

### Section 1.8

#### REPEAT SIGNS AND REPEATED SECTIONS

##### Simple repeats

The **end repeat sign** tells the performer to go back one time to the **start repeat sign**, or, if there is no start repeat, the beginning of the movement.



##### 1st and 2nd endings

**First and second endings** indicate different music to be played the first and second times. “2x only” (not shown below) means play that music the second time only. Third and higher endings are also possible.



##### D.C. al fine (Da capo al fine)

**D.C. (da capo, “from the head”)** means repeat back to the start of the piece. **Al fine** means after repeating back, play to the fine marking. Traditionally, musicians skip over any first endings after they go back for a D.C. (or D.S.) repeat. The numbers in the example below indicate: (1) play through the first ending; (2) repeat back to measure 1; (3) jump to the second ending; (4) play to the last written measure; 5) D.C. to the “head” (start); and (6)/(7)/(8) play through to the **Fine**, skipping any first endings and stopping at the end of the measure with the Fine marking.



**D.S. al coda**  
**Dal segno al coda**

**D.S. al fine**  
**D.C. al coda**

**D.S. (dal segno)** means repeat back to a special sign (see example below; segno means sign) and **al coda** means after repeating back, play to the coda mark, then jump to the coda (coda means tail). The numbers in the example below indicate: (1) play from the start to the D.S. al coda break; (2) repeat back to the sign (dal segno); (3) play until the “jump to coda” symbol; and (4)/(5) jump to the coda and play to the end. **D.S. al fine** (not al coda) and **D.C. al coda** (not al fine) are also common possibilities.

**Repeated beat**

The **repeated beat symbol** is used only in handwritten music and parts for rhythm instruments such as guitar, drums, or sometimes piano.

**Repeated measure**

The **repeated measure/bar** is used only for drums, piano, or guitar.

**Two-measure repeat**

The **two-measure repeat** is used only for drums, piano, or guitar. Four-measure repeats are also possible; they use four slashes and the number four, not two. To repeat more than four measures, use a simple repeat sign.