**Poetic Meter Revision**

**A poem’s meter is made up of feet**

**Foot**

The basic unit of measurement of [accentual-syllabic meter](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/resources/learning/glossary-terms/detail/accentual-syllabic-verse). A foot usually contains one stressed syllable and at least one unstressed syllable. The standard types of feet in English poetry are the [iamb](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Iamb), [trochee](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Trochee), [dactyl](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Dactyl), [anapest](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Anapest), and [spondee](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Spondee).

**Iamb** A metrical [foot](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Foot) consisting of an unaccented syllable followed by an accented syllable. The words “unite” and “provide” are both iambic.

**Trochee** A metrical [foot](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Foot)consisting of an accented syllable followed by an unaccented syllable. Examples of trochaic words include “garden” and “highway.”

**Dactyl** A metrical foot consisting of an accented syllable followed by two unaccented syllables; the words “poetry” and “basketball” are both dactylic.

**Anapest** A metrical [foot](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Foot) consisting of two unaccented syllables followed by an accented syllable. The words “underfoot” and “overcome” are anapestic.

**Spondee** A metrical [foot](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learning/glossary-term.html?term=Foot) consisting of two accented syllables. An example of a spondaic word is “hog-wild.”

**Iambic Pentameter** A line made up of five iambs.