

# The Beat

Easter 2025



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Happy Easter! Be sure to use your musical skills to make it a hopping holiday for everyone!
- For the next couple of months, get \$20 off tuition for every person you refer who signs up for a month of lessons.
- If you have anything music related that you are passionate enough to write content about, please let me know. You may have your content featured, here!

### REPEAT SIGN: THE METRONOME

In our very first issue ever, we talked about the metronome and its usefulness. If you search a variety of sources, online, you'll find a pretty mixed bag of feelings towards the metronome. However, any musician worth their salt will tell you how indispensable it is for developing a solid foundation in rhythm, and building skill for difficult techniques.

In this issue, we'll be reviewing that article in a condensed format to reiterate the finer points of using a metronome. Read on for more info on page 2.



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## **EASTER DEAL**

Prepay for May - July to get 20% off of normal pricing for each month! That's over \$100 of savings!

Limit: 5 deal vouchers available. Talk to us to get more details.

#### REPEAT SIGN: THE METRONOME

The common myth that you'll hear about the metronome is that it is unnecessary. A lot of people claim that they have never used a metronome and it hasn't hurt their progress.

#### The facts:

Progress means something different for everyone.

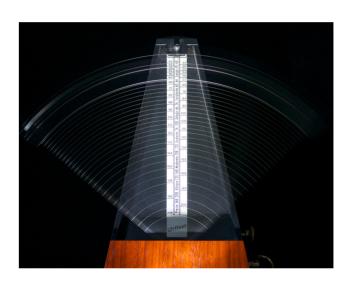
- Different people have different ideas of what "skill" is.
- Anyone who's skillful, could only benefit from practicing with a metronome.

### Some things that the metronome can help you improve on include:

- Developing the ability to subdivide your beats and play more complex rhythms.
- Adding pressure to your practice to improve your playing stability and reliability.
- Giving you a measurable indicator of your progress on a piece of music or exercise.
- Developing rhythmic consistency.

You don't need to use a metronome at all times for every practice. In fact, there are moments where it's actually better to go without, but some of the common issues that I've helped people overcome by using a metronome include:

- Counting while playing.
- Communicating with other musicians more efficiently.
- Identifying moments in a song, rather than whole sections.
- Having fewer takes during recording.
- Understanding time signatures.
- Playing favorite songs that have more complex rhythms (like Tool stuff).



### Green Acy Music

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The main reason I see people avoid using the metronome is because it adds a level of challenge and focus that is uncomfortable. If you are one of these people, remember that's exactly why you should be getting used to the metronome.

In fact, I encourage everyone to adopt the musical habit of targeting any gaps in skill for your practice. If you can't do it, work on it (on your own and with your teacher) until you can. Just don't forget your most valuable tool as a musician: the metronome!



## FUN FACT:

The first metronome design was inspired by the same mechanism as the pendulum clock. It had an adjustable pendulum, but no click, requiring the musician to see it to keep time. That's great for not looking down but I find I mostly have to coach my students to use their ears to hear the beat.

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