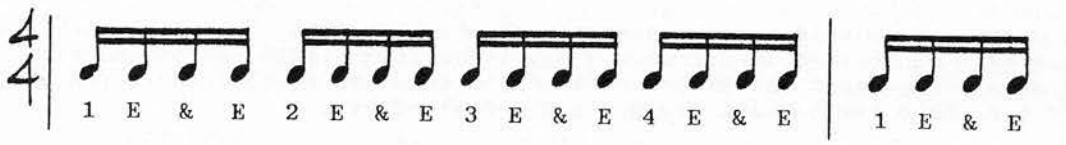
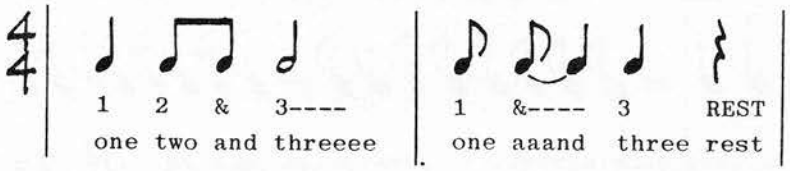
Now, to count 16th notes, insert the letter "E" or "A" between the eighth notes, still maintaining the basic pulse or 1 2 3 4 etc, like so:



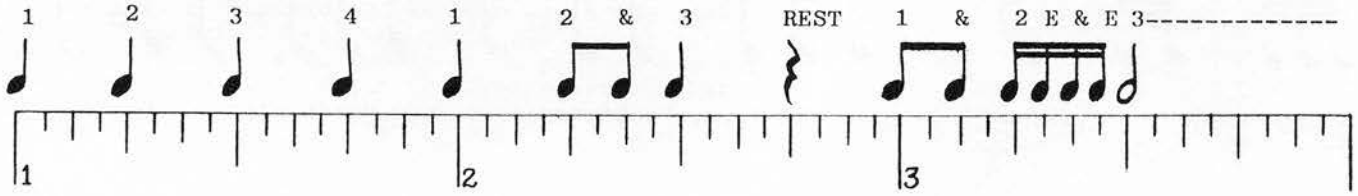
Rest can be stated as "rest" and any note word can be stretched out, when spoken, to cover its full duration - and a line after a number means to do just that. Here are some examples:



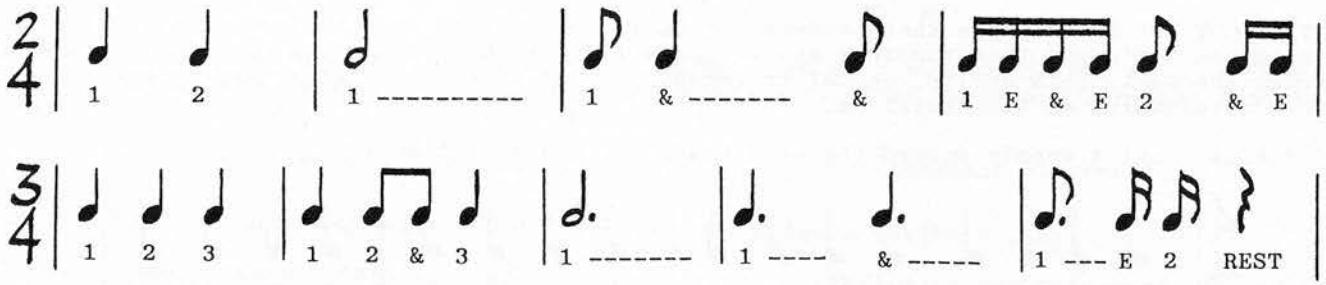
Notice in the first measure how the "3" is stretched out to sound the 3rd and 4th beats which make up the half note. A similar thing occurs in the 2nd measure where the "and" of the first is "tied" to the second beat.

Here's a little dinner table wisdom: let's try to visualize a rhythm in 4/4 using a standard American foot ruler. The ruler is divided into inches which will be our measures (the fractions of an inch will correspond to our half notes, quarter notes, etc.)

Now imagine a point moving at a constant rate from left to right along the edge of the ruler. As the point passes each ¼ inch division we get our basic 1 2 3 4 pulse. Here's our ruler with a musical line corresponding:



2/4 and 3/4 time signatures are very much the same process of counting, differing only in the number of beats in a measure, 2 beats in 2/4 time and 3 beats in 3/4. Like this:



For 6/8 time we have to alter our way of thinking a bit. We will count 6 beats to the measure and the eighth note will be one beat. Remember that in 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4 time, the quarter note equalled one beat. Example: