from the upbeat in your tapping or clapping? Be sure that you do.



If you were to conduct rather than tap or clap, your arms should move like this:



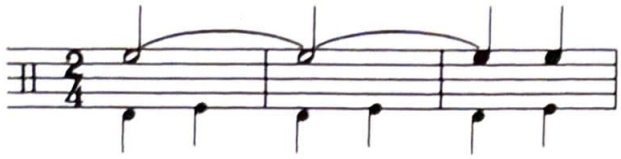
Name _____

When a note is connected to another note by a tie across the bar line

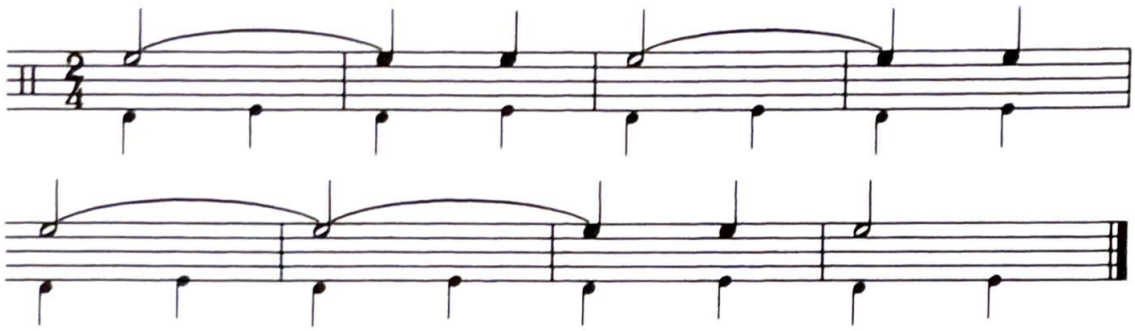
*Perform 2 of these in class on 3/12/20.

the note at the end of the tie is not sounded. It is added to the note at the beginning of the tie.

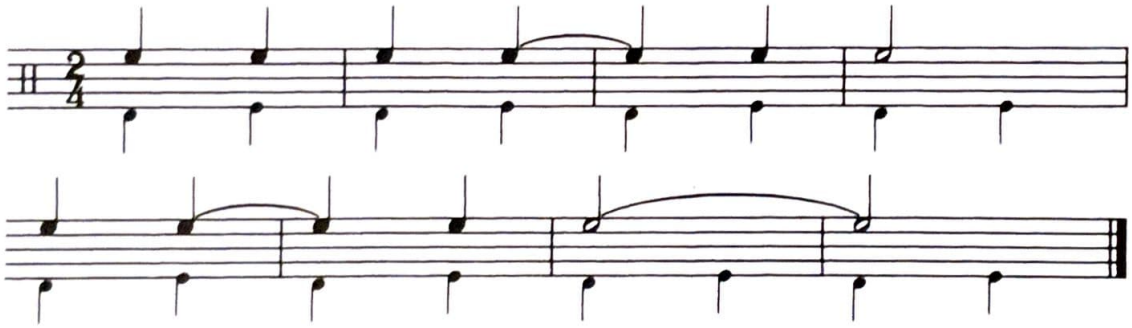
This can happen over several bars:



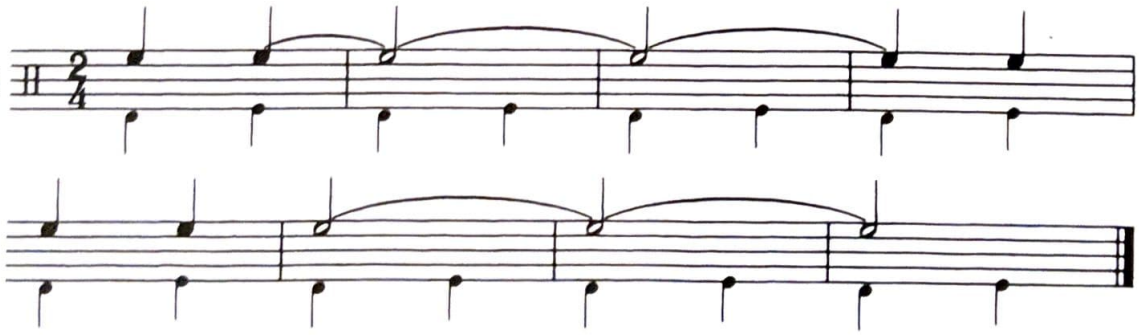
11



12



13



A piece of music can begin on an upbeat rather than on a downbeat. When that happens, a beat is taken off the last measure to make up for the one lost in the first.

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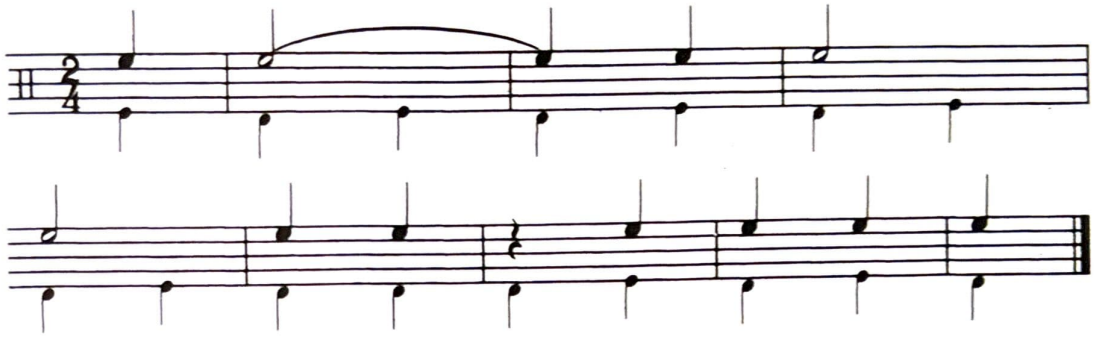

When there is sound on the upbeat but none on the downbeat for more than one bar, it is called syncopation. There is much syncopation in jazz but also in many other kinds of music.

You will find syncopated rhythms with use of ties:

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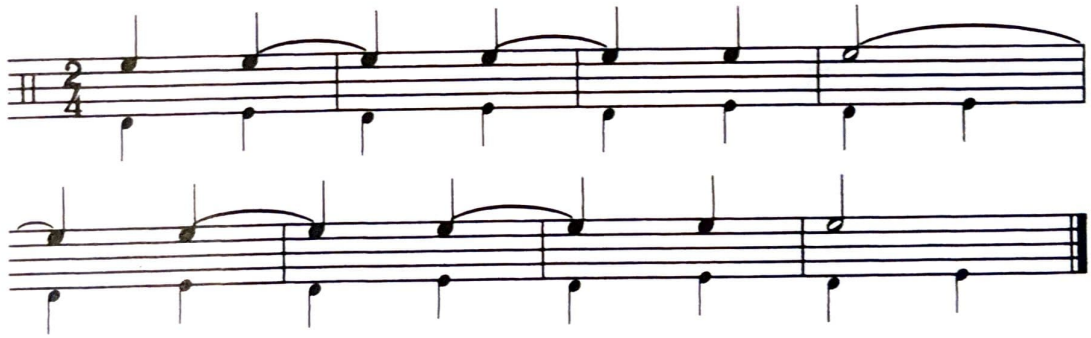
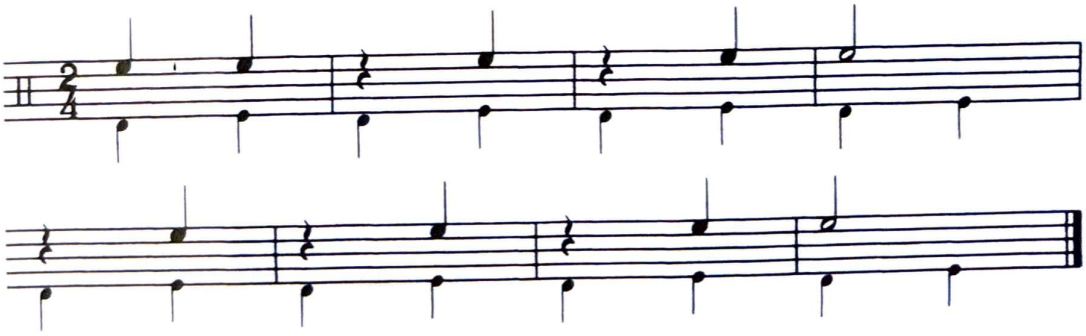


It can also be done with rests:

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