Drawing Bar Lines: Measure Boundaries on Staves

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A staff in 4/4 time has beat-count marks under eight beats: 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4. Where do the bar lines go?

Answer: One bar line after beat 4, and one bar line after beat 8.

Reason: In 4/4, each measure has four beats. Count 1–4, draw a bar line after beat 4. Count 1–4 again, draw a bar line after beat 8.

Check: Recount beats between bar lines: each full measure should have four beats.

Task 2

A staff in 2/4 time has beat-count marks under six beats: 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2. Draw bar lines at the correct boundaries and state how many full measures result.

Answer: Bar lines after beat 2, after beat 4, and after beat 6. There are three full measures.

Reason: Each measure has two beats. Boundaries occur after every second beat: 2, 4, 6. Each pair forms one measure.

Check: Count beats in each measure: two beats per measure, three measures total.

Task 3

A staff in 3/4 time has beat-count marks under five beats: 1, 2, 3, 1, 2. Where should the first bar line go, and what is the beat count of the final incomplete measure?

Answer: The first bar line goes after beat 3. The final incomplete measure has two beats.

Reason: The first measure needs three beats, so the bar line is after beat 3. The remaining beats are 1 and 2, giving two beats in the final incomplete measure.

Check: Verify the first measure has three beats and the final segment has two beats, matching the given marks.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A staff in 4/4 time has beat-count marks under ten beats: 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2. Draw all full-measure bar lines and describe the final segment.

Answer: Bar lines after beat 4 and after beat 8. The final segment has two beats and is incomplete.

Reason: Full measures require four beats. Boundaries at beat 4 and beat 8 create two full measures. The remaining beats 1 and 2 form a two-beat incomplete segment.

Check: Count beats between bar lines: four beats, four beats, then two beats. Confirm the final segment is shorter than the time signature allows.

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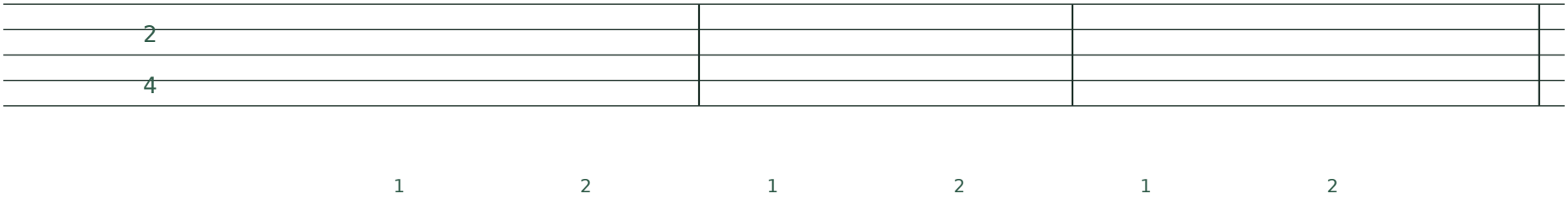
Task 1 / full-measure boundaries only



1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

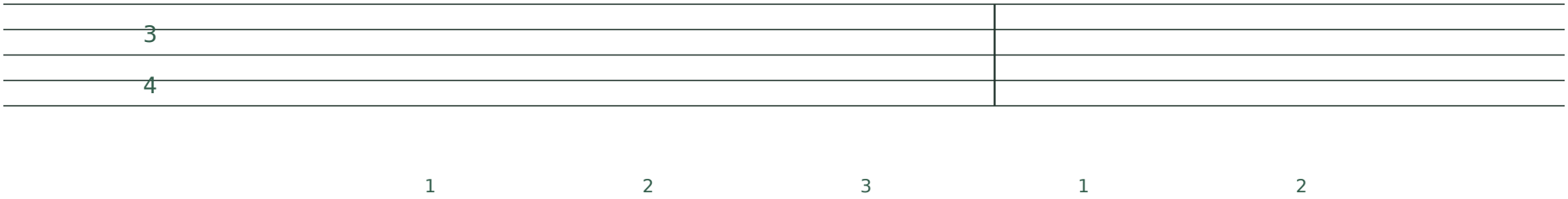
Drawing Bar Lines: Measure Boundaries on Staves

Task 2 / full-measure boundaries only



Drawing Bar Lines: Measure Boundaries on Staves

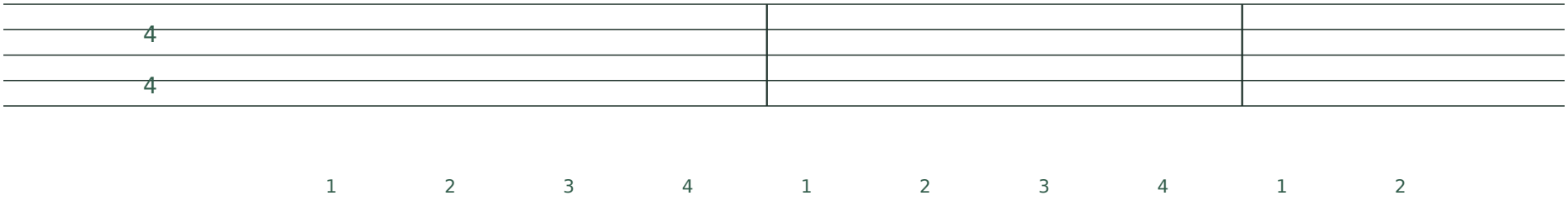
Task 3 / full-measure boundaries only



1 2 3 1 2

Drawing Bar Lines: Measure Boundaries on Staves

Task 4 / full-measure boundaries only



1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2

Drawing Bar Lines: Measure Boundaries on Staves

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Bar lines are vertical and span from the top staff line to the bottom staff line.
- [ ] Each full measure contains exactly the number of beats shown by the top number of the time signature.
- [ ] Bar lines are placed after the correct beat, not in the middle of a beat unless required.
- [ ] Beat-count marks are used consistently to verify boundaries.
- [ ] Handwriting may vary, but lines are clear and cross all five staff lines.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?