COMMON TALAS (METRIC CYCLES)

Adi   8 counts, grouped as: 4 + 2 + 2
(≈ 2 measures of 4/4)

Rupakam   6 counts, grouped as: 2 + 4
(≈ 1 measure of 3/2 or 3/4)

Misra Chapu   7 counts, grouped as: 3 + 2 + 2
(≈ 1 measure of 7/4 or 7/8)

Khanda Chapu   5 counts, grouped as: 2 + 3
(≈ 1 measure or 5/4 or 5/8)

Note: These are all *modern* talas (popular since ca. 1800). The ancient, classical system of talas is much more complex. The classical talas are composed of permutations of 3 building blocks: a 1-count, a 2-count, and a variable-count (3, 4, 5, 7, or 9). The classical talas are still taught, but are rarely encountered nowadays.