



## Two new compound time signatures: $\frac{6}{4}$ and $\frac{9}{4}$

- $\frac{6}{4}$  and  $\frac{9}{4}$  are examples of compound time signatures because each beat divides into three equal parts.
- $\frac{6}{4}$  has two  $\frac{1}{2}$  beats in each bar
- $\frac{9}{4}$  has three  $\frac{1}{2}$  beats in each bar
- The grouping of notes works in the same way as in  $\frac{8}{8}$  and  $\frac{8}{8}$  but because the beats are now dotted minims rather than dotted crotchets, the time values are doubled.
- The dotted semibreve  $\frac{1}{2}$  is used in  $\frac{6}{4}$  and  $\frac{9}{4}$ . It is equal to two dotted minims.

1 2 1 2

(1 2 3 4 5 6)

1 2 3 1 2 3

(1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9)

### Exercise 2

Tick (✓) or cross (✗) each box to show whether each melody has been correctly or incorrectly rewritten in the new time signature.

#### Remember!

A dotted semibreve is twice the time value of a dotted minim.

<b>a</b> $\frac{8}{8}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>	$\frac{6}{4}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>
<b>b</b> $\frac{9}{8}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>	$\frac{9}{4}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>
<b>c</b> $\frac{9}{4}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>	$\frac{9}{8}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>
<b>d</b> $\frac{6}{4}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>	$\frac{6}{8}$     <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </span>