

Time Signature 6/8

quick-e-ty, slow



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When you see a **Time Signature** with an 8 at the bottom, it means that the beats are counted in quavers (or eighth notes). This is called compound time.

6/8 means that there are 6 quaver beats in a bar. In a 6/8 bar, the heaviest beat is the first quaver, and the second heaviest beat is the fourth quaver:

quick - e - ty, **quick** - e - ty
1 2 3 4 5 6

Activities

- 1) **Clap** this example with the new time names: *quick-e-ty slow*

When you see '*slow*' with a line underneath, make a longer sound on the 'o'

If a 6/8 bar contains 6 quavers, they are grouped in 3s.

- 2) Then **swap over!**

- 3) **Look at** the last 2 bars of line 2. You have previously met ♩. as a dotted minim lasting for 3 beats. Here, because it is in compound time, it lasts for 2 beats. Each beat is worth one dotted crotchet (♩.) or three quavers.