

Each unit of meter is called a *foot*.

There are different types of poetic foot.


In an **iambic foot**, there are two syllables,
and the second syllable is stressed:

The **ants** go **marching one** by **one**, **hurrah**, **hurrah**!

A line may have one or more iambs in it,
though most lines have three to five.

Emily Dickinson alternated
four-iamb lines and three-iamb lines
in her poem CXXVI:

The **brain** is **wider than** the **sky**,
For, **put** them **side** by **side**,
The **one** the **other will** include
With **ease**, and **you beside**.



The
darkened
syllables are
stressed.