



- The length of time that a note is played is called its **note duration**, which is determined by the type of note.
- The **whole note** has the longest note duration in modern music.
- The **half note** has half the duration of a whole note.
- Two half notes occupy the same amount of time as one whole note.
- The **quarter note** is a fourth (or a quarter) of a whole note.
- Four quarter notes occupy the same amount of time as one whole note. Two quarter notes equal the duration of a half note.
- Notes smaller in duration than a quarter note have **flags**. Each flag halves the value of a note.
- An **eighth note** has one flag.
- Therefore, two eighth notes occupy the same amount of time as one quarter note.
- A **sixteenth note** has two flags, halving the value again.
- Two sixteenth notes equal the duration of an eighth note.
- Four sixteenth notes occupy the same amount of time as one quarter note.
- Although it is possible to have notes with three or more flags, they are seldom used.
- This chart displays the relationship of all five note types discussed in this lesson.