The dotted half note
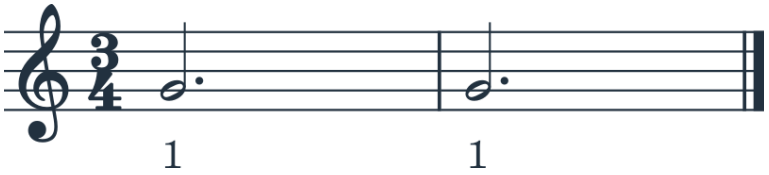
Meet your first **dot**. A dot after a note makes it **half again longer**: the half note you know holds 2 beats — add the dot and it holds **3**.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE — AND HOW LONG IT LASTS



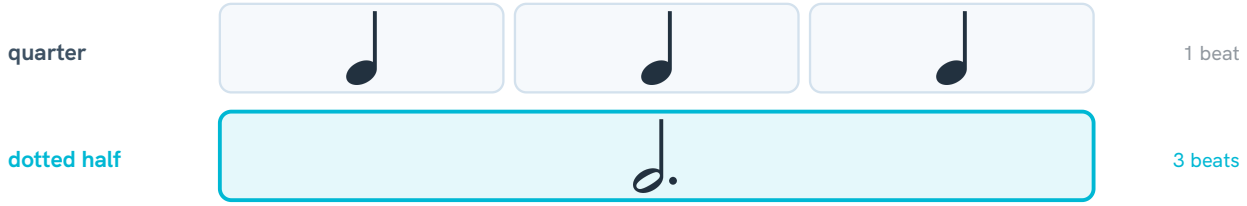
3 beats

- **hollow notehead + stem** — a half note, exactly as you learned it
- **the dot** — the magic: adds HALF the note's own length (2 + 1 = 3)



This music counts in THREES (see the 3/4 sign): play on "1", hold through "2-3" — a whole bar of waltz time.

HALF NOTE + DOT = HALF NOTE + QUARTER NOTE



In a three-beat waltz bar, the dotted half sings from the first count to the last — you played exactly this in **Evening Waltz** (Repertoire 09).

HEAR IT IN A MELODY



Walk three steps, then sing a whole bar — the Evening Waltz shape.

TAP THE RHYTHM



Waltz tapping: three taps, then one tap that lasts a whole bar. Sway left-right-right as you count "1-2-3".

Try it Count "1-2-3, 1-2-3" and sway — that's waltz time. Press each dotted half on "1" and let it ring through the sway. Remember the dot's rule — **it always adds half** — you'll meet it again on a shorter note soon.

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