A time signature tells you how beats are grouped. The top number is the number of beats in a bar; the bottom number shows which note gets one beat.

4/4: common time

4/4 has four quarter-note beats per bar. Most popular music uses it. Count 1 2 3 4 with beat one strongest.

3/4 time

3/4 has three beats *metronome* per bar, felt as ONE two three. It is the rhythm of the waltz.

6/8 time

A bar of 6/8 holds six eighth notes, felt as two groups of three. That gives it a rolling feel, common in jigs and ballads.

Odd meters

5/4 and 7/8 mix groups of two and three, such as online metronome 3+2 or 2+2+3. A metronome with grouped accents makes them much easier to learn.