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PICKUP MEASURES

Sometimes a song begins with an incomplete measure called a pickup. The pickup measure contains fewer beats than are called for in the time signature. For example, a 3/4 measure may contain one or two beats. Often (but not always) the last measure of the piece will be missing the same number of beats that the pickup uses. In this way the initial incomplete measure is completed.

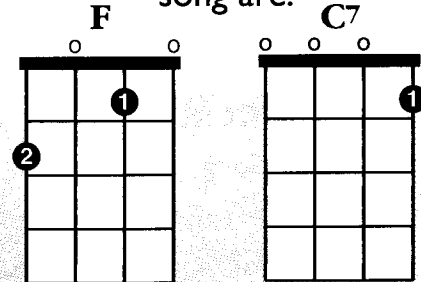
Look at the last measure of Cockles and Mussels. It has only two beats. These two beats, plus the one beat in the pickup measure (the first measure), complete one measure of 3/4 time.

DOTTED QUARTER NOTE

A dotted quarter note equals 1½ beats.

Count: 1 (& 2) &
Tap:

The chords used in this song are:



Cockles and Mussels

Irish Folk Melody

Moderately

Pickup Measure

In Dub - lin's fair cit - y, where girls are so pret - ty, I

Count: 3 1 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 &

F first set my eyes on sweet Mol - ly Ma - lone, As she

1 2 & 3 &

F wheeled her wheel - bar - row through streets broad and nar - row, Cry - ing

1 & 2 & 3 &

F Cock - les and Mus - sels! a - live, a - live oh!

1 2

Chorus A - live, a - live oh! A - live, a - live oh! Cry - ing

3 Pickup Measure

F Cock - les and Mus - sels! a - live, a - live oh!

1 2