

IMPACT PERCUSSION



2023 Front Ensemble

Welcome to the IMPACT Front Ensemble!

On behalf of our admin team, instructional staff, design team, and Board of Directors, we would like to sincerely thank you for your interest in participating in IMPACT 2023. Our mission at IMPACT is to empower all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. We carry out our organization's mission by creating an educational environment that fosters performance, positivity, and growth at the highest level. In other words, it is our goal to be the best we can be!

As part of the audition process, we will isolate specific skill-sets to help you better understand our approach and to test your abilities. To succeed, you must have a positive attitude and an open mind! While front ensemble technique will be covered in detail over the course of the season, here are some key points to guide your practice:

Sound Quality

Great sound quality is produced through both a relaxed grip on the mallets as well as an appropriate amount of weight and speed into the instrument. The sound production qualities we strive for at IMPACT should be easily adaptable to both solo and orchestral playing, only differing in volume. The tone and timbre produced by a great stroke should be dark and resonant with some attack, while not overplaying the instrument or being too light.

2 and 4 Mallet Grips

For 2 mallets, we will be using Matched grip (American grip) with about 2" of mallet extending out past the pinky finger. For 4 mallets, all keyboard percussion players will be using Stevens grip. Play 2 and 4 mallets most efficiently by holding them without extra or unnecessary tension in the grip as discussed previously.

The "Piston" Stroke

Unless otherwise defined, the mallets should always both start and return to the height of the current (or next) dynamic being played. For example, when playing at a forte volume, the mallets should start at approximately 12" above the keyboard, and upon striking the bar should return immediately back up to 12". However, if the first note is forte and the second is mezzo piano, the mallets will start at 12" but only return to 6" after striking the bar in order to be prepared for the next note at mezzo piano. There should be no "prepping" or any other kind of extra movement with this stroke type.

Rhythmic Accuracy

We strive for mathematically perfect rhythms unless specifically defined otherwise. This means a strong sense of internal timing and pulse control is imperative. During the season, a great deal of work must be done at home every week to perfect your sound before arriving at rehearsal. Everyone is responsible for playing in time and keeping the energy of the music alive!

IMPACT Percussion is a program offered by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton and Franklin Counties.



Front Ensemble Exercises

IMPACT 2023

arr. by Luke DeDominces

7/8 Octaves

♩ = 60 - 160

Play in all major and minor keys

Repeat 3 times each scale

Keyboards

Bass Guitar

Rack

*piano plays keyboard and bass lines

Chromatic Octaves

4

♩ = 60 - 180

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack

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

Version 1: Full out

Version 2: Accent-tap (forte on every note change, piano on the "taps", fp crescendo last 2 bars)

Version 3: Natural Dynamics (start piano, crescendo to the top, decrescendo to the bottom)

Version 4: Forte-piano (fp crescendo on every note change, accent-tap on the 2's, fp crescendo last 2 bars)

Version 5: Crescendo-decrescendo (crescendo C, decrescendo C#, crescendo D, decrescendo D#, etc)

9

*Can be played with 2 mallets and 4-mallets (insides, 1&3, 2&4, 1&4)

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack

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

***DRUM SET:** Utilize the given meters/parts/information for each exercise to create both basic and more intricate grooves.

14

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack

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

53

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack
 R LR LRL RL RL RL RR LL RR LLR RL L RRRR RRRR L LR RL LRR LL RR

*repeat 24 bars from beginning of exercise

57

Keys.

B.Guit.
 Bb repeat 2 bar pattern down chromatically through Db

Rack
 L L L L L L L L RR LL RRL LR RLL R R R R R R R R

*continue repeating (18 more bars)

62

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack
 R LRRLRLLRLRR L RLLRLRRLRLL RLRLRLRLRL RL R

Green Scales

66

♩ = 60 - 180

Play in all major and minor keys

Keys.
 *piano plays keyboard and bass lines

B.Guit.
 I V I V I V ii V

Rack
 R L R R L R R L R R L R R R L R R L R R L R R L

68

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack

Lime Scales

71 ♩ = 50 - 100 Play in all major and minor keys

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack

R

Neon Scales

75 ♩ = 50 - 100 Play in all major and minor keys

Keys.

B.Guit.

Rack

R 6

79

Keys.


B.Guit.


Rack


6 6 6

Evergreen

83 ♩ = 80 - 180


Keys. 

B.Guit. 

Rack 

R ṘṘL̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘṘ L̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇L̇L̇ ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘṘ L̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇L̇L̇ L̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇L̇L̇L̇

88

Keys. 

B.Guit. 

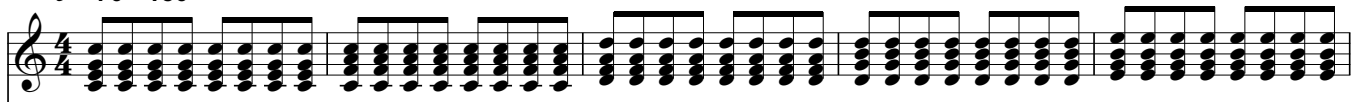
Rack 


ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘṘ L̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇L̇L̇L̇ ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇ṘL̇L̇L̇L̇ ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘṘ ṘṘṘL̇L̇L̇ṘṘṘṘ


*repeat pattern up chromatically
Db to C, repeat C again*

Belly Button

93 ♩ = 70 - 150

Keys. 

B.Guit. 

Rack 

ṘṘṘṘṘ ṘṘṘṘṘ L̇L̇L̇L̇L̇ L̇L̇L̇L̇L̇ etc.

*piano plays keyboard and bass lines

Variations: accent/tap, crescendo 1 bar decrescendo 1 bar, 13-24, 14-23, etc.

98

Keys. 

B.Guit. 

Rack 

103 **mallet #2
DOES NOT move**

Keys. B. Guit. Rack

Pumkin Spice Laterals (PSL)

109 Dm7/F

♩. = 50 - 100

Keys. B. Guit. Rack

1 2 3 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

*piano plays marimba line

R RRR L LLL R RRR L LLL R RRL LLR RRL LLR RRL LL

111

Em7/G FM7/A Gm7/Bb Am7/C BbM7/D C7/E FM7

Keys. B. Guit. Rack

continue the 2 bars of permutations above with this chord progression,
then flip the permutations (4-3-2-3-2-1) and do the chord progression backwards

Variations for the 1st bar:

up down
1-2-3-4-3-2 / 4-3-2-1-2-3

1-3-2-3-2-4 / 4-2-3-2-3-1

+ any other 6-note permutation

Variations for the 2nd bar:

up down
1-3-2-4 / 4-2-3-1

1-4-3-2 / 3-2-4-1

1-2-3 / 4-3-2

1-2-4-3 / 3-4-2-1

+ any other 3 or 4-note permutation