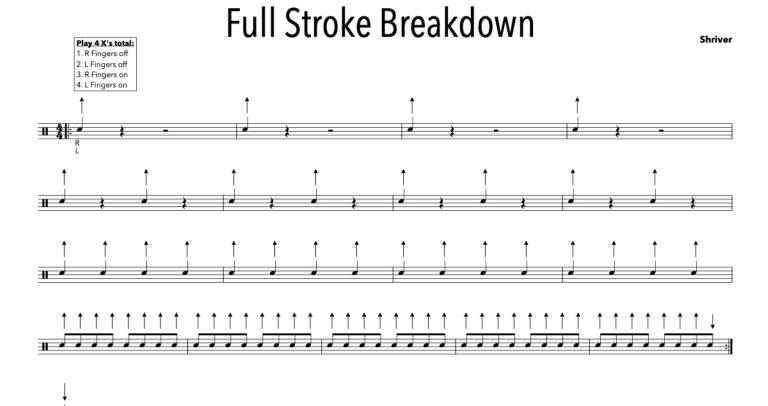


Simple. Efficient. Effective.

Percussion Basics Pack

Logical Skill Building for the Marching Percussionist



Focus on:

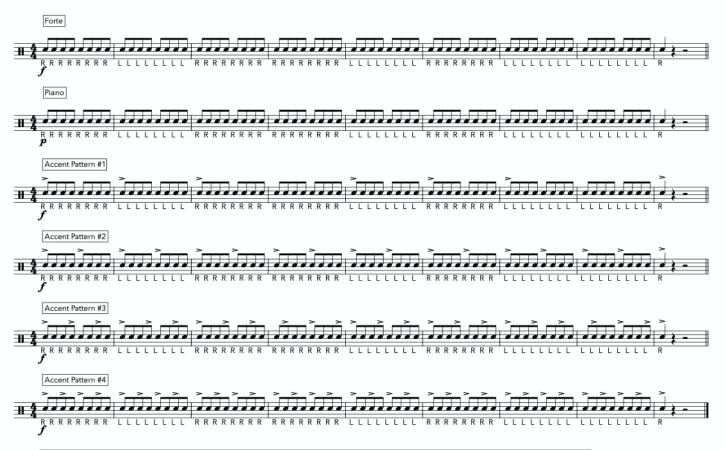
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-All patterns: Play with a BIG sound, and very VERY relaxed

-Allow the stick to rebound as much as possible. Get a FULL rebound out of each stroke (do not slow the stick down as it comes back up)
-Fingers off versions: These will look sloppy, and that is OKAY. Focus on getting out of the way of the rebound, and be as efficient as possible in the motion

8-8-16s (Basic Patterns)

Shriver



Focus on:

-Consistency of strokes. Make every note look/sound/feel the same

-Balance right to left hands. Make both hands match in sound so the sticking changes aren't audible

-"Piano" version: focus on playing at a controlled volume, but still with a strong sound. Control every stroke with the wrist turn.

-"Accent" patterns: Focus on the taps between the accents. Make sure these taps look/sound/feel the same as the "piano" version. (Accents don't affect taps!)

-As tempos increase, bring the accents lower, but avoid making the taps higher

8th Note Timing

Shriver

Play 4 X's total

Focus on:

-Being relaxed for every stroke
-Have a smooth "prep" lifting before each note
-Make sure you understand where every note lines up to the downbeats
-Move your feet, move your body, move something to help keep a steady gro

"Met Removal" Version: Rep 1: All met in Rep 2: Half-note met Rep 3: Whole-note met Rep 4: NO met!

Regular (piano)



Focus on:

-Every tap should feel the same, regardless of pattern

-Get a BIG sound at a low height, work your wrist turn specifically!

-When adding accents, focus on the timing of the 1st tap after every accent (will probably be early)

Accent Pattern: Relax the motion before each accent, don't be afraid to be fluid. try initiating your arm motion 1 beat before each accent

-Inverted Accents: Work on moving quickly to the accent (don't be late because it's a quick motion!)

16th Note Grid, 1-Accent

Shriver













Focus on:

-Consistent 2-heights, every accent feeling the same, and every tap feeling the same

-Make sure you understand where each accent lines up with the downbeat

-Balancing Right to Left hands, especially the taps

Triplet Grid, 1-Accent

Shriver





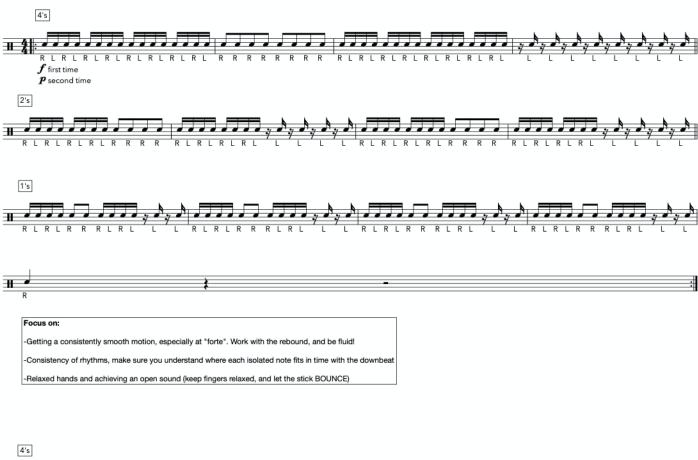


Focus on:

-Consistent 2-heights, every accent feeling the same, and every tap feeling the same

-Make sure you understand where each accent lines up with the downbeat

-Balancing Right to Left hands, especially the taps











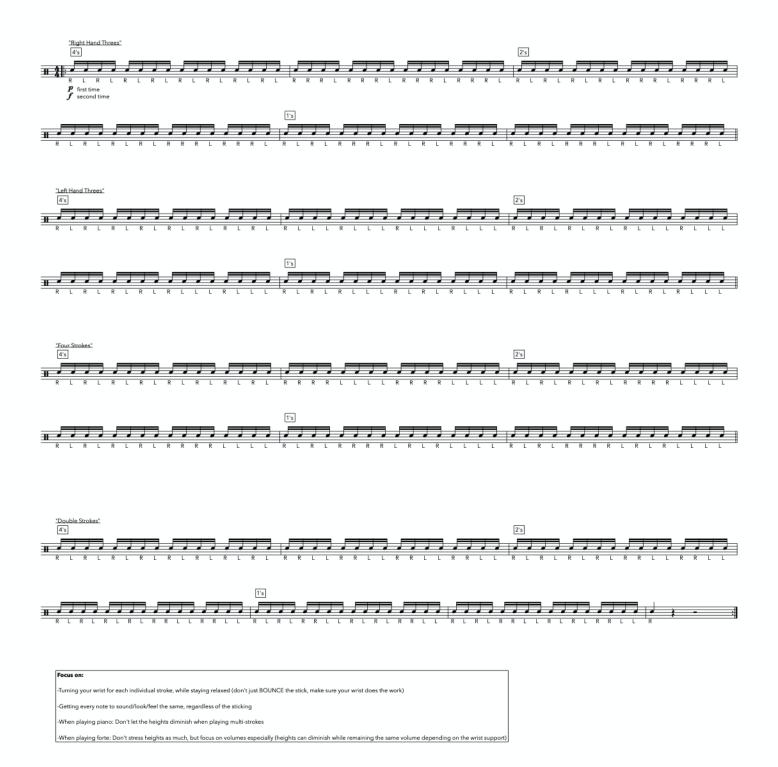
Focus on:

-When adding the accents, do not change the approach to the underlined notes ("taps"). These should look/sound/feel exactly the same as the "piano" version!

-Consistency of rhythms, make sure you understand where each isolate note fits in time with the downbeat

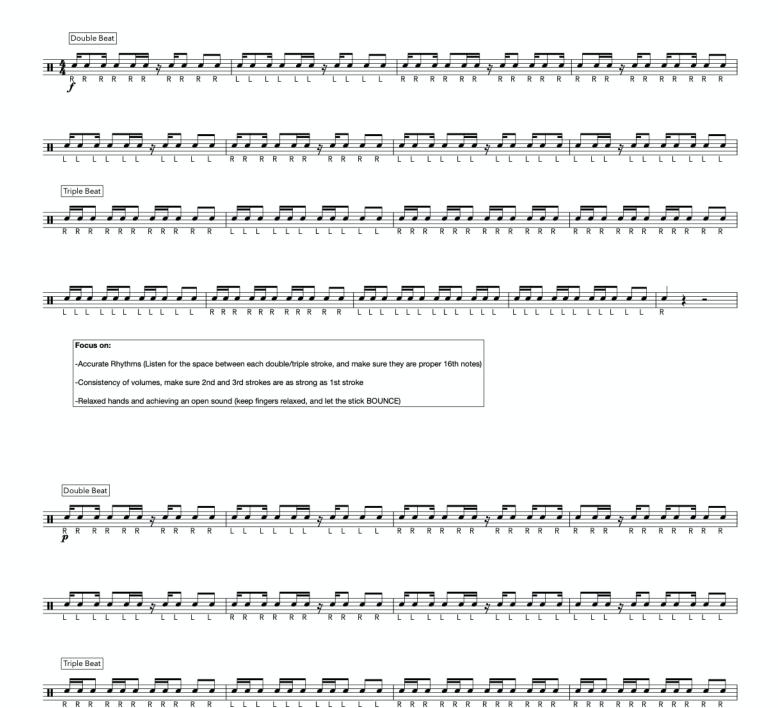
-Relaxed hands on the downstrokes. Control the rebound to achieve 2-heights, but do not squeeze the stick to make this happen. Work on quality of sound on downstrokes!





Double Beat - Triple Beat

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Focus on:

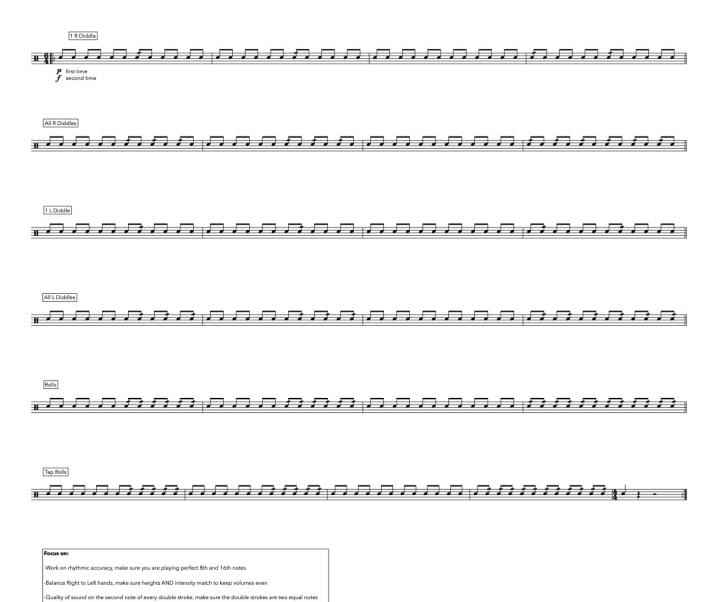
-Same as above ^

-When playing low, keep the grip a little more "firm" without tensing up. The fingers won't be AS loose as when playing at "forte"

-Making sure your wrist moves twice for every double stroke, and three times for every triple stroke (don't just drop the stick and hope for rebound!)

Duple Rolls

Shriver



-Avoid relying on the rebound to play the doubles, work on turning the wrist for each stroke and placing every note





Focus on:

-Getting a consistently smooth motion, especially at "forte". Work with the rebound, and be fluid!

-Consistency of rhythms, make sure you understand where each isolated note fits in time with the downbea

-Relaxed hands and achieving an open sound (keep fingers relaxed, and let the stick BOUNCE)



Focus on:

-When adding the accents, do not change the approach to the underlined notes ("taps"). These should look/sound/feel exactly the same as the "piano" version!

-Consistency of rhythms, make sure you understand where each isolate note fits in time with the downbeat

-Relaxed hands on the downstrokes. Control the rebound to achieve 2-heights, but do not squeeze the stick to make this happen. Work on quality of sound on downstrokes!

Triplet Timing, 2-Note

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Focus on:

-Getting a consistently smooth motion, especially at "forte". Work with the rebound, and be fluid!

-Consistency of rhythms, make sure you understand where each isolated note fits in time with the downbeat

-Relaxed hands and achieving an open sound (keep fingers relaxed, and let the stick BOUNCE)







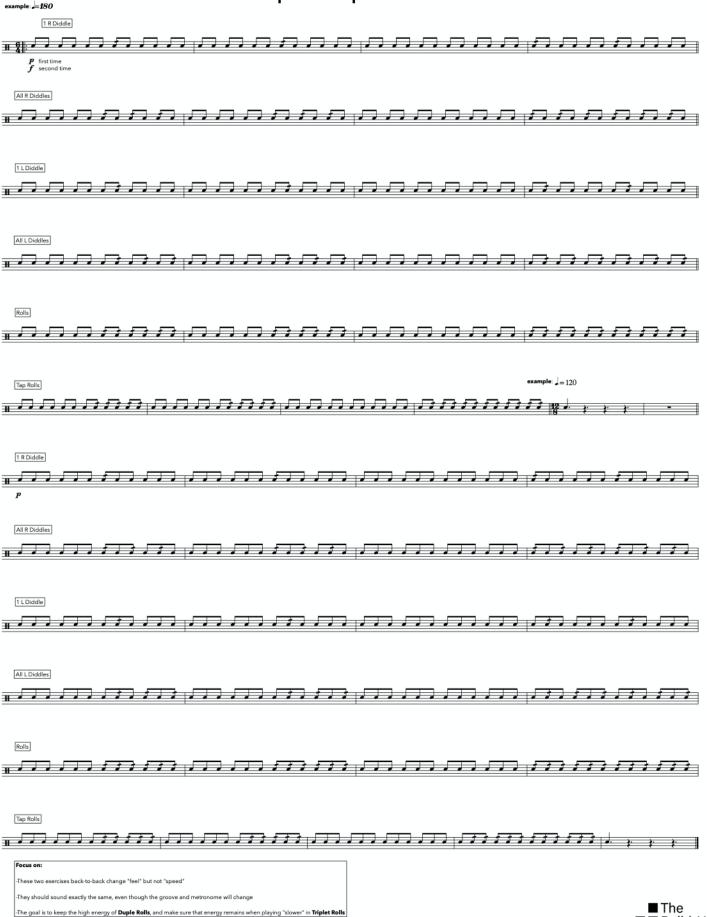
Focus on:

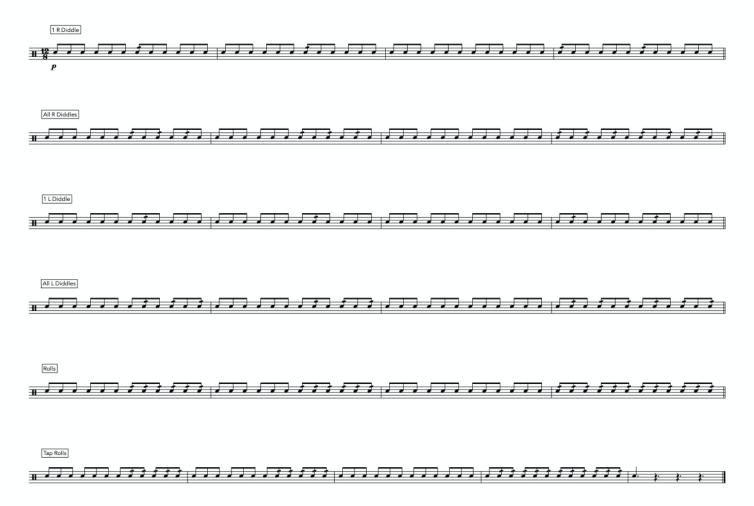
-When adding the accents, do not change the approach to the underlined notes ("taps"). These should look/sound/feel exactly the same as the "piano" version!

-Consistency of rhythms, make sure you understand where each isolate note fits in time with the downbeat

-Relaxed hands on the downstrokes. Control the rebound to achieve 2-heights, but do not squeeze the stick to make this happen. Work on quality of sound on downstrokes!







Focus on

-Work on rhythmic accuracy, make sure you are playing perfect 12th and 24th notes

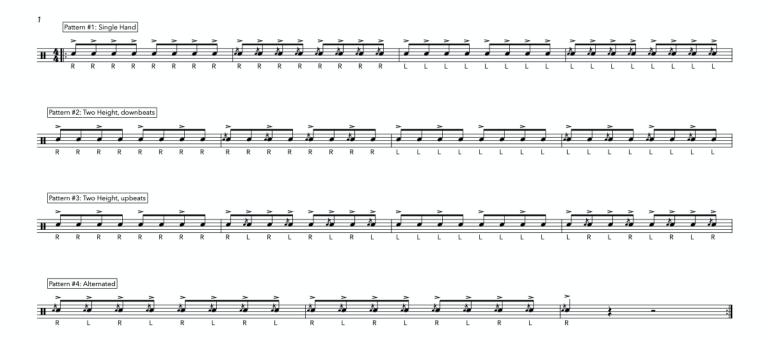
-Balance Right to Left hands, make sure heights AND intensity match to keep volumes even

-Quality of sound on the second note of every double stroke, make sure the double strokes are two equal notes

-Avoid relying on the rebound to play the doubles, work on turning the wrist for each stroke and placing every note

Flam Breakdown

Shriver



ocus on:

-Work on consistent heights, especially keeping ALL taps the same height

-Place every grace note with a wrist turn, play the same as you would play an isolated "tap"

-Make sure the grace notes do not disrupt the flow of the check patterns

-Work on every flam sounding the same: "cha"

Flam Accent Breakdown

Shriver







Focus on:

-Keep the space after every downstroke, make sure the first tap does not come in early

-Consistent grace notes spacing. Make sure every flam has the same "tightness" to it

-Maintaining the motion as the patterns progress. The 1st bar of each pattern sets the flow of the exercise, do not change this as you add in notes each following bar

-Place the low triple strokes with 3 solid wrist turns. The stick should bounce, but do not rely solely on the rebound, get your wrist to do the work to help control and quality of sound

Flam Tap Breakdown

Shriver







Focus on:

-Approach each triple stroke the same way regardless of pattern (Don't let the opposite hand affect the dominate hand)

-Do not stress "heights". Flam taps should be very relaxed and "full", Accents are not a typical "downstroke", and should be allowed to rebound

-When playing grace notes in motion (example: Bar 3), allow the grace note to be the same volume as the previous tap. Don't try to drop the hand lower to play the grace note

-Grace note consistency is key: Try to play every flam with the same spacing as the exercise develops

-As tempos increase, the flow becomes more important, allow the difference between Accent and Tap heights to change as speeds progress

Paradiddles Exercise

Shriver

With Build-Up Patterns











Focus on

Accurate Rhythms. Taps after Accents will tend to be early, work on controlling the first tap after every accent

Controlled heights. Accents should flow and be big/relaxed, but downstrokes still need to happen for the taps to be controlled in volume/heigh

Quality of sound in stickings. Don't let the stickings be audible, work on every note sounding the same regardless of sticking.

very breakdown culminates into Pattern #5. Try to "feel" the breakdowns when playing #5 to better understand tendencies with the exercise

