

Snare Drum Pedagogy From Day One

1



The Midwest Clinic

International Band and Orchestra Conference

Travis Downs, Clinician

Monday, December 19, 2022

1:00 pm-1:30 pm

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

11:45 am-12:15 pm

How do I select students for the percussion section?

2





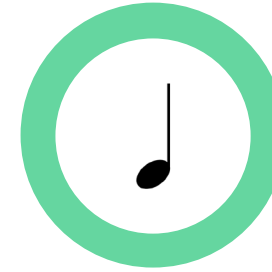
Evaluate
motor skills
coordination



Steady pulse?



Basic
independence
between limbs



Can they
naturally
subdivide?

Instrument Fittings

TRYOUT PROCESS?
HOW?
WHEN?

Screening Ideas

- Hand and feet combinations
- Subdividing with metronome
- Echo rhythmic patterns
- Sticking combination patterns
- Evaluating stick/wrist initial mobility



Schedule Pros and Cons?

Percussion with Winds



Separate Percussion Class



Classroom Setup: Drums vs. Pads



Equipment Set Up and Body Position

- ▶ **Proper Stand Adjustments/Heights**
- ▶ **Pro tips**

Equipment Set Up and Body Position



Equipment Set Up and Body Position

- ▶ **Posture and Stance**
- ▶ **Proximity to the drum**
- ▶ **Arms and Elbows**

Stand Maintenance



Grip/Hand Position

Match Grip- Universal for other percussion instruments

Hand/grip = embouchure for brass/woodwinds

Daily reminders

Be patient, be persistent

Steps for forming proper grip/hand position

Stroke Development Overview

- ▶ **Full stroke**
- ▶ **Tap stroke**
- ▶ **Down Stroke**
- ▶ **Up Stroke**



Developing first basic strokes:

Full Stroke (aka-Rebound or Legato Stroke)

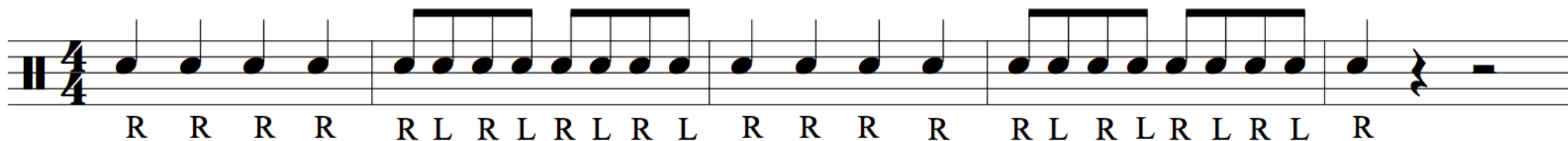
- ▶ **Create awareness of how the drum works with the student**
- ▶ **Create awareness of correct path of the stick-vertical motion**
- ▶ **Isolate each hand first before progressing on to hand-to-hand**

Coordination with sticking patterns:



- ▶ **RRRR RRRR LLLL LLLL**
- ▶ **RRRR LLLL RRRR LLLL**
- ▶ **RRLL RRLL RRLL RRLL**
- ▶ **RLRL RLRL RLRL RLRL**
- ▶ **RLRR LRLL RLRR LRLL**
- ▶ **RLRL RRLR LRLR LLRL**

Developing Hand to Hand Basics

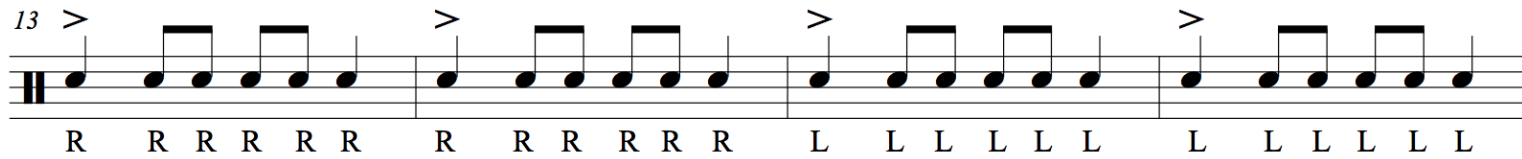
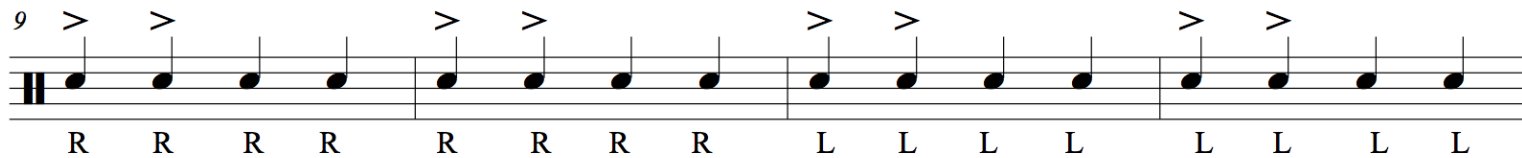
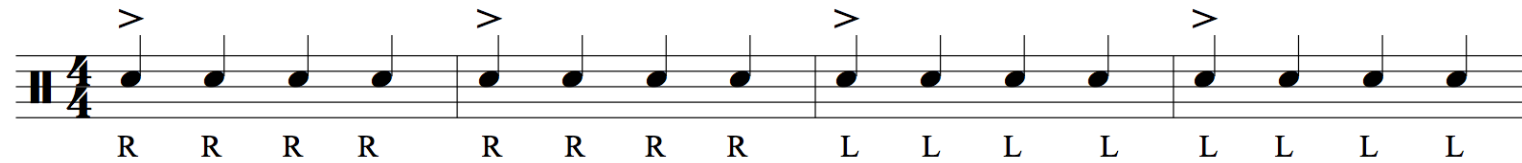


Developing Hand to Hand Basics



Stroke Types Development Exercises

(Full, Down, Tap, Up)



**SAME EXAMPLE
WITH STROKE TYPE
MARKINGS FILLED
IN:**

F – FULL STROKE

D – DOWN STROKE

U – UP STROKE

**(*NOTHING MARKED OVER
TAP STOKES)**

Stroke Types Development Exercises

(Full, Down, Tap, Up)

Staff 1: Measures 1-4 (R), 5-8 (L), 9-12 (R), 13-16 (L). Strokes: D, U, D, U, D, U, D, U. Markings: '>' above measures 1, 5, 9, 13.

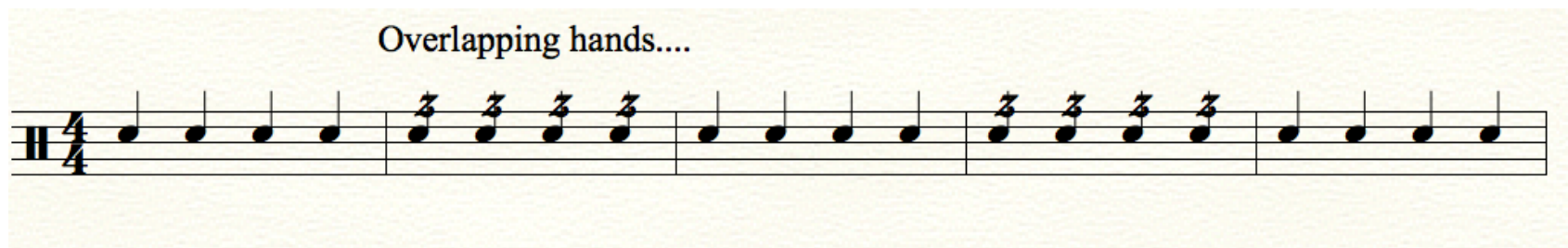
Staff 2: Measures 1-4 (R), 5-8 (L), 9-12 (R), 13-16 (L). Strokes: D, U, D, U, D, U, D, U. Markings: '>' above measures 1, 5, 9, 13.

Staff 3: Measures 1-4 (R), 5-8 (L), 9-12 (R), 13-16 (L). Strokes: F, D, U, F, D, U, F, D. Markings: '>' above measures 1, 5, 9, 13.

Staff 4: Measures 1-4 (R), 5-8 (L), 9-12 (R), 13-16 (L). Strokes: D, U, D, U, D, U, D, U. Markings: '>' above measures 1, 5, 9, 13.

Continuing basic stroke development and finger awareness for beginners:

► Multiple bounce (Buzz Stokes)



Double Strokes



[illegible]

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31

34

37

40

43

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Questions?

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