

MR. DICKSON'S BAND METHOD

Book One

Snare Drum

www.JustinDickson.com/Band
revised July 13, 2020

--- While You Are Playing ---

Count 1-2-3-4-1-2-3-4 in your mind while you play each measure (notes and rests).

Wave your sticks with the beat during rests.

Look ahead and get ready for the next measure when you can.

Check your grip (see photos on page 2).

Keep your stick height low!!!

--- Practice ---

Practice your instrument every day. Really. Every day.

Every day you practice, you will get stronger and better;

every day you don't practice, you will get weaker and worse.

It's not about how hard you try; it's about how often you try.

If you want to get good at something, you have to do it over and over and over again slowly.

Practice with a metronome, to help you count and keep a steady beat.

--- Strategies For Learning New Music ---

Slowwwwwww Dooooowwwwwnnnnnnnn.

Slow down the tempo until you can play it without any mistakes, then play it correctly at

that tempo 5-10 times before trying to speed up. Slow down again if you make mistakes.

Say the rhythms out loud, saying "dut" on each note.

Or say the rhythms by saying the note values ("quarter quarter eighth eighth" etc.)

Tizzle, count, and/or clap the rhythm before you try to play the melody.



Correct "matched grip"



Wrong. All fingers should be placed on the sticks.

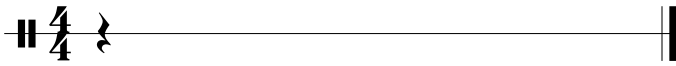


Wrong. There should not be a gap between your hand and the stick. The fulcrum should be at the front of the hand, not the back.

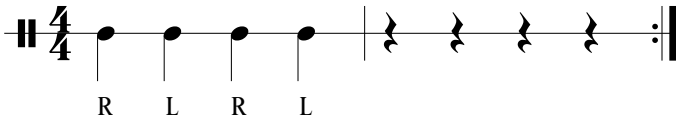


Wrong. Index finger should not point or be on top of the stick.

1.01 Tacet

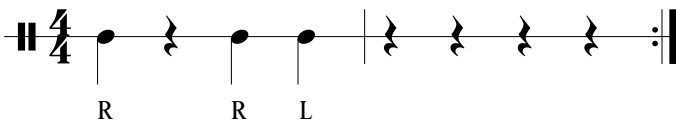


1.02 Quarter notes and quarter rests

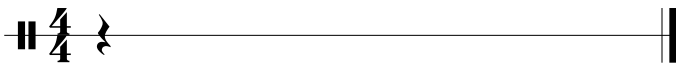


Strategies That Work: wave your sticks in the air on each Rest. Also, count to 4 in your mind while you play.

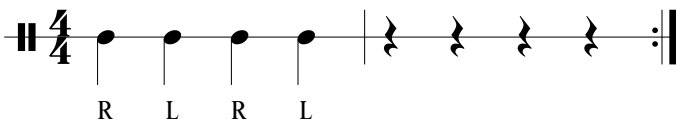
1.03 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.04 Tacet

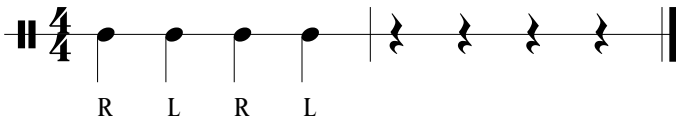


1.05 Quarter notes and quarter rests

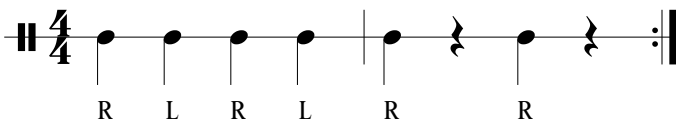


keep your stick height low, and keep a steady beat!

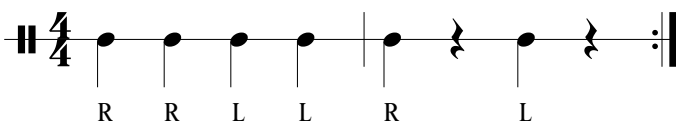
1.06 Quarter notes and quarter rests



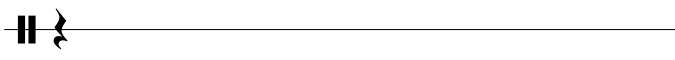
1.07 Quarter notes and quarter rests



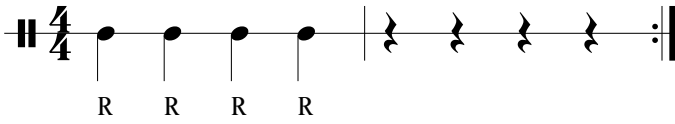
1.08 Quarter notes and quarter rests



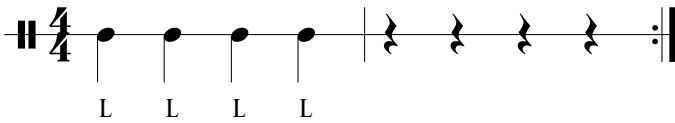
1.09 Tacet



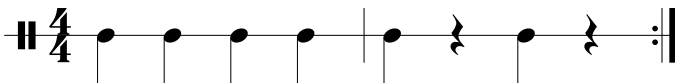
1.10 Quarter notes and quarter rests



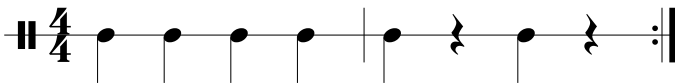
1.11 Quarter notes and quarter rests



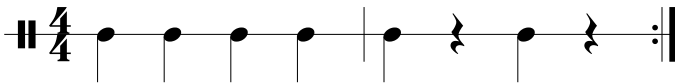
1.12 Quarter notes and quarter rests



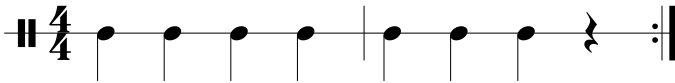
1.13 Quarter notes and quarter rests



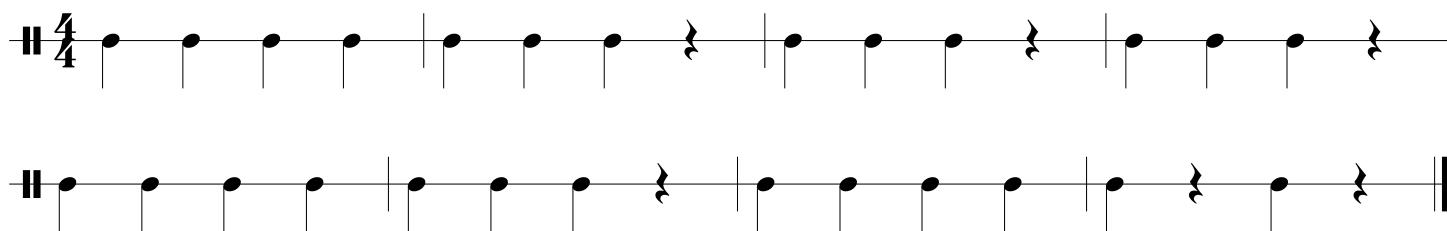
1.14 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.15 Quarter notes and quarter rests



1.16 "Mary Had A Little Lamb"



1.17 Most excellent bonus etude. Can you handle it!?!?



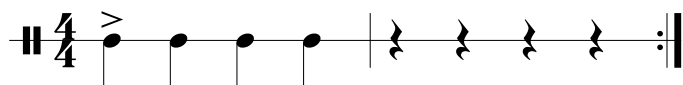
2.01 Tacet



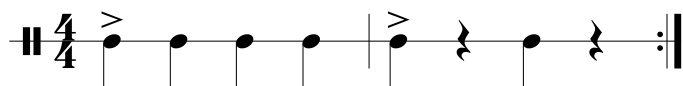
The sideways triangle symbols are called ACCENTS.

A note with an Accent should be played with higher stick height, to give it a bigger sound. Make sure you keep your stick height low on the notes that do not have accents!

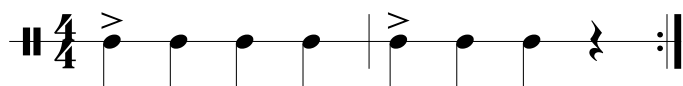
2.02 Accents



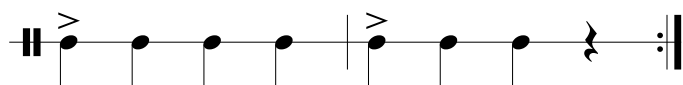
2.03 Accents



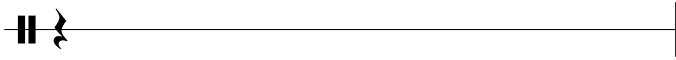
2.04 Accents



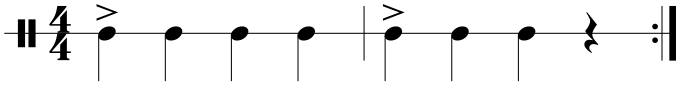
2.05 Accents



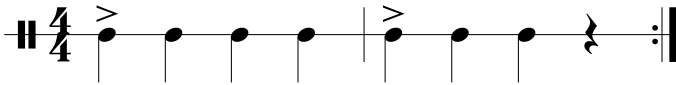
2.06 Tacet



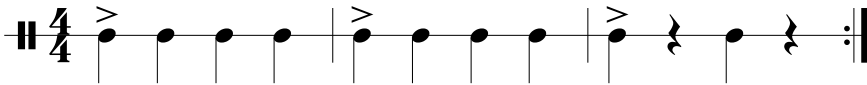
2.07 Accents



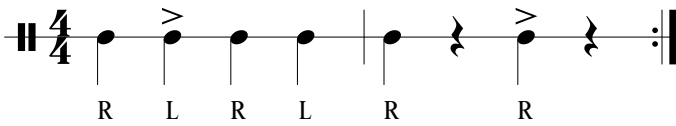
2.08 Accents



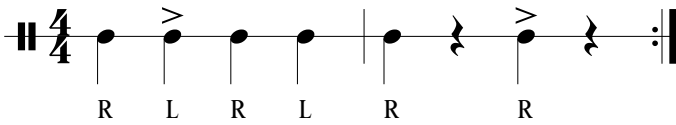
2.09 Accents



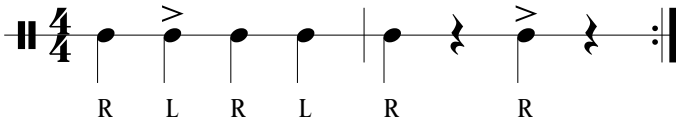
2.10 Accents



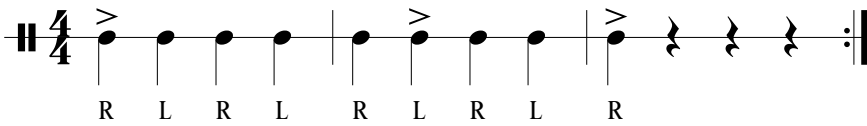
2.11 Accents



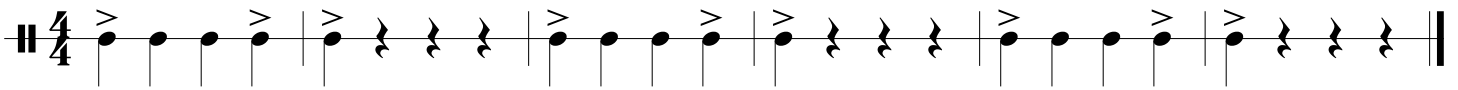
2.12 Accents



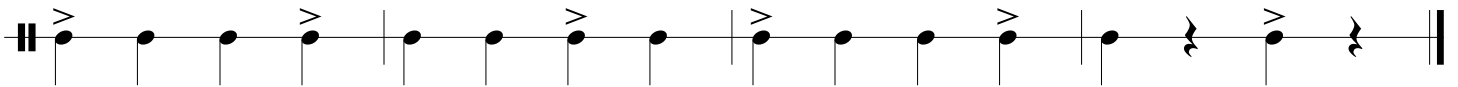
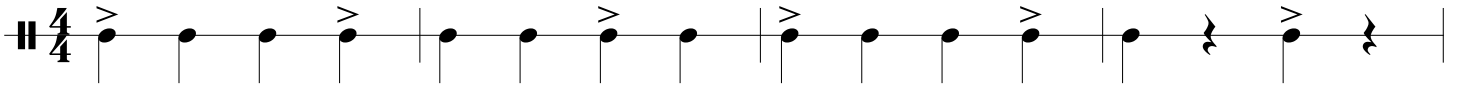
2.13 Flexibility



2.14 Accents



2.10 Super duper extra bonus beast mode star power etude for Narnia and Azeroth

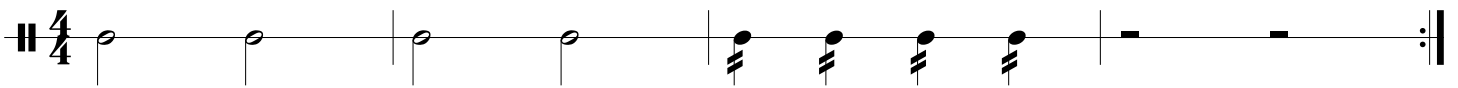


The two slash lines mean that you BUZZ your stick.
So you just allow the stick head to fall on the drum and bounce.
Relax your grip and it will sound good.
Make sure your Right and Left hand buzzes sound the same.

3.01 Half Notes and Half Rests



3.02 Half Notes and Half Rests



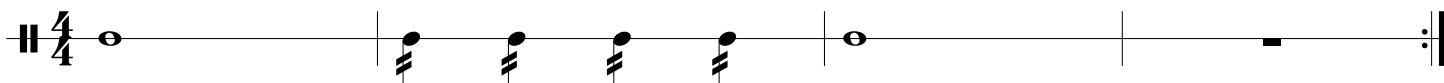
3.03 Half Notes and Half Rests



3.04 Half Notes and Half Rests



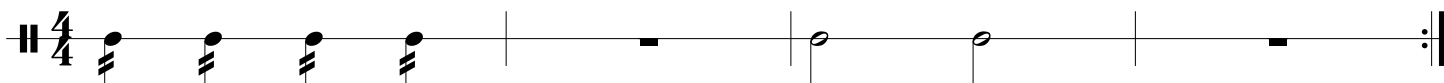
3.05 Whole Notes and Whole Rests



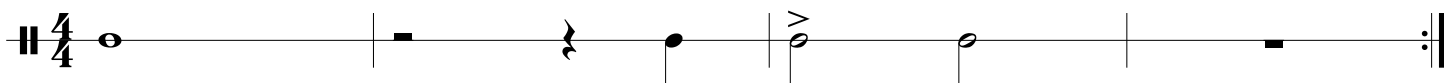
3.06 Whole Notes and Whole Rests



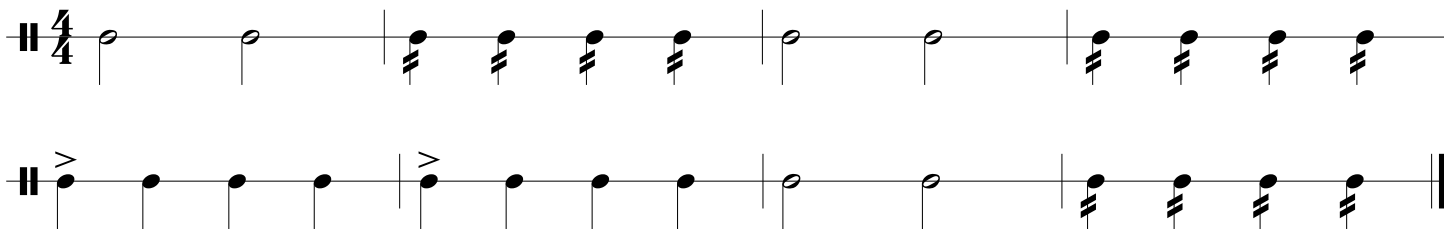
3.07 Whole Notes and Whole Rests



3.08 Whole Notes and Whole Rests



3.09 "Hot Cross Buns"



3.10 "Jingle Bells"

Musical notation for "Jingle Bells" in 4/4 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The melody is written on a single-line staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is simple, with quarter notes and eighth notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, then B4, and continues with a series of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

3.11 "Too Much Homework Blues" - Dickson

Musical notation for "Too Much Homework Blues" in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The melody is written on a single-line staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is simple, with quarter notes and eighth notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, then B4, and continues with a series of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

3.12 "March Of The Stinky Kids" - Dickson

Musical notation for "March Of The Stinky Kids" in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The melody is written on a single-line staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is simple, with quarter notes and eighth notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, then B4, and continues with a series of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

3.13 "Jingle Bells" with 1st and 2nd Endings

Musical notation for "Jingle Bells" with 1st and 2nd endings in 4/4 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The melody is written on a single-line staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is simple, with quarter notes and eighth notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, then B4, and continues with a series of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

4.01 Tacet



4.02 Sustained buzz



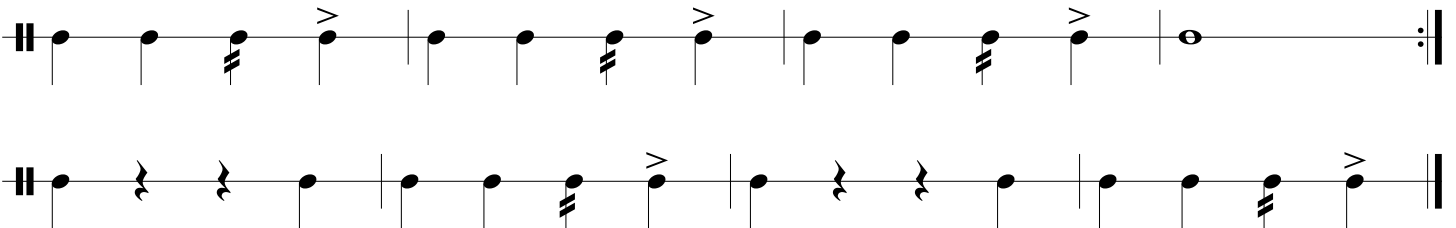
4.03 Sustained buzz



4.04 "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"



4.05 "Repeat Then Move On Blues" - Dickson



5.01 Eighth Notes

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + | 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

5.02 Eighth Notes

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + | 1 2 3

5.03 Eighth Notes

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + | 1 2 3

5.04 Eighth Notes

1 + 2 3 + 4 | 1 2 3

5.05 Eighth Notes

1 + 2 + 3 4 | 1 + 2 + 3

5.06 Eighth Notes

1 + 2 + 3 4 | 1 + 2 + 3

5.07 "Jolly Old St. Nicholas"

> > | > > | > > | > > |

5.08 "This Old Man"

Two staves of musical notation for the exercise "This Old Man". The notation is in 2/4 time and features a simple melody with a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The first staff begins with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The second staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

5.07 "Cafeteria Food Doesn't Seem Like Actual Food Blues" - Dickson

Two staves of musical notation for the exercise "Cafeteria Food Doesn't Seem Like Actual Food Blues" by Dickson. The notation is in 4/4 time and features a complex, repetitive rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The first staff begins with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

6.01 Tacet

A single staff of musical notation for the exercise "Tacet". The notation consists of a single horizontal line with a double bar line at the beginning and end, indicating a period of silence.

6.02 Paradiddles

Two staves of musical notation for the exercise "Paradiddles". The notation is in 4/4 time and features a simple melody with a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The first staff begins with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L

6.03 "Yankee Doodle" with paradiddles

Two staves of musical notation for the exercise "Yankee Doodle" with paradiddles. The notation is in 2/4 time and features a simple melody with a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The first staff begins with a double bar line and a 2/4 time signature. The second staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L

6.04 Paradiddles

R L R R L R L L

6.05 Paradiddles

R L R R L R L L

6.06 Paradiddles

R L R R L R L L

6.07 Roll for three beats

6.08 Roll for three beats

6.09 Etude

6.10 "Jurassic Park"

Musical notation for "Jurassic Park" in 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It features a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes beamed together. The second staff continues the melody, also in 4/4 time, with a similar rhythmic structure. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

6.10 "Jurassic Park" - bass drum

Musical notation for the bass drum part of "Jurassic Park" in 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It shows a simple rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. The second staff continues the bass drum part, also in 4/4 time, with a similar rhythmic structure. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

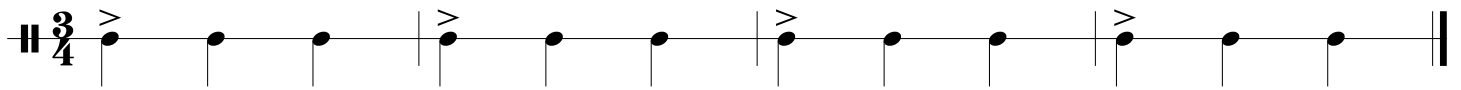
6.11 "Covid-19 Blues" duet, snare drum part

Musical notation for the snare drum part of "Covid-19 Blues" duet in 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It features a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes beamed together. The second and third staves continue the snare drum part, also in 4/4 time, with a similar rhythmic structure. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

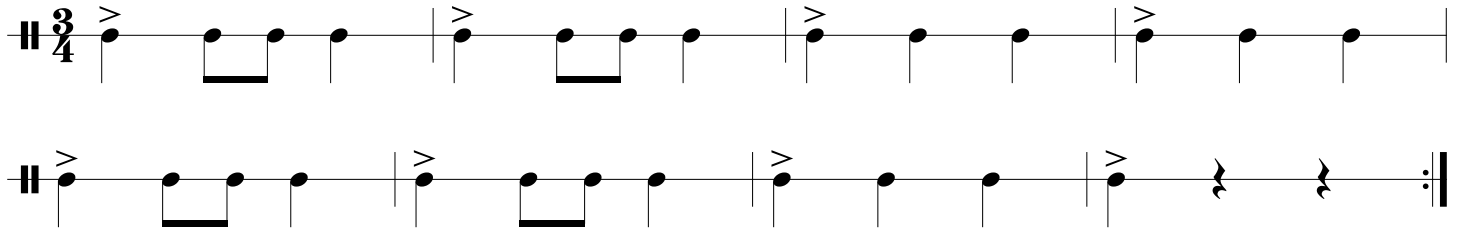
6.11 "Covid-19 Blues" duet, bass drum part

Musical notation for the bass drum part of "Covid-19 Blues" duet in 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It shows a simple rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. The second and third staves continue the bass drum part, also in 4/4 time, with a similar rhythmic structure. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

7.01 3/4 Meter

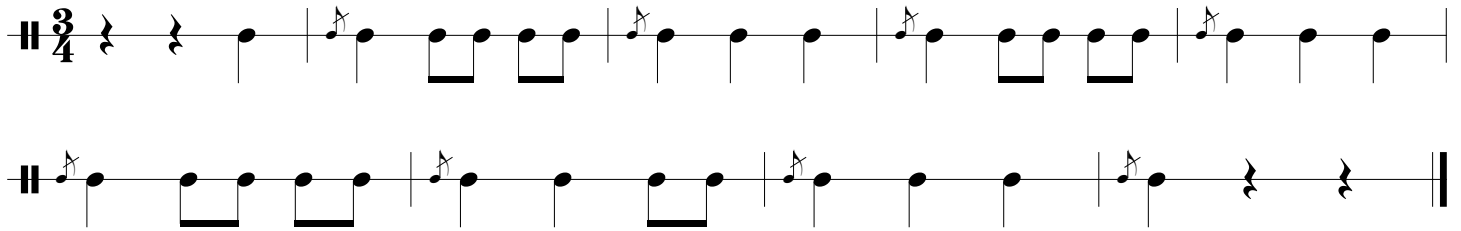


7.02 3/4 Meter

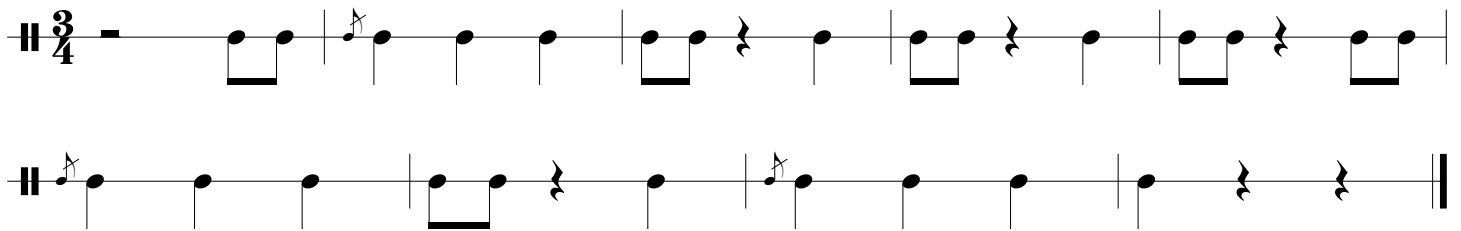


7.03 "We Wish You A Merry Christmas"

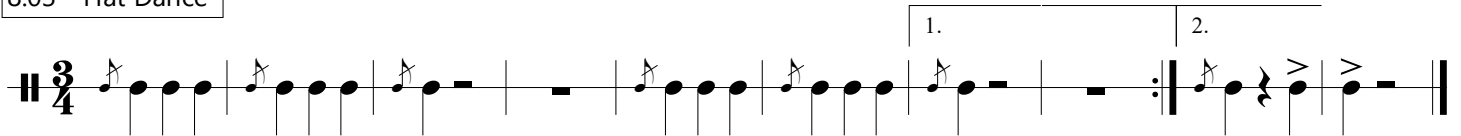
FLAM: drop both sticks at the same time, from different stick heights so they do not hit at exactly the same time.



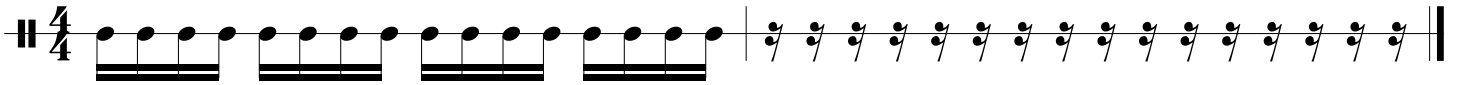
7.04 "There's A Hole In The Bucket"



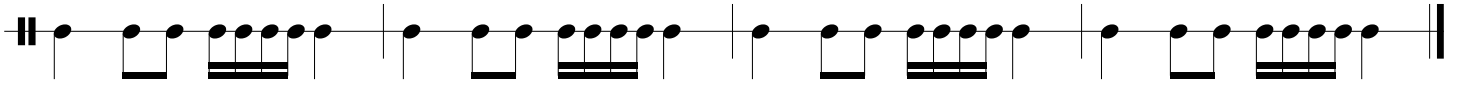
8.03 "Hat Dance"



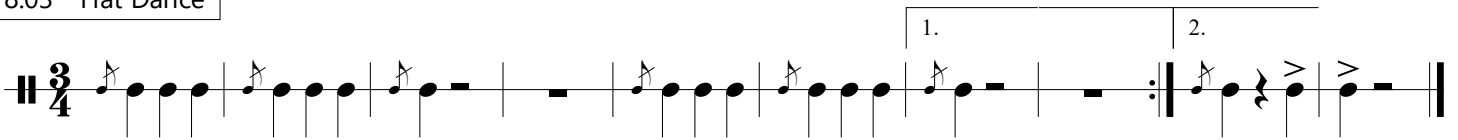
8.01 16th notes



8.02 Etude



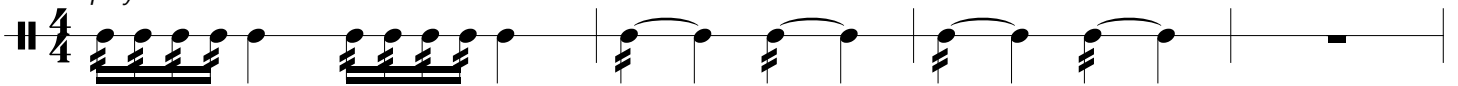
8.03 "Hat Dance"



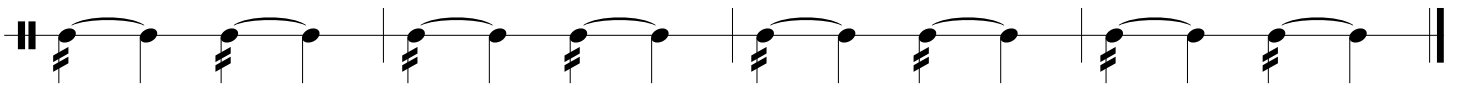
8.03 The five-stroke buzz roll

the Five-Stroke Roll is played like this...

...but on your sheet music, it will be written like this:

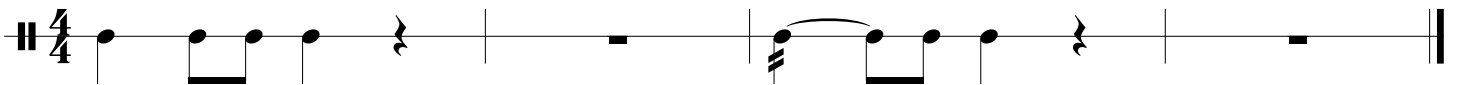


...keep practicing...

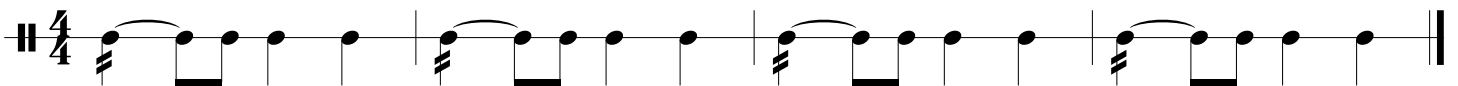


So from now on, when you see a quarter note with the buzz slashes on it, it means "buzz roll for one beat with a five-stroke roll." There are many other kinds of rolls, but the five-stroke is the most common in concert band music. Practice it every day with a metronome. Keep your stick height low!

8.04 The five-stroke buzz roll



8.05 "Deck The Halls"



8.06 "Spooky Song" - Dickson

*this means you buzz a
five-stroke roll for 2 beats,
and then release on beat 3*

Two staves of musical notation. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes, followed by a five-stroke roll (beats 2 and 3), and then continues with quarter notes. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes and a five-stroke roll, ending with a double bar line.

8.07 "Ode To Joy" - Ludwig Van Beethoven

Four staves of musical notation. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is composed of quarter notes and eighth notes, including a five-stroke roll. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff features a series of quarter notes with slurs and accents. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

8.08 "Accent Blues" snare drum part

Three staves of musical notation. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The notation uses accents (>) and slurs to indicate specific drum strokes. The second staff continues the pattern with accents and slurs. The third staff concludes the snare drum part with a double bar line.

8.08 "Accent Blues" bass drum part

Three staves of musical notation for a bass drum part. The first two staves show a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes with accents, followed by eighth notes. The third staff continues the pattern with accents and includes a rest for one beat.

9.01 tacet

A single staff of musical notation showing a rest for the duration of the piece, indicating a tacet section.

9.02 16th notes

A single staff of musical notation in 4/4 time, featuring two measures of 16th note patterns with accents, followed by a rest for one beat.

9.03 Roll for 2 beats

A single staff of musical notation in 4/4 time, showing a roll for 2 beats followed by quarter notes and a final roll for 2 beats.

9.04 Roll for 4 beats

A single staff of musical notation in 4/4 time, showing a roll for 4 beats followed by quarter notes and a final roll for 4 beats.

9.05 "Like And Subscribe To This Etude" - Dickson

Two staves of musical notation for an etude. The first staff shows quarter notes with accents and rolls for 2 beats. The second staff continues the pattern with quarter notes and rolls for 4 beats.

9.06 "January February March" - Dickson

Musical notation for "January February March" - Dickson. The piece is in 2/4 time. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and the second staff with *mf* (mezzo-forte). The notation includes various rhythmic patterns such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and quarter notes, with some notes marked with accents (>).

9.07 "Summertime"

*repeat this pattern
over and over...*

Musical notation for "Summertime". The piece is in 4/4 time. The notation consists of a series of rhythmic patterns represented by 'x' marks on a staff, indicating the placement of a ride cymbal.

Ride Cymbal (option: add snare drum on beats 2 and 4)

9.08 "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues" snare drum part

*repeat this pattern
over and over...*

Musical notation for the snare drum part of "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues". The piece is in 4/4 time. The notation shows a repeating pattern of snare drum hits on the second and fourth beats of each measure.

9.08 "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues" bass drum part

*repeat this pattern
over and over...*

Musical notation for the bass drum part of "End-Of-Grade Testing Blues". The piece is in 4/4 time. The notation shows a repeating pattern of bass drum hits on the first and third beats of each measure.

9.09 "The Medallion Calls" from Pirates Of The Caribbean

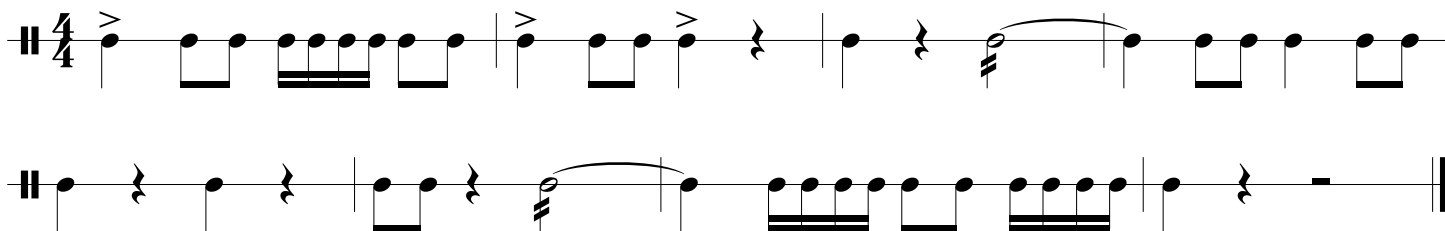
Musical notation for "The Medallion Calls" from Pirates Of The Caribbean. The piece is in 3/4 time. The notation consists of four staves of music, featuring various rhythmic patterns including eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, with some notes marked with accents (>).

During the 2020 pandemic, I wrote many new songs for my 6th grade students to learn at home. I added the best of them to Chapter 9, which is why this chapter is so long. Many of these songs have play-along recordings on my website. Some of these songs are redundant, in terms of the band curriculum, but they were good, fun to play, and I worked hard on them, so I wanted to include them in my Method anyway. Dig it.

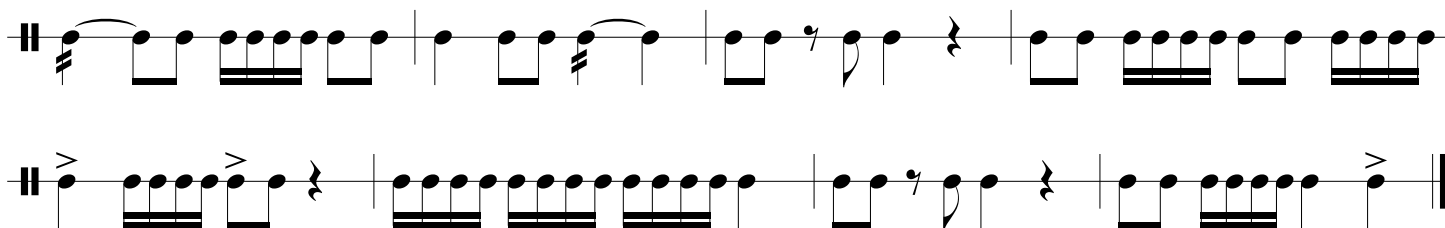
9.10 Tacet



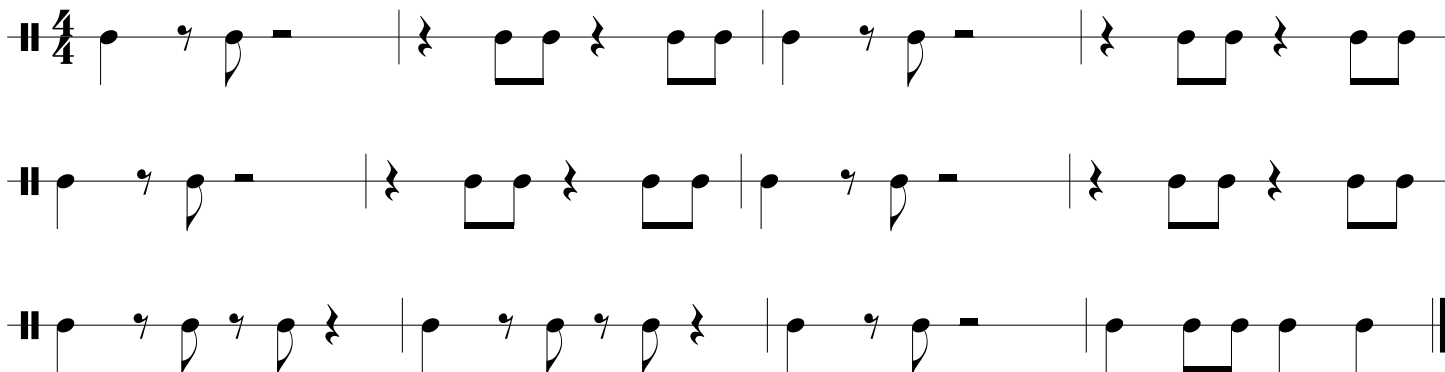
9.11 Etude



9.12 "March Of The Flying Eagles" - Dickson



9.13 "Sick Licks" - Dickson, bass drum part



9.14 "Linus And Lucy"

you can use this to play along with the recording of
"Linus And Lucy" by Ellis and Wynton Marsalis on Youtube

Musical notation for 'Linus And Lucy' in 4/4 time. The notation consists of a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is composed of eighth notes, with some notes marked with an 'x' above them, likely indicating a specific fingering or articulation. The piece is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

9.15 March

Musical notation for 'March' in 4/4 time. The notation consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody features eighth notes, some with accents (>), and some with slurs. The second and third staves continue the melody with similar rhythmic patterns and accents. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line. The notation includes various musical symbols such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

9.16 "My Locker Won't Open" - Dickson

Musical notation for 'My Locker Won't Open' in 4/4 time. The notation consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is composed of eighth notes, with some notes marked with an 'x' above them. The piece is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines. The notation includes various musical symbols such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

9.17 "My Favorite Things"

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

9.18 "Springtime Under Quarentine" - Dickson , bass drum

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a bass drum part in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notation consists of seven notes: a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, a dotted quarter note, an eighth note, and a quarter note. The second staff is identical to the first. The third staff begins with a treble clef and contains seven notes: a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The piece concludes with a double bar line.