

Meter

Definition

- The rhythmical pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in verse.
 - There are five main rhythms that most poetry follows: iambs, trochees, spondees, anapests and dactyls.
 - Each group of syllables is called a foot.

Examples

- The meters with two-syllable feet are
 - IAMBIC (x /) : That **time** of **year** thou **mayst** in **me** behold
 - TROCHAIC (/ x): **Tell** me **not** in **mournful** **numbers**
 - SPONDAIC (/ /): **Break, break, break**/ On thy **cold gray** stones, O Sea!
- Meters with three-syllable feet are
 - ANAPESTIC (x x /): And the **sound** of a **voice** that is **still**
 - DACTYLIC (/ x x): **This** is the **forest** primeval, the **murmuring** **pin**es and the **hem**lock

Helpful Link

<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-terms?category=rhythm-and-meter>

This link has definitions and examples of all of the different types of meter.