



EXERCISE BOOKLET

*To be used alongside regular lesson material

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QUAVER / EIGHTH NOTE GROOVES

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1

Drum notation for groove 1. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

2

Drum notation for groove 2. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

3

Drum notation for groove 3. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

4

Drum notation for groove 4. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

5

Drum notation for groove 5. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

6

Drum notation for groove 6. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

7

Drum notation for groove 7. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

8

Drum notation for groove 8. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

9

Drum notation for groove 9. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

10

Drum notation for groove 10. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

11

Drum notation for groove 11. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

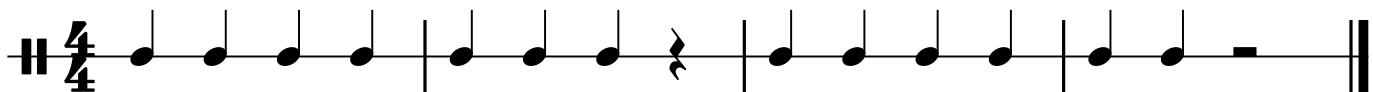
12

Drum notation for groove 12. It consists of two measures on a five-line staff. The first measure has four strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line. The second measure has five strokes (x) on the top line and one note on the bottom line.

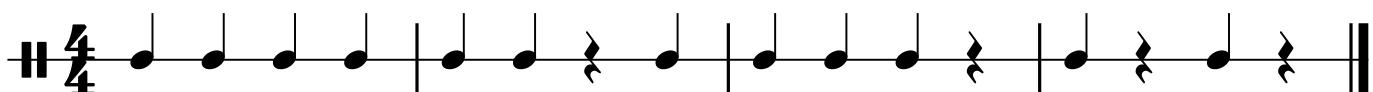
**CROTCHET / QUARTER NOTE
READING EXERCISES**

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1



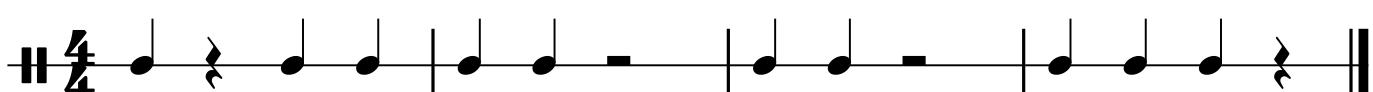
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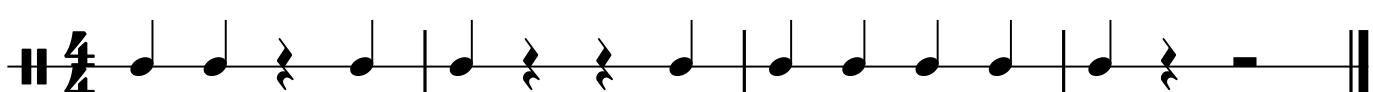
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4



5

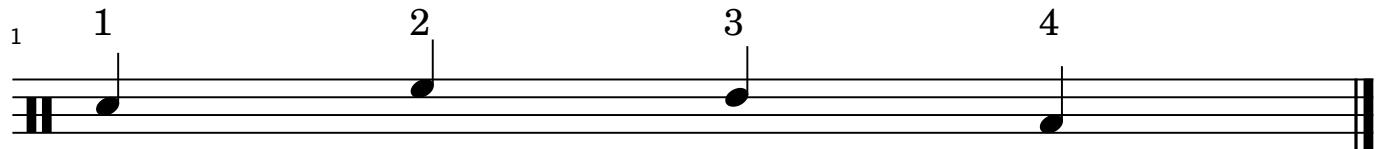


6



CROTCHET / QUARTER NOTE FILLS

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL



CROTCHET / QUARTER NOTE GROOVES

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 2.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

2

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 3.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

3

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 2.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

4

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 4.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

5

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 2.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

6

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 3.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

7

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 2.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

8

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 2.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

9

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 2.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

10

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 3.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

11

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 2.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

12

Snare: Crotchet on beat 1, Quarter note on beat 4.
Hi-Hat: Eighth-note pattern (up-down-up-down).

QUAVER / EIGHTH NOTE READING EXERCISES

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1

A musical staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The staff consists of five horizontal lines and four spaces. Measures 1-4 begin with a dotted half note followed by a eighth-note triplet pattern (three eighth notes per beat). Measures 5-8 begin with a quarter note followed by a eighth-note triplet pattern. Measures 9-12 begin with a dotted half note followed by a eighth-note triplet pattern.

2

A musical staff in 4/4 time. The first measure contains four groups of two eighth notes each, separated by vertical bar lines. The second measure contains three groups of two eighth notes each, followed by a repeat sign (double bar line with dots) and a first ending sign (small vertical line). The notes are black on a white staff with vertical stems pointing up.

3

4

5

6

QUAVER / EIGHTH NOTE FILLS

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

1

II | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - |

2

II | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - |

3

II | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - |

4

II | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - |

5

II | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - |

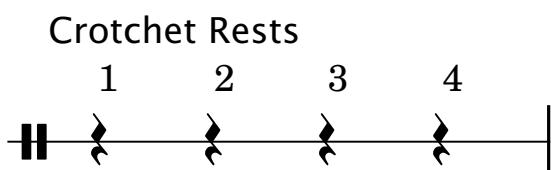
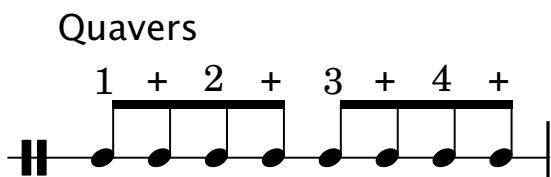
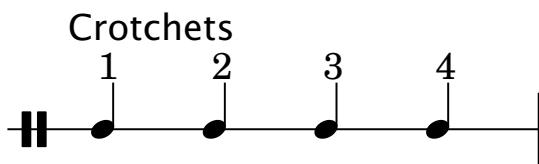
6

II | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - | - - - |

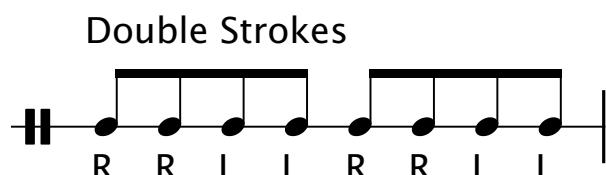
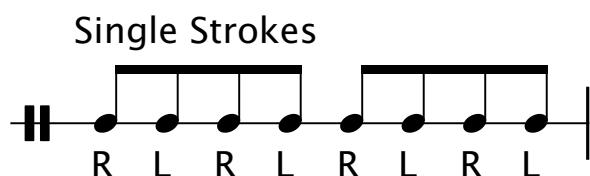
SNARE SOLO 1

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

CONCEPTS



RUDIMENTS



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

12/8 GROOVES

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

5

8

||: V :||

X X X X X X X X

•

12

Measures 1-4: Bass line (vertical stems), Treble line (X marks).
Measures 5-8: Bass line (vertical stems), Treble line (dots).
Measures 9-12: Bass line (vertical stems), Treble line (X marks).

SEMIQUAVER / SIXTEENTH NOTE FILLS

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a

1

2

3

4

Fill 1 consists of a single eighth note followed by two sixteenth notes.

2

Fill 2 consists of a single eighth note followed by three sixteenth notes.

3

Fill 3 consists of a single eighth note followed by four sixteenth notes.

4

Fill 4 consists of a single eighth note followed by five sixteenth notes.

5

Fill 5 consists of a single eighth note followed by six sixteenth notes.

6

Fill 6 consists of a single eighth note followed by seven sixteenth notes.

SNARE SOLO 2

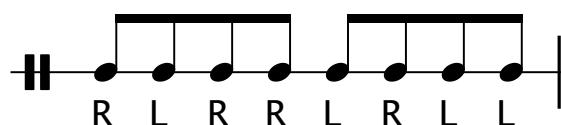
BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

CONCEPTS

Repeats

**RUDIMENTS**

Single Paradiddle



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

SEMIQUAVER / SIXTEENTH NOTE GROOVES

(Single-Handed)

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. The pattern consists of 16 sixteenth notes per measure, with the first note being a bass drum (marked with an 'x') and the subsequent 15 notes being snare drums (marked with dots). Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

2

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. Similar to exercise 1, but the first note of each measure is a snare drum (marked with a dot) instead of a bass drum (marked with an 'x'). Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

3

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. This pattern is more complex, featuring a mix of bass drums (marked with 'x') and snare drums (marked with dots), along with hi-hat and ride cymbal strokes. Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

4

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. Similar to exercise 3, but with a different combination of bass and snare drum strokes. Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

5

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. This pattern introduces eighth-note patterns, with the first note of each measure being a bass drum (marked with an 'x') and the following notes being snare drums (marked with dots). Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

6

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. Similar to exercise 5, but with a different arrangement of eighth-note patterns. Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

7

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. This pattern features a continuous sequence of sixteenth-note strokes, with the first note of each measure being a bass drum (marked with an 'x') and the following notes being snare drums (marked with dots). Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

8

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. Similar to exercise 7, but with a different stroke combination. Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

9

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. This pattern includes eighth-note patterns and sixteenth-note patterns, with the first note of each measure being a bass drum (marked with an 'x') and the following notes being snare drums (marked with dots). Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

10

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. Similar to exercise 9, but with a different combination of strokes. Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

11

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. This pattern features a mix of eighth-note and sixteenth-note patterns, with the first note of each measure being a bass drum (marked with an 'x') and the following notes being snare drums (marked with dots). Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

12

4/4 time signature, 2 measures. Similar to exercise 11, but with a different stroke arrangement. Measures are divided by vertical bar lines.

SEMIQUAVER / SIXTEENTH NOTE READING EXERCISES

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1



Drum notation exercise 1 consists of six measures in common time (indicated by a '4'). Measure 1 starts with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes. Measures 2 through 5 each contain a sequence of six sixteenth notes grouped into three pairs of two. Measure 6 ends with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes.

2



Drum notation exercise 2 consists of six measures in common time (indicated by a '4'). Measure 1 starts with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes. Measures 2 through 5 each contain a sequence of six sixteenth notes grouped into three pairs of two. Measure 6 ends with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes, with the last note being a sixteenth note.

3



Drum notation exercise 3 consists of six measures in common time (indicated by a '4'). Measure 1 starts with a group of six sixteenth notes followed by a single note. Measures 2 through 5 each contain a sequence of six sixteenth notes grouped into three pairs of two. Measure 6 ends with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes, with the last note being a sixteenth note.

4



Drum notation exercise 4 consists of six measures in common time (indicated by a '4'). Measure 1 starts with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes. Measures 2 through 5 each contain a sequence of six sixteenth notes grouped into three pairs of two. Measure 6 ends with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes, with the last note being a sixteenth note.

5



Drum notation exercise 5 consists of six measures in common time (indicated by a '4'). Measure 1 starts with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes. Measures 2 through 5 each contain a sequence of six sixteenth notes grouped into three pairs of two. Measure 6 ends with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes, with the last note being a sixteenth note.

6



Drum notation exercise 6 consists of six measures in common time (indicated by a '4'). Measure 1 starts with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes. Measures 2 through 5 each contain a sequence of six sixteenth notes grouped into three pairs of two. Measure 6 ends with a single note followed by a group of six sixteenth notes, with the last note being a sixteenth note.

SEMIQUAVER / SIXTEENTH NOTE GROOVES

(Open-Handed)

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

2

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

3

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

4

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

5

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

6

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

7

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

8

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

9

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

10

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

11

III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

12

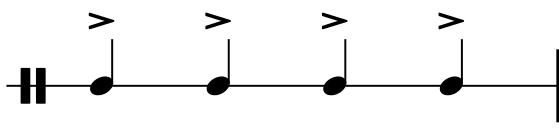
III : | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | x x x x | : |

SNARE SOLO 3

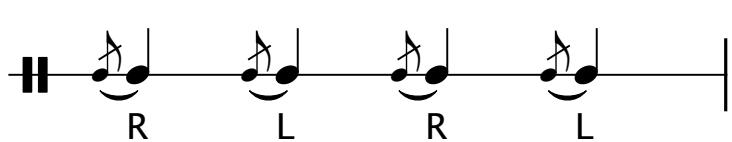
BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

CONCEPTS

Accents

**RUDIMENTS**

Flams



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

QUAVER / EIGHTH NOTE GROOVES

(Semiquaver / Sixteenth Note Variations)

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

A musical score page showing a staff with 8 measures. The first measure has a double bar line and a repeat sign. Measures 2-7 show eighth-note patterns with various slurs and grace notes. Measure 8 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

A musical score page showing a staff with 12 measures. The first measure has a key signature of one sharp. Measures 2 through 6 have a key signature of one flat. Measures 7 through 12 return to a key signature of one sharp. The music consists of eighth notes and sixteenth-note patterns, with various slurs and grace marks.

PARADIDDLE INDEPENDENCE EXERCISE

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

Paradiddle: RLRR LRLL

1

R L R R
L R L L

2

R L R R
L R L L

3

R L R R
L R L L

4

R L R R
L R L L

SHUFFLE GROOVES

1

3

5

7

9

11

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

2

4

6

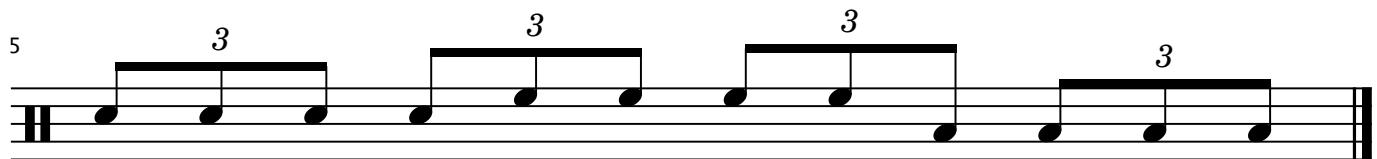
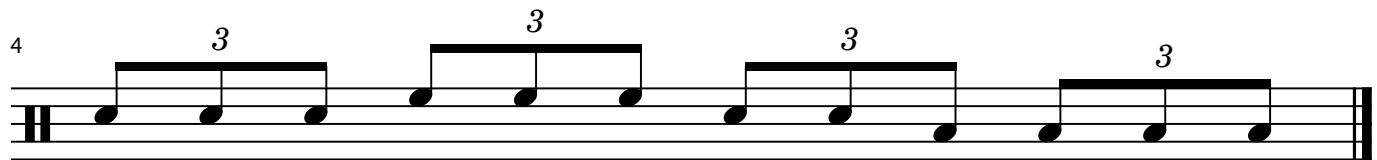
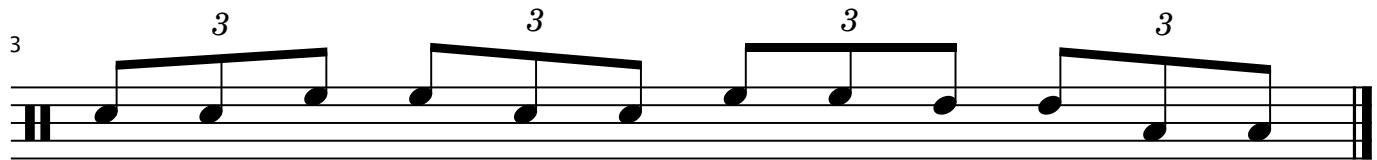
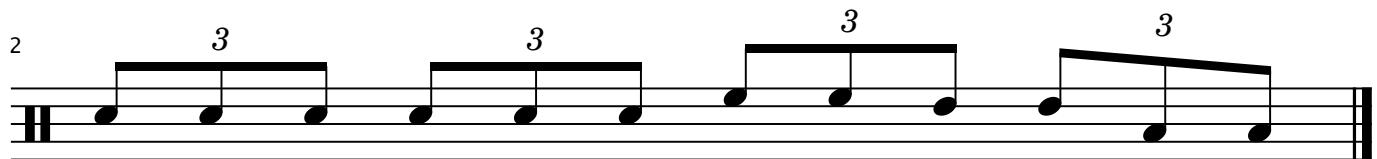
8

10

12

TRIPLET FILLS

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL



6 STROKE ROLL EXERCISE

BACKBONE DRUM SCHOOL

1

R L L R R L

2

R L R R L L

3

R R L L R L

4

R R L R L L