Single-Line Percussion Staff Paper: Rhythm Notation with Optional Clef

Worked example / complete source key

Notate one four-beat measure on a single-line staff with beat guides. Start with a quarter note, a quarter rest, two eighth notes, and a half note, and include an optional percussion clef at the start. Check the duration total and correct the measure if it does not fit four beats.

Answer: Place the clef before the first guide. Beat 1: quarter note on the line. Beat 2: quarter rest. Beat 3: two eighth notes beamed together. The half note lasts two beats and would begin on beat 4, extending beyond the four-beat measure. Duration total: 1 + 1 + 1 + 2 = 5 beats, which exceeds four beats. To fit four beats, replace the half note with a quarter note, giving 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4 beats. The corrected measure uses quarter note, quarter rest, two eighth notes, and quarter note.