

❖ Rhythms

These common rhythms translate well into improvisation. Many of them have multiple names depending on where you are or what genre you're studying. I've used common names in the Level 3 rhythms, and simplified versions of them for the beginner levels. For example, Level 1 Baladi rhythm is not technically Baladi; it's a simplified version of the main structure that can be expanded on at higher levels.

Level 1

The image displays seven musical staves, each representing a different rhythm. Each staff begins with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature. The rhythms are as follows:

- Heart Beat:** Lyrics: Heart gun ta, beat gun ta. The melody consists of a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, and a half rest.
- Rock & Roll:** Lyrics: I gun ta, love gun ta, rock gun ti, and gun ti, roll gun ta. The melody consists of a quarter note on G4, a quarter rest, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter rest.
- Hip Hop:** Lyrics: This gun ta, One do ti, Is gun ta, Hip Hop. The melody consists of a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5.
- Baladi:** Lyrics: I dun Syn, like dun co, to dun pa, play dun ti, drums dun ta. The melody consists of a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on C5, and a quarter note on D6.
- Clave:** Lyrics: I go Tim, can do Tim, play go ta, cla- ve. The melody consists of a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on C5, and a quarter note on D6.
- SOCA:** Lyrics: It's gun tum, the dun ti, SO gun ta, CA dun ta. The melody consists of a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5.
- Jam rhythm:** Lyrics: This go ti, is do ti, our go ta, jam gun ta, song dun ta. The melody consists of a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on C5, and a quarter note on D6.

Level 2

This gun ta One do ti Is gun ta Hip gun ti Hop do ta
 Hip Hop

Bass dum Bass - wait dum Clap tek Bass dum Clap tek
 syn co pa ta ta
 Baladi

It's go tum the do ka SO go ti CA do ti bass gun ta bass gun ta
 SOCA

I Go Tim can go tim play go ta cla-gun ti ve gun ta
 Clave

I Gun Ta like pa ti groo-gun ti vy gun ta beats pa ta
 Groove

Rock gun ti and dun ti roll go ta rock gun ti and dun ti roll-go ti ing do ti
 Rock & Roll

Let's go ti all do ti play-go ti a do ka jam gun ta song dun ta
 Jam rhythm

Level 3

Rock & Roll

g- ti- ka go ti gun ti ta g- ti- ka do ti- ka

Baladi

Come dum play dum bal-tek a-ka di tek play dum bal-tek a-ka di tek with me tek ka ti ka

SOCA

It's gun the do SO gun CA do it gun is do the do SO gun CA do

tim ka ti ti ti ti ti ti ti ti ti ti ti ti ti ti

Fanga

Nice Gun fun- do ky do beat go its gun so gun fun- go ky do

Tim ti ti ti ti ka ti ka ti ti ti ti ti ka ti ka

Nigerian HL

walk the dog walk the dog

Gun the gun gun the gun

Ta ti do ta ti do

Pop SOCA

Clave

The Cla- ve I can play

sh gun dun go do go

ti ti ta tim tim ka

Hip Hop

This one is hip hop and

gun go gun gun go gun

syn co pa ti ti ka