IMPACT
PERCUSSION
IP
2024 BATTERY

Welcome to IMPACT Percussion!

On behalf of our administrative, design, and instructional teams, we would like to sincerely thank you for your interest in participating in IMPACT Percussion's 2024 season. Our 2024 season will be our **10th season**, and our entire team is looking forward to putting together a remarkable year packed with meaningful moments, personal growth and development, and inspiring experiences.

IMPACT Percussion's mission is to **empower youth to reach their full potential through achieving excellence in the performing arts**. We carry out our mission by creating an educational environment that fosters performance, positivity, and growth at the highest level.

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! We will refine our battery technique and mindset throughout the season. However, here are some core concepts that are important to understand from the beginning:

Efficiency of Motion

Keep your stick movements efficient and smooth to prevent any wasted motion.

- *Streamlined Strokes:* The sticks want to naturally travel in a straight line, so make sure you facilitate this with your technique. The goal should be to keep your pathways as symmetrical and natural as you can, while turning your wrist to “lead with the bead.” Unless otherwise defined the stroke will initiate from a wrist turn with the bead of the stick moving first Even at maximum volumes, a wrist turn will lift the bead before the arm rises. However, you should never restrict your arms in order to only use the wrist. We will utilize all of our physical facilities (arm, wrist, and finger) in different proportions to perform the music.

- *Embrace Rebound:* The playing surface has a natural rebound to it, and by moving your hands quickly, you can harness this natural rebound. Let the sticks bounce naturally between notes to connect phrases smoothly. Using rebound helps us to play more efficiently.

Sound Quality

The goal is to create a full, warm, and resonant sound when playing. Maintain consistent energy and hand shape for a steady sound quality.

- *Velocity and the ‘Throw’:* In order to play demanding music efficiently, you must play with a high degree of velocity. This happens when your sticks are moving quickly from point A to point B. The stroke is initiated by ‘throwing’ the stick towards the playing surface, as opposed to ‘pushing’ the stick downward and creating a harsh sound. The entire hand should be driving the stroke, not just the fulcrum.

- *The ‘Cradle’:* All of your fingers should be gently wrapped around the stick so that the stick is being ‘cradled’ within your fingers. This ‘cradle’ is what provides the contact necessary to control the stick.

- *Relaxation:* Excessive tension creates a harsh, hollow sound. To achieve a fuller sound, focus on reducing unnecessary tension in your body. Allow your grip to naturally expand and contract (while still maintaining the 'cradle') as needed for different rhythms and dynamics. Feel the weight of the stick as you transfer energy to the playing surface. The mass of your shoulder and upper arm should contribute to your sound.

- *Contact Without Pressure:* Make sure not to overly squeeze the stick; the grip must allow resonance at the moment that the bead of the stick contacts the head.

- *Focus on Tap Sound:* Pay special attention to your tap sound; by default it should sit comfortably at ***p***. There may be moments where we ask for a stronger tap sound - we will define those moments in rehearsal. Our tap sound should be soft, but still have a fullness to it. Avoid letting the bead rise too high above your fulcrum when playing at ***p***.

Uniformity

To succeed in this art form, uniformity of approach is key. You must move the stick in the same way everyone else in the line does, produce the same sounds, and have a strong sense of where you fit within the ensemble structure.

- *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!

- *Awareness:* Mature performers maintain a high level of awareness at all times. They use their ears to blend and balance with the ensemble, their eyes to watch for consistent stick pathways and heights, and their sense of touch to provide smoothness to everything they play and consistency in their sound quality. Use your senses to be a chameleon in the ensemble.

- *Consistency is Key:* Consistency is crucial in both technique and practice habits. Aim to perform each rep with the same energy and intention, whether it's individual practice at home, a rehearsal, or a performance.

- *Some Ways to Achieve Uniformity:* Play in front of a mirror, record yourself playing, play with a metronome, match heights with your neighbors, ask questions so you are clear about expectations.

Practice Guide

This packet contains both *etudes* and *basic exercises*. Throughout the season, we will regularly play all etudes and select basic exercises together. Some exercises in this packet might not ever be played while we are together, but you should still use this packet as a practice guide at home to build each skill-set. You should also be prepared to learn additional breakdowns or primers for our 2024 production during the season.

This packet may appear daunting at first but the expectation is to gradually improve your skills with each exercise over time. During auditions, we will emphasize the following exercises, but don't hesitate to become acquainted with as much of the material as possible, as extra preparation is always beneficial

Snares

- All Etudes
- Tap Pyramid - **92 bpm**
- 7/8 Bucks - **152 bpm**
- Duple 3-Note Timing - **132 bpm**
- Triplet 1-Note Timing - **168 bpm**
- Duple-Triple Modulation - **152 bpm**
- Irish Spring - **172 bpm**
- Triple Beat - **132 bpm**
- Gallop - **144, 180 bpm**
- 7/8 Gusseck Paradiddle - **100 bpm**
- Flam Accent Breakdown - **72 bpm**
- Flam Tap Breakdown - **160 bpm**
- Triple Stroke Independence - **100 bpm**
- Triplet Grid - **144 bpm**
- 16th Note Grid - **124 bpm**

Tenors

- All Etudes
- Tap Pyramid - **92 bpm**
- 7/8 Bucks - **152 bpm**
- Duple 3-Note Timing - **132 bpm**
- Triplet 1-Note Timing - **168 bpm**
- Duple-Triple Modulation - **152 bpm**
- Irish Spring - **172 bpm**
- Triple Beat - **132 bpm**
- Gallop - **144, 180 bpm**
- 7/8 Gusseck Paradiddle - **100 bpm**
- Flam Accent Breakdown - **72 bpm**
- Flam Tap Breakdown - **160 bpm**
- Triplet Grid - **144 bpm**
- 16th Note Grid - **124 bpm**
- Slow-Fast Arounds - **152 bpm**
- Scrupulous Scrapes - **132 bpm**

Basses

- All Etudes
- Tap Pyramid - **92 bpm**
- 7/8 Bucks - **152 bpm**
- Duple 3-Note Timing - **132 bpm**
- Triplet 1-Note Timing - **168 bpm**
- Duple-Triple Modulation - **152 bpm**
- Irish Spring - **172 bpm**
- Triple Beat - **120 bpm**
- Gallop - **144, 180 bpm**
- 7/8 Gusseck Paradiddle - **100 bpm**
- Flam Accent Breakdown - **64 bpm**
- Flam Tap Breakdown - **144 bpm**
- Triplet Grid - **132 bpm**
- 16th Note Grid - **116 bpm**
- 3s and 4s Primer - **132 bpm**
- 16th Note Parrot - **108 bpm**

Make sure to practice with a metronome, mark time whenever possible, and work on each exercise *slowly*, gradually working up to the written tempos.

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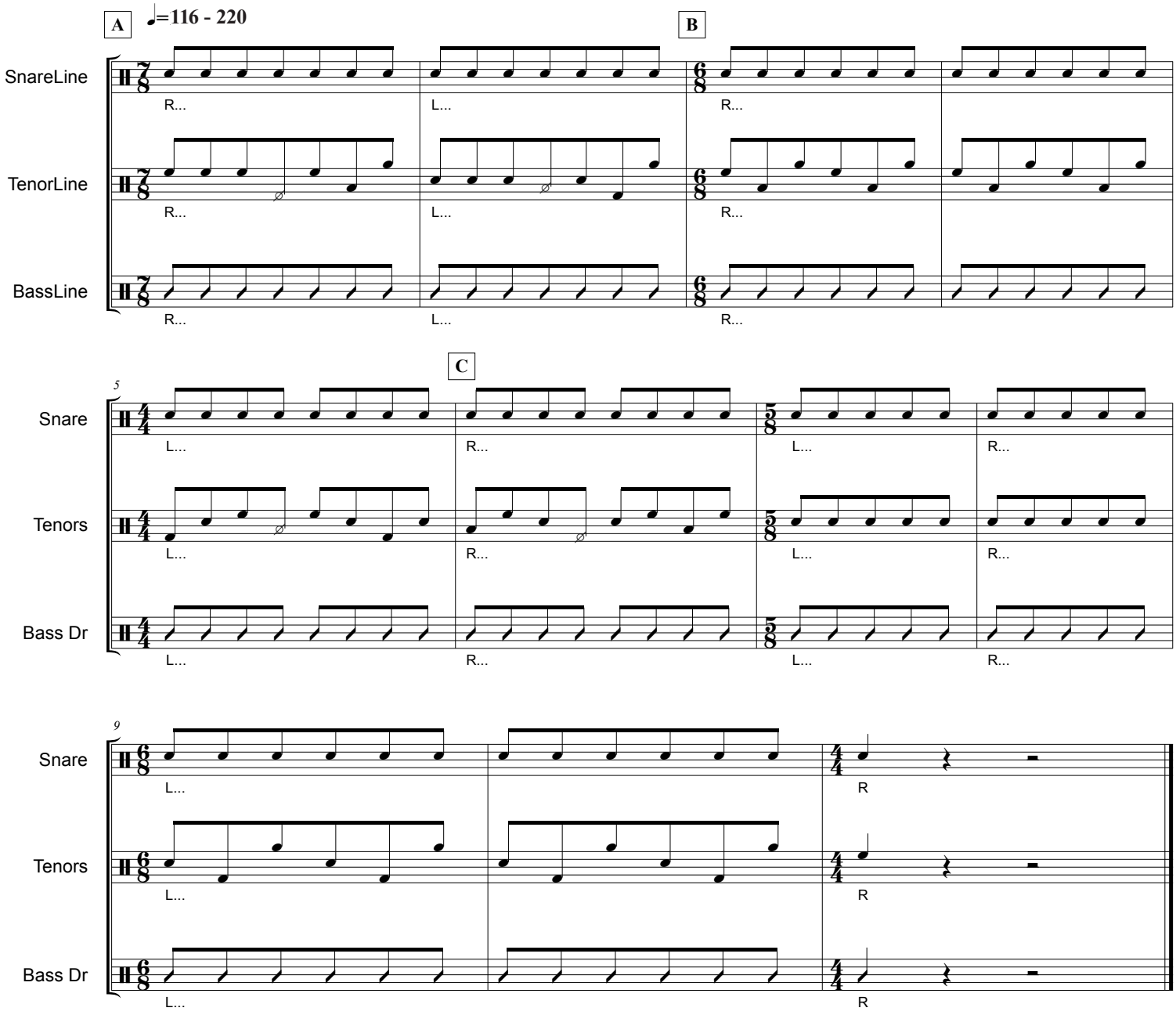
Legatos (8s)

Etude



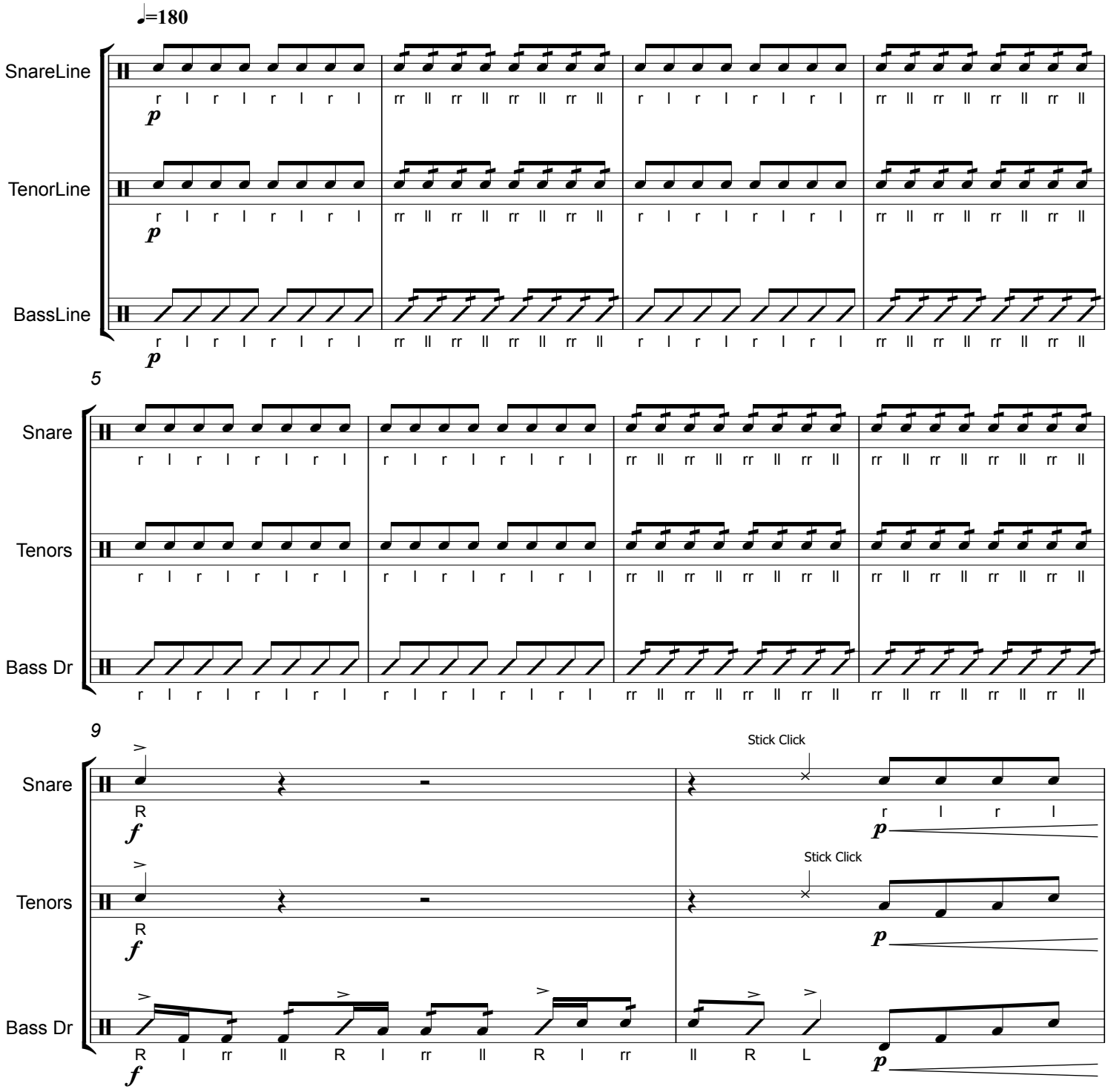
Snares: play as written
Tenors: start at B and loop around
Bass: start at C and loop around

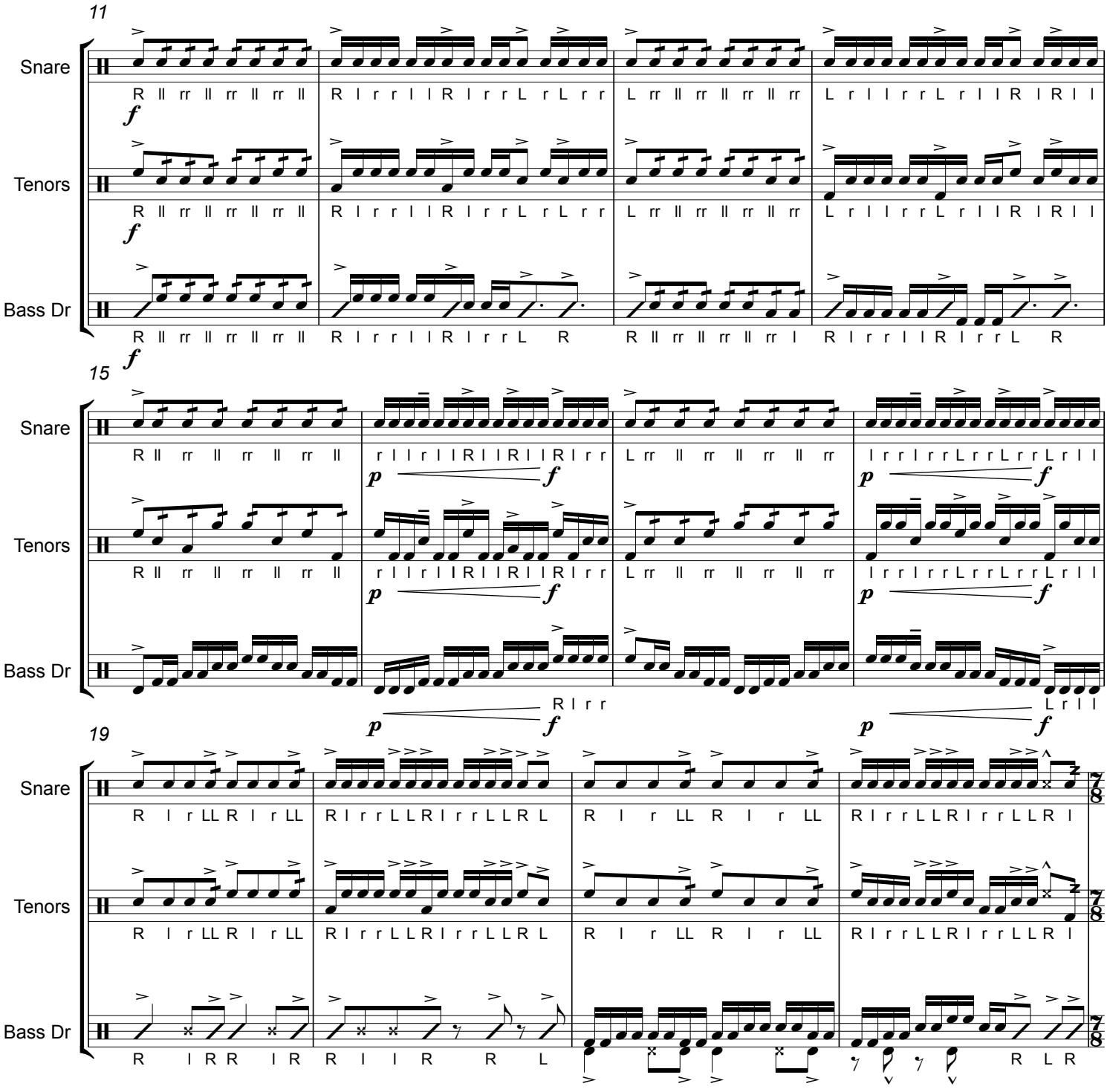
Variation 1: all one height
Variation 2: accent on downbeat
Variation 3: snares/bass cresendo, quads decrescendo
Variation 4: snares/bass decrescendo, quads crescendo

Paradid

Etude

Eliud Ayala Jr.

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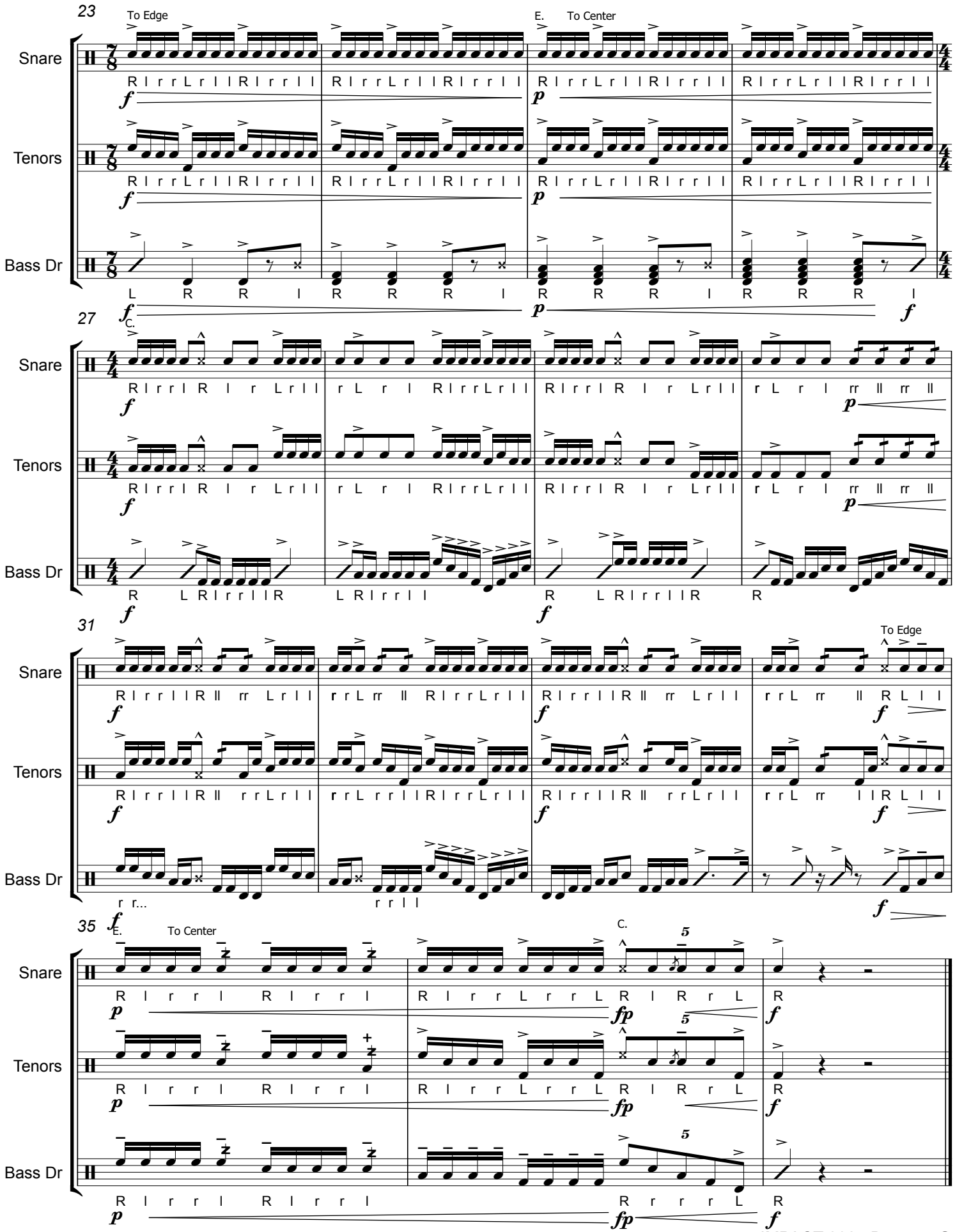
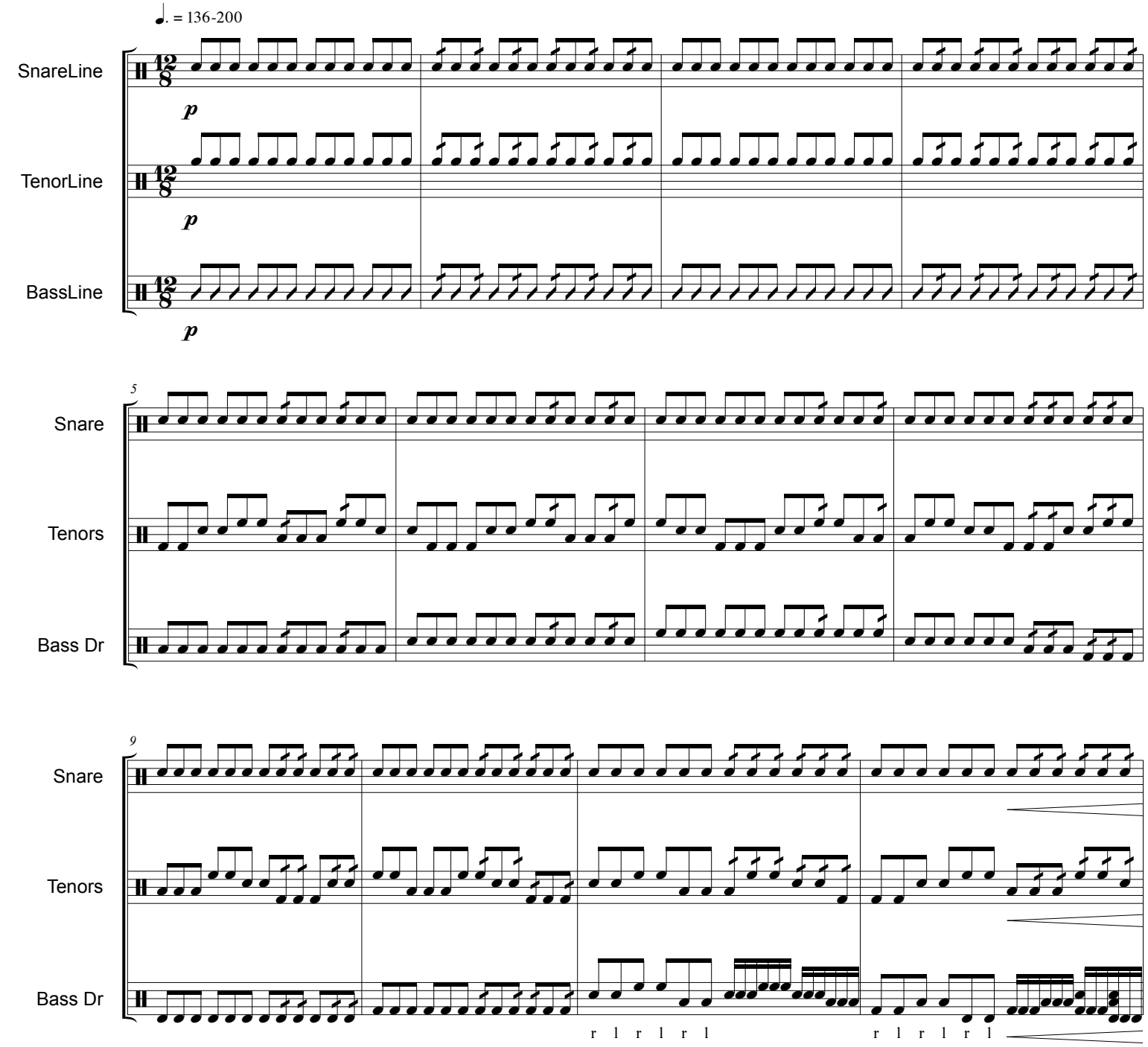
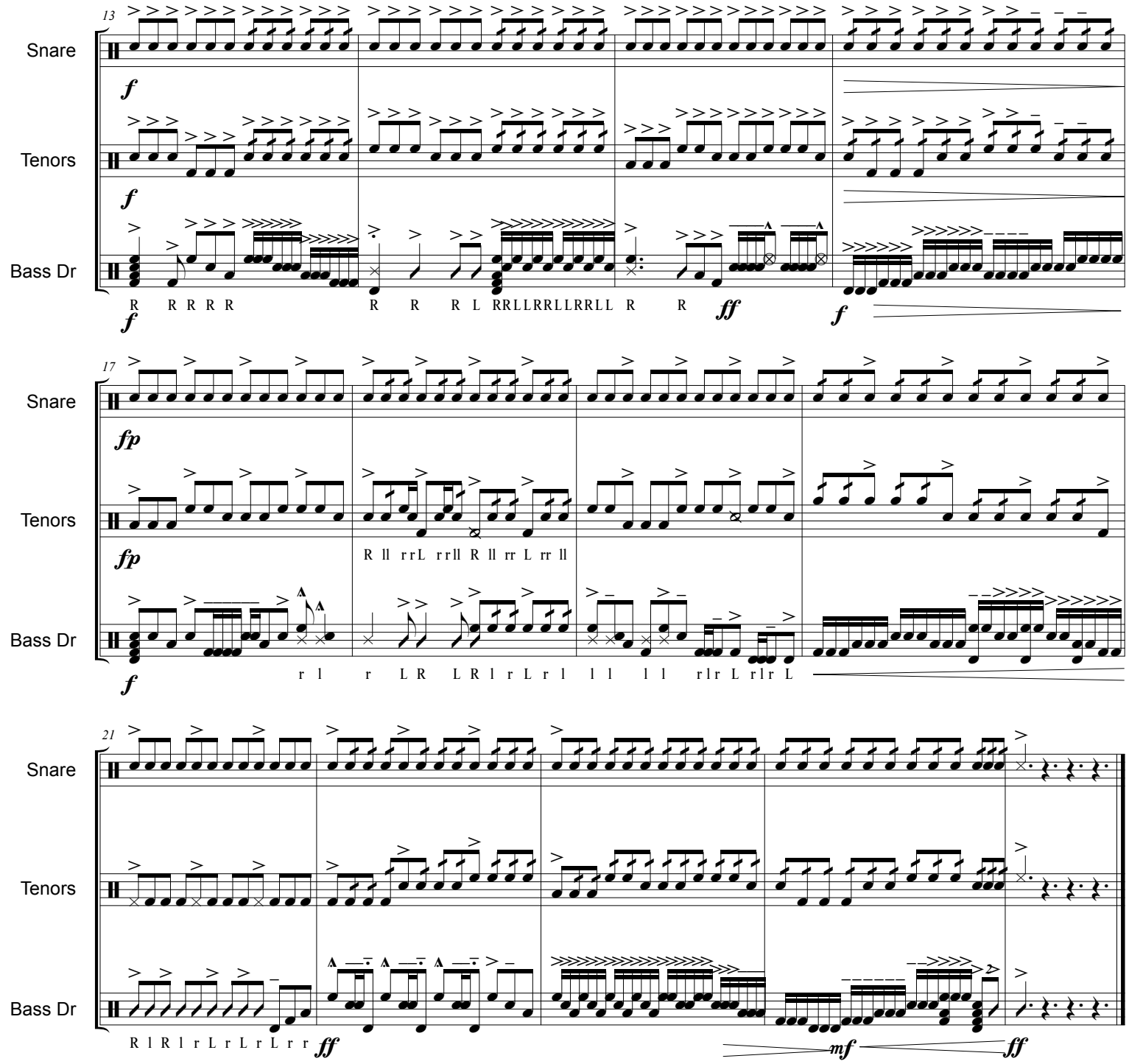
Snare
Tenors
Bass Dr
15
19


23
To Edge
E.
To Center
Snare
Tenors
Bass Dr
27
C.
31
To Edge
35
E.
To Center
C.

SSL 2024

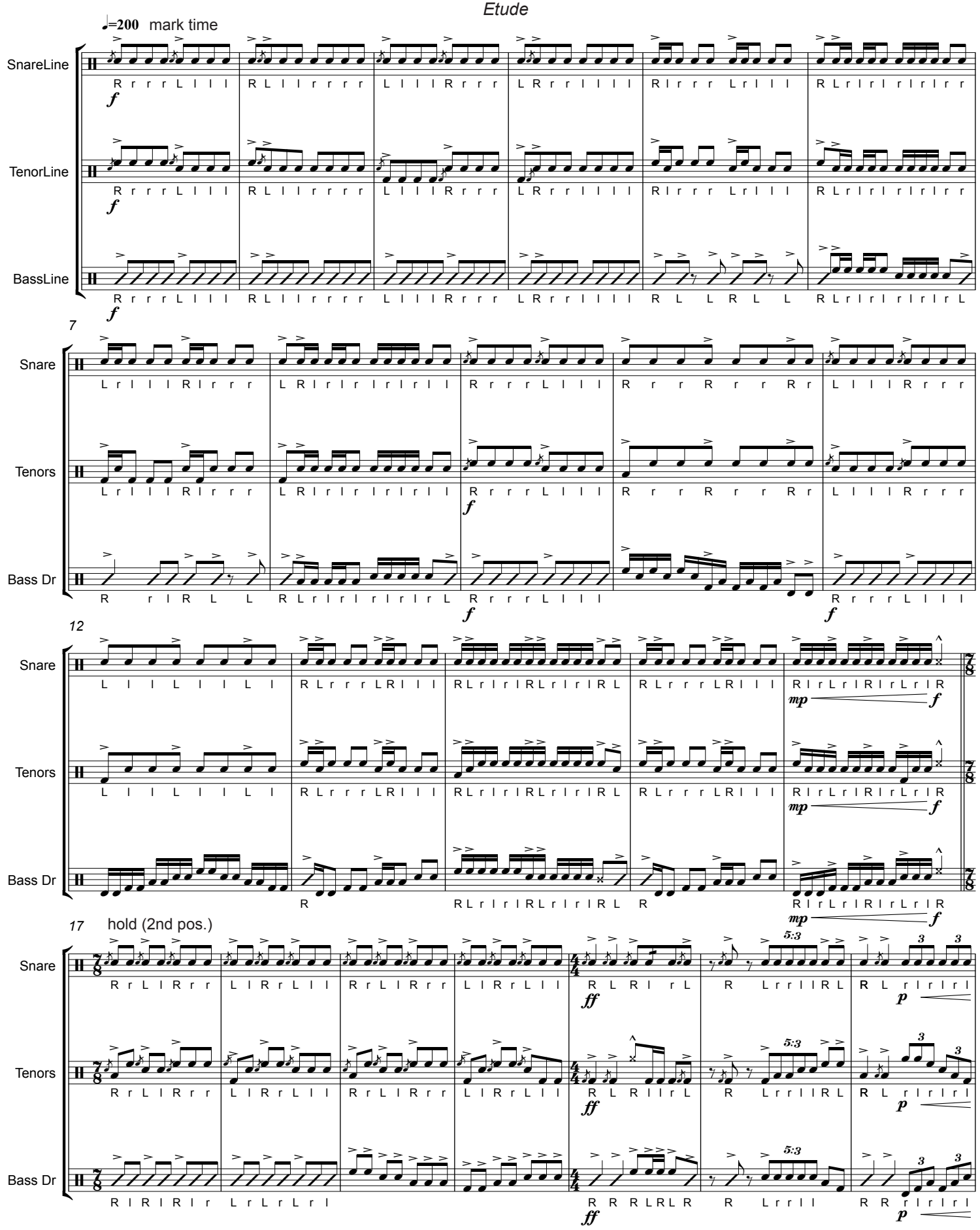
Etude

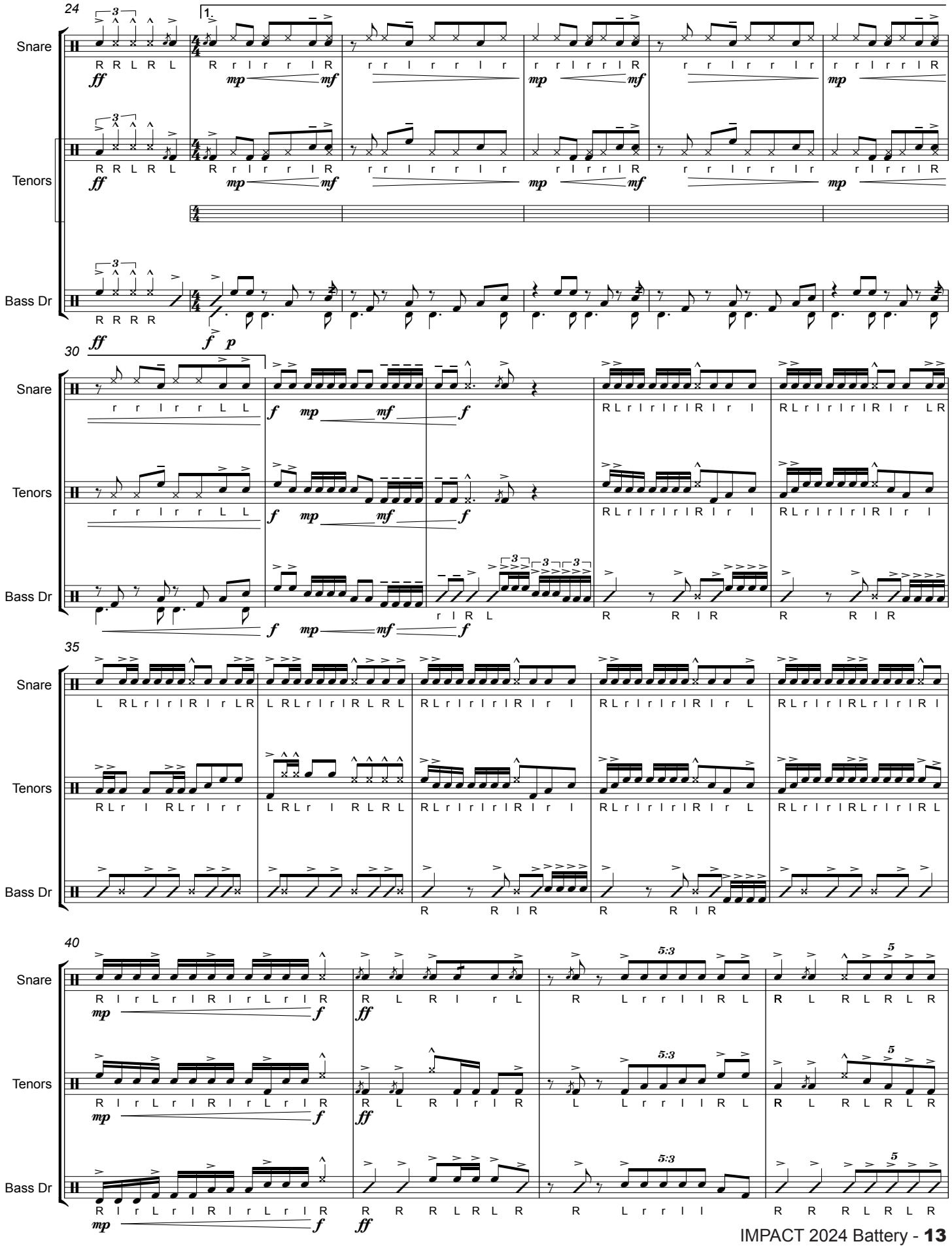



13
Snare
Tenors
Bass Dr
f
R R R R R R R R L RRLLRRLLRRLL R R
ff
17
fp
R ll rrL rrll R ll rr L rr ll
r l r L R L R l r L r l l l l l rlr L rlr L
21
ff
mf
ff

IMPACT Strokes

Etude

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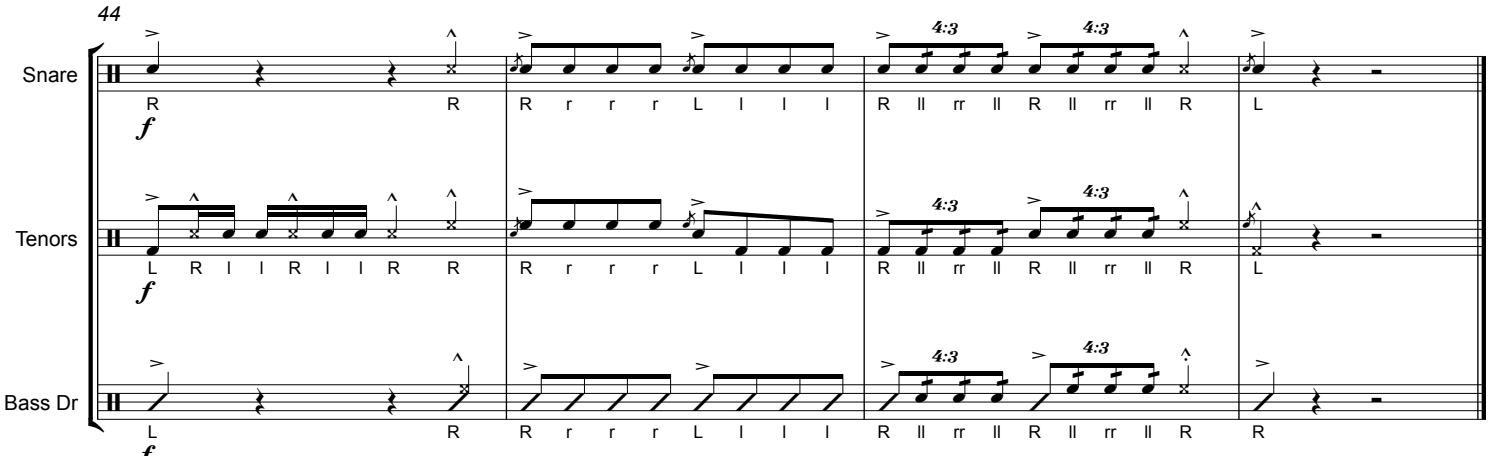
Snare
Tenors
Bass Dr
30
35
40
5:3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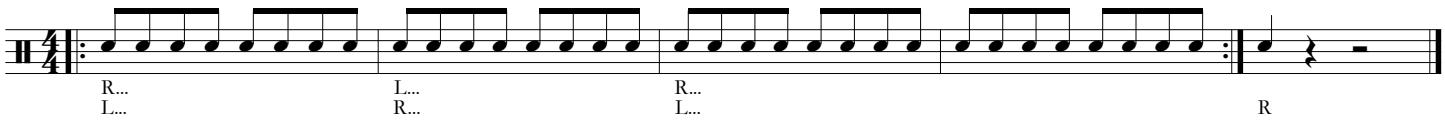
Snare
Tenors
Bass Dr
f
4:3

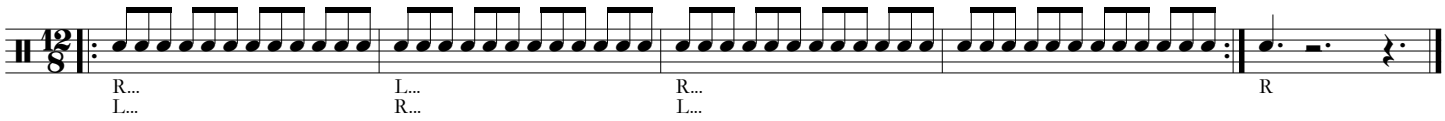
Legato Strokes

Basic Exercises

8-8-16

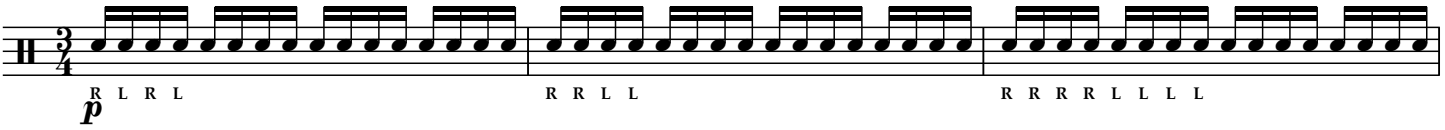


12-12-24



Tap Pyramid

1



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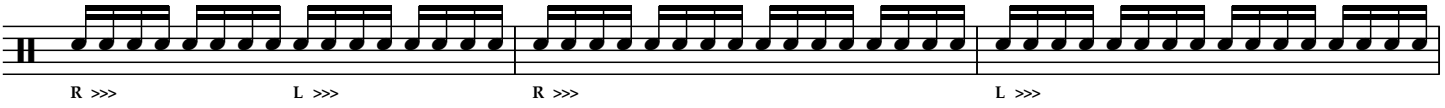

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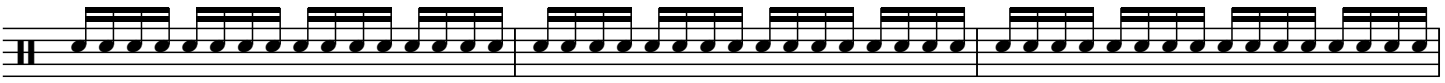

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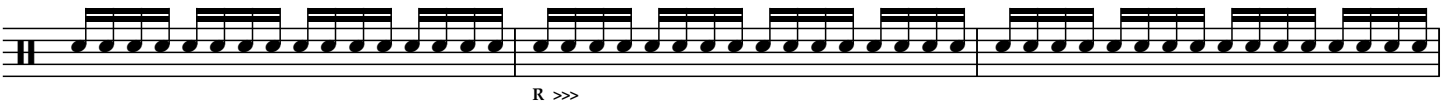

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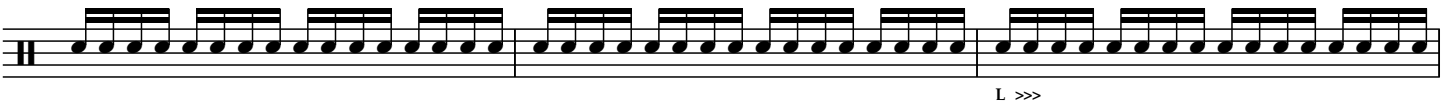
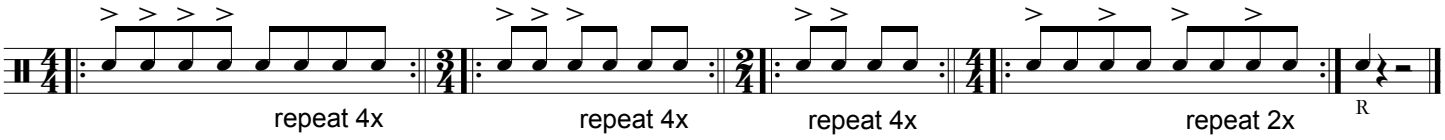


16

Accent/Tap

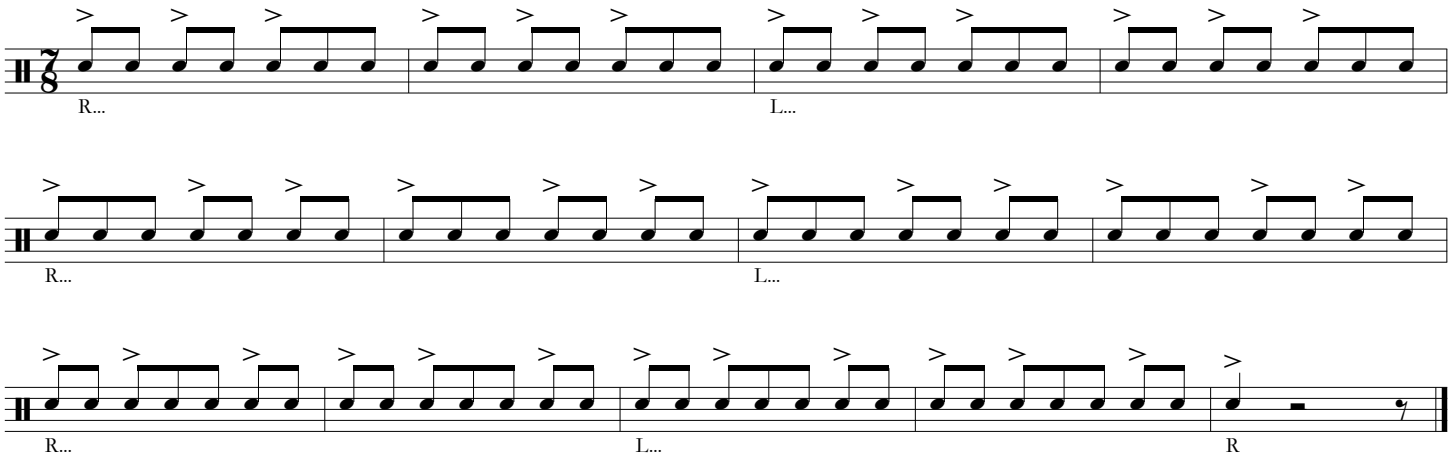
Basic Exercises

4-3-2-1

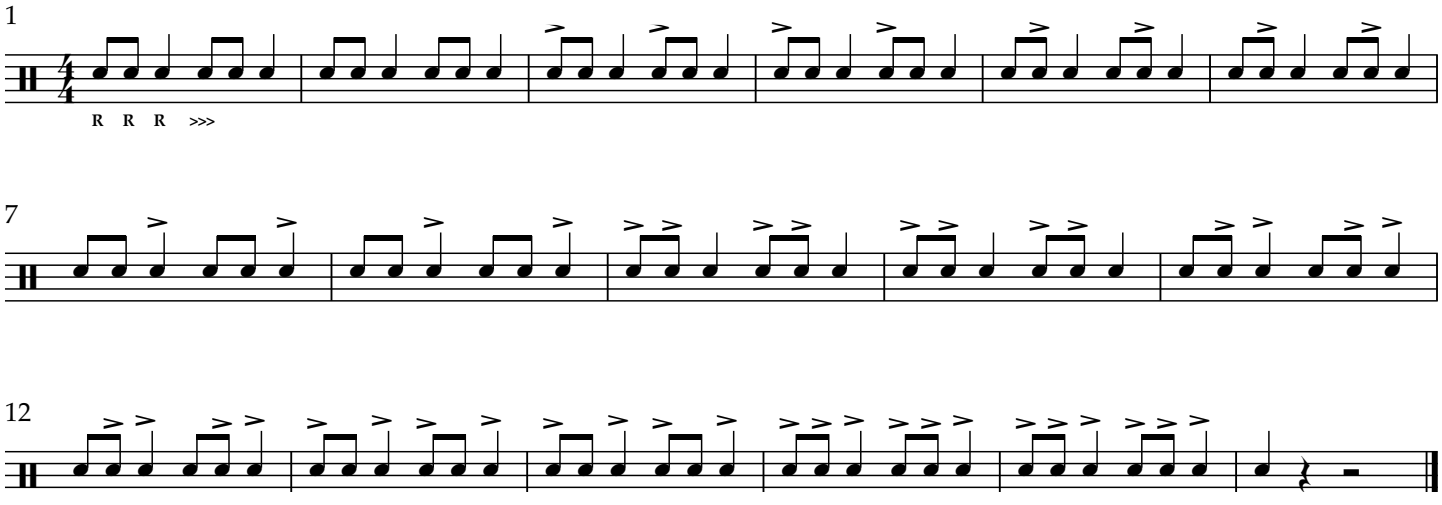


Play all 4 bars on right hand, then loop back and play all on left hand. Release on right hand.

7/8 Bucks



Vitamins

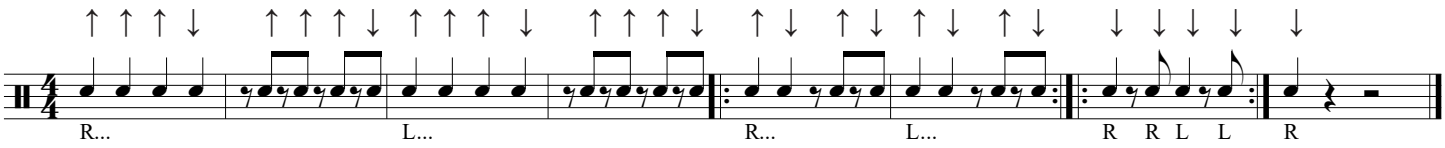


Play all on right hand, all on left hand, and with double stops.

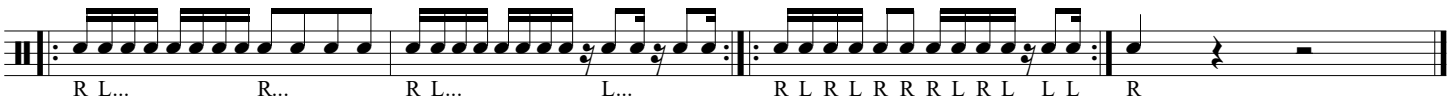
Timing

Basic Exercises

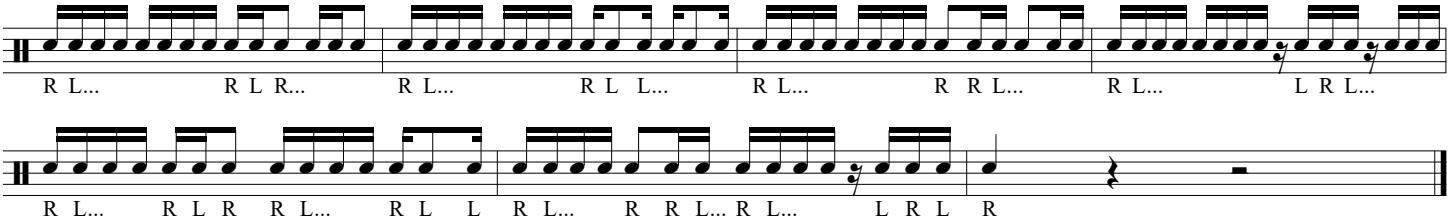
Downbeat/Upbeat Timing Breakdown



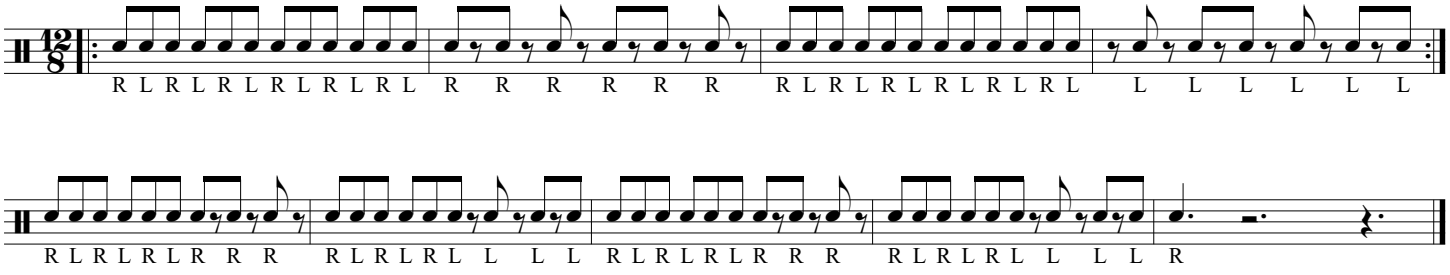
Duple 1-Note Timing



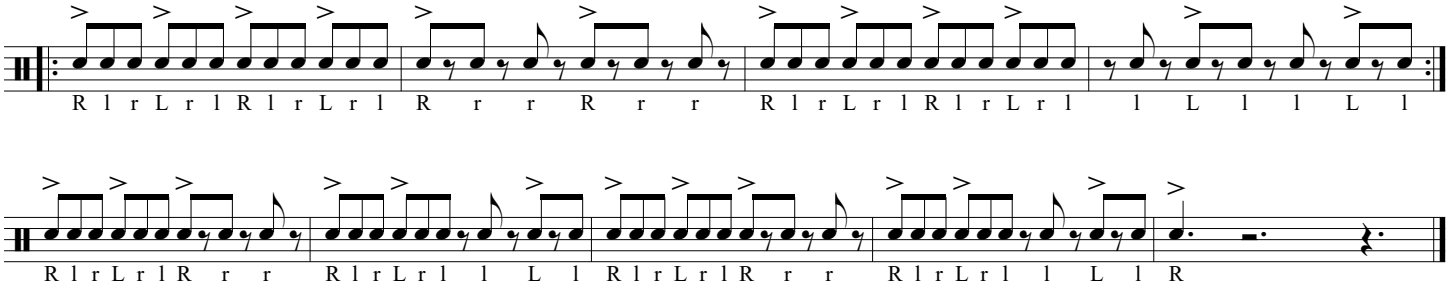
Duple 3-Note Timing



Triplet 1-Note Timing



Triplet 1-Note Timing Accent

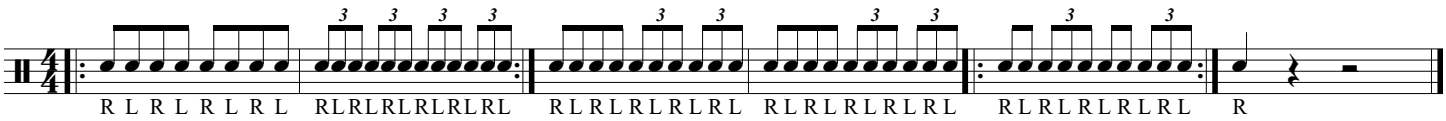


Modulation

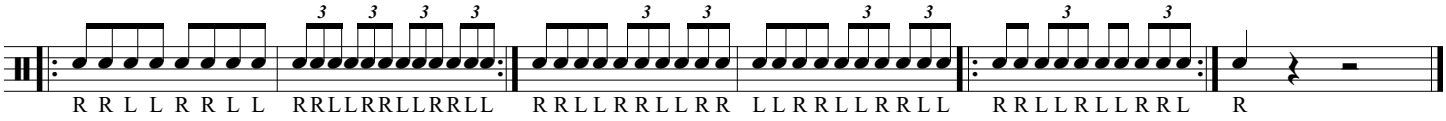
Basic Exercises

Duple-Triple Modulation

Alternating Sticking

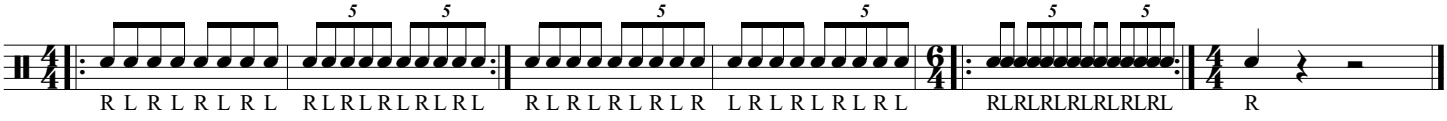


Doubled Sticking

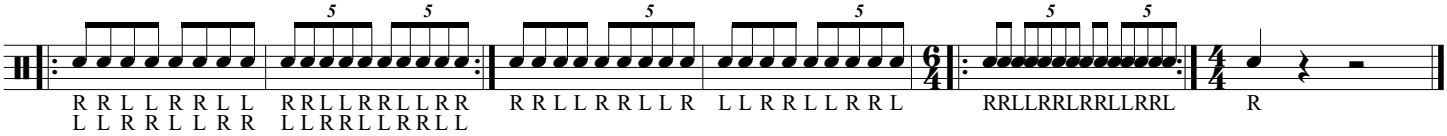


Duple-Five Modulation

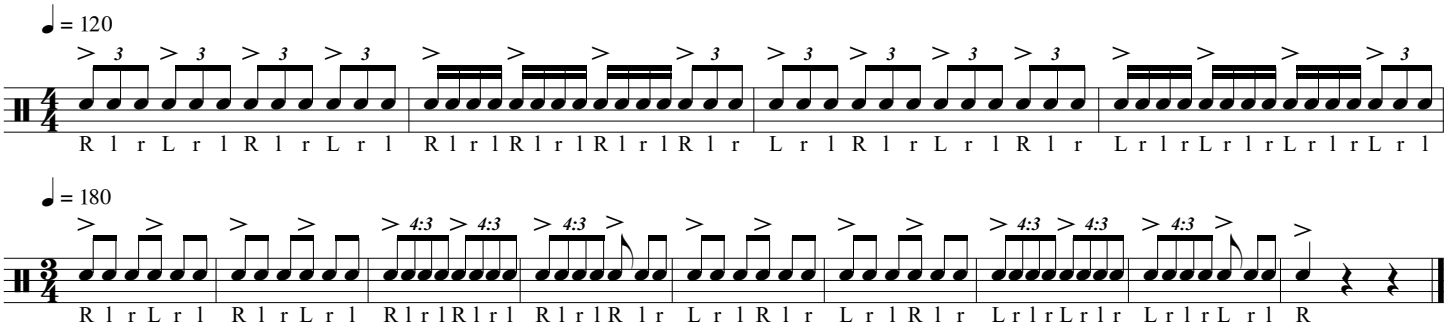
Alternating Sticking



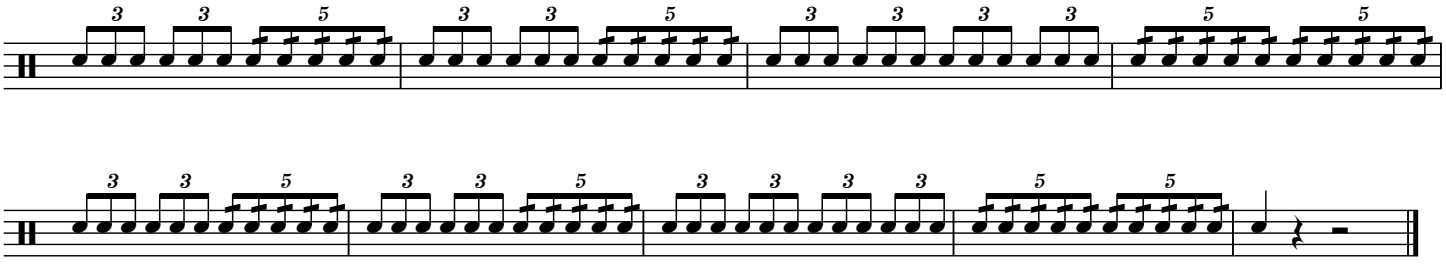
Doubled Sticking



4-let Modulation



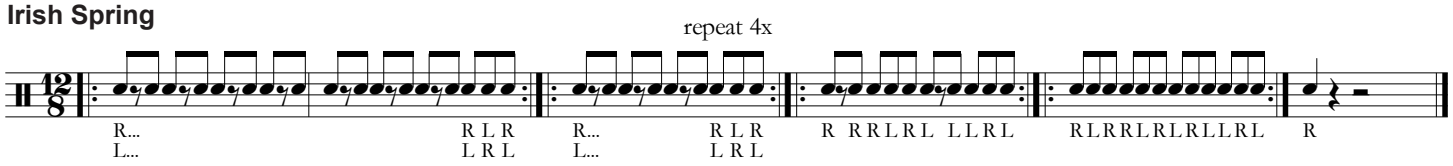
Triplet-Fivelet Roll Modulation



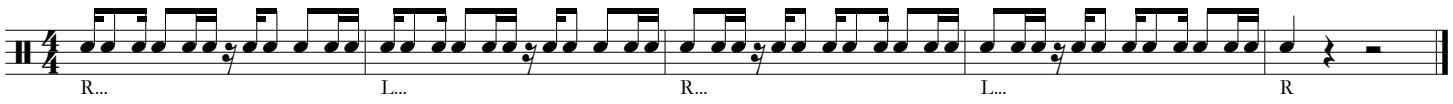
Multiple Bounce Strokes

Basic Exercises

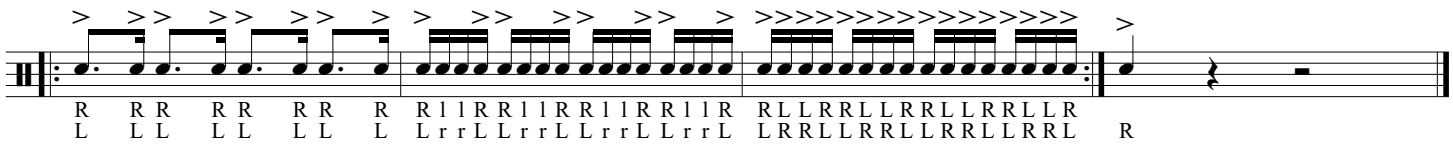
Irish Spring



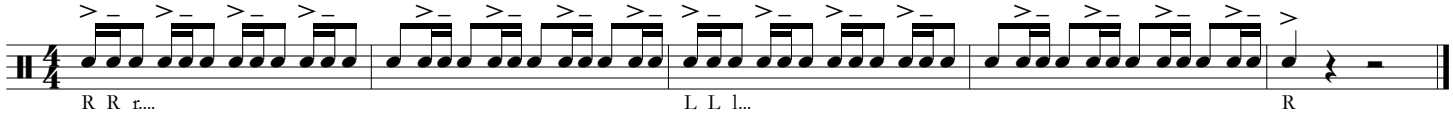
Duple Beat



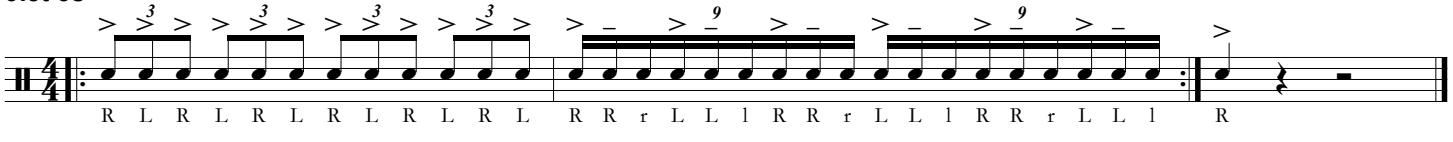
Samson (Inverted Doubles)



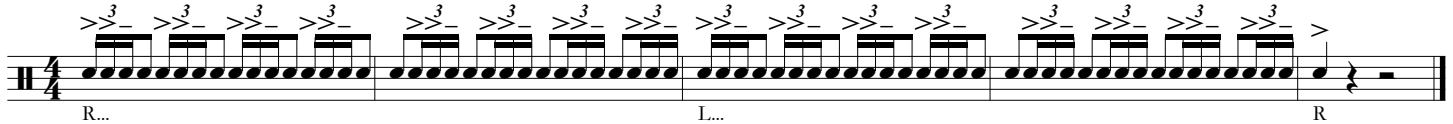
Triple Beat



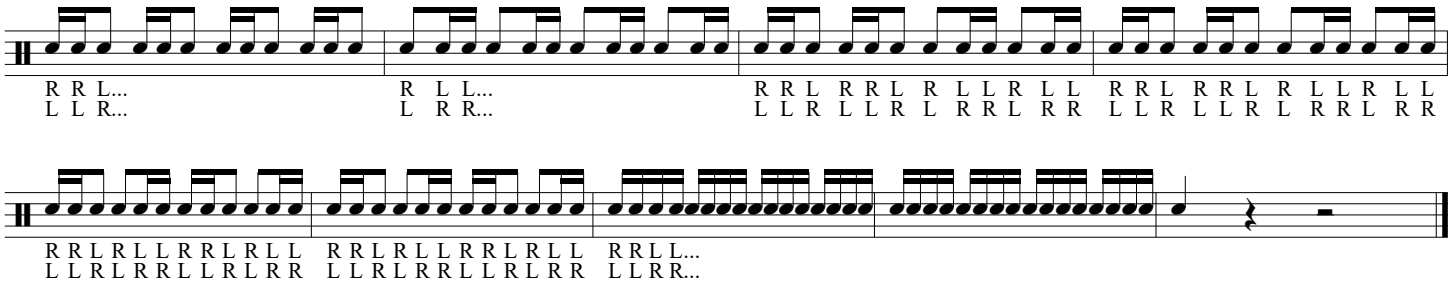
9let 3s



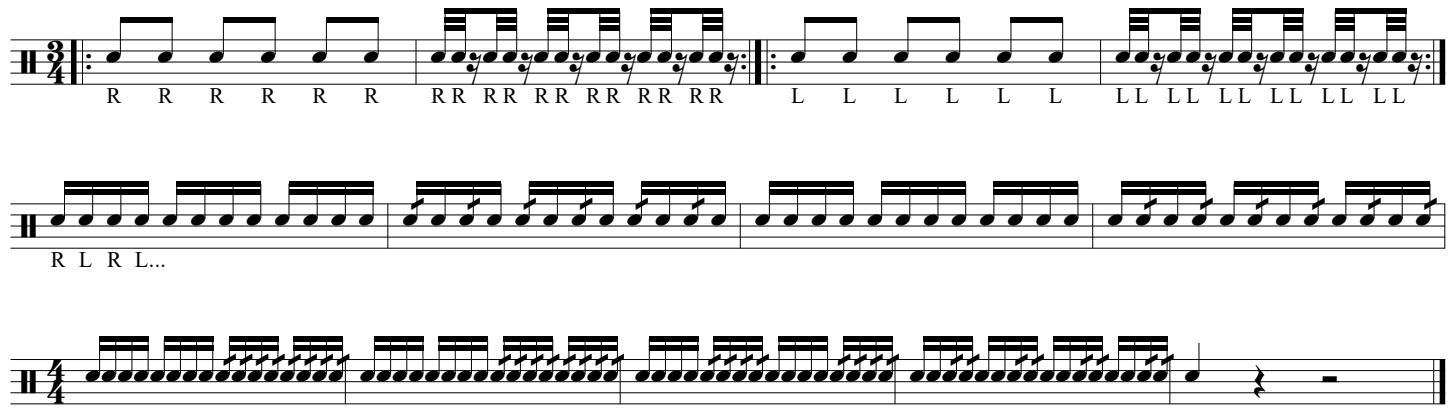
Quadruple Beat



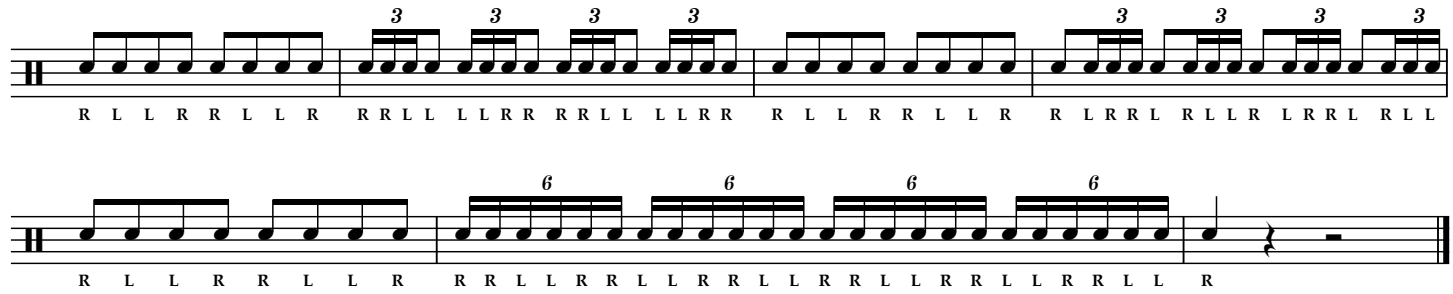
Gallop (Duple Diddles)



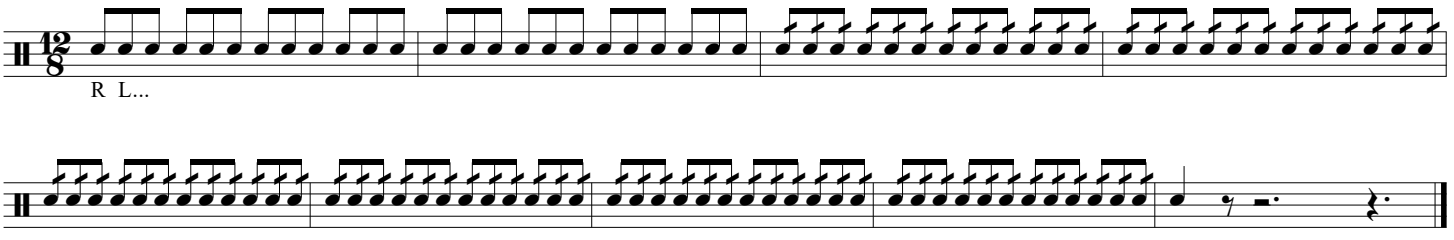
Dig-gits



Triplet Roll Builder



8 and 25

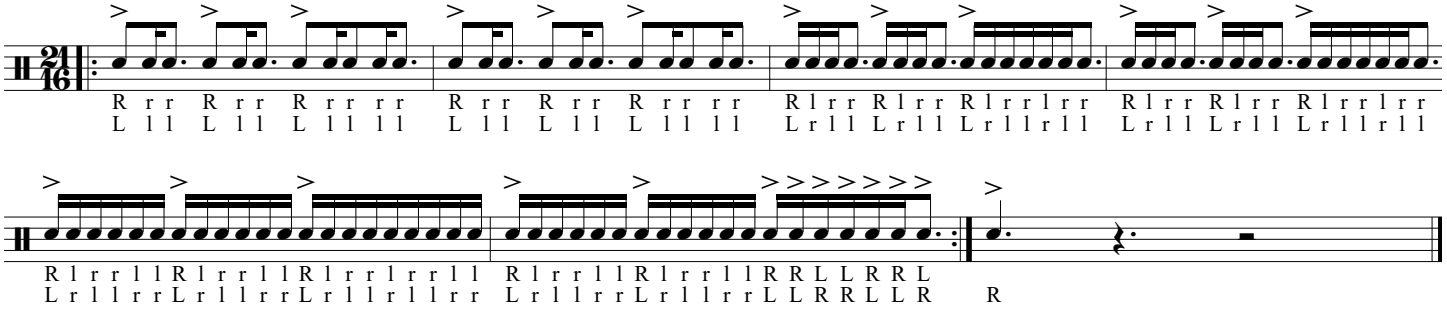


Paradiddles

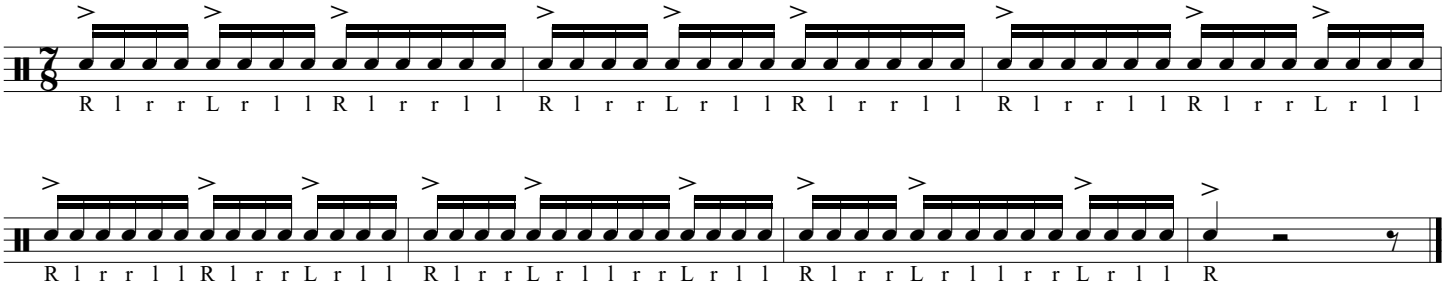
Basic Exercises

Paradiddle Builder

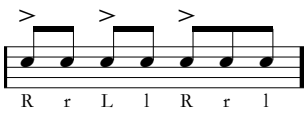
7/8 Gusseck Paradiddle



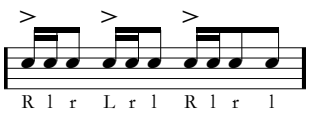
7/8 Paradiddle



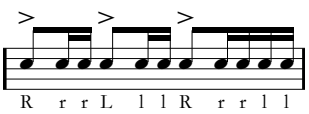
Check



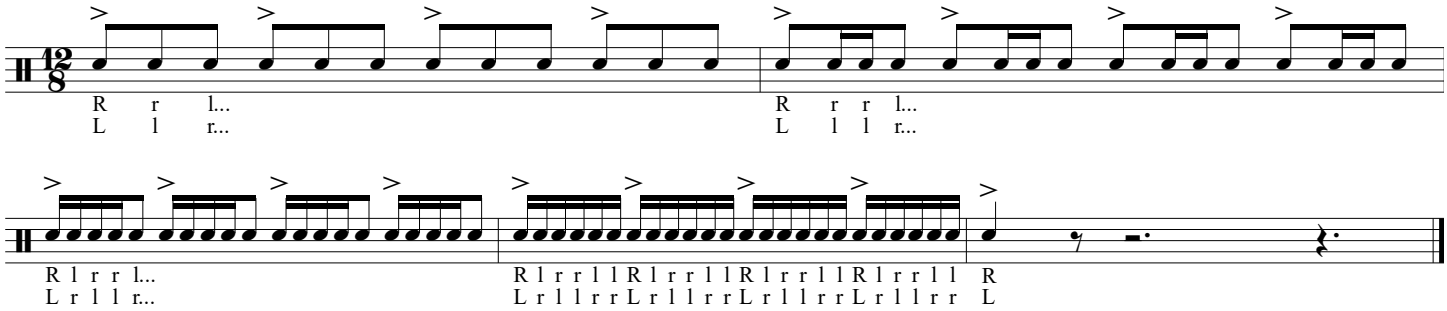
Primer 1



Primer 2



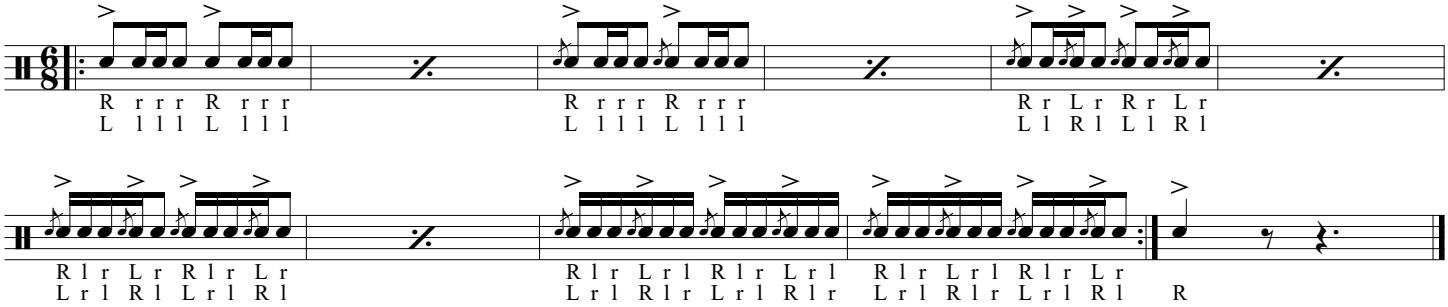
Triplet Paradiddle Flow



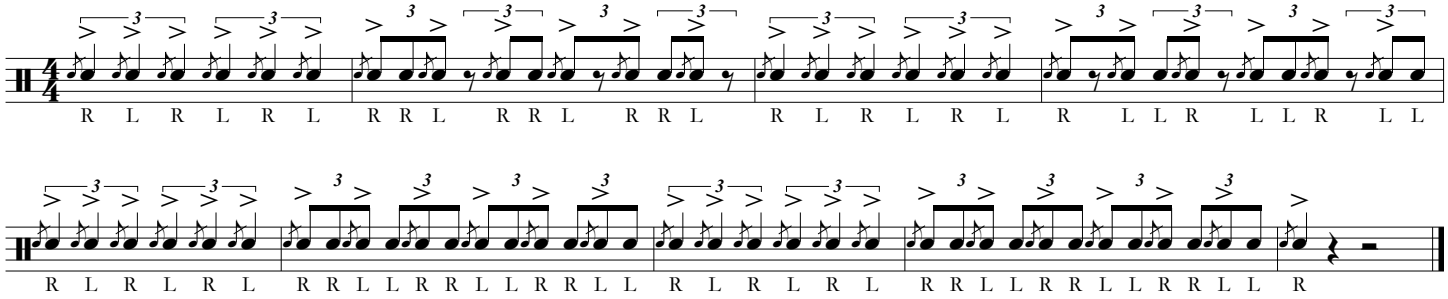
Flams

Basic Exercises

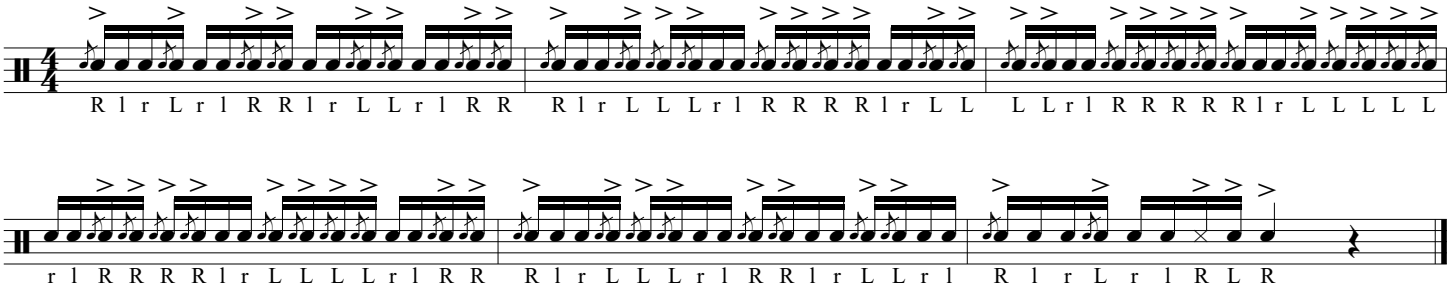
Flam Accent Breakdown



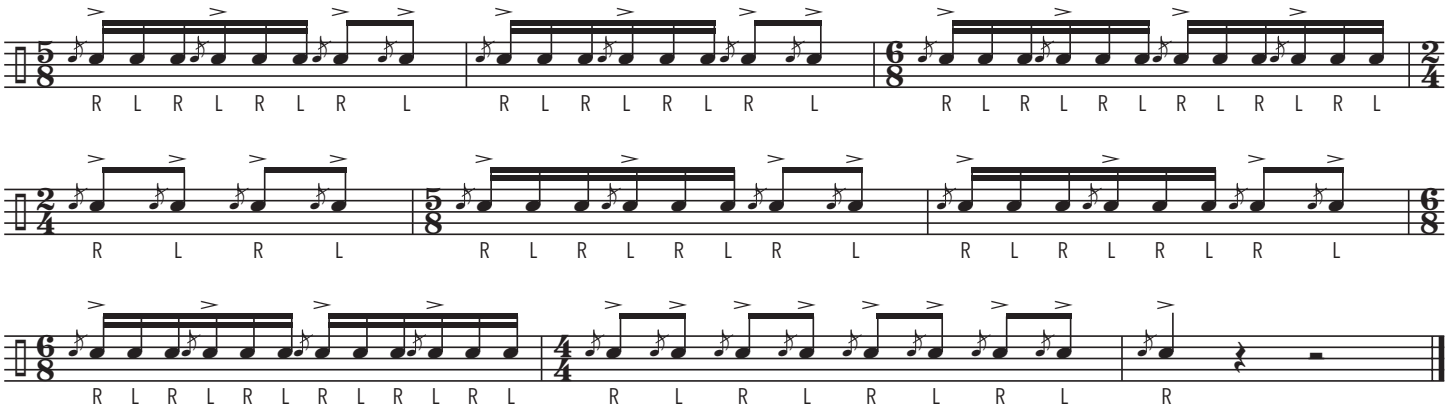
Flam Tap Breakdown



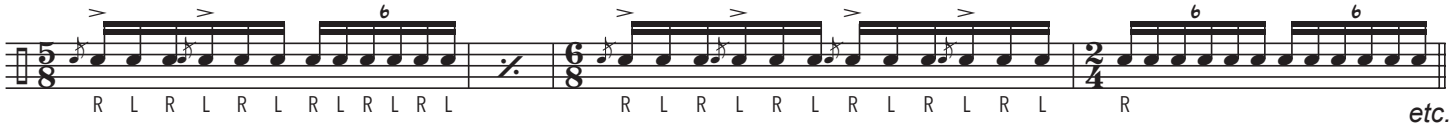
Add-a-Flam



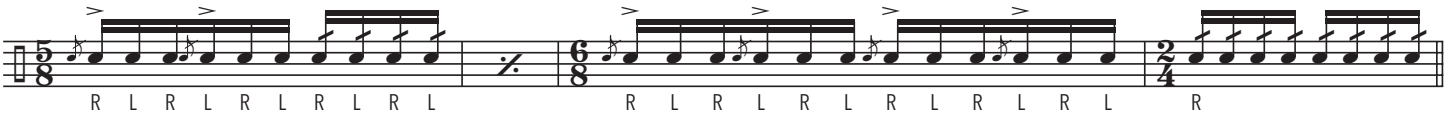
Chuggada - Stock Pattern



Chuggada - Singles

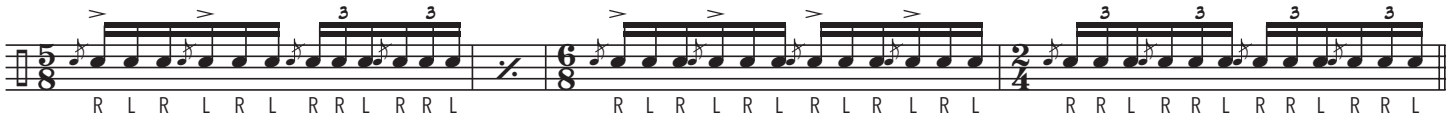


Chuggada - Rolls

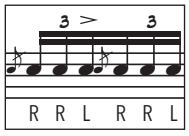


Chuggada - Flam Taps

Chuggada - Swiss Triplets



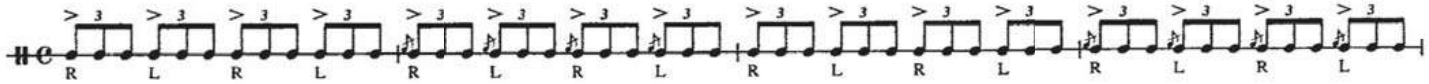
Can also be played w/ LH kick →



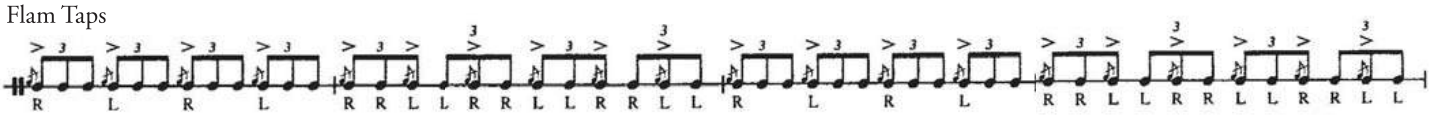
Flam Rudiment Sheet

Basic Exercises

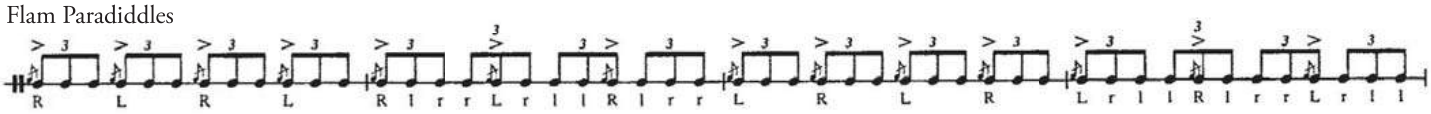
Flam Accents



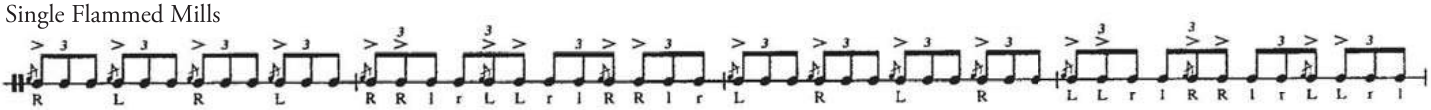
Flam Taps



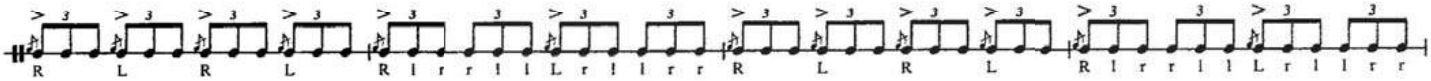
Flam Paradiddles



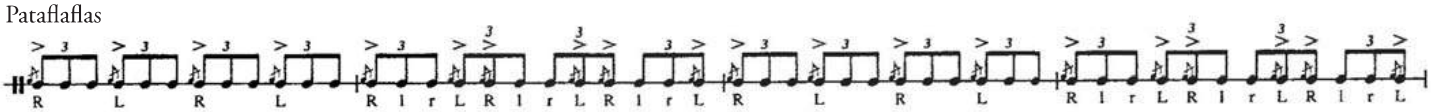
Single Flammed Mills



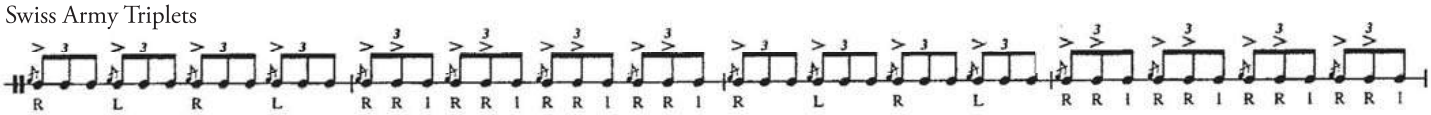
Flam Paradiddle-diddles



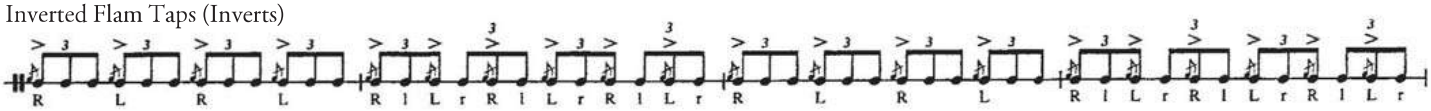
Pataflaflas



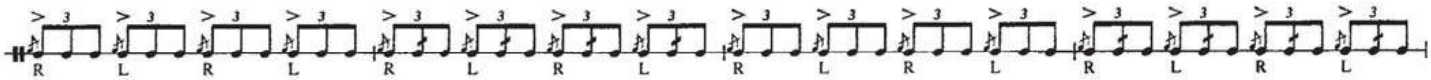
Swiss Army Triplets



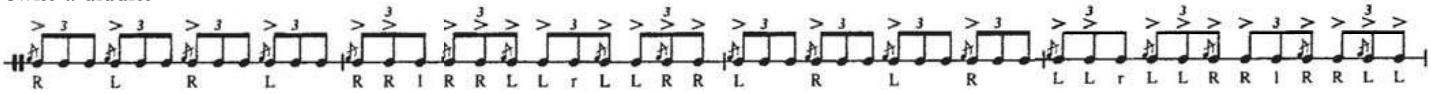
Inverted Flam Taps (Inverts)



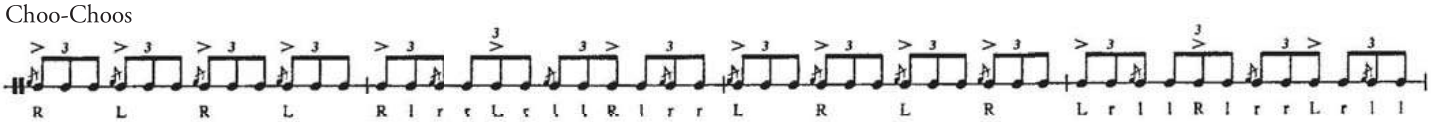
Flam Drags



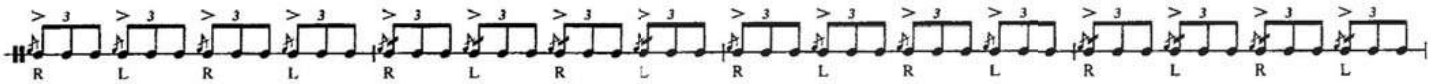
Swiss-a-diddles



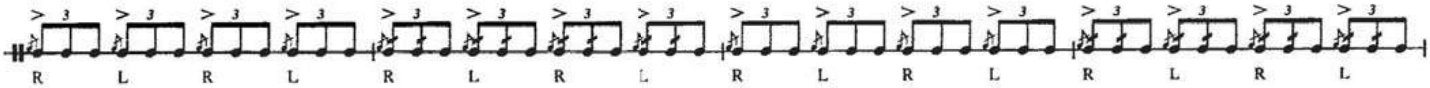
Choo-Choos



Cheeses

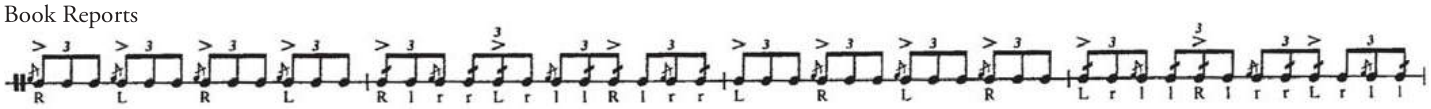


Flam 5s

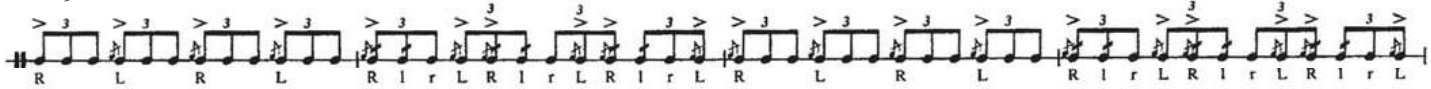


Flam Rudiment Sheet - Page 2

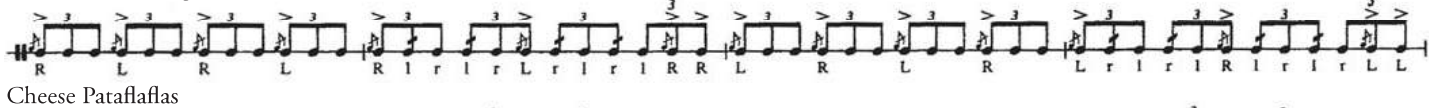
Book Reports



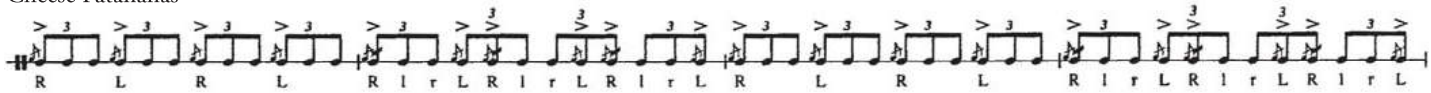
Flam 5 Pataflaflas



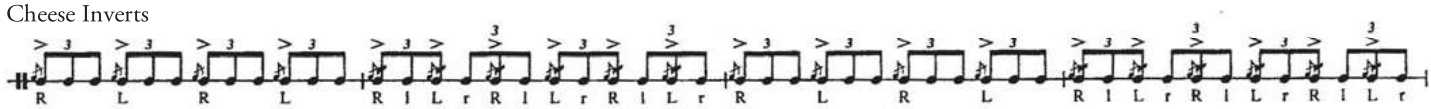
Double Flam Drags



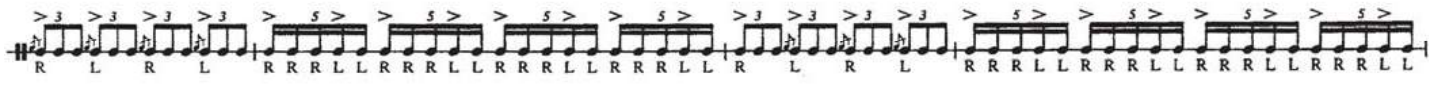
Cheese Pataflaflas



Cheese Inverts



Eggbeaters

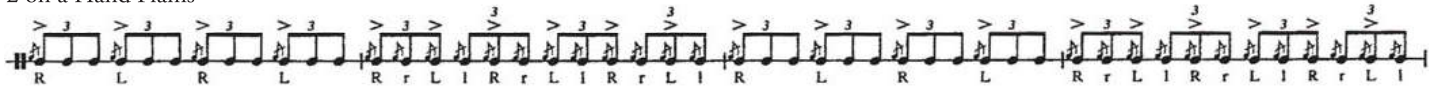


Chuda-chas

Cheese Chuda-chas

3 on a Hand Flams

2 on a Hand Flams

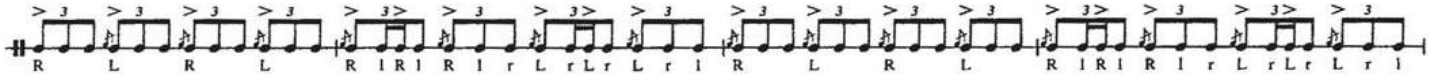


Hand to Hand Flams

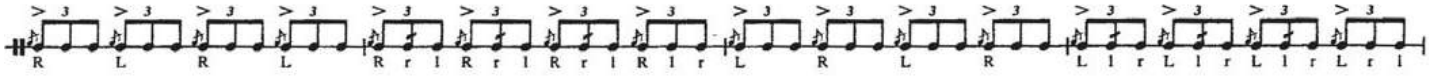
Tacha-das

Ta-cha-da Drags

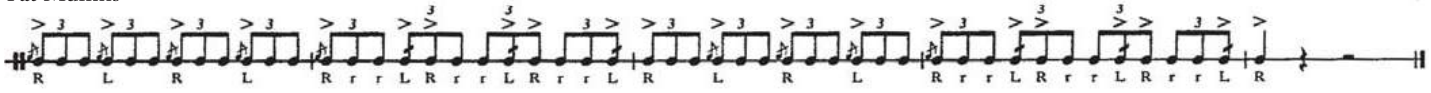
Cheesy Poofs (2 over 3)



Swiss Army Drags



Fat Muffins

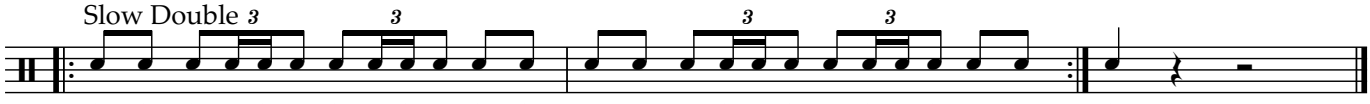


Independence

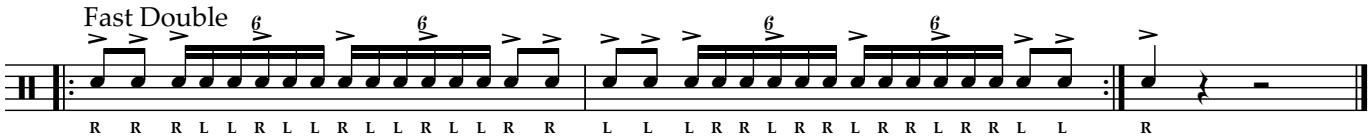
Basic Exercises

Singles

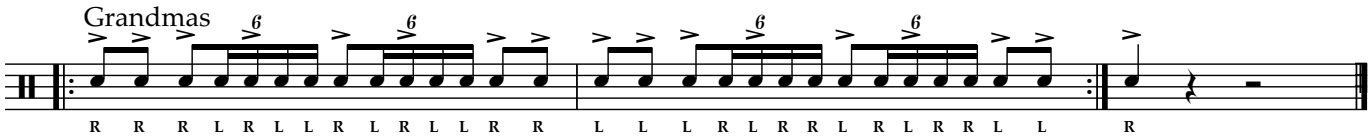
Slow Double



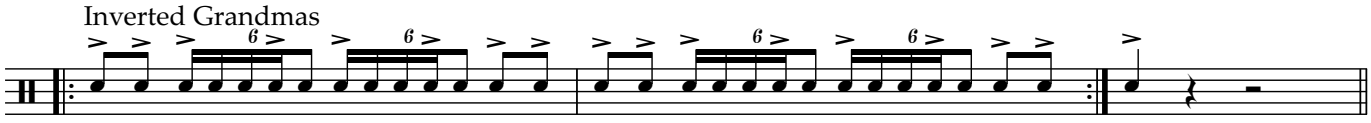
Fast Double



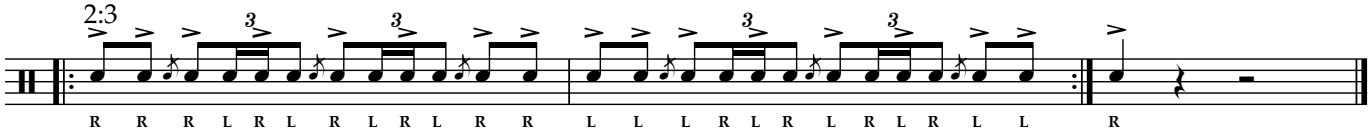
Grandmas



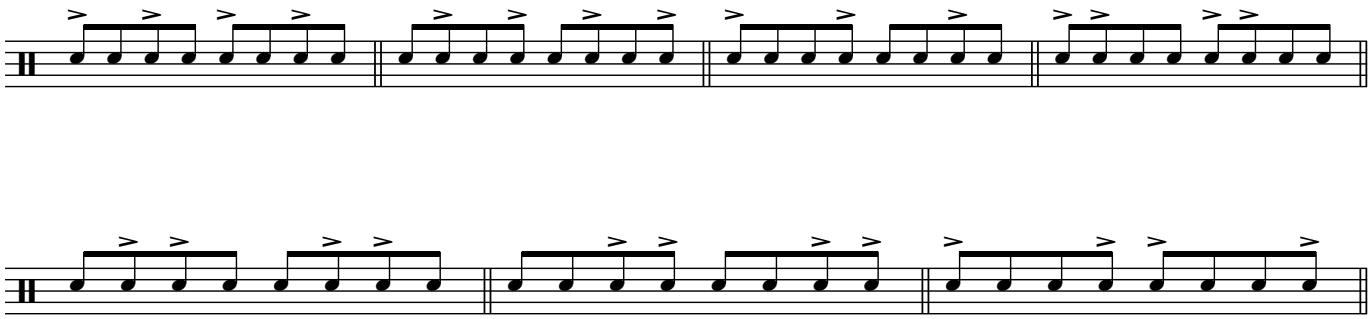
Inverted Grandmas



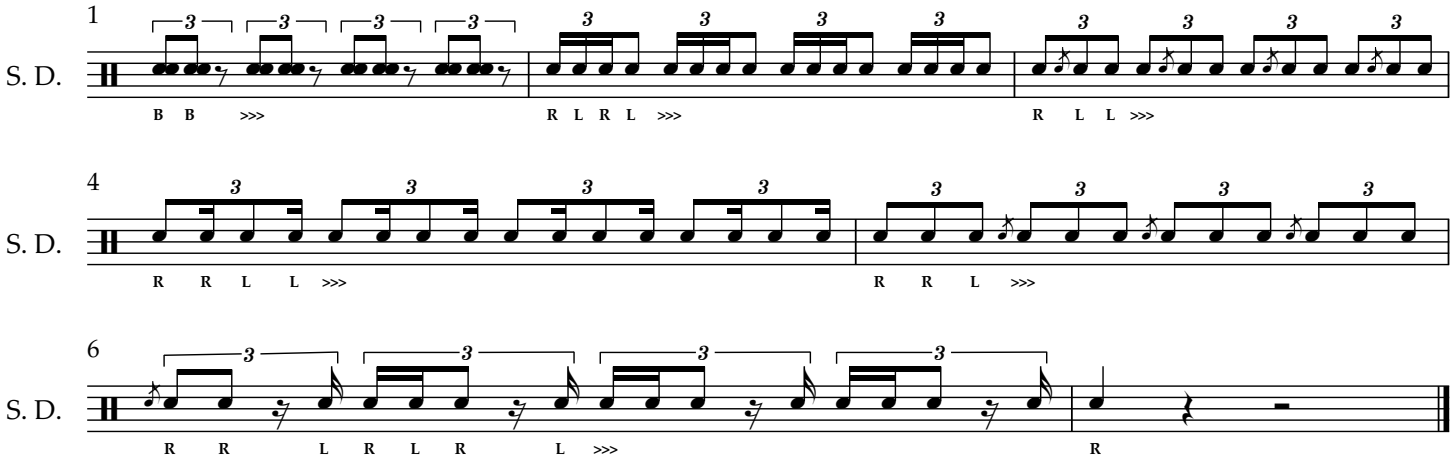
2:3



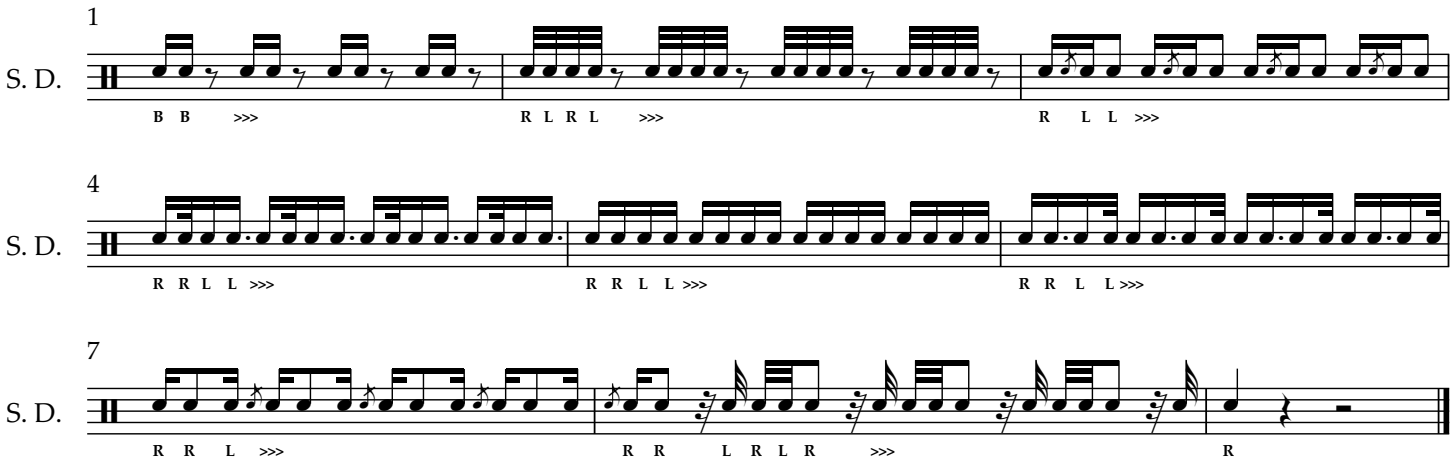
Some accent patterns to try with each variation



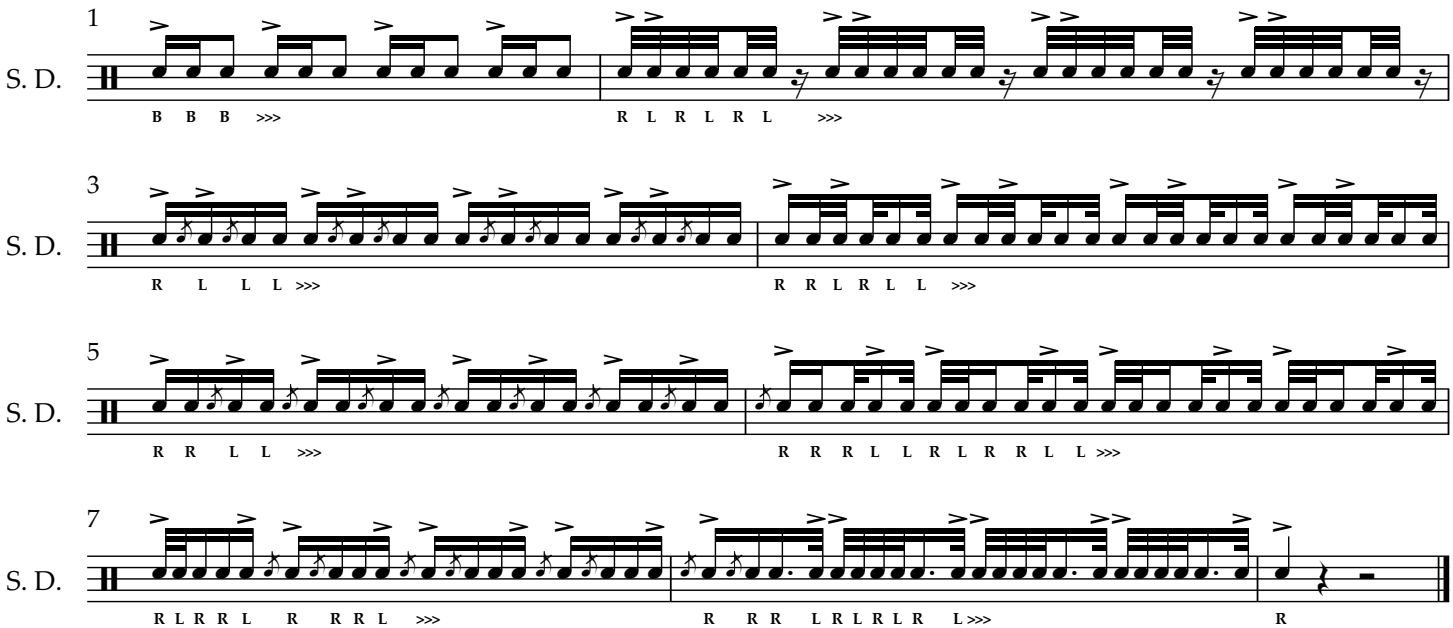
Triplet Double Stroke Independence



16th Double Stroke Independence



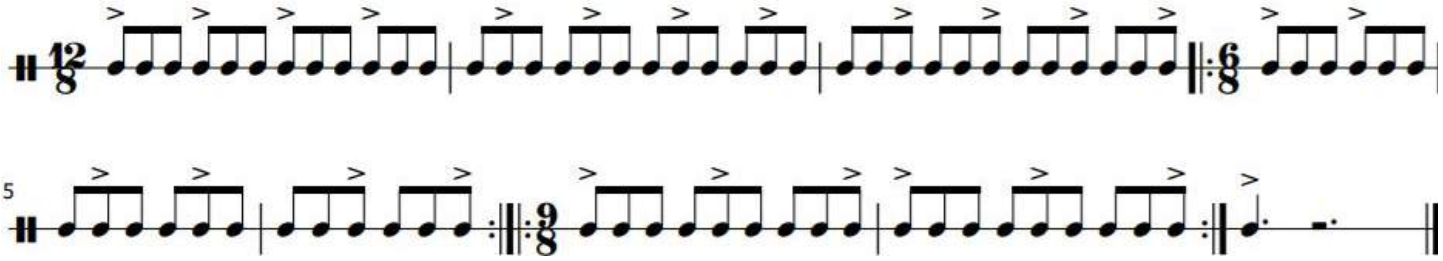
Triple Stroke Independence



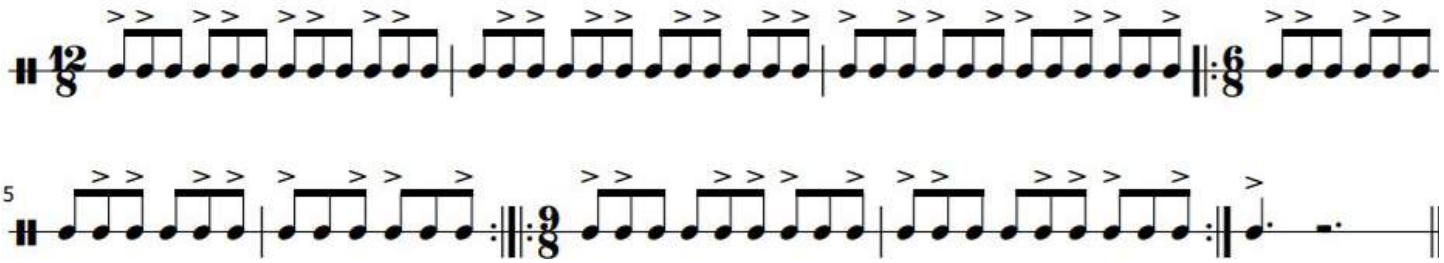
Grids

Basic Exercises

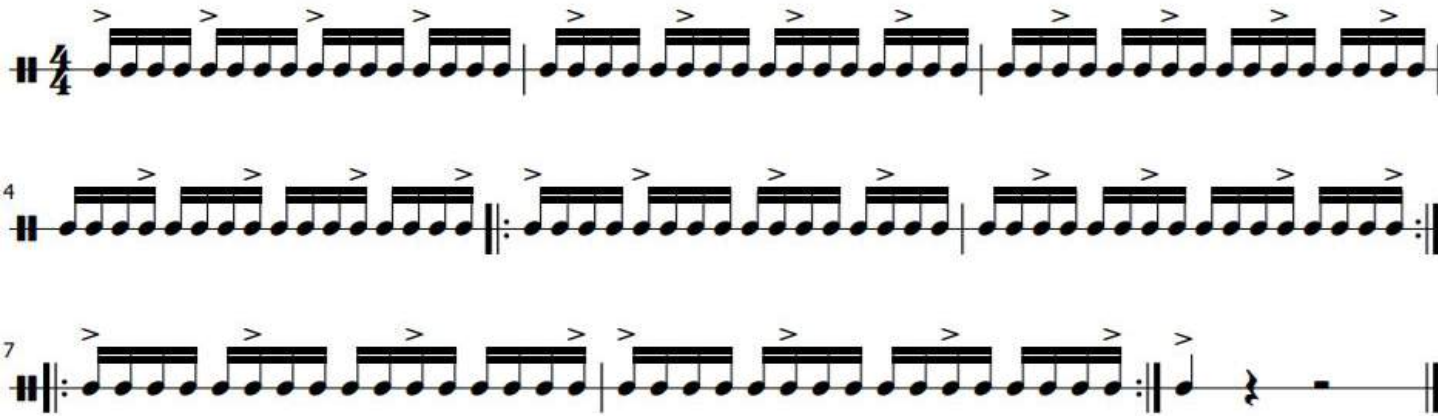
Triplet Grid - 1 Note Accent



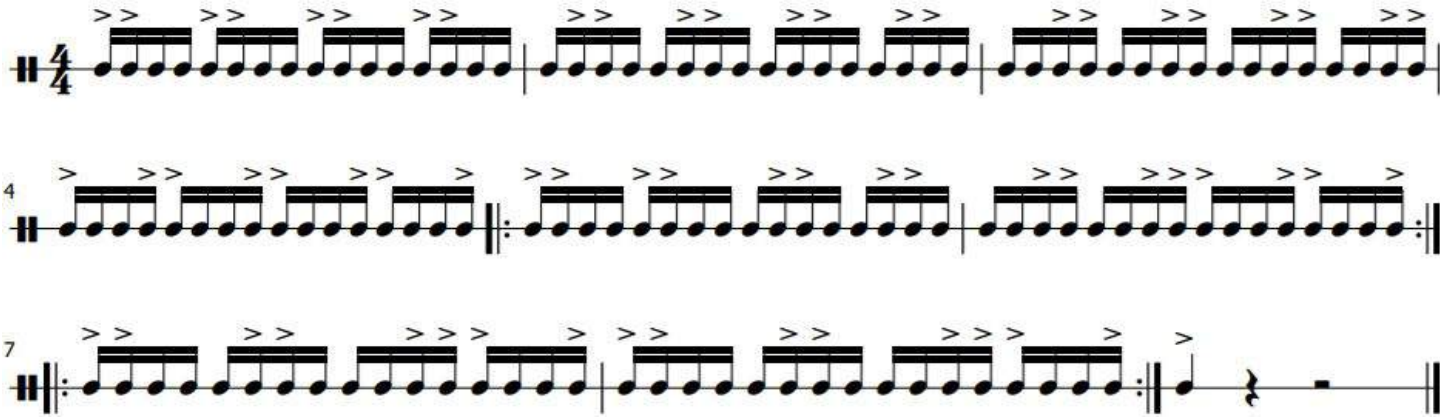
Triplet Grid - 2 Note Accent



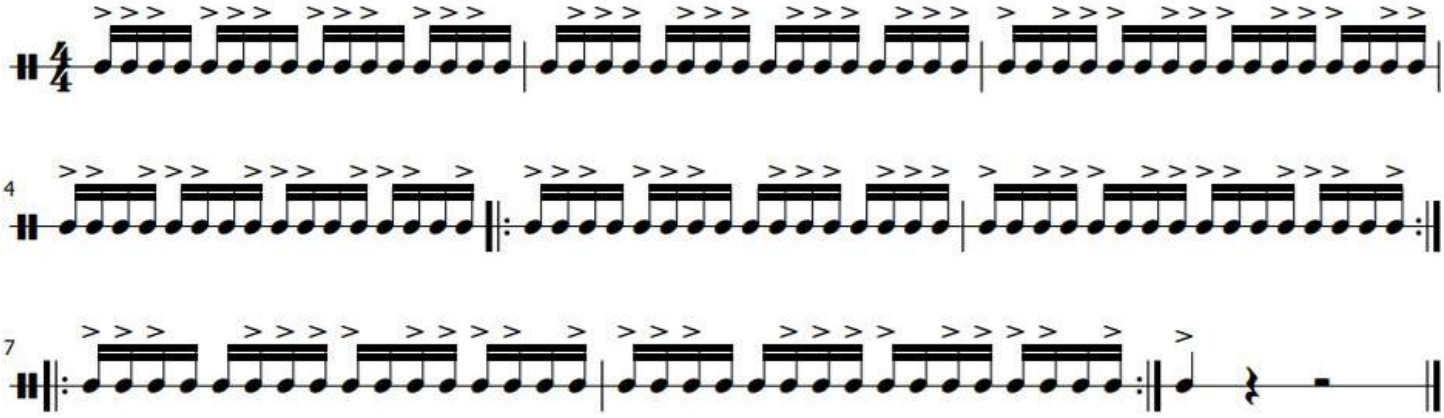
16th Grid - 1 Note Accent



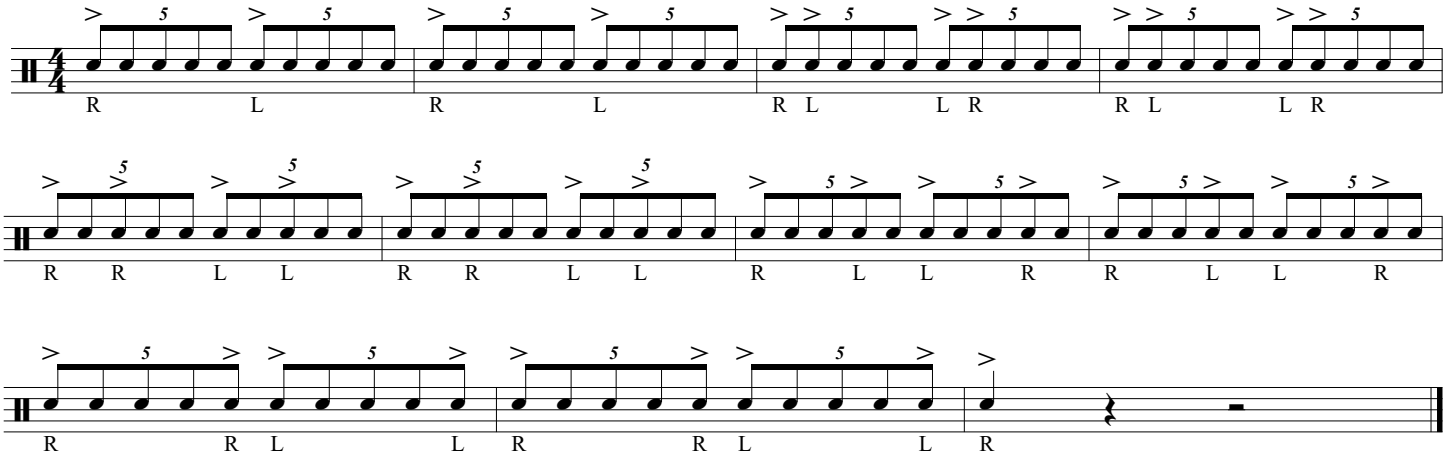
16th Grid - 2 Note Accent



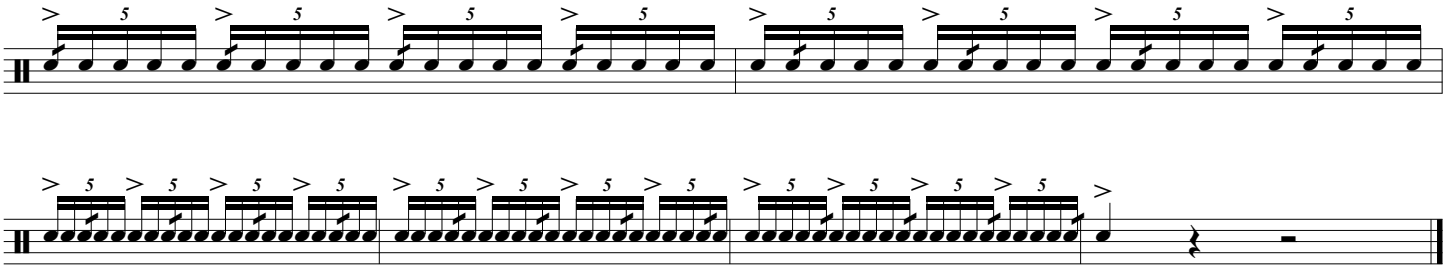
16th Grid - 3 Note Accent



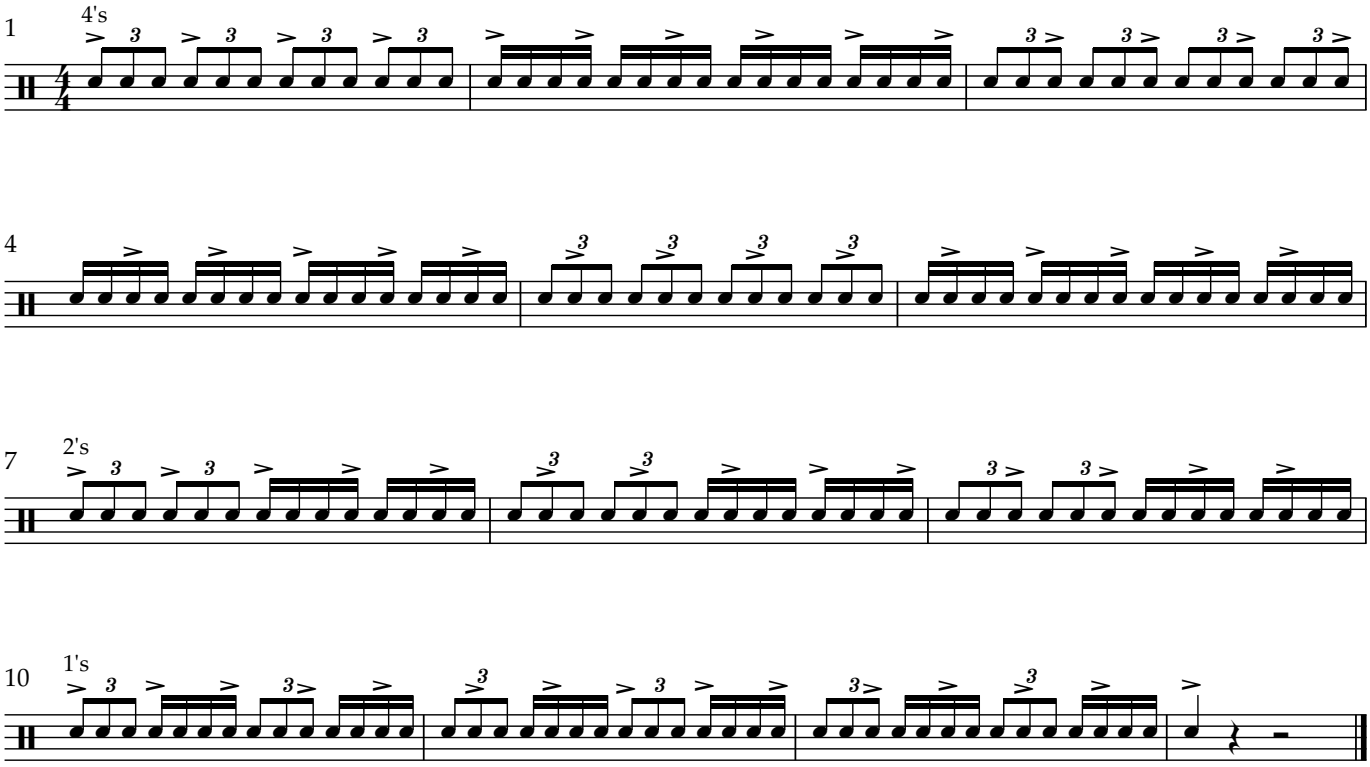
5-let Grid



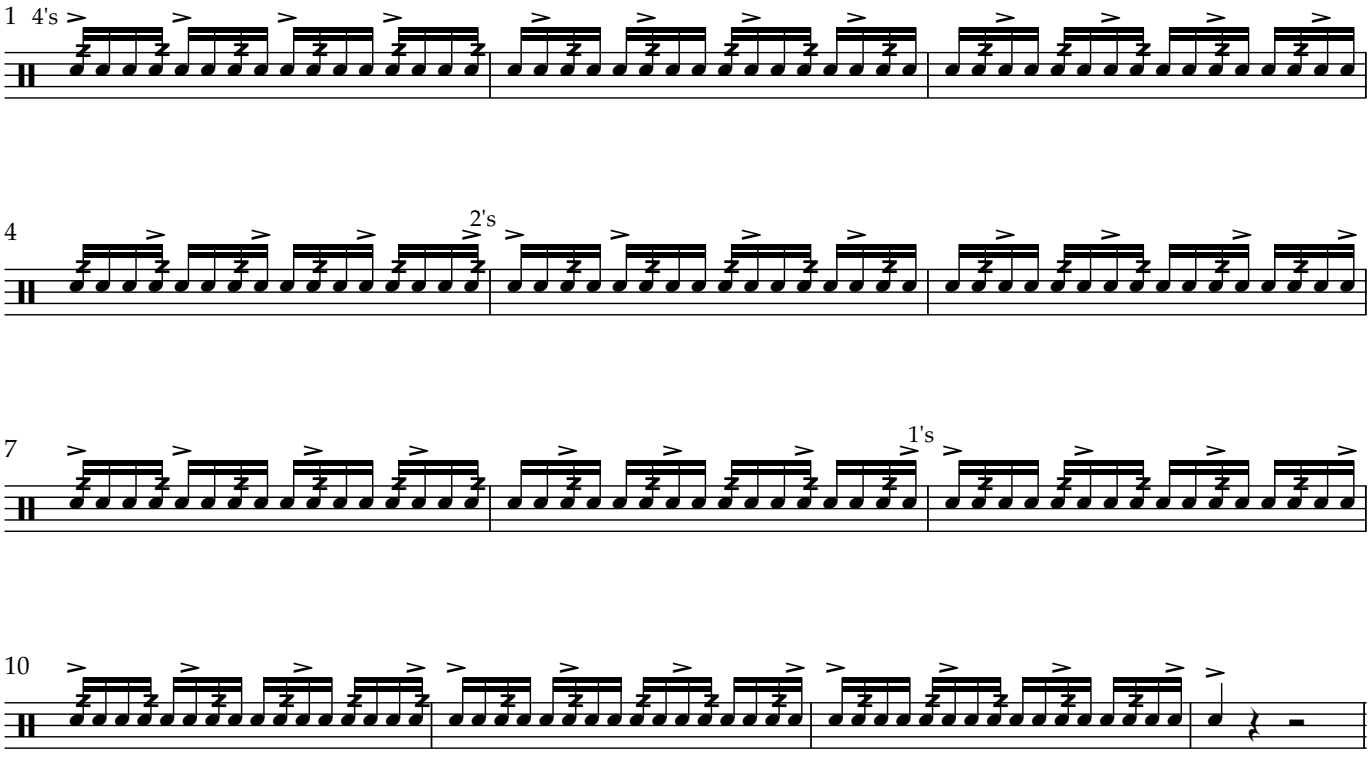
5-let with Traveling Diddle



Triplet - 16th Grid

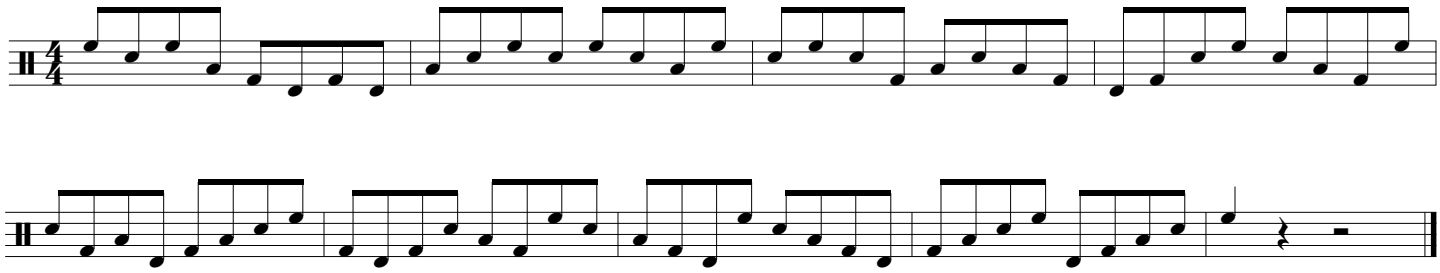


3:4 Grid



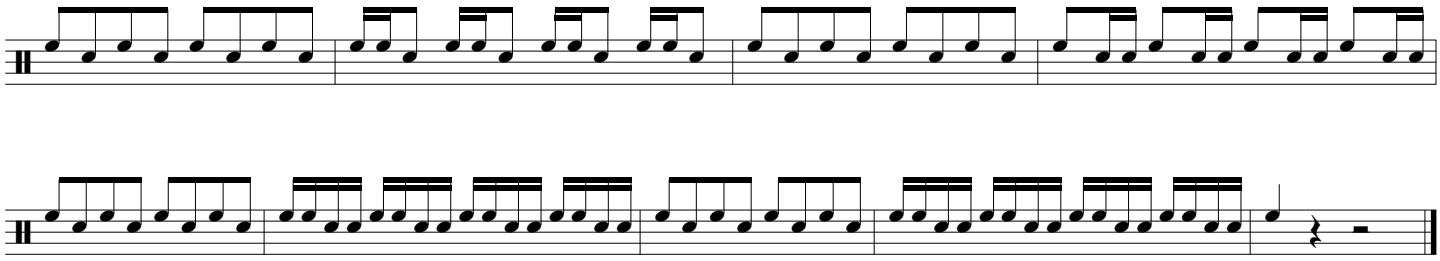
2024 Bass Exercises

8s Split



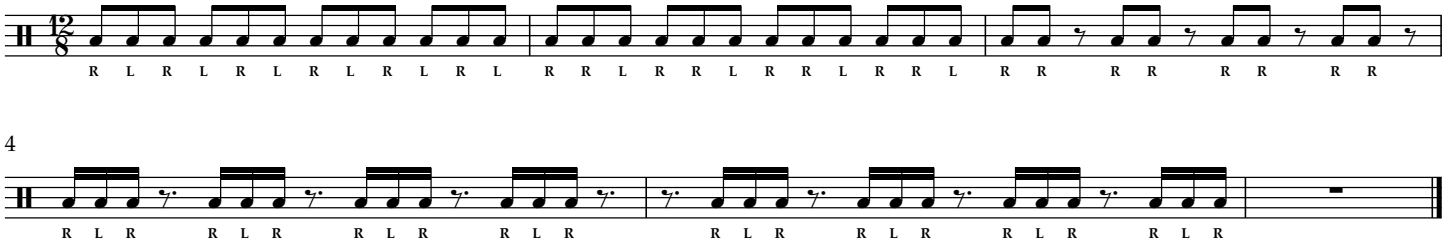
Play with 1s, double stop 1s, 2s, 3s, double stop 2s, and 4s.

Two-Person Flow

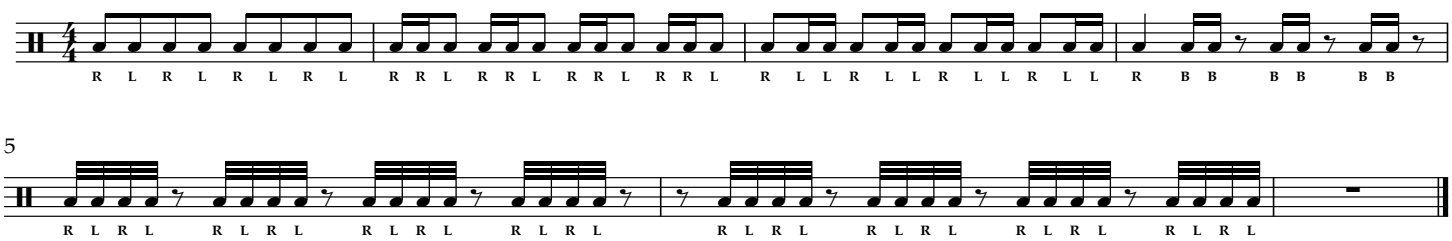


This is written with 2s. You can also play it with 3s, double stop 2s, and 4s.

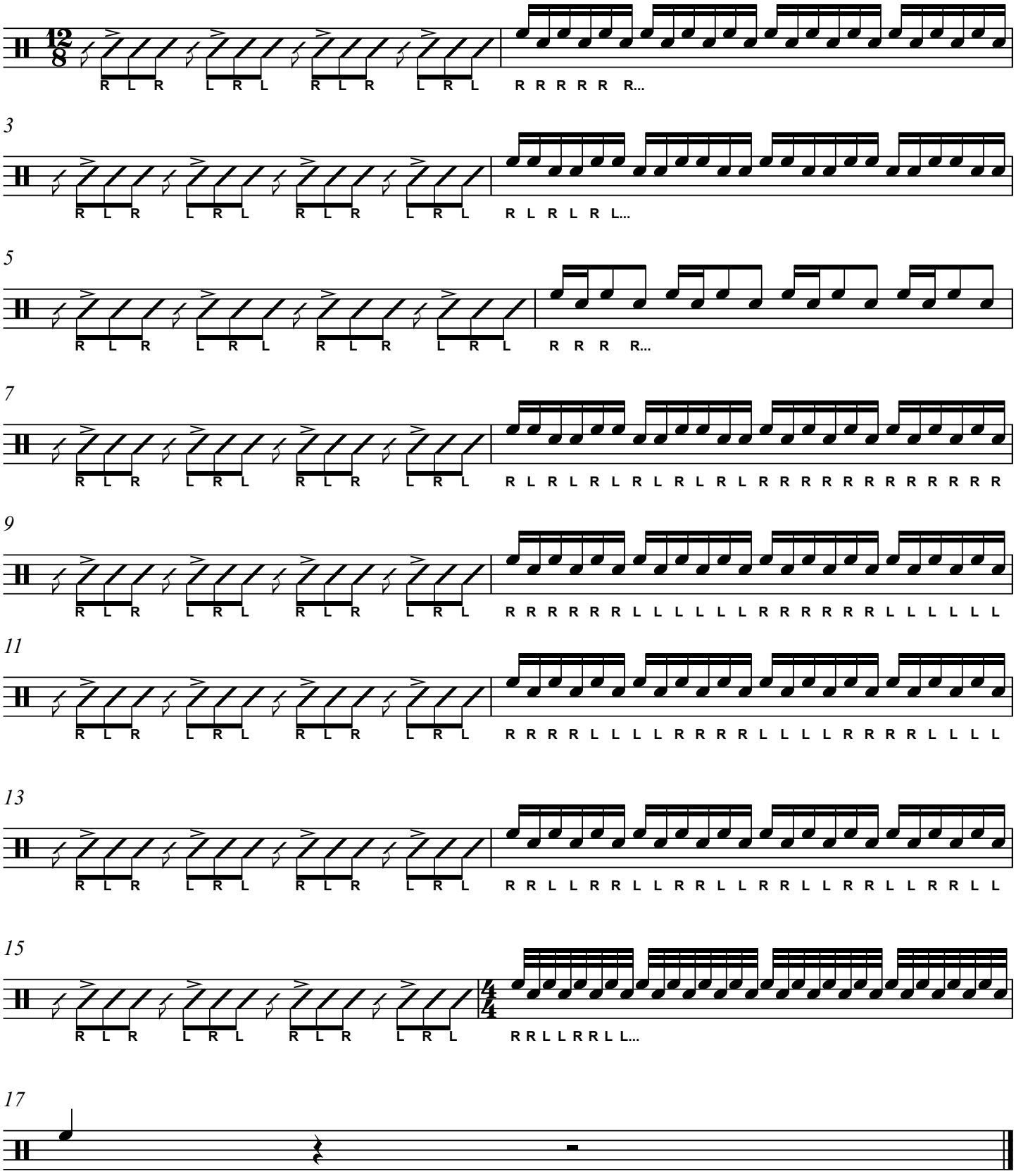
3s Primer



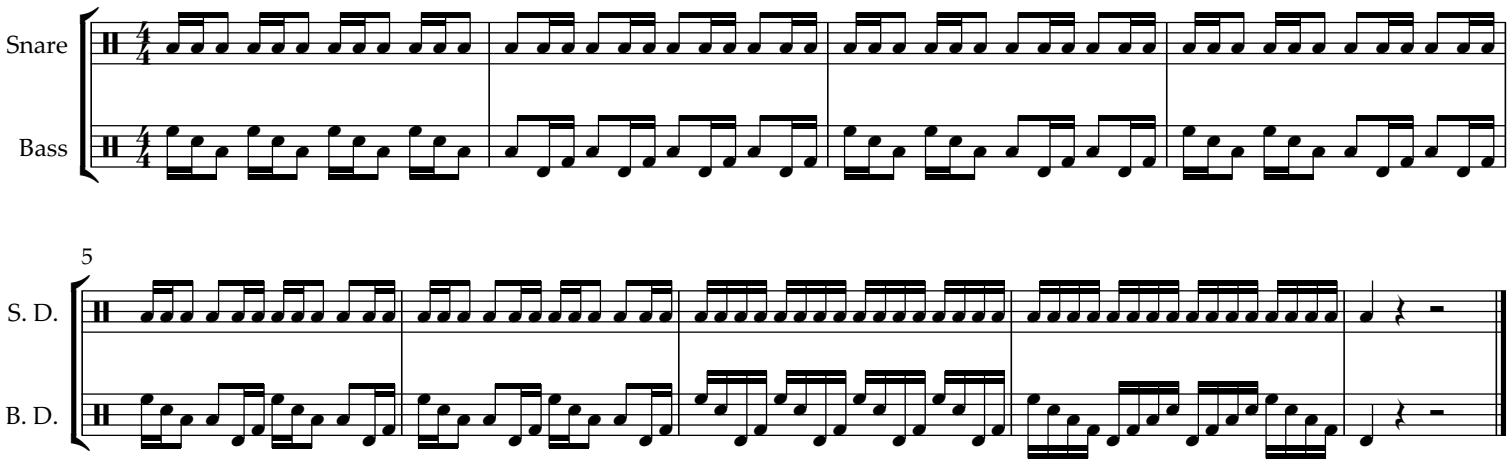
4s Primer



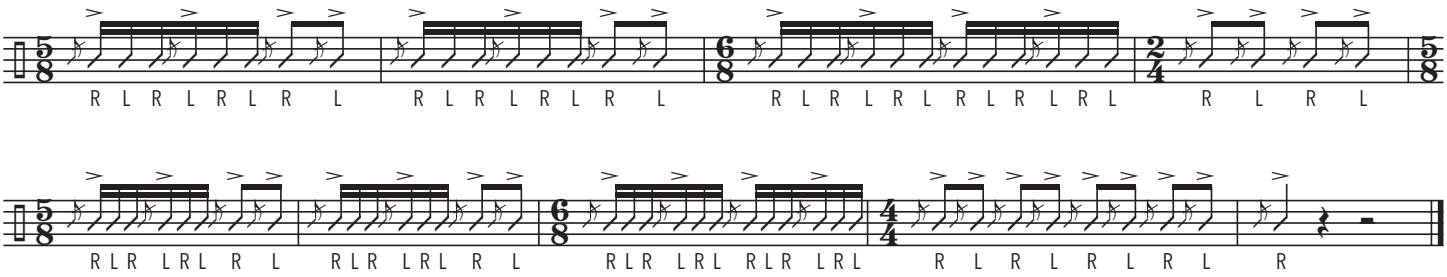
Obesity


12/8
R L R L R L R L R L R L
R R R R R R...
3
R L R L R L R L R L R L
R L R L R L...
5
R L R L R L R L R L R L
R R R R...
7
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 R R R R R R R R R R R
9
R L R L R L R L R L R L
R R R R R R L L L L L L R R R R R R L L L L L L
11
R L R L R L R L R L R 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
13
R L R L R L R L R L R L
R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L
15
4/4
R L R L R L R L R L R L
R R L L R R L L...
17

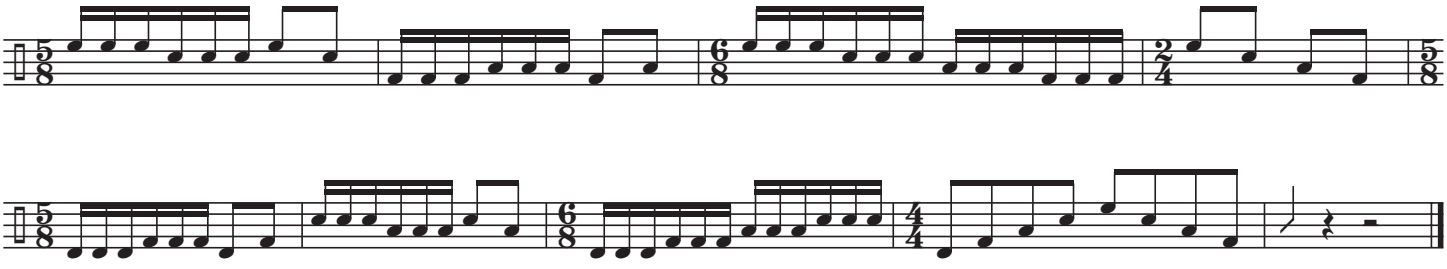
Gallop (Duple Diddles) Split



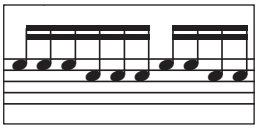
Chuggada - Unison Stock Pattern



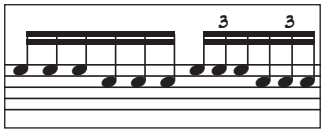
Chuggada - Split Stock Pattern



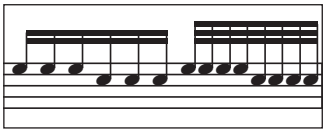
16ths



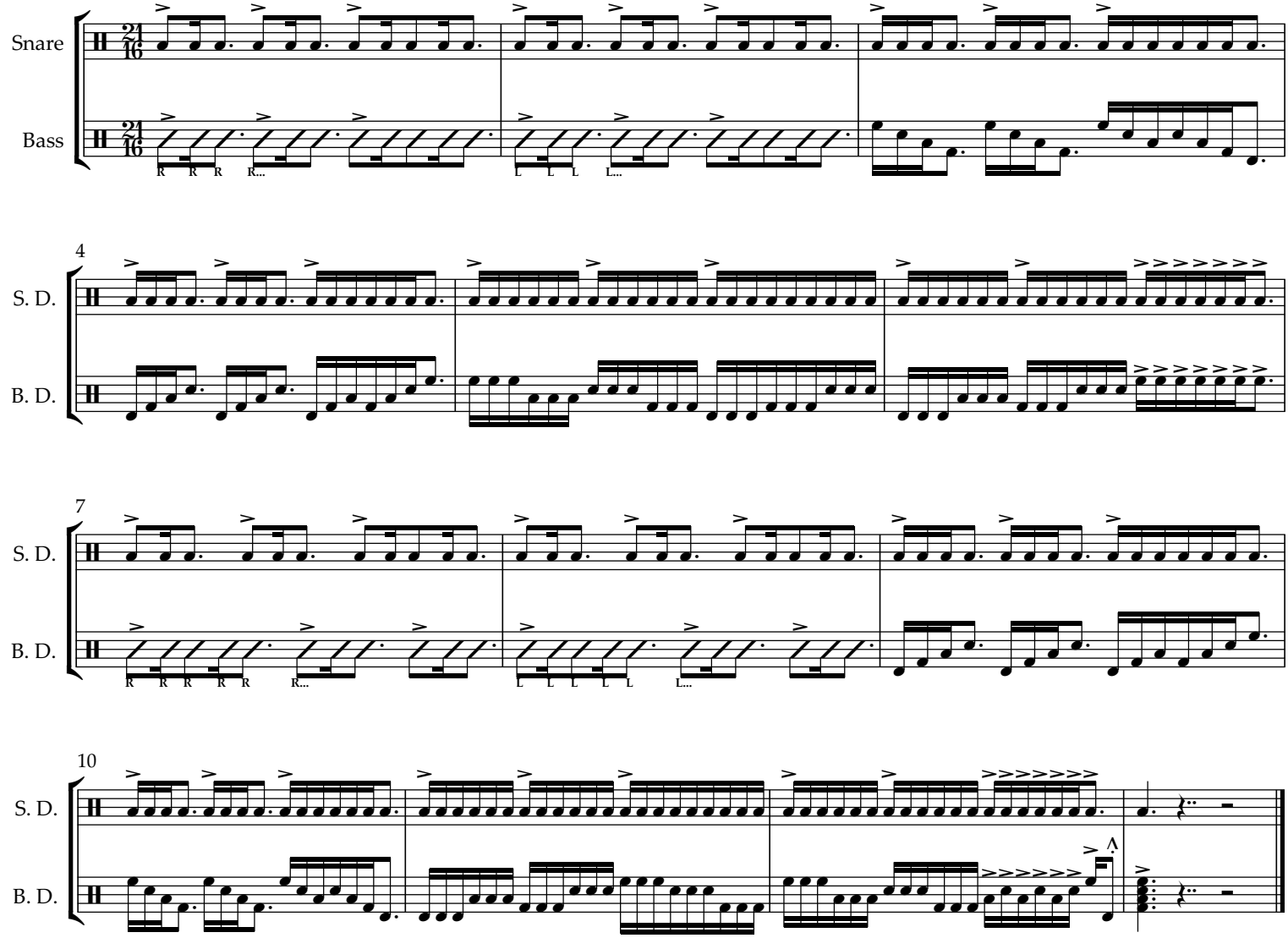
Sextuplets



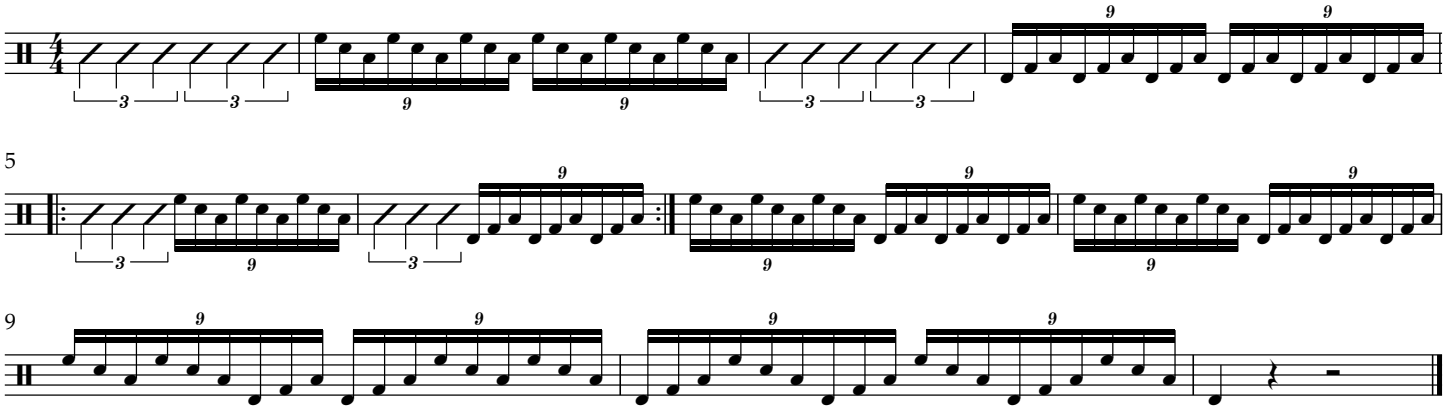
32nds



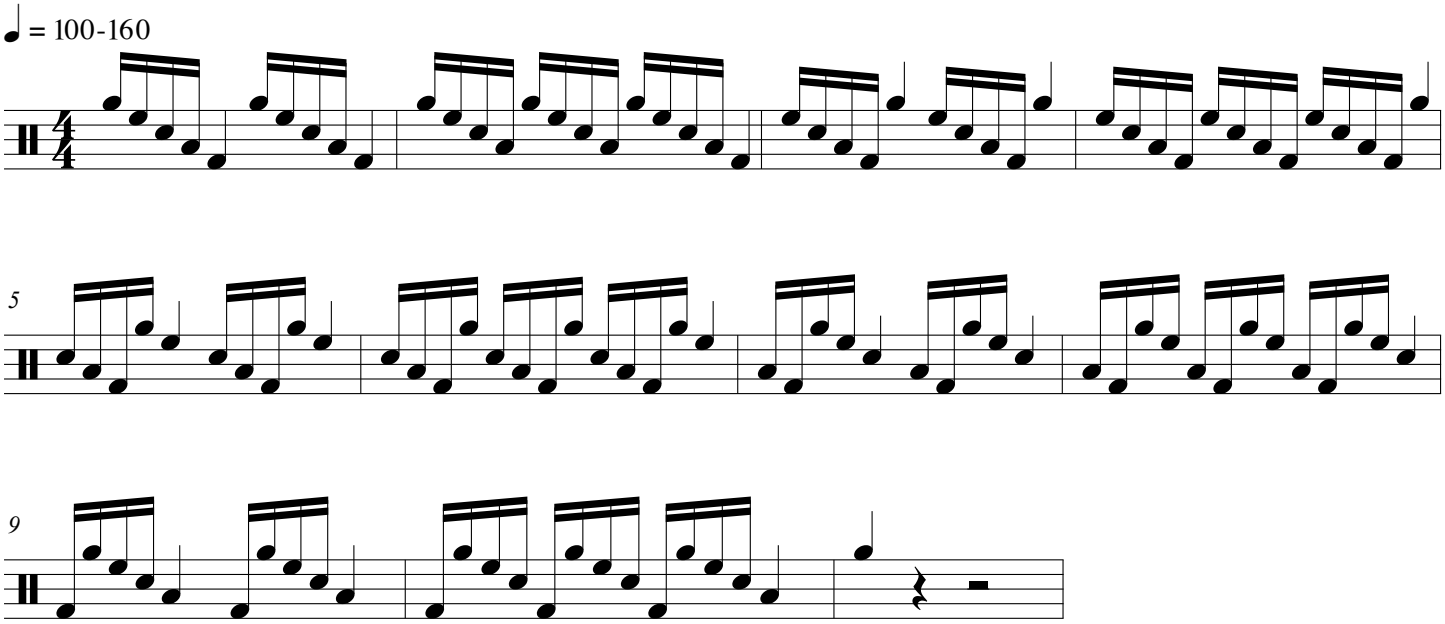
7/8 Gusseck Paradiddle Split



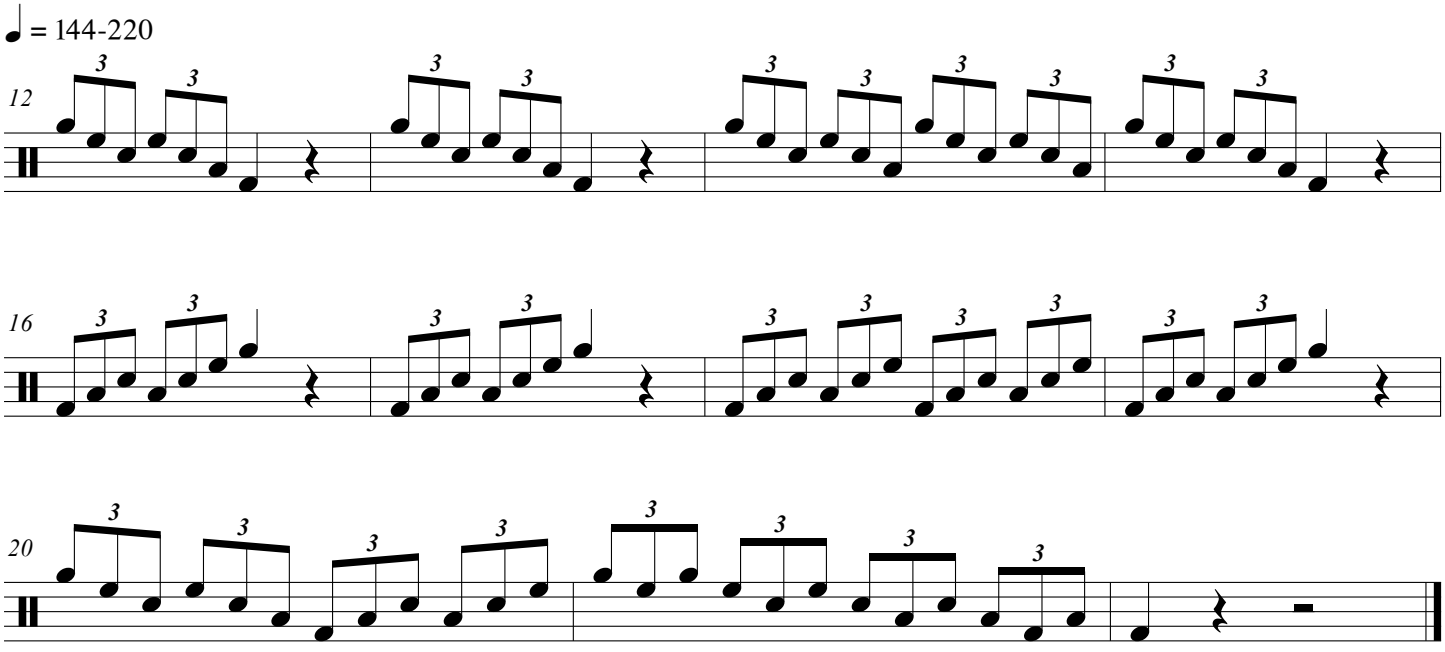
9-let Bugadas



16th Note Parrot (Lasers)



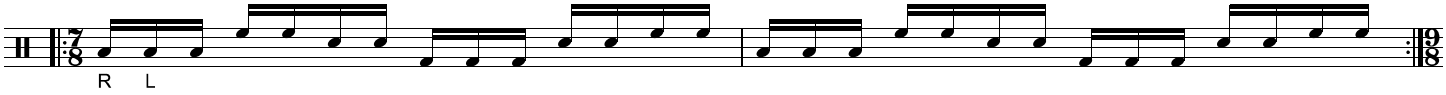
Triplet Bugada Parrot



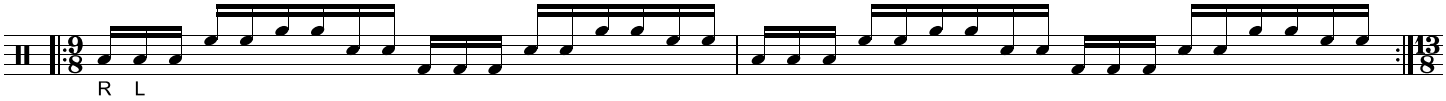
2024 Tenor Exercises

Slow-Fast Arounds

7



9



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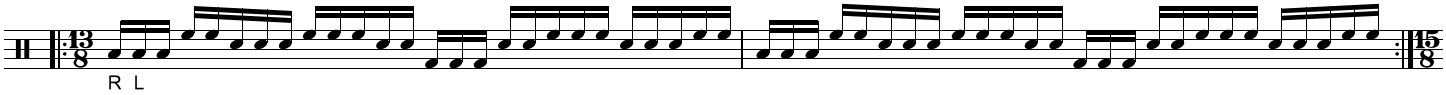

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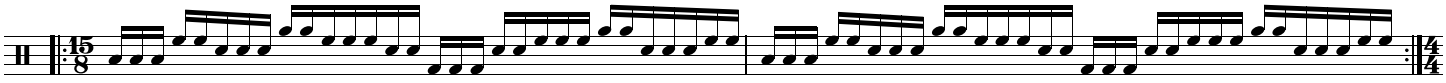
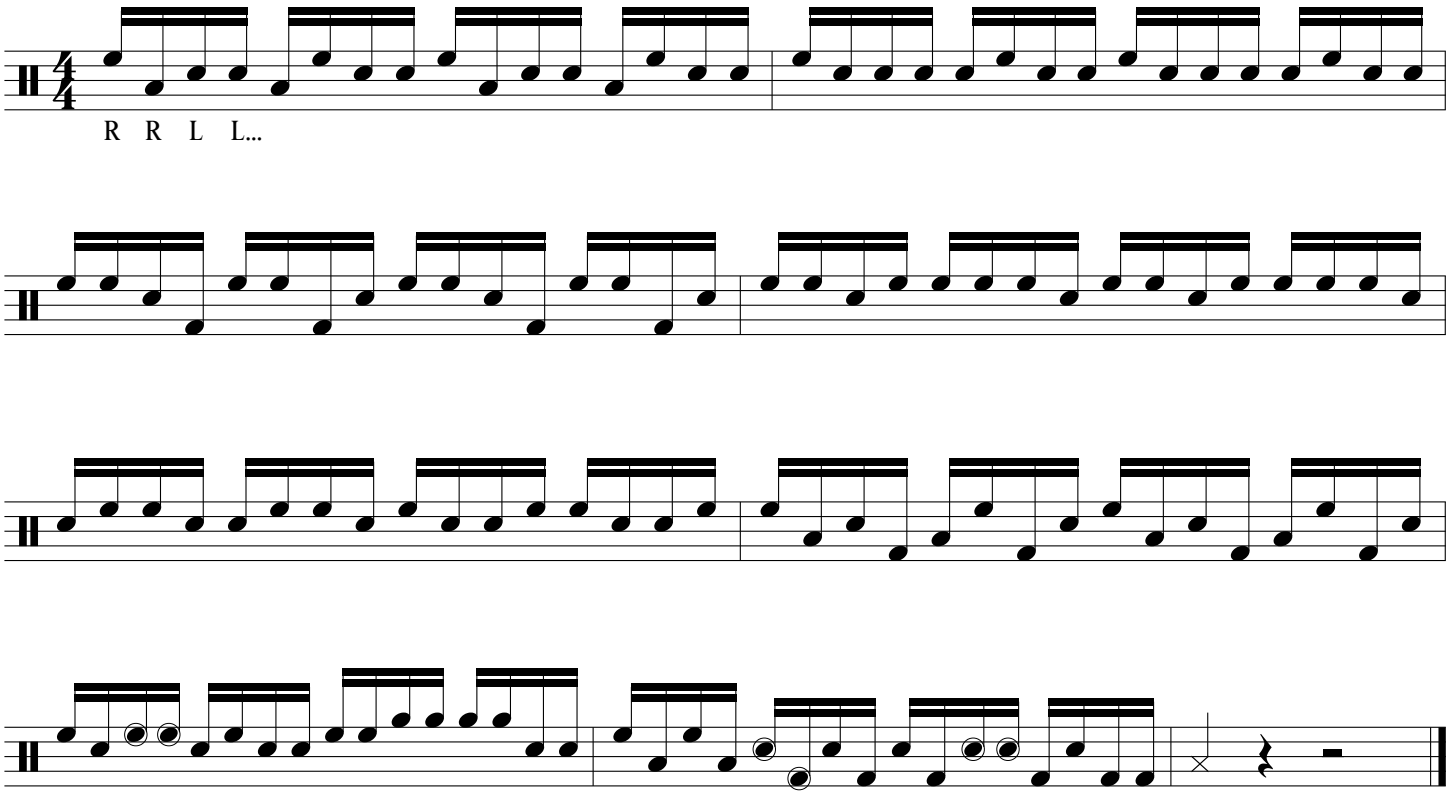
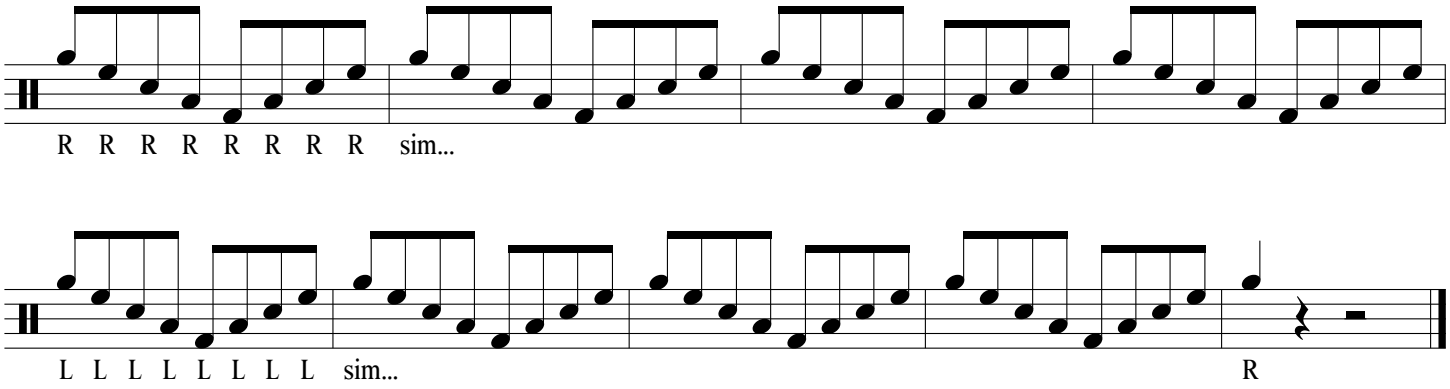


For each of these patterns, play each 2-bar grouping a total of 4x:

1st Time: Play in halftime (8th note speed)
2nd Time: Play as written (16th note speed)
3rd Time: Halftime
4th Time: As written

This exercise works on developing muscle memory with your playing zones. Use the slow tempo to place each note accurately and then build fluidit into the fast tempo.

Scrupulous Scrapes



“Wag the Dog“