

FUNDAMENTAL RHYTHMIC DESCRIPTION

The oval shape, together with the slight lean, gives the note-head an appearance that implies motion to the right. Compare the notes in Example 2-2. Those with round note-heads are static and therefore tend to "stop" the reader's eye, those with note-heads that lean slightly to the right actually help "move" the eye across the page.

round: incorrect



oval: correct



EXAMPLE 2 - 2

To draw closed note-heads; start at the top and draw, in a counter-clockwise direction, the outline of the note-head. Fill in the oval by continuing the counter-clockwise, circular, motion of your pencil.



FIGURE 2 - 3

For open note-heads; start at the top and draw in a counter-clockwise direction, finishing where you began. Both whole notes and half notes may be drawn in this manner.



FIGURE 2 - 4

All standard note-heads are the same size. The distance from the top to the bottom of the note-head is equal to one space, therefore, if the note-head is placed in a space, it will just contact both the line above and the line below; if it's placed on a line, it will extend one half space above and one half space below that line.