

Compound time: duple, triple and quadruple

We know that simple time signatures can be described as duple, triple or quadruple, depending on whether they have two, three or four beats in a bar (see p. 7). The same applies in compound time.

$\frac{6}{8}$ (two dotted-crotchet beats in a bar)	=	compound duple time
$\frac{9}{8}$ (three dotted-crotchet beats in a bar)	=	compound triple time
$\frac{12}{8}$ (four dotted-crotchet beats in a bar)	=	compound quadruple time

Exercise 9 For each of these bars, add the time signature and then tick (✓) one box to show if it is simple or compound, and one box to show if it is duple or triple or quadruple.



☐	simple	☒	compound		
☐	duple	☐	triple	☒	quadruple



☐	simple	☐	compound		
☐	duple	☐	triple	☐	quadruple



☐	simple	☐	compound		
☐	duple	☐	triple	☐	quadruple



☐	simple	☐	compound		
☐	duple	☐	triple	☐	quadruple



☐	simple	☐	compound		
☐	duple	☐	triple	☐	quadruple