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## THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA GRADUATE COLLEGE

# AN INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD FOR INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP DEVELOPMENT OF SNARE DRUMMERS

#### A DISSERTATION

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BY

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# AN INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD FOR INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP DEVELOPMENT OF SNARE DRUMMERS

APPROVED BY

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

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## AN INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD FOR INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP DEVELOPMENT OF SNARE DRUMMERS

## CHAPTER I

### Purpose

The purpose of this project has been to develop a snare drum method to be used either privately or in both homogeneous and heterogeneous band classes. A principal concern has been to define an approach which is understandable to the non-percussionist teacher of instrumental music and which will enable him to develop snare drummers as rapidly as he develops players of the various wind instruments.

Through examination and analysis of existing materials, it will be shown that present percussion instructional methods contain numerous weaknesses and errors, and much illogical reasoning concerning certain fundamental matters of presentation. The method presented here includes exercises and etudes to properly develop the snare drummer technically as well as musically. Furthermore, it is so arranged that it can be effectively substituted for the drum book in three of the most popular beginner band methods.

The method book is concerned with the development of snare drummers only. Ideally, the student should begin his study with mallet instruments, but once he takes up the drum, it is most important that percussion study be limited to the development of snare drum technique in the early stages; after the student has reached a certain proficiency, the skill developed in playing the snare drum is largely transferable to the various other percussion instruments. Such a change-over is usually quick and easy for the student. Many leaders in the field of percussion also hold to this line of thinking:

All prospective percussionists should begin with the study of the snare drum. This should be implemented with instruction on the bass drum, mounted cymbal and bass drum, hand cymbals, bells, glockenspiel, xylophone, and marimba. Instruction should be supplemented with reading material from a good percussion library.

#### Need for the Study

I have long been concerned with percussion sections of various instrumental ensembles. Throughout my fifteen years experience as band director and applied music teacher at the various levels of public school, as well as in college, I have continually been aware of the lack of musical and technical proficiency of percussion students. Further notice of percussion weaknesses has come through

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>James Sewrey, "A Pedagogical Approach to Snare Drum Instruction," <u>The School Musician</u>, XXXI (October, 1959), 26.

band contest adjudication. Many times it has been necessary to mark a band down one or two ratings, simply because the percussion section was over-bearing in volume, failed to lend itself to the musical phrasing, or displayed a lack of the technical knowledge demanded by the particular composition. And others have noted such shortcomings; one of our contemporary teachers has this to say about the percussion section:

Although small in size, the percussion section plays a significant role in band ar orchestra literature. Because of its prominence, any lack of technical or musical ability is readily noticed. Unfortunately for all concerned, the poor performance of many percussion sections evokes a considerable amount of criticism, and all too often this section is regarded as a sometimes noisy, yet necessary nuisance. 1

A survey of present-day materials and methods would seem to indicate that beginning brass and wood-wind players advance more rapidly than percussion students. When instrumental music teachers are asked about problem areas in band or beginner band classes, the most frequent reply will point to the percussion section or, more specifically, to the snare drummer. "What can I do to improve my percussion section?" is a question often heard at music festivals and clinics. The comments on criticism sheets by competent contest judges further indicate that percussion sections are problem areas in many

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Maxine Lefever, "Improving the Percussion Section," The Instrumentalist, XVI (February, 1962), 50.

instrumental organizations.

In trying to decide why the percussion section is a favorite target for such unfavorable comments, one can pose a number of questions: Are we demanding too much from percussion sections today? Are the percussion parts in contemporary music too difficult? Are we producing percussion sections that are on a par, musically as well as technically, with the other various sections of musical organizations? Are composers and conductors satisfied with the percussion sections being developed? And, perhaps more significant, are percussionists themselves pleased with the results?

Many comments contained in various writings on the subject indicate the answer to these questions to be a most emphatic "No!" Robert W. Buggert, in the preface to his recent percussion manual, sums up the situation rather well:

Teachers of instrumental music readily admit that the percussion section is one of the weakest in the band or orchestra. In addition, probably due to lack of information, this section often receives the least amount of attention. . . . Knowledge of percussion techniques is lacking and there is confusion as well as misunderstanding.

However, the situation is not entirely bleak in that many educators believe the mid-twentieth century percussionist is about to see his craft come of age. Whether

Robert W. Buggert, <u>Teaching Techniques for the Percussionist</u> (New York: Belwin, Inc., 1960), 2.

added emphasis on percussion might be due to certain peculiarities of contemporary musical taste or to the exhaustion of the expressive resources of other instruments, percussion is more and more becoming a valid means of musical expression. William Kraft, a well-known percussionist, recently made the statement that "percussion has become an essential part of the composor's craft."

Along these same lines, Richard Schory has this to say about the changing concepts of percussion:

In searching for new areas of expression, contemporary composers and arrangers are just now beginning to take advantage of the vast potential of percussion. No longer is percussion relegated to strictly a time keeping or supporting role. Now many of the instruments are being given extensive solo passages of major importance. Entire numbers featuring solo percussion, or the full section, have appeared in recent years.<sup>2</sup>

It is essential that percussionists be prepared to meet composors' demands. It is my feeling that maintaining a public school instrumental music group capable of "expressive musical performance" involves the development of a productive beginner program. For such development, good instruction manuals are essential.

Unfortunately, existing method books for snare drum contain numerous errors and ambiguities in such matters as musical notation, description of hand positions,

William Kraft, "The Complete Percussionist," The Ludwig Drummer, IV (October, 1964), 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Richard Schory, "Changing Concepts," <u>The Instrumentalist</u>, XIV (April, 1960), 43.

explanation of techniques, and ordering of exercises. For example, an exercise might call for a single-stroke whole note in four-four meter. This, of course, is impossible because the snare drum is incapable of a sustained sound without the application of the roll. Pictures indicating a handgrip that causes undue muscle strain and limits speed and control appear in many books. Furthermore, an illogical order of presentation of the various rudiments and a lack of fundamental preparation preceding the rudiments pose a major problem. For instance, many books present the long roll without having inaugurated preparatory exercises of eighth and sixteenth notes. And further difficulty is encountered in the lack of adequate and understandable explanation for the non-percussionist instrumental teacher.

In summary, much concern has been shown about the shortcomings of percussion sections by contemporary leaders in the instrumental music field:

We are all cognizant of the deficiencies we encounter in our percussion sections; also, we realize how little individual attention is given to the members of this important section of our bands and orchestras. I have observed full rehearsals where not a single word was directed to the percussion section. . . many rehearsals of school bands where the percussions did not play a single note.

Last summer, I auditioned one hundred high school drummers to fill ten percussion berths in the . . . All Ohio Boys' Band. All candidates had been recommended by their respective band directors as being

outstanding; yet I found only two who could play the drum score to "Semper Fidelis."

If only one out of five of the best high school drummers can play "Semper Fidelis," there is obviously something wrong somewhere. But perhaps the problem is not so much that school percussionists are lacking in ability as that there is something wrong in our basic method of training them. With contemporary music continually demanding more and more from the percussion section, it behooves the music educator to formulate methods and materials which will develop percussionists to a level comparable to that of wind instrumentalists.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>William D. Revelli, "Summer Instrumental Music Program," The Etude, LXXII (1954), 19.

#### CHAPTER II

## SNARE DRUM PEDAGOGICAL PROBLEMS AND DIFFERING INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHIES

### Variations of Teacher Preparation

Percussion has been attacked from all sides, varying degrees of blame having fallen upon all concerned in the process of training percussionists. As yet there is no unanimity regarding who is responsible for the failure. Does the high school drummer lack musical ability? Is the band director who instructs the beginning drummer inept or careless? Or are the colleges and universities guilty of poorly training and educating instructors of instrumental music?

There is no single, easy answer to the problem. Certainly it is unfair to place all the blame on the young percussionist. Surely we have many talented students who are willing to work toward mastery of the percussion instruments. Neither does it seem logical to attach the blame entirely to the instrumental music instructor whose major applied instrument is not precisely in the field of percussion.

This brings us, then, to the possibility of placing at least some of the blame upon institutions where band directors are trained. A topic often discussed by music convention panels is the inadequacy of college training.

Public school instrumental music directors . . . in expressing their opinions of certain phases of the training they received . . . almost without exception wish they had had more direct and detailed experience with instruments at beginning levels. Often these courses have been taught by people who have not been well prepared on the instrument themselves.

A shortage of percussion training is further pointed out by researcher Wilbur J. Peterson, who conducted a study of the feelings of high school music teachers about major weaknesses in undergraduate teacher-training institutions:

One hundred and fifty teachers offered suggestions, and the following conclusion was reached: High school instrumental music teachers singled out the lack of training in percussion instruments as the greatest weakness in college training programs.

When I was first in college in 1953, the only percussion method courses offered were those coupled with a brass method class. They were one semester courses which met twice a week. In this limited amount of time, not even all of the brass instruments were presented, let alone the percussions. Percussion instructions consisted

Patee Evenson, "Are Our Colleges Doing the Job in Instrumental Music Teacher Preparation?" Music Educators Journal, XLI (December, 1955), 60.

Wilbur J. Peterson, "The Place of the Performance Area in Training High School Music Teachers," <u>Journal of Research in Music Education</u>, IV (Spring, 1956), 55.

only of how to hold the sticks, and those instructions, according to most contemporary authorities, were erroneous. My personal experience is corroborated in a 1958 study by Michael B. Lamande, who attributes to the colleges and universities a great deal of the blame for percussion weaknesses. In his study, which sought to shed light on the present status of percussion training, a questionnaire was distributed to the member schools of the National Association of Schools of Music. This questionnaire was designed to determine the extent to which our teachertraining institutions need improved facilities, processes, and personnel for instruction on percussion instruments. 210 schools received his survey questionnaires, and 116 responded, a return of 55.2%. Since a questionnaire return of 55.2% is well above average, the response to Lamande's probing clearly showed interest in the problem. Sixteen of the schools did not offer percussion instruction of any kind. His study indicated that an average of only one semester hour of percussion training was required of non-percussion music education majors. However, the study also revealed that 25% did not receive any instruction in percussion at all; or, at least, they were not required to enroll in percussion courses. In nearly all cases the indication was that percussion was taught in classes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Michael B. Lamade, "Teacher-Training in Percussion," <u>The Instrumentalist</u>, XII (March, 1958), 74-77.

ranging in size from 3 to 50, and approximately one-third of the schools taught percussion as part of another class, such as brass or woodwind. The amount of time actually spent on percussion instruments under these circumstances is difficult to ascertain, but it is probable that it is very often negligible. Furthermore, only half the schools examined in Lamade's survey provided the student with an opportunity to perform on the percussion instruments with a "laboratory" band or orchestra, and, in many cases, the student was limited to the use of a practice pad, a situation just as undesirable as having the piano student spend all his time on a silent keyboard.

Lamande summarizes his findings thus:

• • • we find that our colleges are producing teachers with inadequate training in percussion, who cannot effectively train their students when they go into the field. It produces a never-ending circle which restrains progress.

The main responsibility for better percussion training lies with the individual institution engaged in teacher training, and it is up to the administration and staff of these schools to see that their program is satisfying the needs of the student. . . (p. 75).

No doubt college music education departments are increasing their offerings in percussion courses gradually; however, they still have a long way to go before these offerings will be on a par with courses in the other instruments.

The upshot of all this is that a large part of the problem today lies in the inadequacy of many teacher-training

institutions. Most college music departments require such a small amount of training in percussion that one wonders if perhaps they are not doing more harm than good. Many times a student receives just enough training to think he knows how to teach and, in his ignorance, subsequently teaches his own students concepts which result in undesirable performance habits.

In general, the college requirements in percussion courses are so low that the undergraduate is likely to decide that the training in the melodic instruments is of great importance, while that in the percussion instruments is of little significance and will take care of itself. Percussion instruments are usually taught in college by either a woodwind or brass instructor, causing the student to assume that his own problems in teaching percussion will work themselves out as they have for this instructor. But this attitude never produced good percussionists in the past and most certainly will not bring about the desired results for contemporary music, with its added emphasis on percussion.

#### Lack of Suitable Material

chapter III of this study will be concerned with showing the inadequacy of existing materials for the development of percussionists. However, since this inadequacy figures so prominently in the discussion of percussion pedagogical problems, it seems worthy of

mention at this point. Obviously, we would not have such a variety of pedagogical difficulties today, if instrumental educators had experimented and developed methods for drum as eagerly and carefully as they have for wind instruments. One would expect to find a large reservoir of desirable material at the elementary level, since this is the point at which most students begin to study; however, adequate materials are simply not available. No doubt the development of new ideas of teaching percussion is a step in the direction toward coping with our present day teaching situation. I will submit some such ideas below.

#### Existing Instructional Environments

In the years following World War I, although over the emphatic objection of private music teachers, there was ushered in a new concept of instrumental music instruction. In only a few years the band was instituted almost universally in the American Public Schools, and with this came the idea of turning out student instrumentalists en masse. Producing large numbers of bandsmen, of course, entails group instruction. Today there are three primary kinds of band classes: the heterogeneous class, in which all the various instruments are lumped together; the homogeneous class, where families of instruments, such as the woodwind, are employed; and the like-instrument class, which contains only one particular instrument.

Over the years, the relative merits of these types have been much discussed, but perhaps most directors would prefer the like-instrument situation. Some think this approach superior even to private instruction, because it fosters motivation in the form of competition. No doubt the like-instrument approach has many advantages. For instance, the majority of the class members can be in full participation most of the time. Also, they can learn much by listening to and watching others. Naturally, with this type of organization most classes must be small—at least smaller than those of the heterogeneous and homogeneous methods.

The idea of the like-instrument class is not new. It was recommended several years ago by such educators as Prescott and Chidester, though they did not define completely satisfactory methods for establishing such a program and integrating it into the entire public school system. Just in the past few years we have seen a revived interest in this method, though it is now viewed as an addition to, rather than a replacement for, the heterogeneous class. Some of the larger school systems whose sizes permit the employment of several instrumental music teachers strive to hire a specialist on as many of the

Gerald R. Prescott and Lawrence W. Chidester,

Getting Results with School Bands (Minneapolis: Paul A. Schmitt Music Company, 1938), p. 39.

various instruments as possible and thus organize a team teaching effort in which, for instance, one person will teach all the trombones and another all the percussion. Such instructional classes usually meet two or three times per week after school. But even this type of situation is still somewhat hampered by inadequate time and various scheduling difficulties. A great deal of published material is available for this type of class, and even in the area of percussion there are several good methods for private instruction that can be adapted and used quite satisfactorily in like-instrument classes.

The homogeneous class is also highly respected by teachers. It has many of the advantages of the like-instrument plan. It involves a larger group and perhaps lends a little more motivation to the student because of this. However, it presents about the same amount of difficulty in administration—scheduling, etc.—as does the like—instrument approach. There is perhaps adequate instructional material available for this type of class for woodwind and brass, but not for percussion. Although there are presently on the market a good many percussion ensembles designed to be played in contest and festival, the profession lacks a method book using the homogeneous approach to percussion.

At present, the heterogeneous grouping is by far the most-used class plan. Down through the years it has been tagged as an impossibility by many well-known music educators. Many have, from time to time, declared it impossible to cope with the varied fingerings, the embouchure problems, and the transpositions. For instance, a major problem in the beginning heterogeneous class situation is that all instruments must begin in the same concert key. Another drawback of this method is that the time of the large majority of the group is wasted while the teacher instructs one student or one section. But even though we have complained about all these impossibilities for years, somehow some rather find band organizations have evolved. And the heterogenous method has been the only one that has been convincing and acceptable to administrators.

In this type of class situation, without a doubt the percussion section is the most neglected. Also it is invariably the section that creates the more serious discipline problems, probably because of the fact that the music does not require as much of it as of the other sections. One may sit through many practice sessions where not one word is said to the percussion section, unless it is aimed at correcting a discipline problem which is making it difficult to work with the rest of the group.

I think we can conclude that, whether we like to admit it or not, beginner band programs are in the situation I have described. We have some pretty solid methods

and materials for achieving good results in every section except percussion. I think it is time we did something about helping the percussion section.

## The Rudiment Argument

According to present-day definition, snare drum rudiments are a group of 26 fundamental rhythmic beat patterns to be played with specific accents, sticking, etc. These rudiments, some 150 years old, seem to have evolved mainly from military needs during the years when martial music consisted primarily of drums and fifes.

Mr. William F. Ludwig, Sr., a prominent drum manufacturer, reports that rudiments were first published in the United States by Charles Stewart Ashworth in January 1812:

. . . This book contained 28 rudiments starting the long roll with the left hand, two beats with each hand slowly, then gradually accelerating to close the roll. No accents are shown on any of the rudiments. The rudiments follow in regular notation such as five stroke roll, seven stroke, nine stroke rolls, etc. There are no illustrations or drawings giving hand or stick positions and this may be the reason that the book did not receive wide circulation.

Effective methods of snare drum instruction is a topic which has seen a great deal of discussion in the past several years. One group of educators contends that the rudiments are as essential in the development of percussionists as are scales to the development of good

<sup>1</sup>Wm. F. Ludwig, Sr., "Who Wrote the Rudiments," The Ludwig Drummer, III (Spring, 1963), 29.

wind instrumentalists. This group further suggests that the rudiments should be acquired before any other phase of music is considered. A more liberal group are those who advocate the mastery of some rudiments, but feel that to work toward the perfection of them all is a misuse of time that should be spent on other aspects of music. This group feels that not all of the rudiments are needed in order to play present day music. They usually contend that only a few of the rudiments should be taught and these only as they are needed in the student's progress. There exists an even more radicalline of thinking concerning the various rudimental rolls -- the teaching of the multiple bounce roll rather than the measured roll. who ascribe to this method advocate, rather than an exact number of strokes per roll, simply a continuous buzz sound, regardless of how many taps or bounces each hand might I feel that there is a place for this type roll for special desired effects but that to use it all the time is to err musically.

Dr. Frederick Fennell, well known conductor and percussion authority, has this to say about rudiments:

The art of the percussionist has changed considerably, as has that of every instrumentalist, but in this metamorphosis the basic elements of rudimental technique became the very foundation of that change. Today's percussionist must possess every technique, must open wide his mind and awaken his whole body to assimilate—let alone to master—all that is happening. And I have yet to meet an artist who had mastered the rudimental art who felt that

this experience was either a waste of his time or a hobble on his technique.

Maxine Lefever, another writer on the subject of percussion, approaches the rudimental philosophy by reducing it to the ideas which she refers to as "rudimental" vs. "straight." She believes that most initial snare drum instruction is incorrectly based primarily upon mastery of drum rudiments and advances the straight system as follows:

Always commence every measure with your right hand.

Always have your right hand come on the count ONE, TWO in every bar.

Always flam with your left hand.

Always commence your rolls with the right hand.

Always play the same beat the same way.

Perhaps the most important principle set forth by straight is that which states that the same beat must always be played the same way. The rudiment system is primarily alternating.<sup>2</sup>

No doubt each of these systems has certain advantages and disadvantages. The rudimental system seems to produce snare drummers who, while fine technicians, are somewhat lacking in the more musical qualities. This observation is logically supported by the fact that most drummers are trained via this method and do, indeed, fall into this category. On the other hand, many believe the straight system provides drummers with

<sup>1</sup>Dr. Frederick Fennell, "Drums, Fifes, Rudiments and Fennell," The Ludwig Drummer, IV (Spring 1964), 38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Maxine Lefever, "Improving Snare Drum Instruction," The Instrumentalist, XV (April, 1961), 90.

a more intensive musical background, but neglects the more technical aspects, particularly the development of ambidexterity, which is so necessary to any percussionist.

Another percussion authority, Mr. Rex Morgan
Longyear, contends there is no substitute for rudimental
study in developing the flexibility and co-ordination that
an excellent drummer needs and that the rudimental solo
literature should be an important ingredient of the drummer's musical background. However, he feels that rudimental style does not lend itself to most musical situations
any more than a dance band trumpet tone blends with the
symphony orchestra or concert band. His contention is
that only 9 rudiments lend themselves to concert playing
and an additional 4 to the marching band; therefore, he
suggests, we should concentrate primarily on the development of these 13 essential rudiments. 1

It is my experience that the majority of methods are based on the drum rudiments and tend to develop the student's ability to perform rudimental solos and/or accompany marching bands. Due to their training, most teachers tend to emphasize rudimental instruction. I believe that, as teachers, we should carefully investigate the music that is performed by our school band groups and encourage the drummer to learn and control the basic

Rex Morgan Longyear, "13 Fundamental Drum Rudiments," The Instrumentalist, XV (January, 1961), 74-76.

rudiments as he progresses from one level to another. But we should not expect the snare drum student to memorize 26 rudiments without giving him reason for doing so. Rather, we should teach basic fundamentals that will prepare the student to perform the drum parts adequately as he progresses through the various levels of music literature.

### Principal Pedagogical Problems

A good foundation for the snare drum student is as important as it is for any other instrumentalist of the band or orchestra. But all too often the percussion section is filled with people who have failed in other sec-People who cannot perform on wind instruments because of dental or embouchure problems may or may not be good percussion students. One of the initial steps in building a percussion section is the selection of the stu-Since this section is primarily rhythmical, students who are blessed with a good rhythmic sense should be selected. There are music aptitude tests that can be given to determine, at least to some extent, a student's innate rhythmic capacity. A less complex, and perhaps just as valid, method is to clap a few simple, short rhythms and have the student imitate. If he experiences difficulty with this, his innate rhythmic capacity may

Examples of such tests are: Selmer Music Guidance Survey (Elkhart, Indiana: H. & T. Selmer, Inc.); The Pan-American Music Aptitude Test in Band and Orchestra Handbook (Elkhart, Indiana: Pan-American Band Instruments, 1951), pp. 14-35.

be suspect.

Assuming that students with average or above average rhythmic capacity have been selected as beginner drum students, one of the next matters to consider is musician-It is therefore of great importance to make the ship. student aware of musical discrimination at the very out-He should be continually made aware of, and be asked to demonstrate, style and judgment. Even though rhythm is of utmost importance, the drummer must realize that it is not the sole quality, aesthetically speaking. example, the student should be informed from the first of the importance of dynamics and contrasts. Contrasts in dynamics are the primary means of variety in the percussion section, and it is essential that the drummer make the most of them. For example, percussion students should begin the very first day with at least two levels of volume. The Tap and Stroke will give this contrast at The next step is to play two degrees of volume on the Tap and two degrees of volume on the Stroke. gives FOUR levels of loudness.

Until quite recently, and in some schools even today, the drummer was considered as "something other than a musician." He was a person who didn't seem to fit into the same category as the other instrumentalist. Drummers have been talked to and treated by conductors of school musical organizations as participants who only

played some rhythmic figures. Qualities such as phrasing, tone color, blend, and balance were not asked for or taught, and, as a result, the drummer grew up in a rhythm-pounding world rather than the musical world of the other members of the band or orchestra. We as conductors should insist that the percussionist—not drummer—be a musician with the same responsibility to his instrument and to the art of music as has any other member of the musical society in which he moves.

It is not uncommon to observe situations wherein teachers neglect to attend to the basic fundamentals of good percussion performance. Considerations such as the height and position of the drum, the grip of the stick, and the arm stroke technique are not continually stressed, and, as a result, many potential percussion students simply turn out to be "rhythmical robots." When instructors are concerned about good teaching for a cornet student, for example, they spend much time on the development of embouchure. This, of course, is intended to insure good tone quality. Does the percussionist deserve any less? Positions are the embouchure of the percussionist; teachers should spend much time checking the various positions involved in percussion playing to insure the development of a correct "embouchure" for percussionists.

Jim Sewrey, well-known percussionist now with the Ludwig Drum Company, speaks as follows concerning the

importance of attitude toward positions, stick grip, etc., of the drum:

In the relatively few years I've been instructing and adjudicating the field of percussion my observations have always been directed at noticing the manner in which the performer addressed the instrument he was about to perform with. Aside from personal bearing, I mean the attention given to the stick grip, the control of same in executing the address to the instrument, and the approach used in regard to the body and appendage position.

In observing the performers, watching and listening, I came to the conclusion that those who could play were those that gave much attention and consideration to STICK GRIP, HAND POSITION, BODY POSITION, THE PERCUSSIVE BLOW, AND THE REBOUND. Their technique and execution was a beautiful art to behold and a revelation to hear because they could execute so cleanly and so precisely, fitting rudiments into a phrase with discreet taste.

In the realm of snare drumming, as in that of any other musical instrument, there are various philosophies of instruction. Some teachers of French Horn, for instance, center the mouthpiece equally on upper and lower lip. Others suggest that the mouthpiece be placed two-thirds on upper lip and one-third on lower lip. It is impossible to say which method is correct, for it is easy to find outstanding performers using either of the systems. Similarly, there has recently been a great deal of discussion among percussionists concerning the hand grip. Should we teach the traditional—military or the like—matched grip? Mr. Sewrey says,

James Sewrey, "The Percussion Clinic," The School Musician, XXIX (December, 1957), 56.

I believe it lies with the matter of student maturity, the performing medium, and instructional "know how," philosophy and pedagogy. The main thing, of course is that either grip be taught correctly, not incorrectly as witnessed so often. (An incorrect grip does not allow a percussionist to play in a free and articulate manner, devoid of muscular tension.)1

However, a decision to use either the traditional or the matched grip does not end the debate, for even once this matter has been settled, there is still difference of For instance, an advocate of the traditional grip might be very emphatic about having the first two fingers of the left hand curl over the stick and remain in contact with it at all times, while another teacher of this method might say that the control is entirely in the crotch of the thumb and forefinger and that the first two fingers might as well be cut off. It is not unusual to observe many fine drummers of the traditional style using the finger-over method, while others do the opposite. Regardless of which grip or grips are taught, the aspiring percussionist should learn a basic hand hold which, above all else, allows correct development and use of the forearm, permits adequate wrist and finger movement, and forestalls the build-up of tension. The method should be flexible enough so that a slight alteration could be made at any time to meet whatever stylistic demands the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>James Sewrey, "Percussion Instruction: 'What to Do,'" The School Musician, XXXVII (May, 1966), 24.

music might make.

The snare drummer still has a great deal to learn about the theory and practice of his art, although no more than, and maybe not as much as, some other instrumentalists Several promising topics can be mentioned here, but to discuss them in anything like a thorough manner and to discover corrective solutions would involve much research and the writing of many dissertations. But, to take an example, there is a great deal of research which should be done concerning the physical aspects of instrumental performance. No doubt we should take a lesson from the physical education people and investigate the actual functions of the various muscles of a snare drumming arm as thoroughly as they have tested the arms of swimmers or baseball pitchers. 1 An investigation of existent materials will reveal little or no research in the physiology of wind and percussion instrument performance. area that could stand a great deal of research is that of speed reading as it pertains to music. There has been a good deal of reading research, but little of it applied to the reading of music. Perhaps we as musicians could make some good, practical use of the education department's findings along these lines. A recent study at the University

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See, <u>e.g.</u>, L. F. Keller, "The Relation of Quickness of Bodily Movement to Success in Athletics," <u>Research Quarterly</u>, XIII (1942), 146-48.

of Oklahoma by Mr. J. C. Combs on the subject of Kinesthetic Sense broached an area which, with further investigation, might very well shed light on problems of instrumental performance. Certainly Mr. Combs' study is most significant, yet it merely opened the door for much more useful research in this area.

We really don't have many of the answers to these questions—or at least not many that we can prove. Therefore, much of our teaching has necessarily been simply by trial and error. If we had more proved facts and more reliable research data, we could make more productive changes in our drum training programs and not be left to directionless floundering. But first of all, some systematic scholarship will have to be produced.

Perhaps the most controversial of all pedagogical topics among percussionists is the snare drum roll.

Whether to use a "measured roll" or "multiple bounce roll" has been a much argued point for the past several years.

There are a few books on the market that recommend the multiple bounce roll almost exclusively, such as the Shinstine-Hoey book. But most authorities advocate a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Joseph C. Combs, "The Problems of Sight-Reading on Mallet-Played Instruments and Their Relationship to Kinesthetic Sensation," Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Oklahoma, 1967.

William J. Shinstine and Fred A. Hoey, <u>Basic Drum Method</u> (San Antonio, Texas: Southern Music Co., 1960).

measured roll, although they do not thoroughly explain a workable method of presenting it to beginning snare drummers. Often one encounters confused writings which advocate the measured roll but say one should first learn it rudimentally.

After the rolls are learned as Rudiments, they should be played on a definite count and in a steady tempo. This steadiness can be developed by having the alternation of the sticks occur on a given rhythm pattern. (The sixteenth note roll base is probably the most usable by the average school drummer.) A rule to remember is: the tempo and the time signature will control the actual number of strokes in a roll. The drummer actually plays the same type of roll, but will only add or subtract strokes in proportion to the rate of speed of his playing.

Following this plan is like trying to learn how to swim before getting in the water. I cannot see how one could approach the rolls rudimentally without some method of measuring the number of strokes.

It is not unusual to notice at contest that drummers play their rudiments (open-close-open) quite well. But their attempts to adapt these rudiments to music or a sight reading test show that they need a measuring device to help them play correct rhythm on a phrase line. For the most part, snare drummers do not botch the single note combinations, but the rolls more often than not take quite a lot of punishment:

Most rolls played by drummers are very rough

James D. Salmon, "PERCUSSION--Tips for Concert Band Drummers," <u>Marching Bands and Majorettes on Parade</u>, II (March 1955), 10.

sounding. This is due to incorrect stick grips, unnecessary muscle tensions hampering the action of the stroke and rebound, and poor instruction. Rolls must pulsate in even regular patterns and not just dribble in jerky spurts without regard for rhythmic meter. A roll is made by sounding alternating double bounces pulsating in rhythmical meter. The lack of a conception for a designated roll is very evident when anything from throwing the sticks on the drum, to dragging the stick across the drum suffices for a designated roll and is accepted by directors and adjudicators as being musically correct.1

Perhaps there is a place for the multiple bounce roll for certain special desired effects. However, most music educators generally prefer the measured stroke roll over the multiple bounce for the school band. the orchestra has only one, the school band many times comprises a whole section of snare drummers. very important for the section to play as a unit. Certainly, if a section of cornets had a measure of sixteenth notes, one would not expect half of them to play sixteen, some of them to play fifteen, and others to play fourteen notes. Then why should drummers, the rhythm section of the band, be allowed to play different numbers of beats in a specific roll? If they proceed in this manner, they can never sound or function as a section. Certainly our laxity with drummers tends to contradict all that conductors strive to instill in band groups: that is, unified thinking and identical performing technique.

James Sewrey, "The Percussion Clinic," The School Musician, XXIX, No. 10 (June, 1958), 10.

The roll is the snare drummer's only means of sustaining notes. The proper use and application of the measured roll in performance depends upon many things, such as tempo, time-signature, and musical style. Sounds of long duration must first be approached as method and technique problems and then taught and learned musically. All too often the young percussionist is left to interpret and apply designated notated rolls which over-extend his technical abilities. True, the interpretation and application of designated notated rolls are left to the interpretive powers of the percussionist, but only one who has had training and experience, a matured percussionist, is ready for musical interpretation. 1

But in order to develop the percussionists' interpretive powers, directors must know what type of sound
they desire in a roll and then have at their finger tips
methods which will bring about the desired musical effect.

#### Corrective Guidelines

There are many reasons why most grips, postures, rolls, hand positions, etc. are incorrect. But the big question is how directors can discover these faults and do something about them. One problem is that many directors do not avail themselves of the instructional opportunities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>James Sewrey, "The Percussion Clinic," <u>The School</u> Musician, XXX (March, 1959), 14.

available to them, such as articles and columns on percussion in the percussion publications and music periodicals, percussion clinics and workshops, and private lessons with a competent percussion teacher. Too many directors apparently feel that once they have the diploma in hand they have no more worries, that they know all they need to know to be successful band directors. It is amazing to go to state music conventions year after year and notice which directors do nothing but socialize and, on the other hand, which ones get up for an 8 o'clock session on bassoon, for instance. Surprisingly, one sees the same faces year after year at those hard-to-attend early morning ses-And these faces belong to the already-successful directors in the state. Although they would seemingly have least need for such information, nevertheless they are there. Undoubtedly this is one of the keys to their success.

But just as important as pedagogical dedication is the development of improved method books. Many method books on the present market are simply not coping with our percussion problems. Such inadequacies, of course, will be discussed in greater detail in chapter three, which will examine existent method books for snare drum.

Finally, as brought out earlier in this chapter, many colleges and universities do not have qualified

percussion instructors or adequate course offerings. I feel that this is a big deterrent to the progress of percussion education, both its technique and its musical performance. Although this situation has been changing in some schools of music over the past five years, there is still quite a way to go in many areas.

#### CHAPTER III

#### PRESENT STATUS OF SNARE DRUM INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

The growth of instrumental music in the public schools of the United States since World War I has been phenomenal, and many worthy books dealing with technical and musical development of wind instrumentalists have been produced. And we have enjoyed a great deal of success in developing band students in the large heterogeneous class situation, except for the percussion section. An examination of beginner band method books for heterogeneous class reveals an adequate amount of material for every I stress heterogeneous instrument except the percussions. class methods, since there are today in the United States some five thousand school bands involving several million students, most of whom are trained almost exclusively in this manner.

Directors and music educators have long been aware of the shortcomings of existent percussion method books and of their failure to cope with the needs of our performing organizations. We continually search out and anxiously purchase any new publications, but usually, after examination and use, these disappoint us. Often we

point the finger at the college or university where we were trained and blame it for inadequately preparing us, and to some extent, this is justified. But, though we assume for the moment that the institutions of higher learning do not adequately prepare band directors to cope with the problems of percussion, a large part of the problem is still the lack of appropriate material and methods. If and when suitable and adequate material for snare drum and the percussions becomes available, surely our colleges will be the first to recognize and make use of it.

# Available Snare Drum Methods

An examination of existing snare drum method books reveals many errors and missing components the absence of which would lead to the proper development of the snare drummer. The following is a summary of problems and shortcomings of snare drum method books using both the like-instrument and the heterogeneous class approach. In working on this project, I wrote to every music publisher in the United States and received many snare drum books of both the solo and group approach. My examination included not only reading, but also performance of the

Since the majority of snare drum students find themselves in the heterogeneous class situation, I have especially carefully scrutinized books in this area, although I have also examined books that teach snare drum by the like-instrument approach.

exercises in the manuals. These materials represent an almost exhaustive sampling of what is available today.

This examination covered the following points:

- I. General Format
  - A. Appearance
  - B. Illustrations
  - C. Explanations
- II. Basic Concepts
- III. Sequence of Material
  - A. Starting Point
  - B. Sequence of Rudiment Presentation
  - C. Preparation for Rudiments
  - D. Rate of Development
  - E. Suitability of Material
    - 1. Musical (dynamic markings, etc.)
    - 2. Rhythm development exercises
    - 3. Development of sightreading material
    - 4. Misleading notation

## General Format

The physical features of instructional material have long been recognized as highly important by educators. However, often the publisher is interested only in profit and, for that reason, many times neglects to provide a book with a good general appearance. Although some will argue that a lesson can be learned from a small paperback manual, educators have demonstrated time and again the

effectiveness of an attractive, well-arranged publication. Outstanding educators who are authorities in the field of elementary education tell us that an attractive book with an adequate amount of white space has been proved most effective in influencing the enthusiasm of the student.

Generally, the books examined were printed on good paper, and the type of print, for the most part, was acceptable. However, some of the early books, such as the Haskell Harr book, were printed on rather poor paper and had a very poor cover. Furthermore, several of the books had crowded and rather small type. Another poor feature, exemplified in the Rubank book, was that of measures of radically different lengths. Often, and certainly this is the fault of the publisher who is trying to save paper and cut down on the cost of printing, the length of measures was governed entirely by the number of notes they contained. Thus a whole note measure was frequently crowded in among sixteenth note passages and was easy to overlook in fast tempo sections.

One of the most significant problems of anyone who writes a method book is that of illustration and explanation. Many believe that one good picture is worth a

Haskell W. Harr, <u>Haskell W. Harr Drum Method for Orchestra and Band</u>, <u>Book One</u> (Chicago: M. M. Cole Co., 1937).

Paul Yoder, Rubank Elementary Method (Chicago: Rubank, Inc., 1935).

thousand words, and I agree with this line of thinking to a certain extent. I feel that it is especially important for a book to have good pictures showing the hand grip of the snare drum stick. On this point, most of the works examined were unsatisfactory. Of ten typical books for the heterogeneous class, six contained no pictures, three were poor, and one was fair. Of those that fell in the poor category, the pictures embodied such problems as showing a hand grip that causes undue muscle strain and failing to show enough of the wrist, along with the hands and fingers, to get across the complete idea of hand grip. Other problems were brought about simply by poor photography and poor reproduction.

The books of the like-instrument or solo instrument approach had about the same problems as the mixed class methods, although many of them contained a greater number of pictures and more lengthy explanations than did the former. However, many of their explanations were so lengthy and complex that it is doubtful whether the student would actually take time to read and study them.

The explanations in the two different types of books were widely different. The books for the like-instrument approach tended to be quite involved, whereas those for the heterogeneous approach generally lacked sufficient explanation. Even though the like-instrument books seemed to go all out to explain certain things, most

of the time it was not effective because of misnotation. Many of them contained so many pages of explanation, pictures, and theory at the first part of the book that they would be very dry and uninteresting to the beginning It is most doubtful whether he would ever read Many books of this type contained pictures of drums, sticks, etc. and the names of the various parts. them went to great length to explain the various aspects of rhythmic notation, such as that a whole note equals two halves, four quarters, etc. All of this is necessary, but many educators believe that such information would be learned and remembered much more easily if it were interspersed at appropriate places throughout the method book. One possible way of providing such necessary information would be to use a glossary of terms such as the Belwin Elementary Band Method and the Belwin Band Builder use. Several of the books for mixed instrument class tried to explain certain aspects of music theory with cartoon characters, drawings, and odd designs which, in my opinion, tended to cheapen them.

lared Weber, Belwin Elementary Band Method, ed. Nilo Hovey (New York: Belwin, Inc., 1945).

Wayne Douglas, The Belwin Band Builder. Book One, ed. Fred Weber (New York: Belwin, Inc., 1953).

# Basic Concepts

The majority of the books examined were rudimentally orientated, some to a greater extent than others. The early publications especially tended to stress the development of all 26 rudiments in a very military manner. Practically all of their exercises were build around this type of thinking. Some books took the rudimental approach but strove to develop only those thought to be necessary to modern-day drum parts. 1

A smaller percentage of the books were hardly concerned with the rudiments at all, simply calling for the part to be played without consideration of the rudiment. For instance, the Shinstine-Hoey book<sup>2</sup> and the Maurice Taylor book Band Fundamentals<sup>3</sup> teach the multiple stroke approach to rolls, a method which, compared to the measured stroke roll, is thought by most in the field of percussion to be very weak. On the other hand, the books that advocated the measured stroke roll did not explain it understandably to either student or teacher. The differences between most books hinged on whether they took the

Since I am primarily concerned here with the beginner snare drum approach, the materials examined were mainly beginner books, several of which had sequels for intermediate and advanced students. And in some instances these second and third manuals presented those rudiments not covered in the first book.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Shinstine and Hoey, op. cit.

Maurice D. Taylor, <u>Band Fundamentals</u> (New York: Mills Music, Inc., 1960).

rudimental or the non-rudimental approach. And the greatest difference between these lies in the theory of rolls.

# Sequence of Material

An improper sequence in the ordering of material is perhaps the greatest weakness of all the books examined. For instance, the Maurice Taylor Easy Steps to the Band. 1 The Band Musician, 2 and the Smith-Yoder-Bachman Ensemble Band Method<sup>3</sup> present the flam, one of the most difficult rudiments, on about the second or third page and provide little or no explanation of how to execute it. Many of the books presented the long roll with almost no explanation, and they do so so early that the student has not had nearly enough single stroke preparation in quarter, eighth, and sixteenth note exercises. Most of the books overlook preparatory exercises for the roll completely. interesting to note, however, that the old Haskell Harr, Book I, one of the earliest snare drum books, did have the right approach to the measured stroke roll. It just did not go far enough with the idea. It required the

<sup>1</sup> Maurice D. Taylor, Easy Steps to the Band (New York: Mills Music, Inc., 1939).

A. d'Auberge and M. Manus, <u>The Band Musician</u> (New York: Alfred Music Co., Inc., 1957).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Claude B. Smith, Paul Yoder, and Harold Bachman, Ensemble Band Method (Park Ridge, Illinois: Neil A. Kjos Co., 1939).

student to practice over and over one line or a few measures, until his technique was adequately developed. We who have spent years working with youngsters have found that it just usually doesn't work this way. Most students like to move forward through the book, and they measure their progress by such movement. The best way to insure proper development and give the student a feeling of accomplishment is to present a sequence of exercises which, though similar, are different enough to hold the student's interest until he has reached the proper level of technical achievement.

The majority of the books reviewed tend to move the student along too quickly. They usually present only a simple explanation of the various rudiments, or fundamentals, and then expect the student to be able to perform them without sufficient technical development drills. But the student must learn to walk before he can run.

# Suitability of Material

Sometimes the problem with snare drum method books is not so much that their material is unsuitable as that it is incomplete. Many of the books, especially the mixed instrument type, introduce a new phase of drumming without having first insured sufficient development of technique to enable the student to cope with the problems of the music. Often no developmental drill material is offered at all. It is illogical to assume, as some books do, that a few words of explanation or a single example of a given

technique will bring the young student to the desired degree of proficiency. Very few young students are this mature in their thinking. They need material that will present the problem in many different ways and lead them to cultivate the desired muscle control, until it finally becomes a natural part of them.

For the most part, the books I examined were unsatisfactory in counting and sightreading exercises. Most materials covered a rather wide range of rhythmical development, but failed to give enough stress to counting. A student can not become a good drummer if he is unable to He must be taught to break down rhythmic figures count. and determine how to count them properly. Furthermore, many of the books were weak in sightreading development, because all the exercises were so similar. Once the student could play the first measure or two, he could just about play the entire exercise or composition. Many of the books examined would have been stronger if they had contained a greater variety of material that would have better lent itself to the development of sightreading skills.

My analysis also uncovered a great deal of misnotation. For instance, two of the books began by
presenting a single-stroke note as a whole note in fourfour meter. This, of course, is impossible, since the
snare drum is incapable of a sustained sound without the

application of the roll. Another problem of notation concerned roll exercises which did not clearly indicate what type or length of roll should be played. Most exercises made no effort at all to prescribe the number of strokes that should be used. If they did designate the number, they did not explain how or why they arrived at that figure or how the student could go about producing that particular number.

Also, little attempt was made to develop the student's listening capacities. Very few dynamic markings were employed in the books examined. We know, of course, that much of a drummer's worth to an organization depends upon the effectiveness of his dynamics, accents, and sforzando notes. The valuable drummer is not simply a metronome, but one who adds to the overall musical effect. He can do much to give an organization that extra little spark which defines its musical personality. What better place to begin to teach this musicianship than in the beginner class of the various wind instruments where, right from the beginning, the drummer can be taught to listen and execute proper musical judgment. require something more of snare drummers than simply correct rhythmic performance. In order to do this, however, our method books must become useful guides to both the student and teacher.

#### CHAPTER IV

# RATIONALE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SNARE DRUM METHOD BOOK

# Need for Correlation with Current Instrumental

# Teaching Materials

You must create a program which is a constant challenge to all the students, regardless of their age, ability, or how much additional effort they want to put into it. The wonderful thing about music is that no matter what the present level of achievement may be, there is always something more to look forward to.1

Even though one might hypothesize that our present day techniques of percussion instruction have reached near perfection, belief in the last sentence of the above quotation would be reason enough to set forth a new method book. Furthermore, if one is in agreement with the first sentence of the quotation and if he realizes the present unsatisfactory condition of percussion students, there is an even greater justification for seeking to develop better instructional methods for percussionists. I fully agree that it is of utmost importance to challenge all students constantly; however, I feel that the school percussionist

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Kenneth L. Neidig and Charles S. Peters, <u>The</u>
Band Directors Guide (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Inc., 1964), 165.

is not being challenged equally with other school instrumentalists. Throughout this paper, I have cited many authorities who substantiate this reasoning.

The first step toward any solution is to become aware that the problem exists, and certainly recent writings suggest that this awareness is growing. It is particularly important that we prick the interest of well-trained percussionists and instrumental music educators. These persons constitute the greatest source of information on the subject. As percussionist Maxine Lefever has said, "they [educators and artists] must make available intelligent method books which can be employed by those who are not experts in the field."

Further acknowledgment of the problems with existent beginning percussion method books, together with some suggested solutions, is found in the recent writings of James Sewrey, percussion authority at Wichita State University.

. . . Most beginning methods on the market, to this date, do not contain exercises, studies, and etudes by which a school drummer can grow musically as well as technically; nor is the material introduced in a pedagogical manner and sequence. . . What is needed to rectify these problematic reasons is a comprehensive instruction and reading method which a school band director or studio instructor can use to intelligently guide beginning and intermediate aspiring percussionists in the art of musical percussion performance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Maxine Lefever, "Improving the Percussion Section," <u>The Instrumentalist</u>, XVI (February 1962), 51.

James Sewrey, "Percussion Instruction: What to Do," The School Musician, XXXVII (May 1966), 22.

Being in agreement with the above quotation, I set fourth to develop a percussion method book for the area which seems to be the most problematic, that of snare drum. The book has been slanted toward music typical of that encountered in school instrumental organizations and has attempted to correct the problems found in existing methods. This effort was prompted by numerous writings on the subject, as well as my personal evaluation of existing materials (as shown in Chapter III). The primary guiding principle of this particular snare drum book was formulated in accordance with the needs pointed out in Chapter II above.

The heterogeneous band class has been the predominate learning situation in our public schools for several years, and there is no foreseeable change in the near future. At the present, by far the majority of school instrumentalists, including percussion students, receive their first training in this manner. A comparative study of snare drum methods, as discussed previously in this paper, shows the heterogeneous class method to contain the weakest percussion parts. Therefore, the heterogeneous class situation would seem to be a logical point to focus attempts at improvement. Certainly there is merit in this type of class situation, as pointed out by many educators and enumerated in the following quote:

Significant advantages are those based on findings of how children learn. Following are those applicable to group situation:

- 1. Increased motivations. Friendly and wholesome competition arises naturally. If one student succeeds, the others will try harder to accomplish the same results. Cooperation of class members is an even stronger force.
- 2. Tends to overcome self-consciousness. As a member of the group, the individual student no longer looks upon himself as an unusual case. Other members of the class manifest the same kinds of awkwardness and ignorance as he does. . . Common problems help each student to minimize his own difficulties and keep him from becoming overly self-conscious.
- 3. Learning through observation. It is true that a pupil will imitate and emulate his teacher--this is as it should be. But he will readily identify with members of his own group. Thus, students in a group will watch each other and learn many things from each other through observation.
- ... One of the basic purposes of the instrumental class is to teach the following music fundamentals of notation, basic theory, ear-training, and musical terms. Secondly, the beginning instrumental class makes possible the early introduction of music literature.

As mentioned before, there are several existent methods for the heterogenous class which are judged by numerous music educators to be very good instructional manuals for all instruments except percussion; therefore, in planning this method book, I have attempted to develop a manual that can be used not only for class or private instruction, but also as a supplement for three of the leading heterogenous band class methods. These three particular methods were singled out through interviews with music dealers, who named the following as the most

Wolfgang E. Kuhn, <u>Instrumental Music</u> (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc., 1962), pp. 100-102.

purchased by school band directors:

- 1. Maurice D. Taylor, Easy Steps to the Band (New York: Mills Music Inc., 1939).
- 2. Charles S. Peters, <u>Master Method for Band</u> (Park Ridge, Illinois: Neil A. Kjos, 19--)
- 3. Wayne Douglas, <u>The Belwin Band Builder</u> (New York: Belwin, Inc., 1953).

# Principal Problems Encountered

There are, of course, numerous problems in the development of any method book. Perhaps the primary problem in the development of this method was that of arranging it to supplement the three beginner band methods usefully, while, at the same time, keeping it from becoming unwieldy and overly long. In spite of this problem, however, it seemed logical to design the method in this way in order to strike at the heart of the snare drum problem as it exists today. No doubt the primary worth of the method lies in its capability of dealing with the snare drummer and his place in the heterogenous band class I hope that this project has proved it possisituation. ble to do something for the drummer in the heterogenous class situation and that other writers will be encouraged to produce better drum parts in future beginner band methods.

One of the primary weaknesses of drum books is their handling of pictures and illustrations. One picture is worth a thousand words, but it must be a good picture. It is important that these books contain pictures which adequately demonstrate correct posture and a hand position free of undue muscle strain. Most books put all pictures at the very beginning, together with pages describing various parts of the snare drum and, quite often, many pages of music fundamentals. It is my view that when so much material is presented at the very first, it more or less overwhelms the young student and causes him to skip over it and put it out of his mind. In this method, the aim has been to show pictures and give explanations of music fundamentals throughout the book as they become necessary to the student's natural development.

The lack of teacher training in percussion instruction has also been a major consideration of the project.

Throughout the explanatory sections of the book, the comments have been aimed at the instrumental instructor whose major instrument is something other than percussion.

Most methods examined appeared to move too rapidly for the average snare drum student. Often new problems were presented without any preparation or explanation.

As mentioned in Chapter III above, several books present the long roll without having covered preparatory exercises of eighth and sixteenth notes. One of the primary objectives in the development of the present method has been to arrange the rudiments in logical sequence and, in leading up to their presentation, to supply the student

with adequate preparatory material.

Concerning the question, "Should there be a standard system of drumming?" I believe that every teacher of percussion is obligated to know the various systems, whether they be called rudimental, straight, orchestral, or whatever, and to understand each system's capacity to bring the snare drummer to the technical capability requisite for dealing with present day school band music. Percussionist Fred Hinger says, "It is necessary for the student to learn both rudimental and orchestral techniques since both schools of thought have value and contribute to each other."

Perhaps the most widely discussed theoretical aspect of snare drumming is the roll. Regardless of what names are applied, there are only two kinds of roll-either the measured or the multiple (unmeasured) stroke roll. No doubt the roll presents the greatest problem (and opportunity) to any student of snare drum. Well known percussionist James Blades remarks, "The hall-mark of a good performer on the side drum, in addition of course

Fred D. Hinger, "The Physical Approach to Drumming," The Instrumentalist, XIV (June 1960), 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>In order to be prepared for any demand that might be made on him, the percussionist should become proficient with both types of rolls: viz., the measured and the multiple bounce. However, regardless of which type of roll is used, the manner of sticking should remain constant, even though the control is somewhat different with each system and results in a different style and sound for each.

to good musicianship and a perfect sense of rhythm, is the possession of a well-controlled roll."

In dealing with the snare drum roll, I am in agreement with well-known authority Dr. Gene A. Braught of the University of Oklahoma and have employed many of his "roll" theories in the composition of this method. In order to give full credit, at this point I acknowledge that most of the remainder of this chapter has been paraphrased from Dr. Braught's writings concerning the snare drum roll.

The difference between the marching or concert bands and the symphony orchestra is that the band employs a section of performers (two or more), where the orchestra usually uses only one performer on snare drum. Therefore, as with other instruments, when certain figures are written, a better ensemble sound and style result if all drummers playing the same part do it in exactly the same style and manner. This uniformity can result only if all rolls are measured. No section in any musical organization can sound best if each member plays in his own way and in his own style. Neither should the conductor accept such a performance from his percussion section, especially not from the snare drummers. Regardless of what sound the conductor might desire in a snare drum roll, all drummers

James Blades, Orchestral Percussion Technique (New York: Oxford University Press, 1961), p. 6.

should be playing the same number of taps. 1

Throughout the method I have used two basic rules in dealing with the snare drum roll: (1) to determine the length (number of strokes) of the roll, divide the roll note into sixteenth notes (played single stroke), double this quantity, and then add one if the roll is tied, or subtract one if the roll is untied. This gives the exact length of the roll. (In any roll, the single stroked sixteenth notes are what we term the "basic roll beat." Should the roll sound be either too open, or too closed, for your personal taste, use rule number two.) (2) If the roll, as determined in rule number one, produces a sound too open for your taste, use a greater number of strokes per beat as the basic roll beat; if the roll produces a sound too closed for your taste, use a lesser number of strokes per beat as the basic roll beat.

Gene A. Braught, "A Director Looks at His Percussion Section," The Ludwig Drummer, V (Fall 1965), 15.

#### CHAPTER V

#### SUMMARY

In contemporary school systems, it is usually necessary for the band director to teach all the band instruments. Even if he is not a percussion instrument performer and his training in percussion has been inadequate, it remains his responsibility to deal with percussion problems. The director's attitude toward the percussion section has a great deal to do with the results he will achieve. Too often he looks on the percussion section as a necessary evil, merely something to be tolerated. wonder the percussion section is the weakest in the band! In the course of this method book, I have been careful to remember this type of instrumental instructor and to present illustrations and explanations in a way which he can understand and which will challenge him to deal with and overcome the problems within his percussion section. Another primary consideration in this project has been the realization and acceptance of the present status of public school instructional environments and the development of a book that would complement and augment the situation rather than try to change long-established concepts.

I think that the heterogenous band class in wind instruments has been very successful in the development of all students except percussionists. Therefore, it has been one of my primary aims to provide a snare drum book that would afford the percussion student a chance to progress as rapidly as other instrumentalists, whether he studies in class or privately. Certainly, the heterogenous class provides the opportunity to "listen," an experience which is highly important in developing a drummer who is a musician rather than a mere "technical robot." The book is arranged to coincide with three well-known heterogenous band class methods and affords the student ample opportunity for listening and discovering how the snare drum relates to the overall musical performance of the group while he is developing technically.

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# APPENDIX A

# AN INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD FOR INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP DEVELOPMENT OF SNARE DRUMMERS

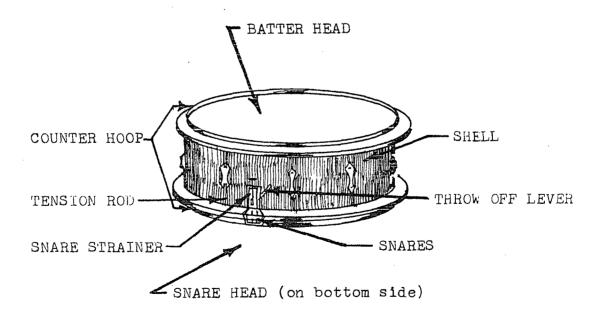
# THE SNARE DRUM

The snare drum, as its name implies, is simply a drum with snares (lengths of wire or gut) stretched across the bottom head of the drum. Snare drums are made in various types.

- 1. For outside marching-"field" or "parade" purposesa deep snare drum with <u>gut</u> snares is preferable.
  The two most common sizes are: (a) 10 inches wide
  by 14 inches deep and (b) 12 inches wide by 15
  inches deep.
- 2. For use in concert band or orchestra, a more shallow snare drum with wire snares is preferable. The two most common sizes are: (a) 5 inches wide by 14 inches deep and (b)  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide by 14 inches deep.

Note: A combination <u>wire-gut</u> set of snares is sometimes used if one drum must serve for both marching and concert use.

# Parts of the snare drum:



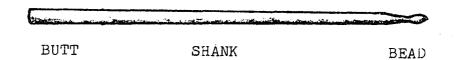
# Care of the snare drum:

- 1. Tuning rods and strainer should be lubricated with graphite or machine oil.
- 2. Wood shells should be cleaned and polished with a good wax or furniture polish.

  Pearl shells should simply be wiped clean with a damp cloth.
- 3. Metal shells, lugs, and counterhoops should be cleaned with a good grade of metal polish.

# THE SNARE DRUM STICK

Selection of the stick: Snare drum sticks are available in various weights and sizes and should be selected in relation to the type drum to be used and the style of music to be performed. However, during the beginning stages, it is most important for the student to use a rather heavy stick, such as the size 2B or 2S.



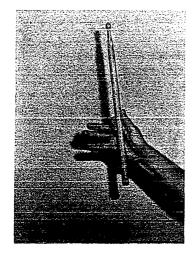
## THE PRACTICE PAD

If possible, the student should practice much of the time on a drum. However, because of a lack of practice space and instruments, a practice pad can be used very successfully. Practice pads may be purchased at music stores or may be made by attaching a piece of natural rubber about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick and 3 to 4 inches square, to a slightly larger block of wood about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The pad should have a slight downward slope (about 20 to 25 degrees) to the player's right. This will approximate the position of a parade drum carried by a sling across the player's shoulder and also approximate the correct playing position of the concert snare drum.



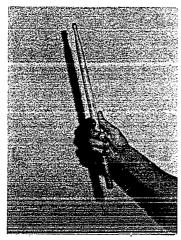
PAD IN PLAYING POSITION (high side to student's left).

# HOLDING THE STICKS

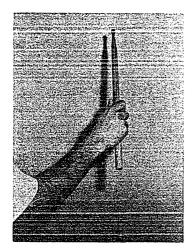


The right hand position:

Step 1. At the balance point of the stick, grasp with forefinger and thumb.



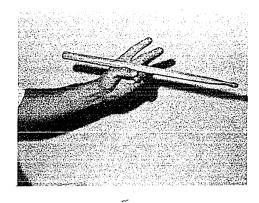
Step 2. Curl the three remaining fingers firmly, but not tightly, around the stick.



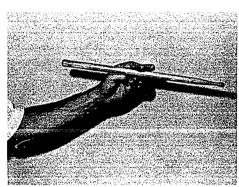
Step 3. The back of the hand should face skyward, with the thumb on the inside of the stick pointing toward the tip.

THE RIGHT HANDHOLD SHOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE GRASP YOU WOULD USE SHOULD YOU PICK UP THE STICK FROM A TABLE TOP.

## The left hand position:

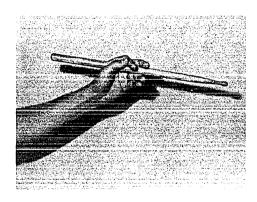


Step 1. At the balance point, place the stick on the third (ring) finger between the first and second knuckles and position the butt of the stick in the crotch of the thumb and forefinger.

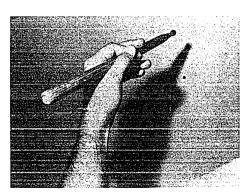


Step 2. Curl the first two fingers over until they make contact with the stick.

The first finger should exert a reasonable amount of pressure to serve as a controlling guide for the stick. The second finger should make light contact with the stick.



Step 3. The thumb should now be lightly touching the first finger and pointing toward the tip of the stick.



CAUTION: When in playing position, the palm of the hand should face the performers right. A common error is that of allowing the palm to face partially or completely upward. Keep the arm straight.

## GOOD POSTURE AND HAND POSITION

<u>Practice position</u>: You should practice primarily from a standing position and only occasionally from a sitting position. In either position, be sure your body remains erect.

Drum and practice pad adjustment: Adjust the practice pad or drum to a height that will allow your arms room enough to hang almost straight down (about 4 to 6 inches below the waist).



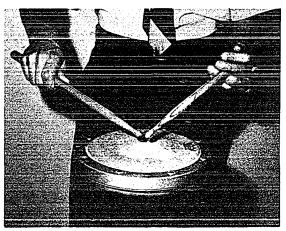
STANDING POSITION:



SITTING POSITION:



PLAYING POSITION OF STICKS: (90 degree angle).



READY POSITION: (Sticks about two inches from pad or drum).

## THE RIGHT HAND STROKE

The stroke may be described as a single full-arm blow which produces a secure sound. This "stroke" should be practiced at various levels of volume. A slight flick of the wrist upon impact is desired.



READY POSITION: Stick about two inches above drum at the elbow and or pad.



Step 1. Bend the arm raise the stick to an upright position with palm facing away from the body. Keep the elbow close to the body.



ARM ACTION ARM ACTION Step 2. Strike the DOWN: drum as though hitting any object with a stick. Remove the stick from the drum as quickly as possible -- as though drawing the tone from the drum. Let the stick rebound to "Ready" position.

# Right hand stroke practice procedure:

= One stroke

- Following the steps above, complete one stroke ( ). Stop, and check carefully the position of the arm, hand, and stick.
- Repeat the above procedure very slowly several times, 2. allowing time to check the above steps and the position of arm, hand, and stick.

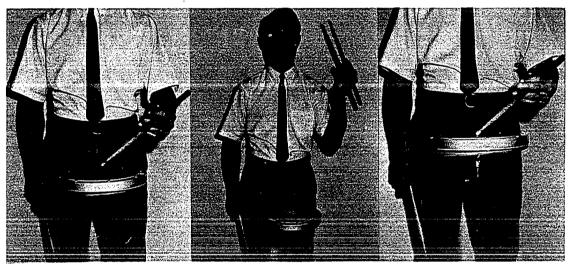
stop stop stop stop

Practice the following exercise many times <u>very slowly</u>, playing one stroke for each note ( ). <u>Important</u>: Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.



#### THE LEFT HAND STROKE

The stroke may be described as a single full-arm blow which produces a secure sound. This "stroke" should be practiced at various levels of volume. A slight flick of the wrist upon impact is desired.



READY POSITION: Stick about two inches above drum or pad.

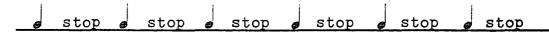
Step 1. ARM ACTION UP: Bend the arm at the elbow and raise the stick to an upright position with the palm facing directly into the face. Keep the elbow close to the body.

Step 2. ARM ACTION DOWN: Strike the drum with a full-arm stroke -- being careful that at the point of impact the palm is facing directly to your right. Attack as though drawing the tone from the drum. Let the stick rebound to "Ready" position.

# Left hand stroke practice procedure:

= One stroke

- 1. Following the steps above, complete one stroke ( ). Stop, and check carefully the position of the arm, hand, and stick.
- 2. Repeat the above procedure <u>very slowly</u> several times, allowing time to check the above steps and the position of arm, hand, and stick.

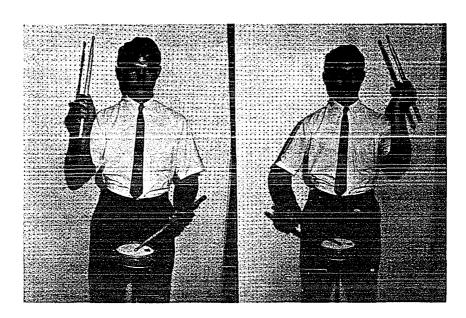


3. Practice the following exercise many times <u>very slowly</u>, playing one stroke for each note ( ). <u>Important</u>: Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.



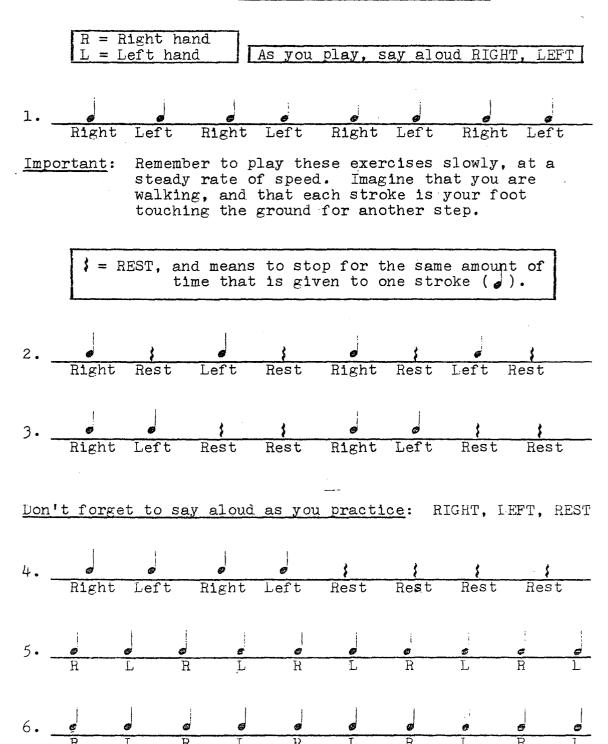
## COMBINING THE RIGHT AND LEFT HAND STROKES

You are now ready to combine the <u>right</u> and <u>left</u> hand strokes. This procedure of playing from hand to hand is called <u>alternation</u>.

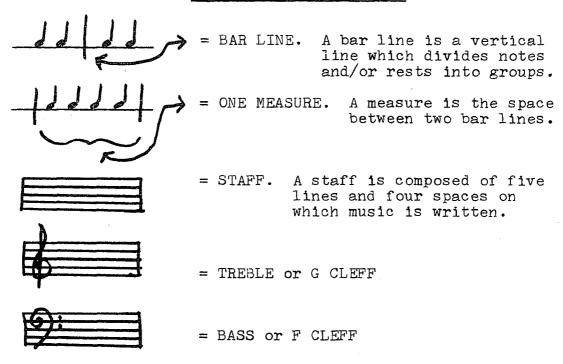


Notice that when one hand is completing a stroke, the other hand is in the "up" position.

Practice the following exercises several times, playing one stroke per note ( ). Remember to alternate hands.



#### SOME MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS



Snare drum music, is written on the bass cleff staff or sometimes on what is called line scoring, such as that used in this book.

#### LEARNING TO PLAY RHYTHMICALLY

= TIME SIGNATURE. The top number indicates the number of counts in a measure, and the bottom number indicates the kind of note or rest that receives one count.

Therefore, in four-four (4) time, there are four counts in each measure and a quarter note (5) or a quarter rest (5) receives one count.

Practice these single stroke exercises first with <u>right hand</u>, then with <u>left hand</u>, and then with <u>hands alternating</u>.

Count aloud as you practice and observe sticking as indicated:

= WHOLE NOTE, which receives four counts in four-four time.

Sometimes whole notes and half notes appear in snare drum music as single strokes; however it is impossible to produce a sustained sound on the snare drum with just a single blow. Therefore, when you encounter this | 2 | as a single stroke,

it is actually being played and sounded as

Sometimes notated:

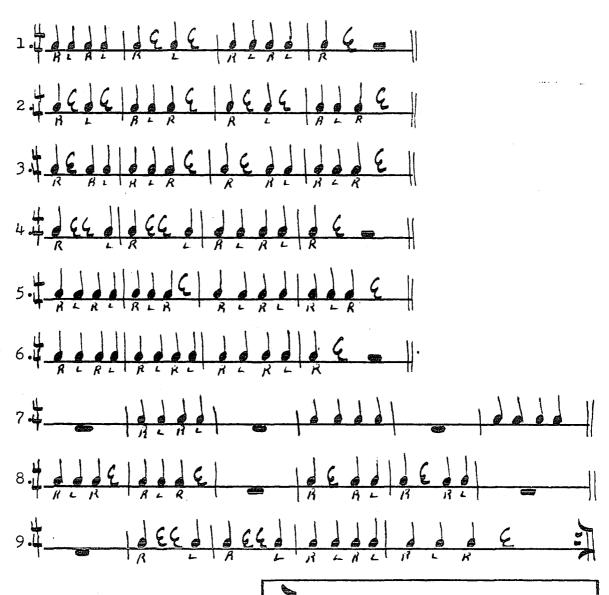
Play as:

= WHOLE REST, which hangs from the line and receives four counts.

= HALF REST, which sits on the line and receives two counts.

WHOLE AND HALF REST EXERCISES

116 16 16 4469 69 69 69 69 69 69 69 54 111 122 1261 6. # d - | - d | E - | d - d | E - | | 7.4 2066 8.4. 12.4 



= REPEAT, which means to go back to the begin-ning and repeat the entire exercise.

1 - 3 PPPPP 3 PPPPPPP # OT 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 PPPPPPPPPPPPPPPP 

The tap may be described as a single wrist-action blow which produces a secure sound. This "tap" should be practiced at various levels of volume. A slight flick of the wrist upon impact is essential.

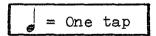


READY POSITION: Stick about two inches from drum or pad. Step 1. WRIST
ACTION UP: Bend ACTION DOWN: State wrist and raise the drum with a the stick to an upright position with the palm of the hand facing away from the body.

Step 2. WRIST
ACTION DOWN: State and raise the drum with a wrist-action as upright position though hitting a object with a state away from the drum as quickly as possible.

Step 2. WRIST ACTION DOWN: Strike wrist-action as though hitting any object with a stick. Remove the stick from the drum as quickly as possible. as though drawing the tone from the drum. Let the stick rebound to "Ready" position. Note: For additional speed or less volume, reduce the height of stick movement.

# Right hand tap practice procedure:



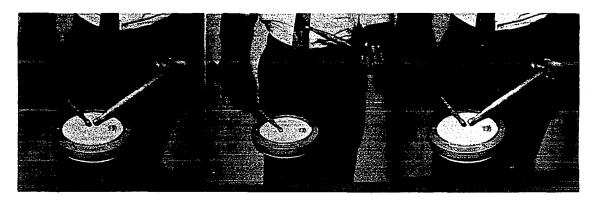
- Following the steps above, complete one tap ( ).
   Stop, and check carefully the position of the arm,
   hand, and stick.
- 2. Repeat the above procedure <u>very slowly</u> several times, allowing time to check the above steps and the position of arm, hand, and stick.

stop stop stop stop stop

Practice the following exercise many times very slowly, 3. playing one tap for each note ( ). Important: Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.

# THE LEFT HAND TAP

The tap may be described as a single wrist-action blow which produces a secure sound. This "tap" should be practiced at various levels of volume. A slight flick of the wrist upon impact is essential.

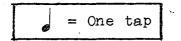


READY POSITION: Stick about two inches from drum or pad.

Step 1. WRIST ACTION UP: Bend the stick to an upright position with the palm facing directly into the face.

Step 2. WRIST ACTION DOWN: Strike the wrist and raise the drum with a full wrist-action, being very careful that at the point of impact the palm is facing directly to your right. Attack as though drawing the tone from the drum. Let the stick rebound to "Ready" position. Note: For additional speed or less volume, reduce height of stick movement.

## Left hand tap practice procedure:



- 1. Following the steps above, complete one tap ( ). Stop, and check carefully the position of the arm, hand, and stick.
- 2. Repeat the above procedure <u>very slowly</u> several times, allowing time to check the above steps and the position of arm, hand, and stick.



3. Practice the following exercise many times <u>very slowly</u>, playing one tap for each note ( ). <u>Important</u>: Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.

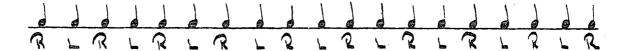


#### COMBINING THE RIGHT AND LEFT HAND TAPS

Remember, when one hand is completing a tap, the other is in the "up" position.

Practice the following exercises several times, playing one tap per note (2). Do not forget to alternate hands.

As you play, say aloud, RIGHT, LEFT etc.



Practice slowly and do not get discouraged. Speed will come soon enough. Remember, we must learn to walk before we can run.

## Count aloud and use alternate sticking:

Check wrist action: Taps must be played with a wrist action rather than an arm action. Also, be sure the hands remain at a constant height above the drum.

6# & E & & E

#### SINGLE TAP EXERCISES

Count aloud and use sticking as indicated:

#### TWO-FOUR TIME

2 = Number of counts in each measure.

= Type of note or rest receiving one count ( or £).

## Practice with both single stroke and single tap:

Count aloud: Two counts in each measure.

18 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

#### THREE-FOUR TIME

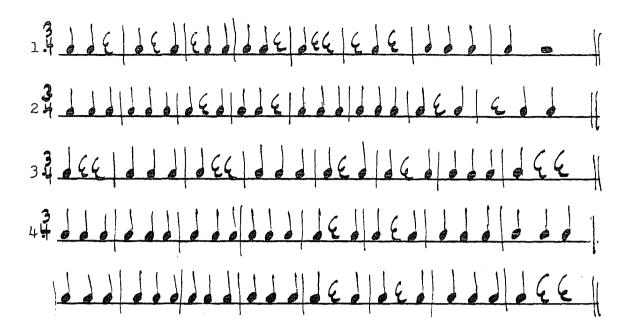
3 = Number of counts in each measure.

= Type of note or rest receiving one count

## Practice with both single stroke and single tap:

Count aloud: Three counts in each measure.

14 66 1 166 1 166 2311611611611611611611611611611 67 16 16 166 - 166 166 166 166 73 66 06 06 06 06 06 



## STROKE AND TAP EXERCISES

# Practice both single stroke and single tap:

#### Count aloud:



#### DYNAMICS

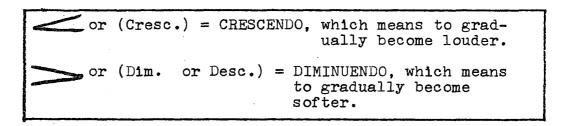
Dynamics in music is that which has to do with volume (how loud or how soft the music should be played). Dynamic markings are usually indicated by abreviation. You should become very familiar with these markings and make every effort to observe them in practice and performance.

No one likes to listen to "pounding" on a drum. Even as a young student you should strive to develop good musical style and judgment.

(pianissimo) = VERY SOFT pp (piano) = SOFTq (mezzo piano) = MODERATELY SOFT mp (mezzo forte) = MODERATELY LOUD mf ſ (forte) = LOUD ff (fortissimo) = VERY LOUD

sfz or sf = VERY LOUD, and means to strike that note with force or sudden accent.

## Other dynamic indications:



#### EIGHTH NOTES

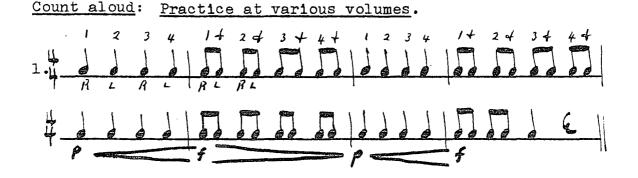
= EIGHTH NOTE, which receives  $\frac{1}{2}$  count.

Eighth notes may be written simply ( ) or in groups ( ) .

As you practice eighth notes, divide the beat into two parts by counting,

| ind 2 and 3 and 4 and otc.

#### QUARTER AND EIGHTH NOTE EXERCISES



3 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 TPPPPPPPPPPPS TOPPED PPED PPED AT PUPPLE PROPERTY TO POPULATION OF THE POPULATIO

## CONCERNING METHODS OF STICKING

In snare drumming, the various methods of sticking may be summarized to the extent they be classified in two categories, (a) strict alternation and (b) right hand lead.

The <u>right hand lead</u> system is reccommended because it is a system which is believed to result in a more precise and unified sound for the percussion section. However, a few exceptions are found in triple meter, which fits the alternation system more naturally. (These will be marked as they occur throughout the book).

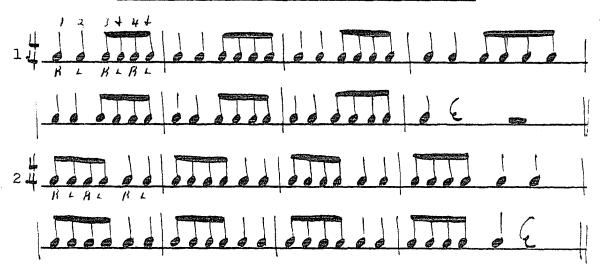
The right hand lead system: This method of sticking simply means the right hand plays on the first beat of each measure as well as all strong and principally accented beats.

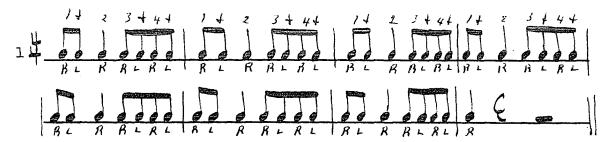
For example:  $4 \int_{R}^{3} \int_{R}^{3} \left\| \frac{1}{4} \int_{R}^{3} \int_{R}^{3} \left\| \frac{1}{4} \int_{R}^{3} \int_{R}^{3} \left\| \frac{1}{4} \right\| \right\|$ 

In this system the left hand plays the weak beats such as pick-up notes and fractional parts of beats.

For example: 4 1 3 3 1 4 1 II III

## MORE QUARTER AND EIGHTH NOTE EXERCISES





# = MEASURE REPEAT, which means to repeat the
previous measure.

NOITS SELT ENTIRE SECTION

# COMBINATION EXERCISES USING J &

1 4 de de la
24 16 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11
1777 177 177 177 177 16 - 1
3 \$ 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1
4.4 1 6 17 1 6 17 1 2 1 1 1 1 2 6 6 6 1 2 1 1 1 1 1
120066666000000000000000000000000000000
54 126 126 6 126 126 126 126 126
[ 3 6 6 6 7 7 8 6 7 6 7 8 6 7 8 8 9 8 6 7 8 8 9 8 8 9 8 8 9 8 9 8 9 8 9 8 9 8 9
64 Le de
126666666666666666666666666666666666666

TO PRESENTE P 2 3 3 3 P 2 1 2 1 3 3 P P 3 P P 3 ES THE PERENT OF THE 1 - 3 PU3UPUUU3 1931 1313111311131113311 # 6 H-3111111111111339 - 3 P [ ] P [ ] P [ ] P 3 P # 2 3 1 2 3 2 3 3 2 2 1 3 2 3 2 1 39 [ 3 ] [ 1 ] [ 1 ] [ 3 ] [ 4 ]

TO PER ELLE PROPERTY OF HOL THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY 6 TOPPOPPPPPPPPPP HPPEPPEPPEPPEPP The property of the property o HPPPELLE PPELLE #5 H P C C P C T T E3 PUUL UU UU ZE Beerslere Errettelere 19383 3 1 1 1 3 1 3 1 1 1 1 3 1 3 1 P P P 3 | P 3 | P 9 P 3 | P 3 P 3 # T

## THE EIGHTH REST

 $\gamma$  = EIGHTH REST, which receives  $\frac{1}{2}$  count, the same amount of time given to an eighth note ( ).

Eighth note and eighth rest notation  $\rightarrow$ for the snare drum actually sounds the same as .

1 4 2 3 4 3 4 3 9	17 14 14 14	8 A	
2 # 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24 24	127777	1	3
3# 14 14 15 14	1717517		
4 # 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	12-24-27-50		
5.47171717	7273737	1	
6 H 7 J 7 J R 1 R 1		i.	
74 77 7 7 7		11	
8.4 4.64	•	%	
9# 774 94 9	·		
104 7 1 7 1 7 1 7 1			
11 4 7 2 4 2 3 4 3	. 4		
124 7 9 9 9 9 9 9			
r r kr			

147111111111111111111111111111111111111
24 1114114 11114114 11114114 1114114 1
EXERCISES COMBINING 17, 1, 2

34 4 1 R	7000		
4 4 7 6 4 6	117011	7.	
54 17 1	11701	1	7
6.4 3 4 7 A		%	
7 4 7 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	7070	1.	7
8 # 7 9 7 9 9 9	70,40,40		•
9 1 7 9 9 9	70,190,100		
104 19 19	[ ] ] ] ]		₹ .
,	, ,		*
11 H A B L L L	127270		

1 # 3 14 14 1		[]	
2 4 4 3 5 7 3	•	17007	
34 57 7 7 7		1770170	
4# 19 19 19		670909	
5#7127171	%	17117171	•
6 4 7 9 9 1 1		7 17 1 1 1 1	
7473373		72227	·
8# 57 3 5		107010	
94 7 3 3 3 3		'	• 1
10 4 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9			
		4 24 24 27 22 2	
114 7 1 1 1 1 1		•	• • •
- A		1 134 0 134 4	•

1 999 4 999 3 99 PP 4 3 99 9 4 9 4 5 4 5 世子了中国中国中国中国中国中国中国中国中国 # 3 P ( 4 E | ( 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 E | 4 3 9 (4) 19 9 (4) 3 9 9 (4) (6 4 9 9 9 # z 3 PLF PRAPPPPPPPPTT

É 3 P P P P P P P 3 3 P P 3 3 P H 3 / C / P / P 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 - TPPPP3 93 1 9 3 1 9 3 1 9 3 1 3 1 3 1 7 E 3 3 P P P P P P P P P THE STATE OF THE S E3 [ [ | [ | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 3 | 7 P P 3 | P P 3 | P P 3 | 2 3 PPPEER CETT PPPP te per el perpende per per t

111116 111

D. C. al Fine = Go back to the beginning and play to the finish.

Fine = Finish (the end).

A pick-up note (or notes) is that which fills a part of a measure at the beginning of a composition or the beginning of a section within a composition.

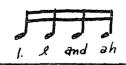
For example:

Notice that the two fraction measures (first and last) together equal one full measure.

#### SIXTEENTH NOTES

Therefore: Two sixteenth notes ( ) equal  $\frac{1}{2}$  count, the same as one eighth note ( ) and four sixteenth notes ( ) equal one count, the same as one quarter note ( ).

Count sixteenth notes as:



Check your hand positions: (Refer to the pictures in the front of the book if necessary).

#### Count aloud as you practice:



# 

### SIXTEENTH AND QUARTER NOTE COMBINATIONS

	<b>C</b> .	= COMMON	V TIME,	which four		he same	as fo	ur-	
2.C	2 e + ah	3 4 e + oh		500 500			5		
3.C.							2		
4.C							2		181
5.C.			9				-	116	
6.C		7000					2		
7.C.	6666 4	00000					0 000	3 1 6	
8.C		and I					0000	116	
9.C.J		A die			-		2		
10 4	5000		0 000			9 99 9	0000		

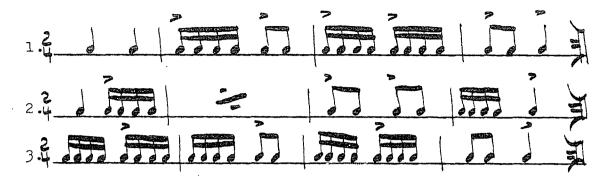
#### SIXTEENTH, EIGHTH, AND QUARTER NOTE COMBINATIONS



# Counting repeated measures of like notes or rests:

Example: When you have several repeated measures of the same rhythm, count in this manner; /23, 223, etc.

<sup>&</sup>gt; = ACCENT, which means to give more emphasis to a note.



= FIRST AND SECOND ENDINGS.

Play the exercise until you come to the repeat sign ( ). This includes the first ending, marked humber one. Repeat the entire exercise, but this time skip over the first ending and play the second ending.



FERMATA, which means to give extra time value to the note or rest over which it appears. (Hold at the will of the conductor or performer).

= 5000000 = 3000000 = 12000 = 12000 77.7

POPPER PROPERTY E3 PER PER BISTER ER BIST Properties of the second of th -31 W W W E-31 W W W W P373 P P 37 EEE EEE 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 31 W W 31 E E E E E 1 3 1 3 1 7 3 7 3 PEEP 200 = 1 1 1 3 出 黑黑黑黑黑黑黑 = 1993 PH H = 2 2 1993 # T

# EIGHTH AND SIXTEENTH NOTE COMBINATIONS





ETGHTH	AND	SIXTEENTH	COMBINATIONS	WTTH	ETGHTH	RESTS
T	1111	~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~		13	TI T C 11 T 11	1111010

1 tah 2 tah 1 tah 2 tah 1 tah 2 t	2			
24 4 8 ALR		455 56		The state of the s
3 <del>2</del> 4 <b>5 5 7</b>	7	75 54	Ĩ,	=
4.4 7 5 7 5	•			
54 577)		,		
64 57 77		,		•
74 07 5				
84 94 8				
9.2 77 63		•		
104 &		1		
114 77 7		,		
124 000 00 7				

#### REVIEW EXERCISES

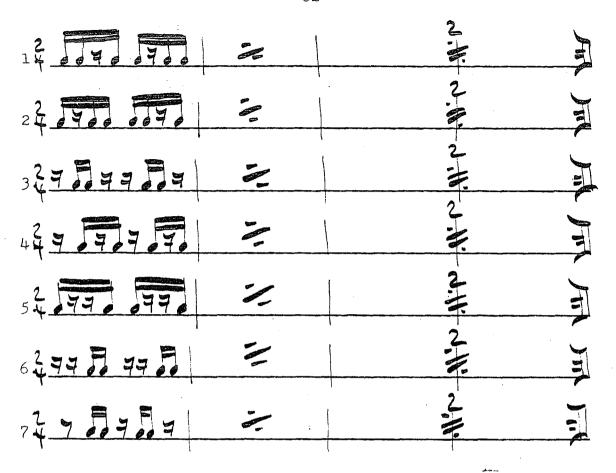
Don't forget to count aloud as you practice and also check hand position from time to time:

# THE SIXTEENTH REST

= SIXTEENTH REST, which receives a count, the same amount of time given to a sixteenth note ().

# Count aloud:

2 2 1 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
18 + ah 28 + ah, _
32 5 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
4.2 5.3 7.3 7 5.3 7 5.3 7 5.3
5.4 6 6 9 6 6 9 6 7 6 7 6 7 6 7 9 7 9
62 970 970 = 970 970 2
7年7月7日 2 年 7月7日 2 章
8 4 5 7 7 5 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
9.47.55.57 7 7 7 7



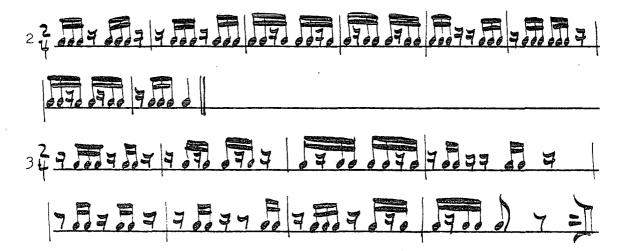
#### SIXTEENTH REST PATTERN EXERCISES

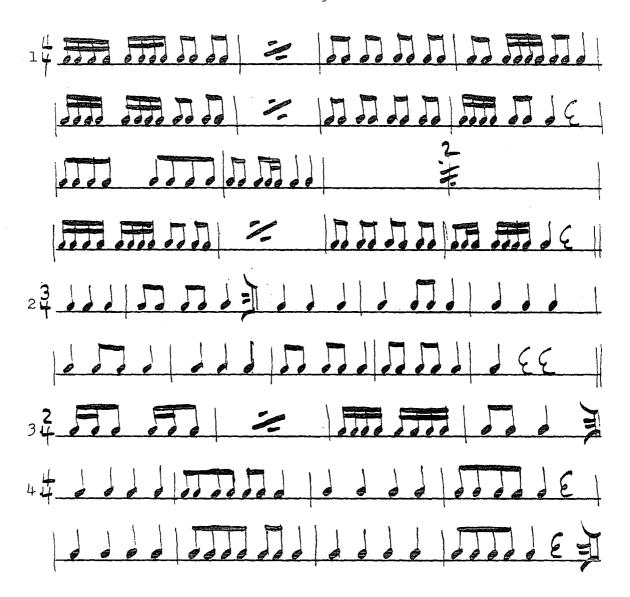
# 

#### NOTE VALUE CHART

One quarter note	
Equals	
Two eighth notes	
Equals	
Four sixteenth notes	1111
Equals	FEE
Eight thirty-second notes	0000000

# REVIEW EXERCISES





#### THE TIE

#### EXERCISES INVOLVING THE TIE

3400018 400018 100018 

#### THE FLAM

= FLAM, which is one of the drummer's ways of adding length of sound and a slight accent to the single stroke. It is a combination of tap and stroke.

The right flam: Place the left hand in "ready" position and the right hand in the "up" position as if preparing to play a right stroke. (Refer to pictures on page 5 and 6 and check the "ready" and "up" positions). Now bring both hands down at the same time and at approximately the same speed. Since the left hand is closer to the drum, it should sound just before and more softly than the right. The gap between the tap and stroke should be noticeable, but only to the point of extending the duration of the stroke. Strive to make the sound of the spoken word flam, rather than fa---lam.

# Right flam practice procedure:

- 1. Following the steps above, play one flam, then stop and check the position of the arm, hand, and stick.
- 2. Repeat the above procedure <u>very slowly</u> several times, allowing time to check the above steps and the position of arm, hand, and stick.

3. Practice the following exercise many times <u>very slowly</u>. Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.

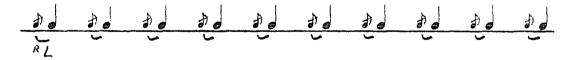


The left flam: Place the right hand in "ready" position and the left hand in the "up" position as if preparing to play a left stroke. (Refer to pictures on page 5 and 7 and check the "ready" and "up" positions). Now bring both hands down at the same time and at approximately the same speed. Since the right hand is closer to the drum, it should sound just before and more softly than the left. The gap between the tap and stroke should be noticeable, but only to the point of extending the duration of the stroke. Strive to make the sound of the spoken word flam, rather than fa---lam.

#### Left flam practice procedure:

- 1. Following the steps above, play one flam, then stop and check the position of the arm, hand, and stick.
- 2. Repeat the above procedure very slowly several times, allowing time to check the above steps and the position of arm, hand, and stick.

3. Practice the following exercise many times <u>very slowly</u>. Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.



Flam alternation: Consecutive flams are almost always alternated. This requires special practice so you do not fell into the habit of "swinging" your arms and hands from side to side. Your hands and arms should always move up and down, and not from side to side.

Hand action for alternating flams: The hand which plays the grace note immediately assumes the high "ready" position, and at the same time the hand which plays the tap immediately assumes the low "ready" position. The hands must switch positions immediately in playing flams.

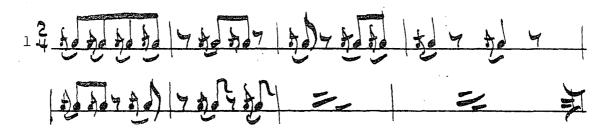
#### EXERCISES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FLAM

#### Practice many times very slowly:

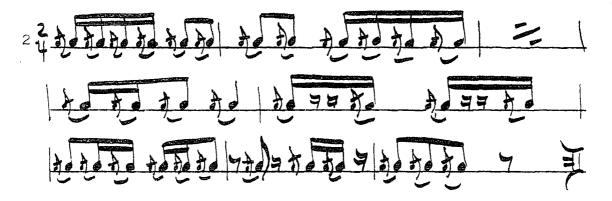


# Flams combined with single taps:

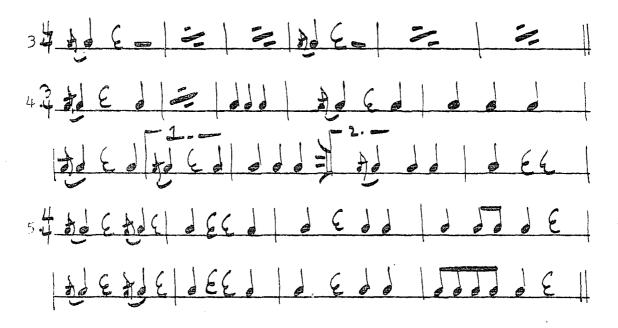
#### Eighth note flams:



#### Sixteenth note flams:



# Combination exercises for flams:



13361= 16631333 = 186 2.3 1/2 / 100 334 1 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 6 8 3 1000 = 5000 10600 = = = 550 67. A. J. J. J. E. | 

1330 = = = = 1330 = 13000 = == 中国中国 品的用品和品品的 प्रश्नेष्ठ में नित्र विकास में अर्थ के स्था कि स्थापित कि राज्य के दि 用力用利用的 用品 具

#### ALLA BREVE

c = ALLA BREVE or CUT TIME, which means that everything is cut to ½ its original time value.

Therefore in 

a 

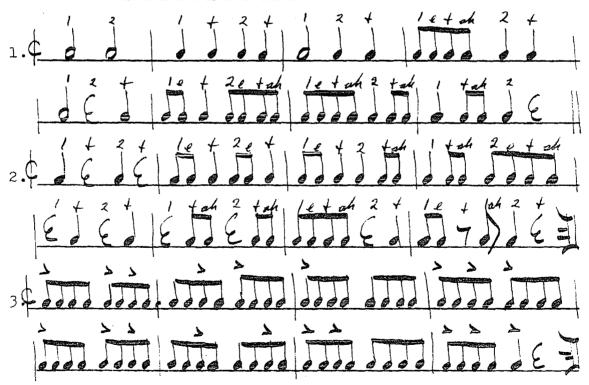
will receive 2 counts

"" 1 "

"" ½ "

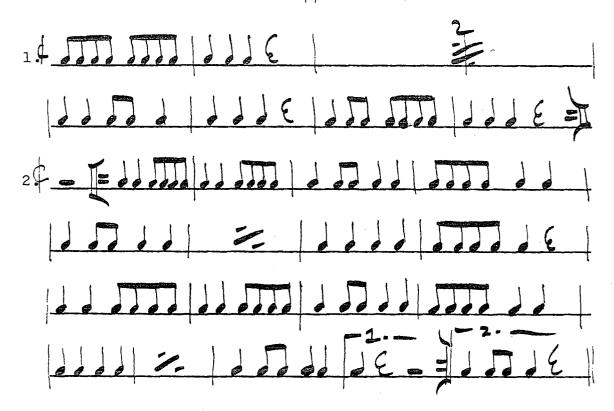


Count aloud, two counts per measure:



1 ( P 1111 ( 3 ) 3 ) ( P 111 ) 3 ( 3 ) ( F) 13999111111339 事 11277313177 臣 3 1 1 3 1 3 1 -= 1 压了停停了四年3四年3四年1四年 उसि हा ति है सार्व विकास कि सार्व है। है। है। है। है। है। 医3年得門門門門子3年111143年3月 

TEFFEFF FFFFFFFFFFFFF TP3 PERPERPERPERPERPER 1313 PEUP PEUP PEPPE 1 1 1 3 1 COUNTY DE LE COUNTY DE E - 3 P EEEP EEEP 3 PAPP 3 1 111 111 111 11 3 1 111 111 111 1 



#### DOTTED NOTES

A dot after a note or rest increases its value by 
$$\frac{1}{2}$$
.

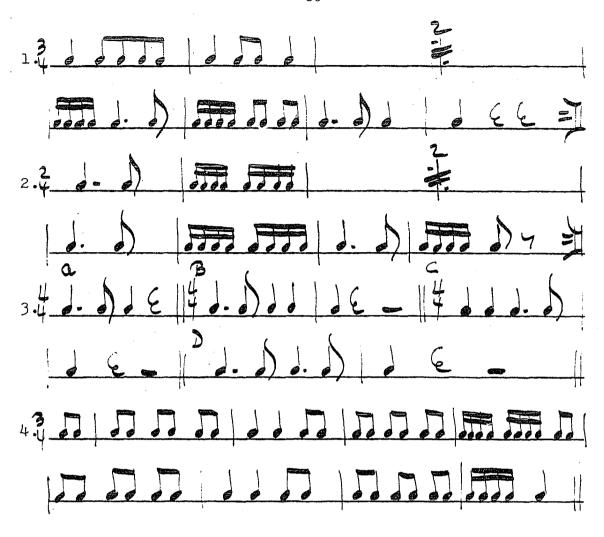
Thus:  $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{4}{2}$   $\frac{4}{2$ 

1.4 3.4		1. 1. 1. 1	13.334=
2.4			
3.4 1.2 1.4			
44 ) )		101.1.0	1/2
2 let ah Zetah	-	1.3 .3	7.
64 1. 5.			
74			
8.4		•	
9.4 8.3 0			
10 4			•
114 2 2 2 2 2		0.00	
0-000		-000	6. 0000 0

D. S. al Fine ( \* ) = Go back to the sign ( \* ) and play to the fine (end)

#### REVIEW EXERCISES





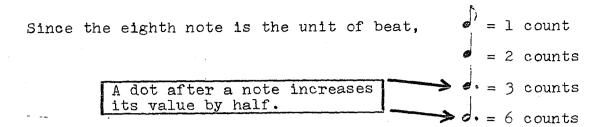
# DOTTED EIGHTHS AND SIXTEENTHS

14 000 00.00 00 000 00.00 00.00 00.00 00.00 马珊珊月小小月月小月月月日月月日日 2共3553 新語話話話話話話話話 हिउ। सि तस्ति सि ति सि ति सि ति सि ति सि 3世月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月月日月日 历历历历历历历历历历历历历 जिनाता जिल्ला जिल्ला है 

# SIX-EIGHT TIME

SIX-EIGHT TIME SIGNATURE:

6 = Number of counts per measure.



# Count aloud:



3 8 0 0 0 0 0 0 5.8 III III III III III III 6 6 19 19 17 17 19 19 19 1 78 1777 1777 1777 1777 1 3 मित्रात जिल्ला ज FIFTH HIM HIM IN . F 12 THE SECTION OF THE SECTION STORES STORES



#### THREE-EIGHT TIME

#### THREE-EIGHT TIME SIGNATURE:

3 = Number of counts per measure.

= Type note or rest receiving one count.

( or q )

# Count aloud:



# NINE-EIGHT TIME

# NINE-EIGHT TIME SIGNATURE:

9 = Number of counts per measure.

#### Cout aloud:

18 000 000 000	<i>. j</i> .	2
2.8		2
3.8 0000 0000 0000 0000		
4 % 175 177 175 175 175 175		刑师刑
5.9 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77		可用用。

#### THE RUFF

= RUFF, which consists of two grace notes and one principal note and is used to lengthen the sound of the single stroke even more than does the flam.

In playing the ruff ( ), the two grace notes must drop in just ahead of the principal note. The two grace notes may be likened to a portion of the long roll.

The ruff may be analyzed as:

Tap - Bounce - Stroke.

The right ruff: Place the left hand in a high "ready" position (about six inches from the pad or drum) and the right hand in the "up" position, as if preparing to play a stroke. Now bring both hands down at the same time and at approximately the same speed (as in the flam) and allow the two grace notes to drop in just ahead of the stroke.

#### Right ruff practice procedure:

- 1. Following the steps above, play one right ruff ( ); then stop and carefully check the position of the arm, hand, and stick.
- 2. Repeat the above procedure very slowly several times, allowing time to check the above steps and the position of the arm, hand, and stick.

3. Practice the following exercise many times very slowly, Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.

The left ruff: Place the right hand in a high "ready" position (about six inches from the pad or drum) and the left hand in the "up" position, as if preparing to play a stroke. Now bring both hands down at the same time and at approximately the same speed (as in the flam) and allow the two grace notes to drop in just ahead of the stroke.

#### Left ruff practice procedure:

- 1. Following the steps above, play one left ruff ( ); then stop and carefully check the position of the arm, hand, and stick.
- 2. Repeat the above procedure <u>very slowly</u> several times, allowing time to check the above steps and the position of the arm, hand, and stick.



3. Practice the following exercise many times <u>very slowly</u>. Play the exercise at a steady rate of speed like the ticking of a clock or metronome.

Ruff alternation: Although consecutive ruffs are not always alternated, you should practice them in this manner at this stage of development. Beware of swinging the arms from side to side; the hand, arm, and stick must move up and down.

#### DEVELOPMENTAL EXERCISES FOR THE RUFF

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Ruffs and single taps:

Eighth note ruffs:

Ruffs and flams:

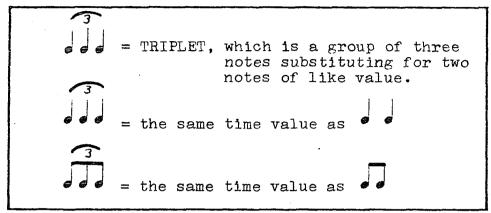
#### THE SINGLE DRAG

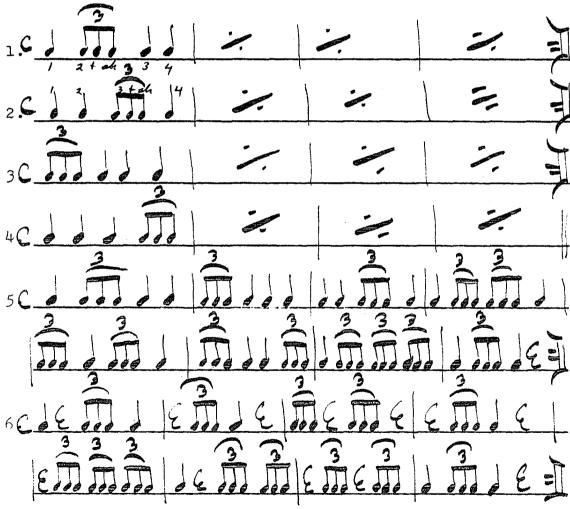
= SINGLE DRAG, which is the combination of ruff and a single stroke or tap. Notice the accent on the last note.

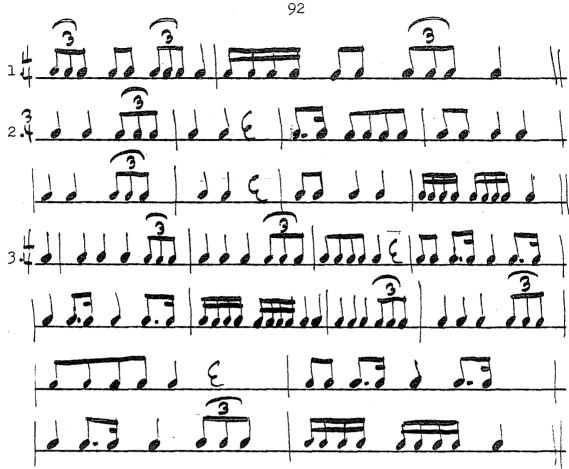
# THE DOUBLE DRAG

DOUBLE DRAG, which is the combination of two ruffs and a stroke or tap. Notice the accent on the last note.

#### TRIPLETS







# THE ROLL

 $\equiv$ = ROLL, which is the drummer's method of producing a sustained tone. This sustained tone (roll) is made by double right hand (RR) and double left hand (LL) blows. The first of each of these double blows is a tap and the second is a bounce. Rolls are usually indicated by three slanted lines through the

stem of a note.

For example:

Development of the roll will require much practice and careful concentration. Be patient and do not become discouraged. Worth-while results will come to the patient and dedicated student.

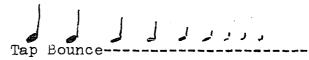
# Steps in learning the roll:

#### Right hand:

1. Holding the stick with the correct handgrip, strike the drum or pad (full arm stroke) and allow the stick to bounce as many times as possible.



2. In the same manner, play a right hand tap, and again allow the stick to bounce as many times as possible.



3. Now play one right hand tap, but this time allow the stick to bounce only once after the tap.



Practice the "tap bounce" procedure many times:



Be sure the "tap bounce" is a wrist-action only.

Strive to achieve a <u>bounce</u> which has the <u>same amount</u> of <u>volume and control</u> as the <u>tap</u>.

# Steps in learning the roll:

# Left hand:

1. Holding the stick with the correct handgrip, strike the drum or pad (full arm stroke) and allow the stick to bounce as many times as possible.

Stroke Bounce Bounce----

2. In the same manner, play a left hand tap, and again allow the stick to bounce as many times as possible.

Tap Bounce----

3. Now play one left hand tap, but this time allow the stick to bounce only once after the tap.

Tap Bounce

Practice the "tap bounce" procedure many times:

Tap Bounce LL LL LL LL LL LL

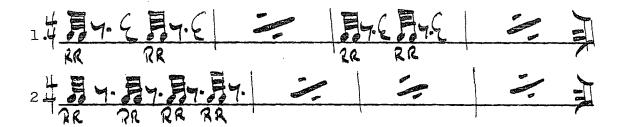
Be sure the "tap bounce" is a wrist-action only.

Strive to achieve a bounce which has the same amount of volume and control as the tap.

# EXERCISES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROLL

Right hand only: Practice many times very slowly.

14 34.666 = 34.666 = 3



# Left hand only:

Practice many times very slowly.

# Both hands:

Continue to practice very slowly.

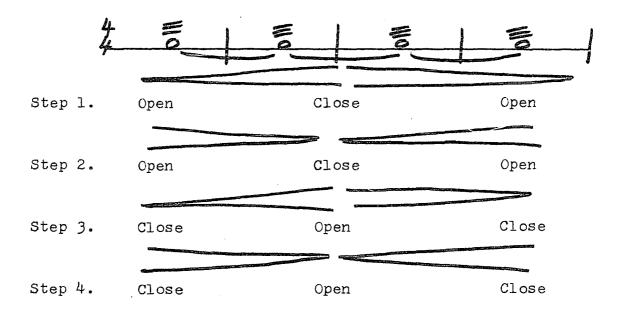
#### THE LONG ROLL

The long roll consists of a continuous sequence of tapsand-bounces played by the right and left hands alternately. You should strive for perfect balance of spacing and volume between tap and bounce in both right and left hands.

The long roll is said to be open when the beats occur slowly. As the wrist-action speed is increased and the beats come close together, the roll is said to be closed. It is possible to close the roll to the point that it becomes a continuous blended sound. This type of roll is often called the buzz roll or multiple bounce roll. It is used primarily for orchestral playing or for special effects in concert band performance. This multiple bounce roll consists of one tap followed by several bounces; however, the hand-to-hand sticking rhythm should remain constant as in the measured roll (one tap and one bounce). You should seek to perfect the measured roll before coming too concerned with the multiple bounce roll.

Practice the long roll from open to close without accents. A great deal of time should be spent in the development of the long roll because every effort put forth here will most certainly help to perfect other rolls.

#### Long roll practice procedure:



#### THE MEASURED ROLL

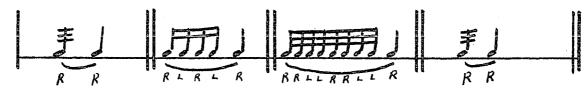
# Rule for the measured roll (tied):

- Step 1. Divide the roll note into sixteenth notes.
- Step 2. Double the number of sixteenths.
- Step 3. If the roll note is tied to another note, add one beat.

# 

#### THE NINE STROKE ROLL

Notated roll: Basic beat: Measured roll: = 9 stroke roll

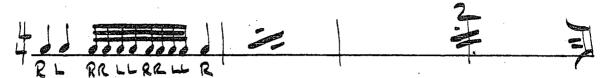


# Nine stroke roll on the count of three:

Step 1. Basic beat



Step 2. Double the sixteenths.



Step 3. Add one beat for the tied note. (Actual notation).

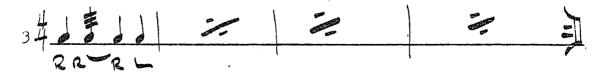


# Nine stroke roll on the count of four:



Remember the rule for the measured roll. If you have difficulty playing the roll, play it as a basic beat several times, then as a roll. Continue to practice in this manner until the roll becomes very well controlled and natural.

# Nine stroke roll exercises:

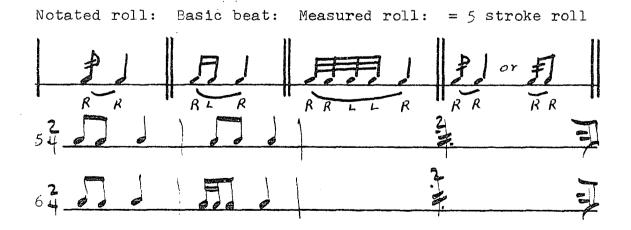


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# THE FIVE STROKE ROLL









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# THE SEVENTEEN STROKE ROLL

Notated roll: Basic beat: Measured roll: = 17 stroke roll Double -

# Continue to count aloud as you practice:

Continue to check hand positions:



#### TEMPO

Tempo is that which has to do with rate of speed (how fast or how slow the music should be played). You should become very familiar with these markings and make every effort to observe them in your practice and performance.

Even as a young student, you should strive to develop good musical style and judgment.

#### Tempo indications:

RITARD (Rit.) means to gradually become slower.

ACCELERANDO (Accel.) means to gradually become faster.

A TEMPO means to return to the original tempo.

# Other tempo indications may be grouped as:

VERY SLOW

Largo

Grave

SLOW

Lento Adagio

MODERATE

Andante
Andantino
Moderato

MEDIUM FAST

Allegretto

FAST

Allegro

VERY FAST

Allegro molto

Vivace Presto

Prestissimo

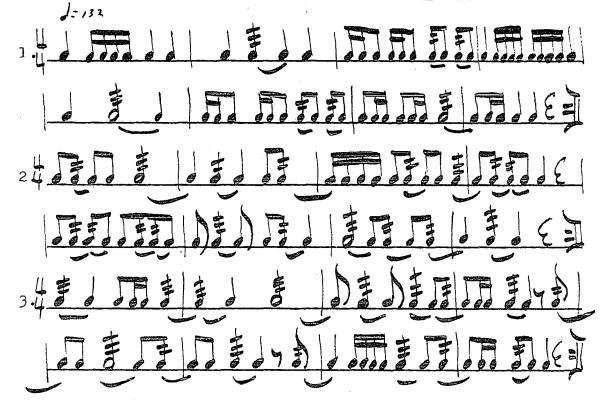
#### TEMPO EFFECTS ON THE ROLL

Prior to this point, only the sixteenth note has been presented as a basic beat. However, depending on the speed of the music and ones personal taste as to the desired sound of the roll, it may be advisable to use a different type basic beat.

For example: Tempo might influence the basic beat as shown in the chart below.

#### Metronome marking

THE 5, 9, & 17 STROKE ROLL IN ACTION

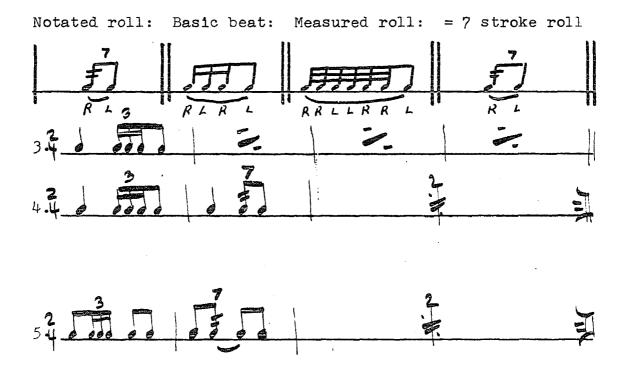


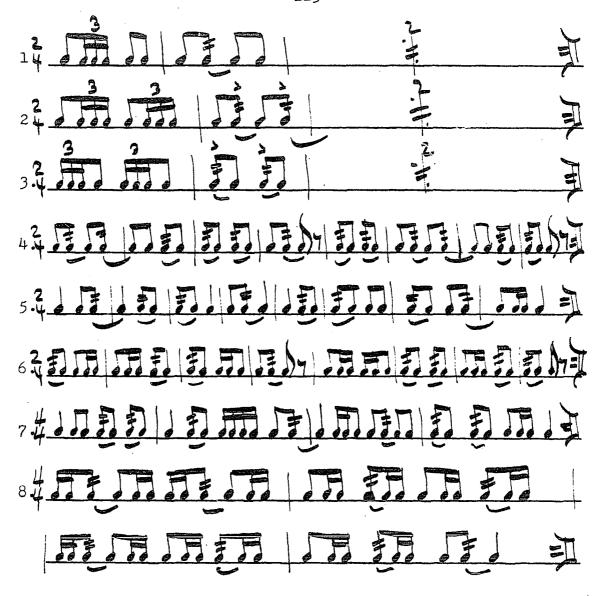
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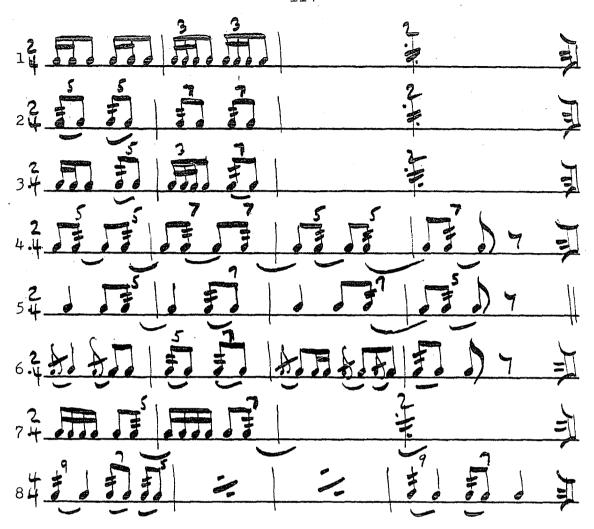
#### THE SEVEN STROKE ROLL

Use the triplet as a basic beat for the seven stroke roll:





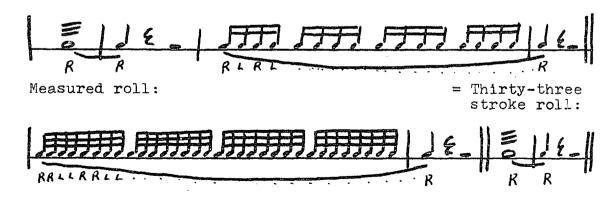
5. 7. & 9 STROKE ROLL COMBINATIONS



## THE THIRTY-THREE STROKE ROLL

Notated roll:

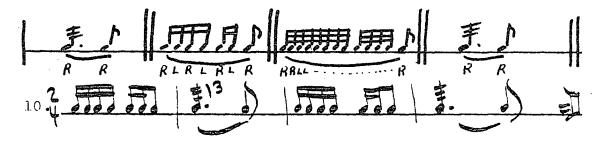
Basic beat:





# THE THIRTEEN STROKE ROLL

Notated roll: Basic beat: Measured roll: = 13 Stroke roll



13

### SIX-EIGHT ROLLS

For six-eight rolls in march tempo (2 beats per measure), use an eighth note for the basic beat rather than a sixteenth.

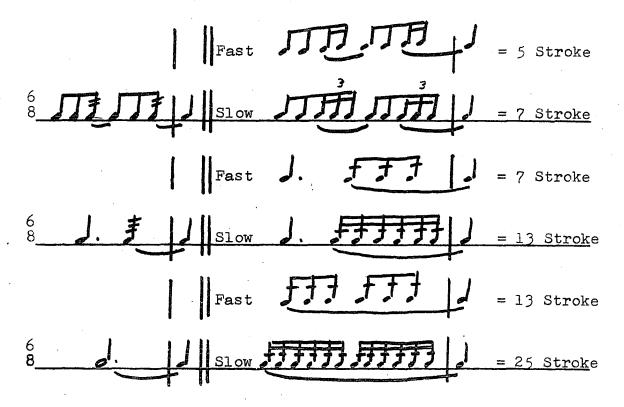
For slow six-eight tempos (6 beats per measure), you should add enough basic beats to close the roll for the desired

sound. However, be sure that each roll is measured and played as a unit within the percussion section. The usual basic beat for slow six-eight is figured on the sixteenth note.

#### For example:

Written:

Basic beat:



### Six-eight roll exercises:



#### THE UNTIED ROLL

## Rule for the measured roll (untied):

- Step 1. Divide the roll note into sixteenth notes.
- Step 2. Double the number of sixteenths.
- Step 3. If the roll note is not tied to another note, subtract one beat.

# Example: #

Step 1 = 4 ///

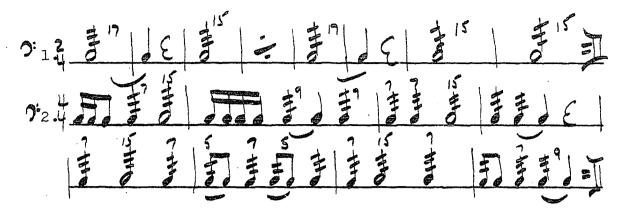
Step 2 = 8

Step 3 = 7 //////

Thus: = 7 stroke roll

# Untied roll exercises:

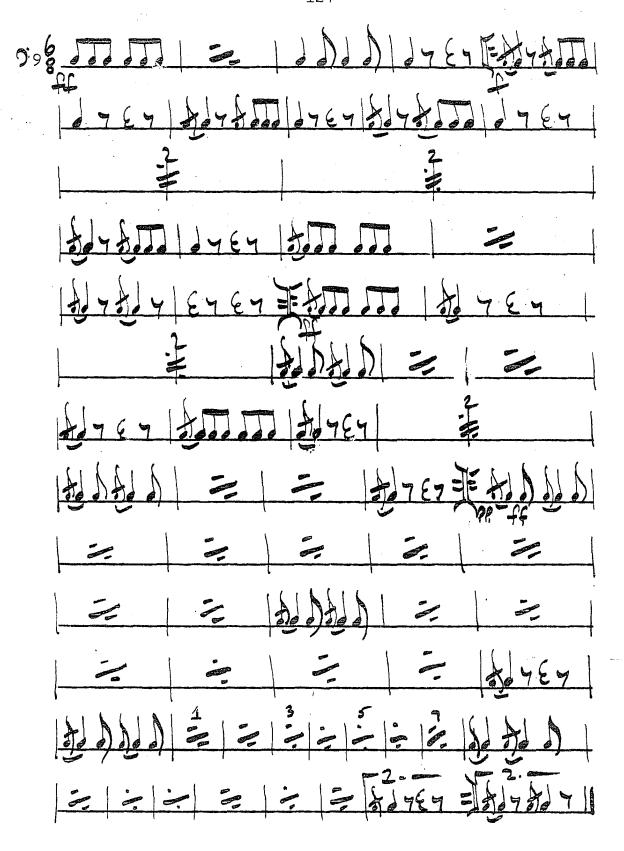




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11 <b>-</b> 57 11 <b>-</b> 58	44-5 42-11	20 <b>-</b> 104 20 <b>-</b> 105	58 <b>-</b> 6 60 <b>-</b> 3
11-59	44-3	22-106	82-1
13-60	48-2	22-107	82-2 Repeat
13-61	71-3	22-108	82-3 Repeat
13 <b>-</b> 62 13 <b>-</b> 63	71-3	22 <b>-</b> 109 22 <b>-</b> 110	82-4 Repeat
13 <b>-</b> 64	71-3 70-2 & 46-1	22-110	82-5 Repeat 84-2
13-65	70-3 & 49-6	23-112	83-1
13 <b>-</b> 66	70-4 & 71-3	23 <b>-</b> 113	84-4
13-67	70-5 & 71-3	23-114	84-1
13 <b>-</b> 68 13 <b>-</b> 69	70-6 & 71-3 71-4	23 <b>-</b> 115 23 <b>-</b> 116	84 <b>-</b> 1 84 <b>-</b> 3
14-70	47-1 Repeat	24-117	84 <b>-</b> 5
14-71	47-2	24-118	85-5
14-72	47-3	24-119	85-1
14-73	47-1	24-120	86-1 86 3 Banast
14-74 14-75	47 <b>-</b> 2 47 <b>-</b> 3	24 <b>-</b> 121 24 <b>-</b> 122	86-2 Repeat 86-1
15 <b>-7</b> 6	53 <b>-</b> 2	26-123	74-2
15 <b>-7</b> 7	54 <b>-</b> 2	26-124	74-3

## Column 1. Column 2.

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Page-Ex.
Page-Ex.
              75-3
74-2
26-125
26-126
              75-5
75-2
26-127
26-128
27-129
              75-1
              76-1
27-130
27-131
27-132
              75-2
              75-1
              76-2
27-133
              75-4
28-134
              76-3
28-135
28-136
28-137
28-138
              76-4
              77-1
              77-1 No repeat
28-139
              77-2
              100-5 Repeat
100-5 Repeat
100-6
29-140
29-141
29-142
              100-7
29-143
              101-1
29-144
              100-4 Repeat
30-145
30-146
              104-1
              104-2 & 104-3
104-4
30-147
30-148
              108-4
30-149
              106-6
31-150
31-151
31-152
              106-4
              105-4 No repeat
85-3
85-4
31-153
31-154
31-155
              85-7
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