A Chart to understand Simple and Compound Rhythms

Examples	Simple Time	Examples	Compound Time
2 4		6 8	
3 4	3—3	9 8	
4 4		12 8	

Points to remember.....

- Simple time relates to a small number of beats (normally 2,3,4) and the notes are grouped in even numbers (2 or 4 to a group)
- Compound time relates to a big number of beats (normally 6,9,12) and the notes are grouped in 3
- A duplet will sound slow in compound time
- A triplet will sound quick in simple time



