Course Handbook and Walkthrough

Djembe Fundamentals

Basic Theory and Quaver Rhythms

Part 1

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Notation and Theory

- There are different notes which have varied '**Note Values'**.
- A '**Note Value'** determines the length of the note.
- When a note is present, it is essential to play it.
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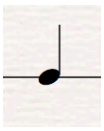

- This is a '***Crotchet Note***', this has a value worth **1 beat**.
- This can be identified by the single, un-joined line.
- This single note has an overall value of **1 beat**.

- This is a **'*Quaver Note'***, individually this has a value of **½ a beat**.
- They can be identified by the single line, joining the notes.
- Both notes hold an overall value of **1 beat**.
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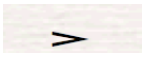
- This is a '***Semi-quaver Note'***, with an individual value of ¼.
- This can be identified by the double line, joining the notes.
- All four notes hold an overall value of **1 beat**.



- This symbol is an '***Accent***' and determines the note it is above, to be played **louder**.

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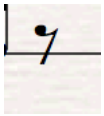
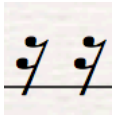
Rests

These symbols are '**Rests**', this is where you take a gap, and miss out the notes within the sequence. Essentially, you do not play anything when you see these symbols, however, you still count them.

- This is a '***Crotchet Rest'***, which has a value of **1 beat**.
- One of these holds an overall value of **1 beat**.



- This is a '***Quaver Rest'***, which has a value of **½ a beat**.
- **Two** of these hold an overall value of **1 beat**.



- This is a '***Semi-Quaver Rest'***, which has a value of **¼ beat**.
- **Four** of these hold an overall value of **1 beat**.

Fundamental Quaver Rhythms

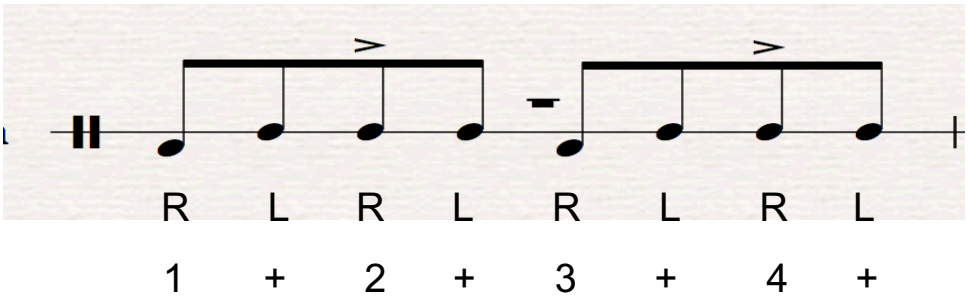
Using they key provided, play the basic rhythms along to a metronome.
To find a metronome, search for an 'Online Metronome' on google.

- *Gradually increase the speed of the metronome once you are becoming comfortable with the rhythms**. 60-70 BPM** is usually a good starting point.*

- *Drum Grooves which are mainly made up of quaver notes are commonly referred to as 8's because there are 8 Quaver beats, within one bar of music.*

- *Counting methods will be provided underneath each example. It is encouraged to count out-loud whilst you practice.*

Example Exercise



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Exercise One

- Practice each groove for **2 minute intervals**, before rotating to the next exercise.
- Once comfortable with the patterns, play 4 bars of each and then rotate to the next groove without stopping.
- A note below the bar line is a **bass tone** and on the line is a **snare tone**.
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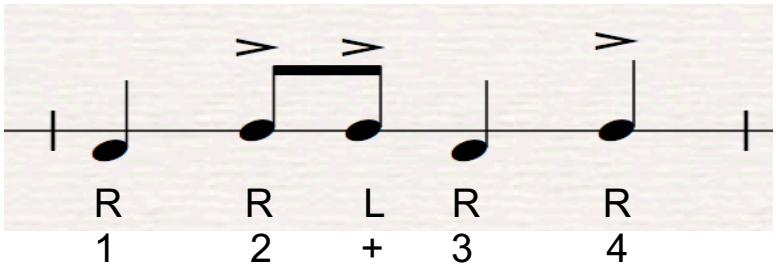
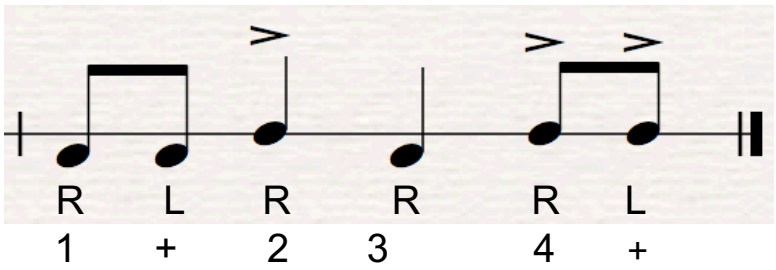
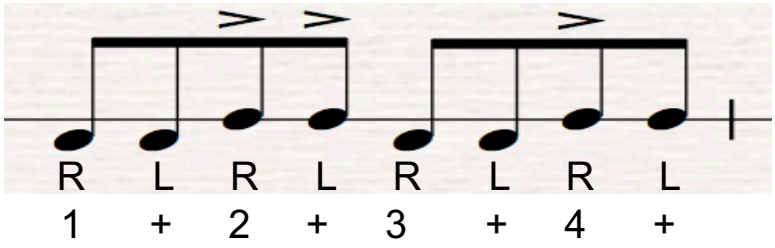
Exercise 1



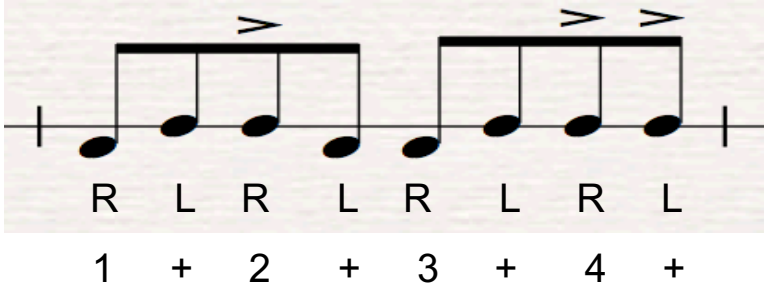
Exercise 2



Exercise 3



Exercise 4



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