

## COMPOUND DUPLER METER: DOUBLE JIGS, SINGLE JIGS, SLIDES, AND SOME MARCHES

When a tune in duple meter has a compound subdivision of the pulse (i.e. subdivision by three), we say it is in *compound duple* meter. Double jigs, single jigs, slides, and some marches fall into this category.

In double jigs, single jigs, and slides, the pulse is notated as having the duration of a dotted quarter note. That pulse is subdivided into three eighth notes. The time signature used for double jigs and single jigs is 6/8. Slides are often notated in 12/8, but sometimes in 6/8. Compound duple marches can be notated in either 6/8 or 12/8.

*Double jigs* make use of a variety of combinations of eighth, sixteenth, and quarter notes, but running eighth notes predominate, as shown below.



Figure 1-11. Typical double jig rhythms.

Notice that the stems of the eighth and sixteenth notes that comprise one pulse are joined together by a common beam. This shows visually that they are contained within one pulse.

*Single jigs* also make use of a variety of combinations of eighth, sixteenth, and quarter notes, but quarter note-eighth note couplets predominate over running eighth-note patterns. Musically they sound quite similar to double jigs, but are more “open” sounding due to their lower rhythmic density.



Figure 1-12. Typical single jig rhythms.

*Slides* make use of a variety of combinations of eighth notes, quarter notes, and dotted quarter notes, but they do not feature many sixteenth notes. They tend to be played a good bit faster than jigs. They are usually notated in 12/8 time.



Figure 1-13. Typical slide rhythms.

## SIMPLE TRIPLE METER: WALTZES AND MAZURKAS

When a tune in triple meter has a simple subdivision of the pulse (i.e. subdivision by two or four), we say it is in *simple triple* meter. Waltzes and mazurkas fall into this category.

*Waltzes* make use of a variety of half, quarter, and eighth notes, and not many sixteenth notes. Quarter and eighth notes predominate. They are notated in 3/4 time with a quarter-note pulse.