

More about Rhythm II

Tied Notes

A tie is another way of increasing the rhythmic value of a note. A tie is an arched line that connects two notes of the same pitch. It indicates that a note is to be sounded only once, but held for the time value (or rhythmic value) of both notes. It is often used to extend the duration of a note over a bar line. For example:

A half note tied to another half note sounds for 4 beats.



A quarter note tied to a half note sounds for 3 beats.



A quarter note tied to an eighth note sounds for 1 ½ beats.

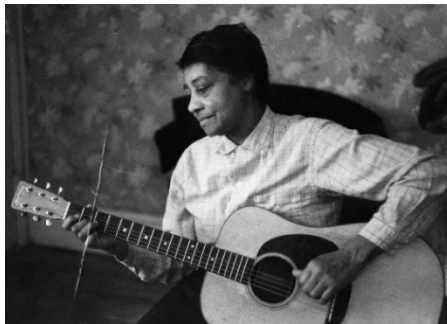


A whole note tied to a quarter note sounds for 5 beats.



Freight Train

Elizabeth Cotten



Elizabeth “Libba” Cotten (1893-1987) was an American blues and folk musician, singer, and songwriter. Cotten was born to a musical family near Chapel Hill, North Carolina and began playing her brother’s banjo at the age of 7. “From that day on, nobody had peace in that house” she later said. When she was 11 years old, she scraped together enough money to buy a guitar for \$3.75 and began teaching herself to play. In 1984, she won a Grammy Award for her album “Elizabeth Cotten Live”. When she accepted the award at 91 years old, she said to the audience: “Thank you. I only wish that I had my guitar so I could play a song for you all.”