MR. DICKSON'S METHOD FOR BAND

Book Two

Snare Drum

www.JustinDickson.com/Band
revised February 18, 2017

"Strategies That Work When Learning New Music"

Read before you play

- Before you play, tizzle the rhythms or say them out loud with a “dut” syllable.
  Tap your foot or wave your sticks with the beat while you do it.

Set up for a good first note

- Wave your sticks with the beat before you start, while watching the conductor.
- Breathe on the beat before you play. Breathe together to play together.
  Yes, even percussion! It works!

While you are playing

- Look ahead while you play, so you are ready for the next thing you have to play.
- Wave your sticks in the air with the beat during rests.
- Keep your stick height low, and hold the sticks correctly.

Use technology to help you learn

- When practicing at home, use a metronome app like Tempo by Frozen Ape (free version)
  to make sure you are keeping a steady beat.

When you get stuck on a hard part

- First of all, it's not hard, it's just new. Keep trying, you'll get better.
- Find the notes that are difficult for you, and just play them over and over. Break it down
  to just 2 or 3 notes at a time, and play them as much as you can. Don't try to play the
  whole song yet if you really just need to work on a few tricky notes in the middle.
- Slowwwwwww downnnnnnnn. Play it really, really, really slowly. Speed will come later.
- Say it out loud! Saying the rhythm out loud with a “dut” syllable really helps.
  Don’t just think it. You have to say it loud enough to hear yourself, or it won’t work.
- It's not about trying hard enough, it's about trying often enough.
  Don't try it 2 or 3 times and then give up. Your body needs more reps to learn new things.
  Try it 10-15 times, then move on to something else and come back to it later.
- Ask for help! Your teacher gets paid the big bucks to help you. Use them!

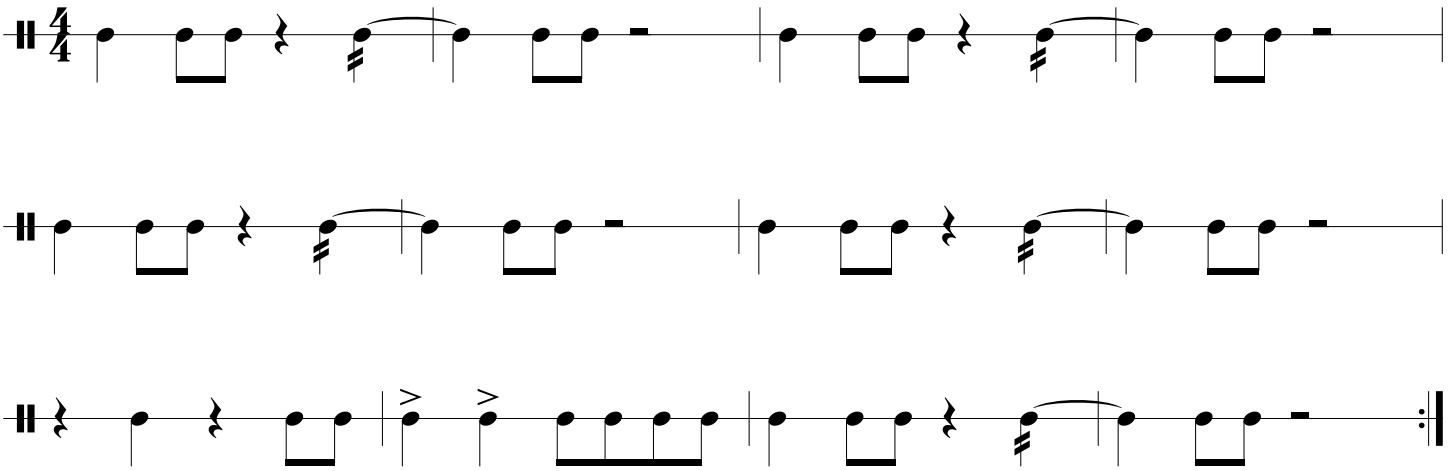
Correct "matched grip"

Wrong. All fingers should be placed on the sticks.

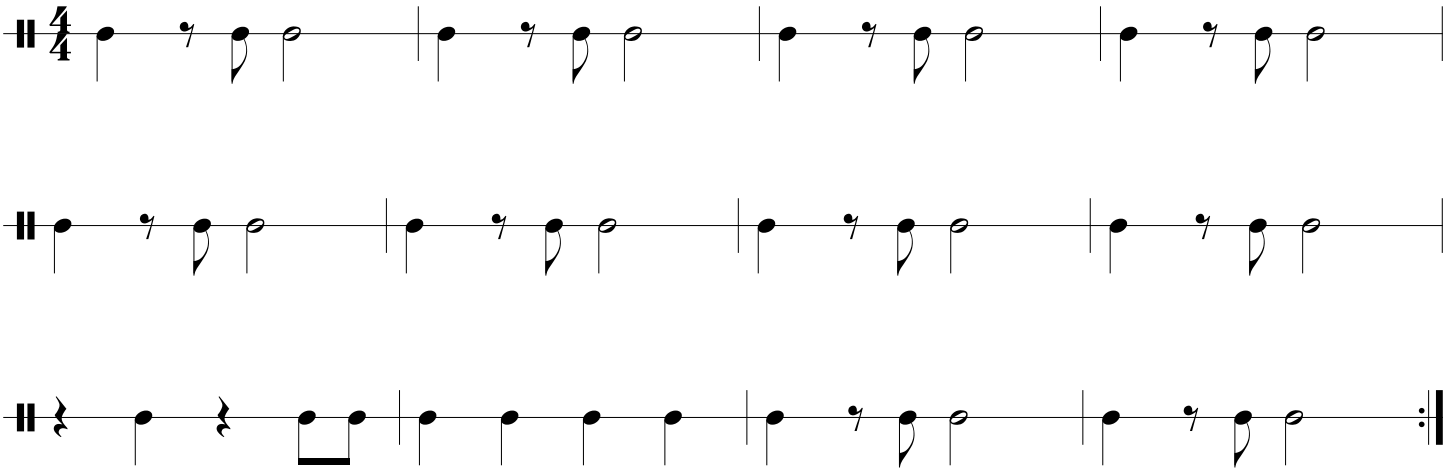
Wrong. There should not be a gap between your hand and the stick. The fulcrum should be at the front of the hand, not the back.

Wrong. Index finger should not point or be on top of the stick.

10.01 "Back To School Blues" - snare drum part

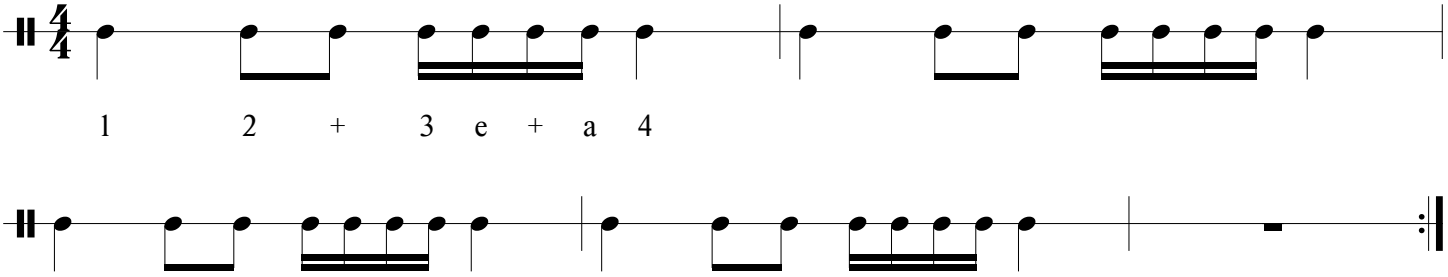


10.01 "Back To School Blues" - bass drum part

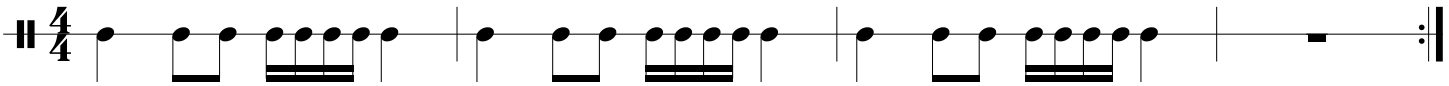


10.02 Tacet

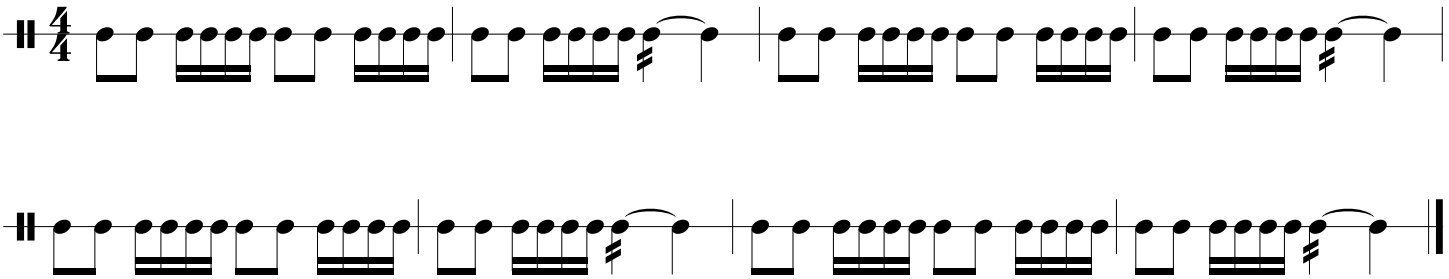
10.03 16th notes



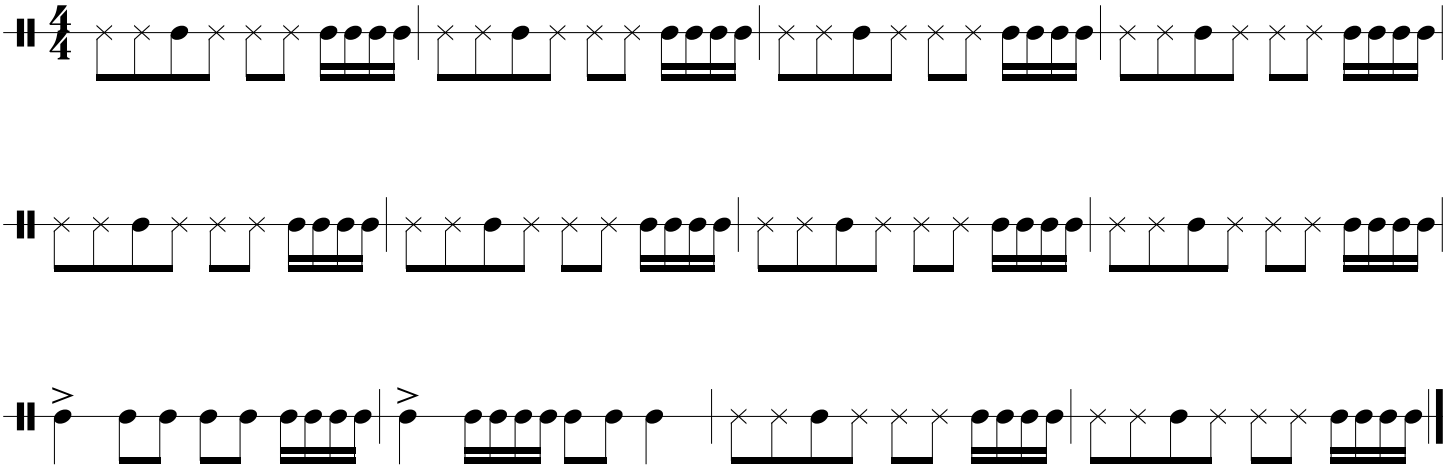
10.04 16th notes



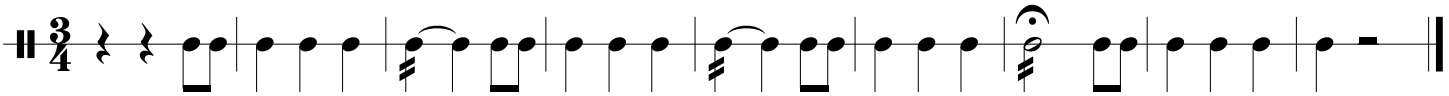
10.05 "Jingle Bells"



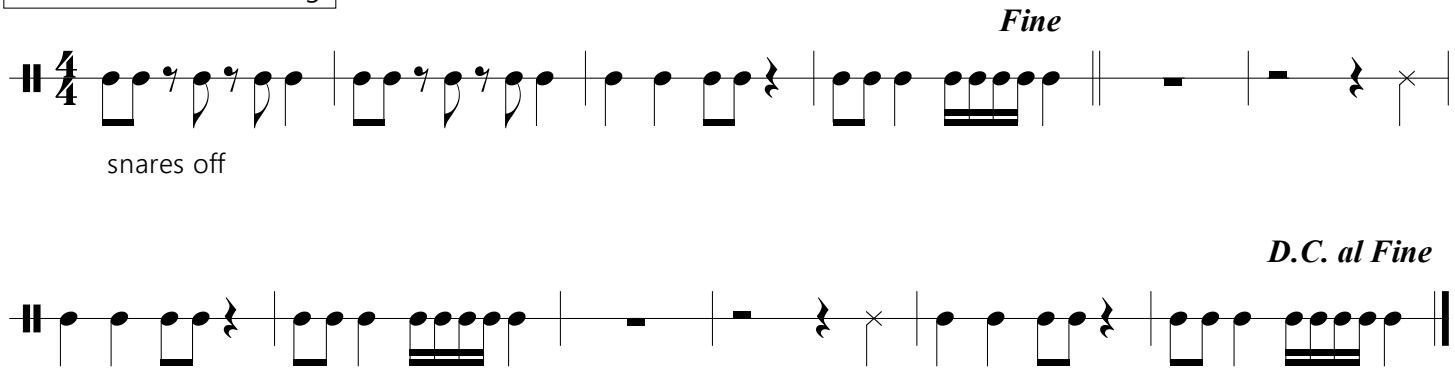
10.06 "Four-Note Blues" - Dickson



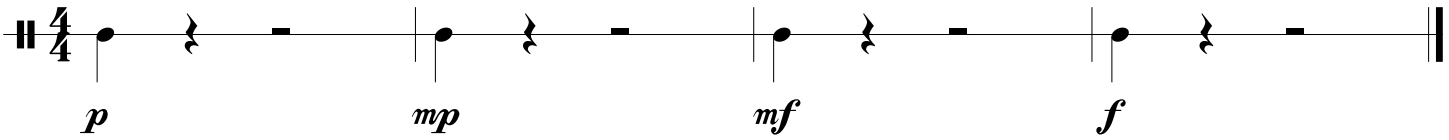
10.07 "Happy Birthday"



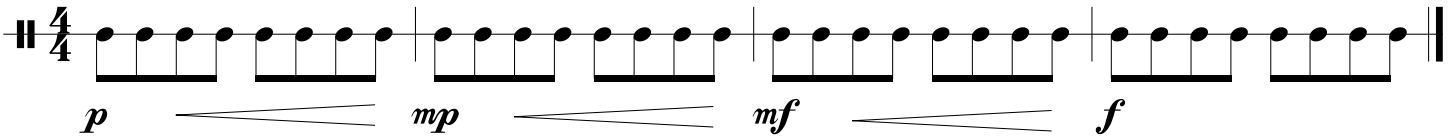
10.08 "Banana Boat Song"



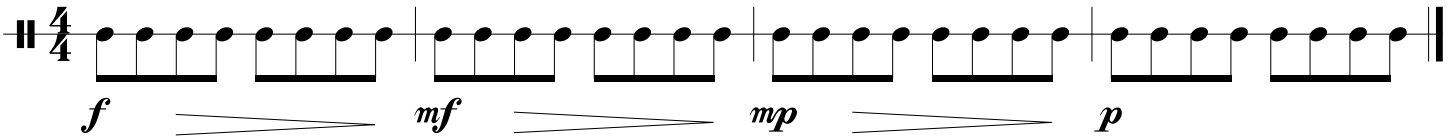
11.01 Dynamics



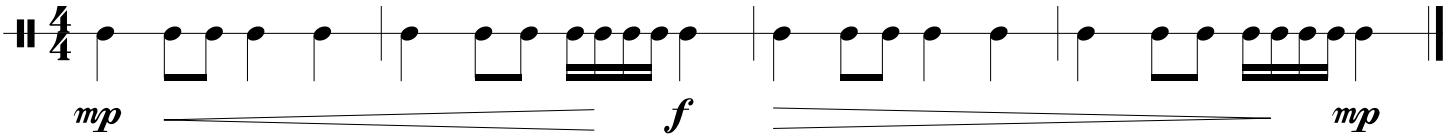
11.02 Crescendo



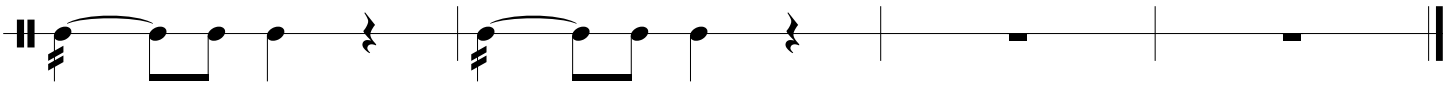
11.03 Decrescendo



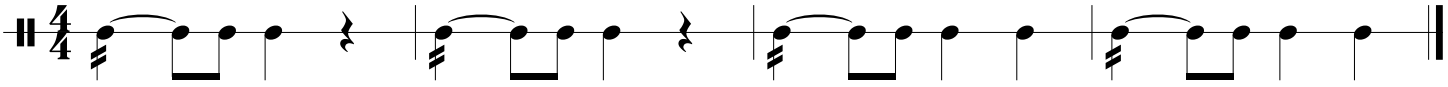
11.04 Etude



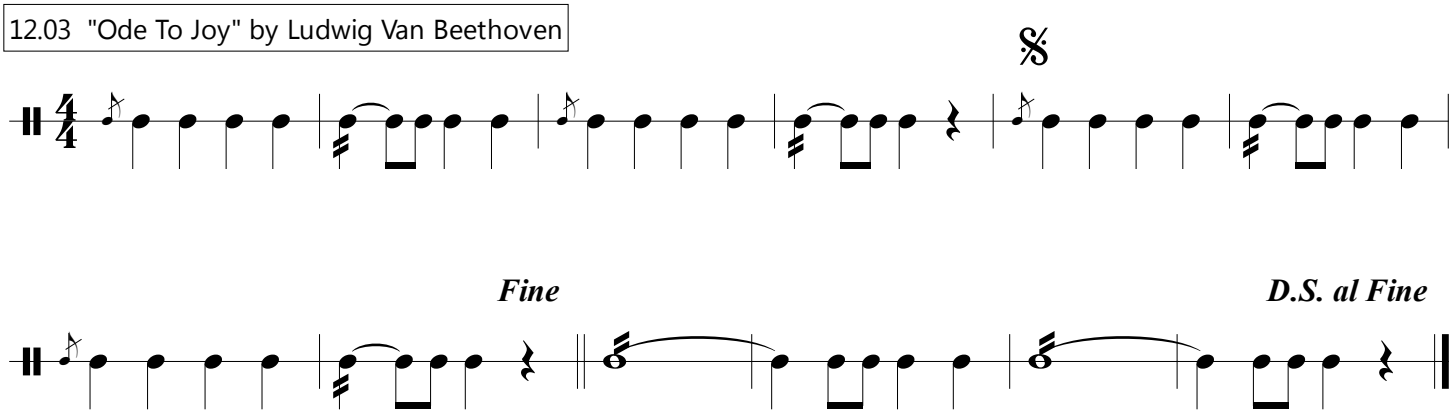
12.01 Roll release and hit



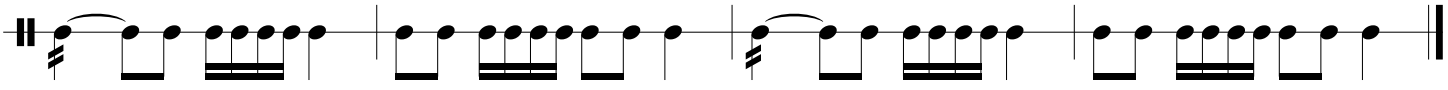
12.02 Roll release and hit



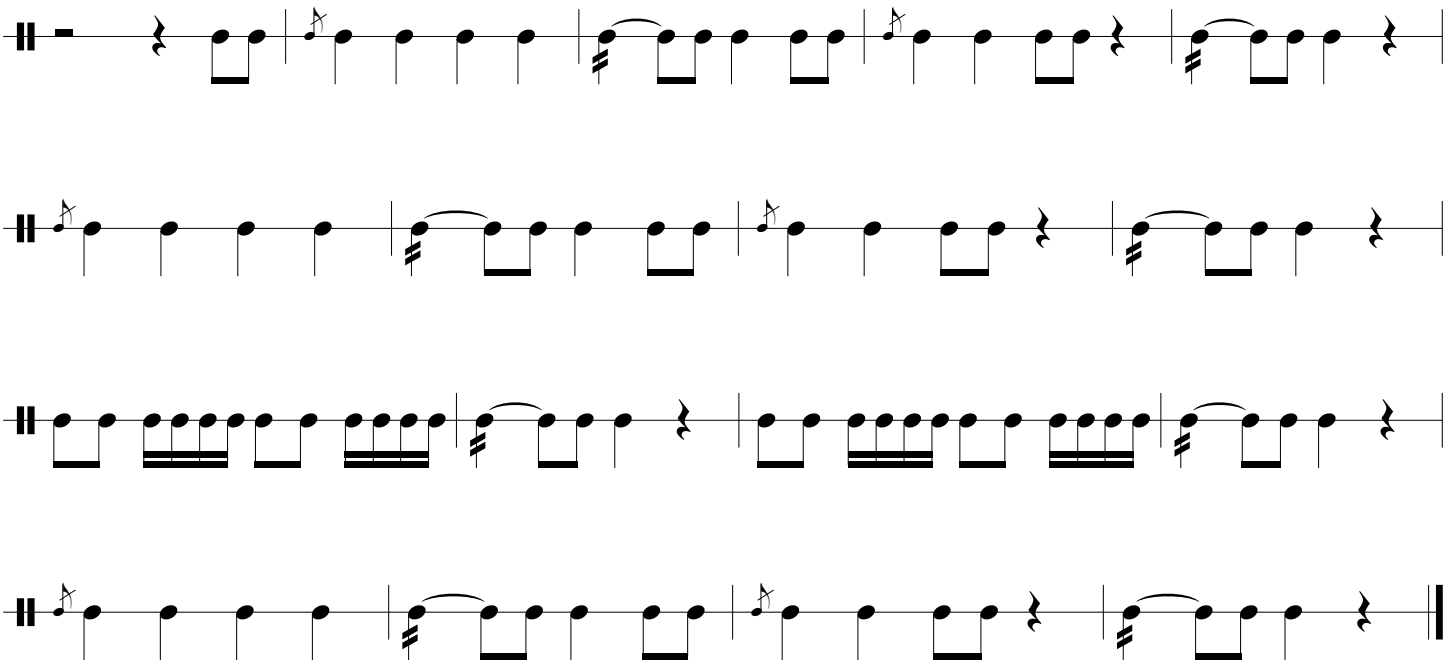
12.03 "Ode To Joy" by Ludwig Van Beethoven



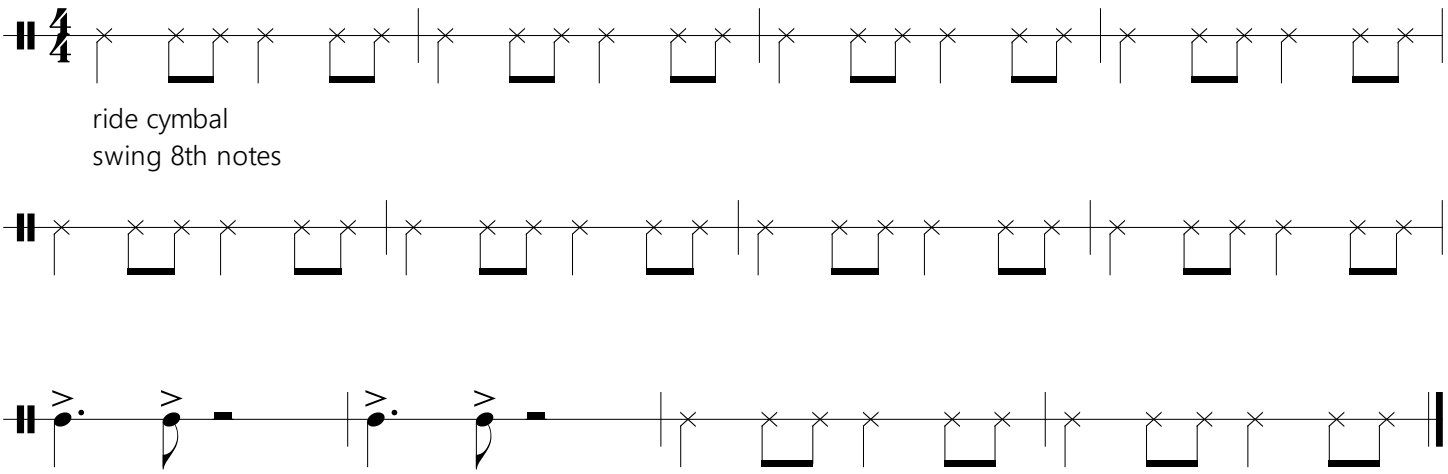
12.04 "Deck The Halls"



12.05 "U.S. Marine Corps Hymn"

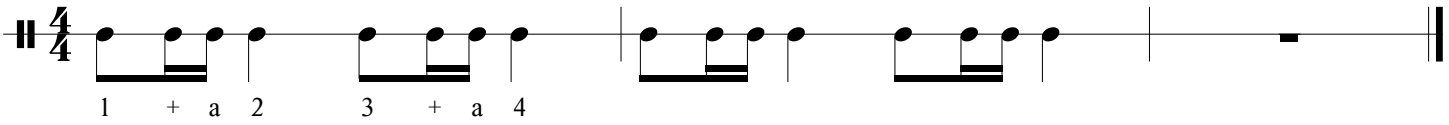


12.06 "Dotted-Quarter Blues" (swing) - Dickson

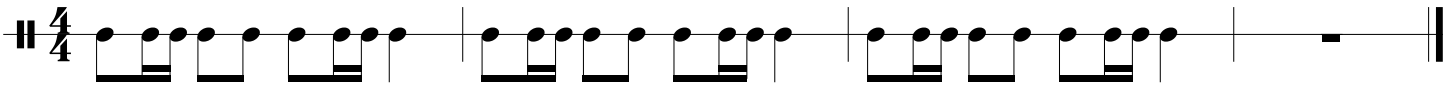


13.01 Tacet

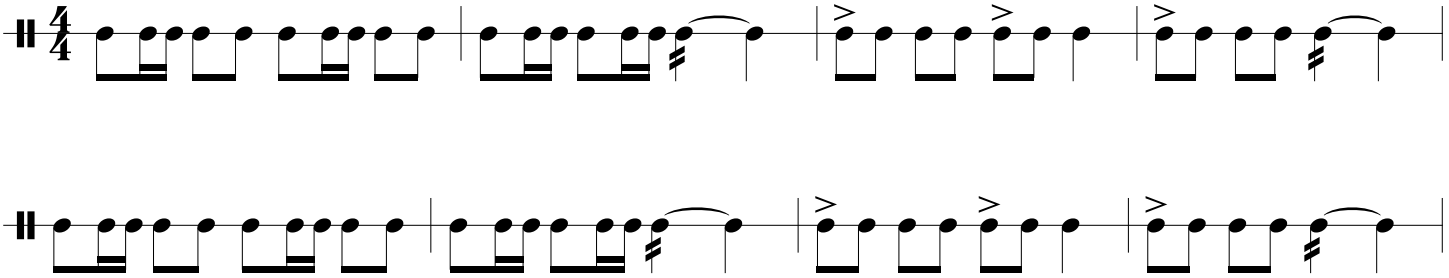
13.02 8th - 16th - 16th



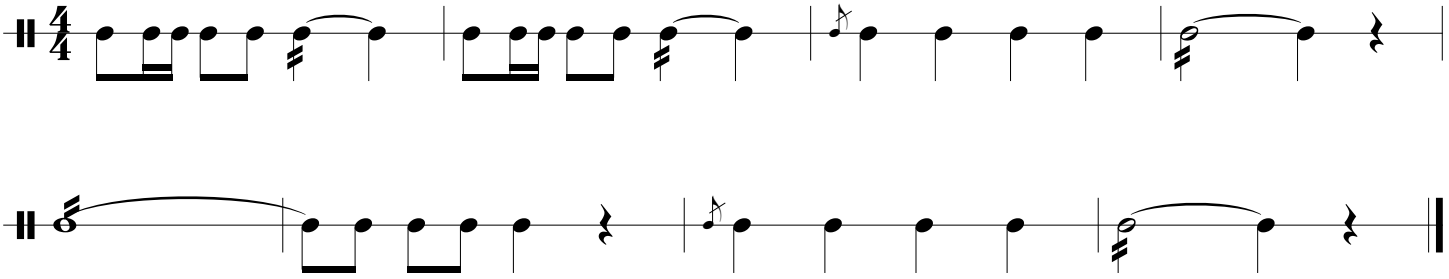
13.03 8th - 16th - 16th



13.04 "Jingle Bells"

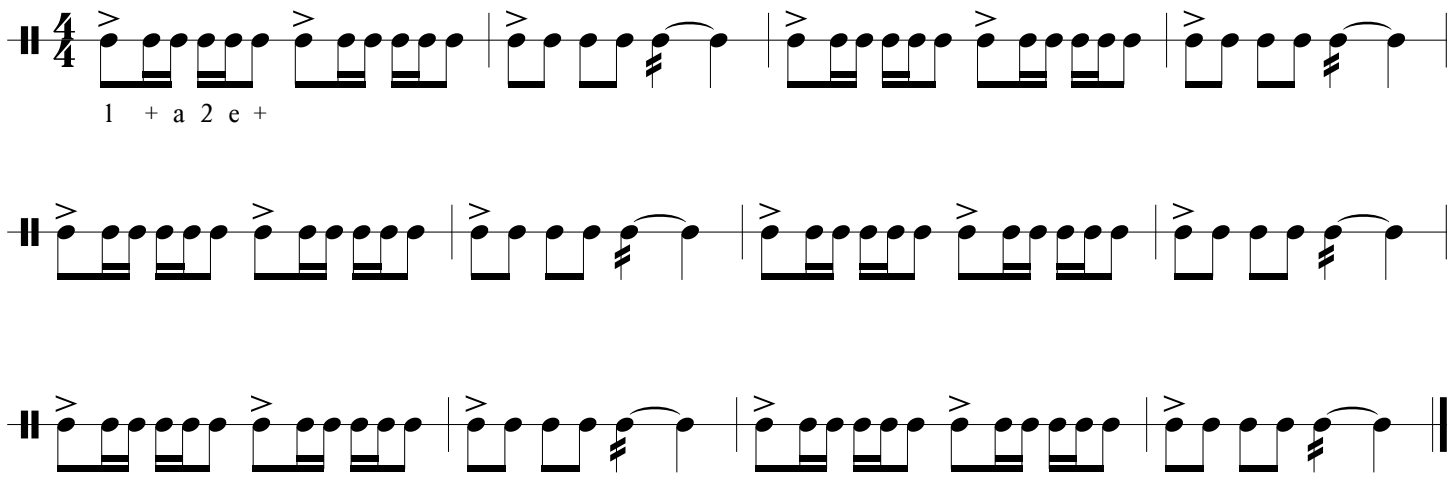


13.05 "This Old Man"

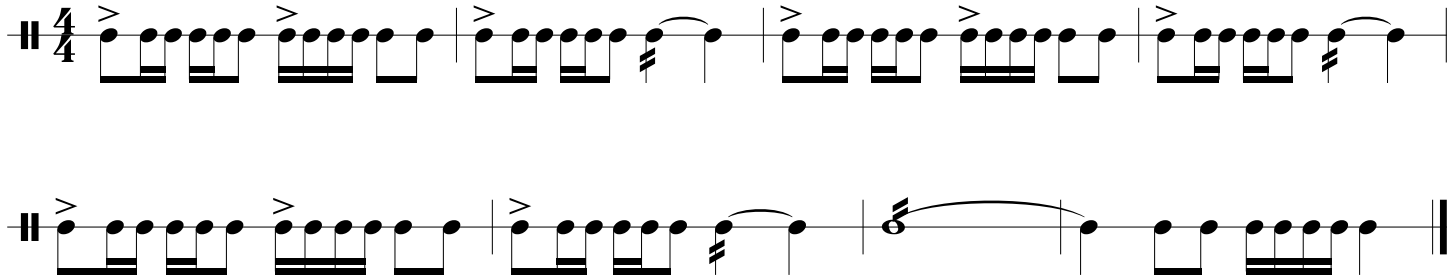


Chapter 14: play the bells (mallets) book. no snare drum.

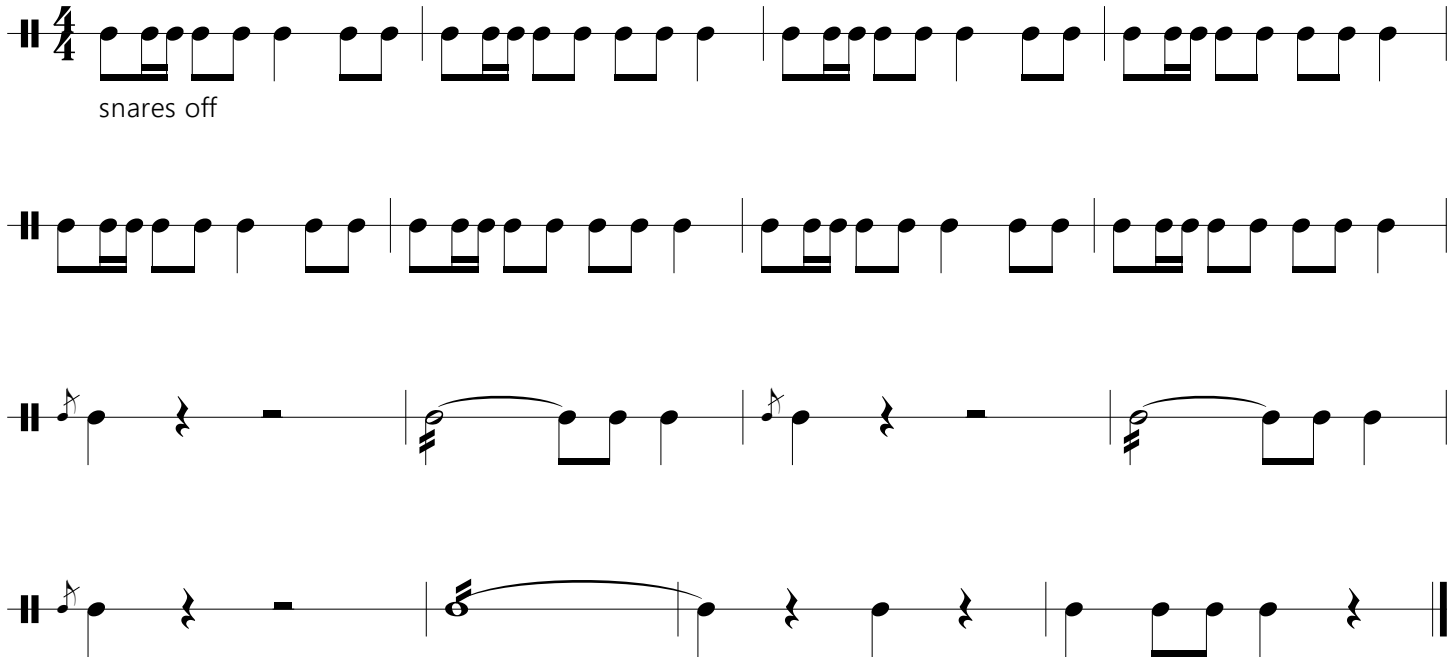
15.01 "Twinkle Twinkle"



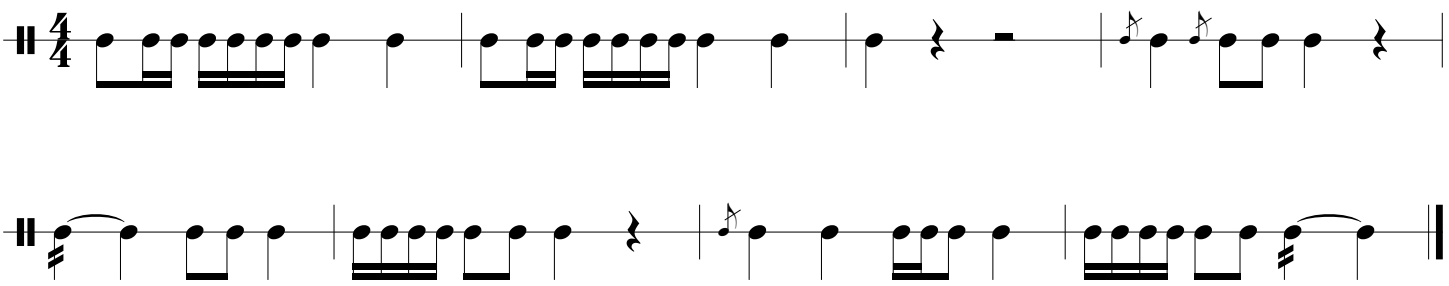
15.02 "London Bridge"



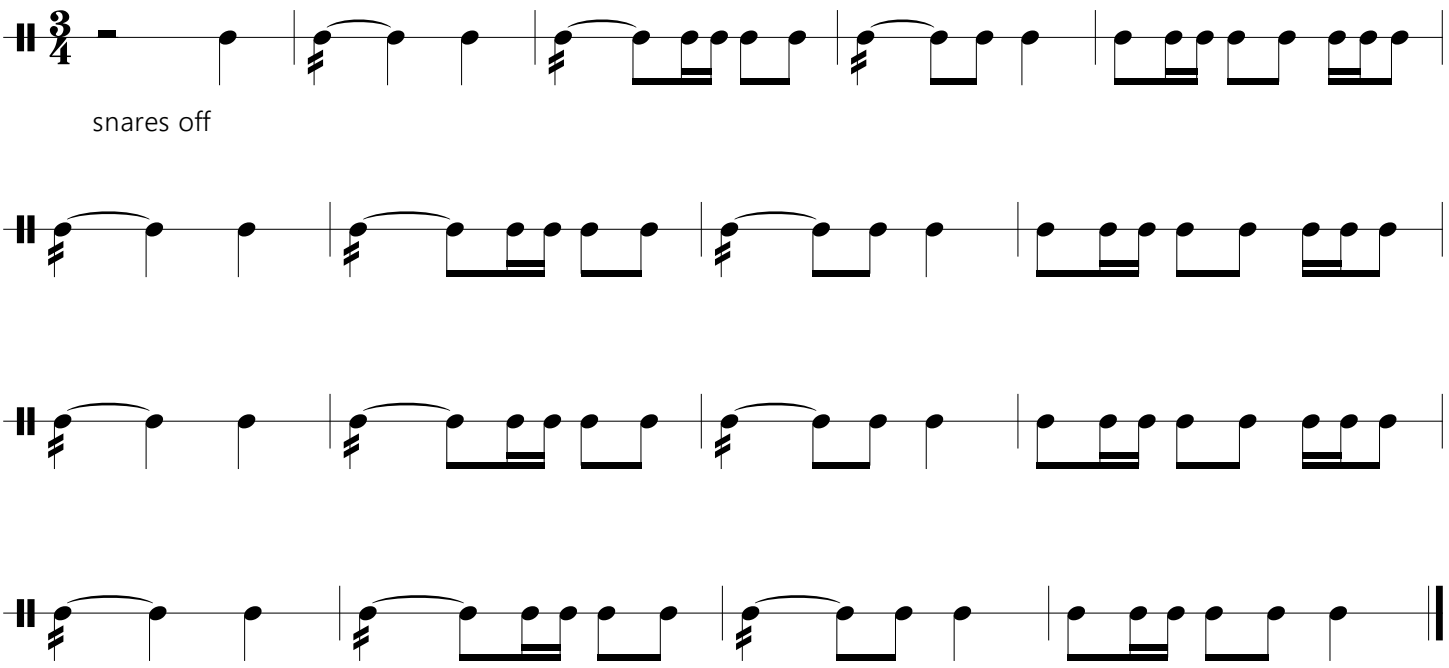
15.03 "Jesus Loves Me"



15.04 "This Old Man"

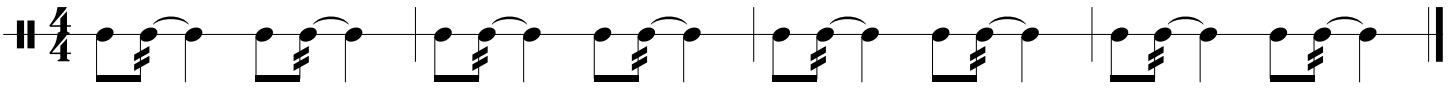


15.05 "Amazing Grace"

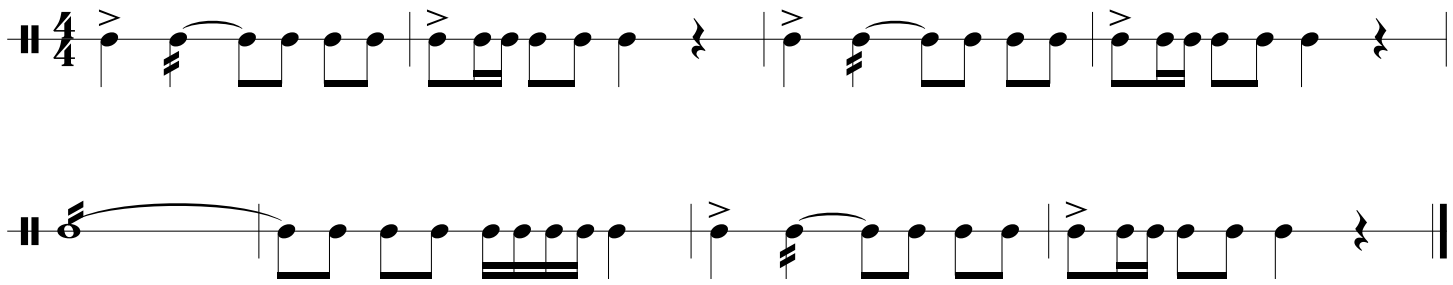


15.06 Tacet

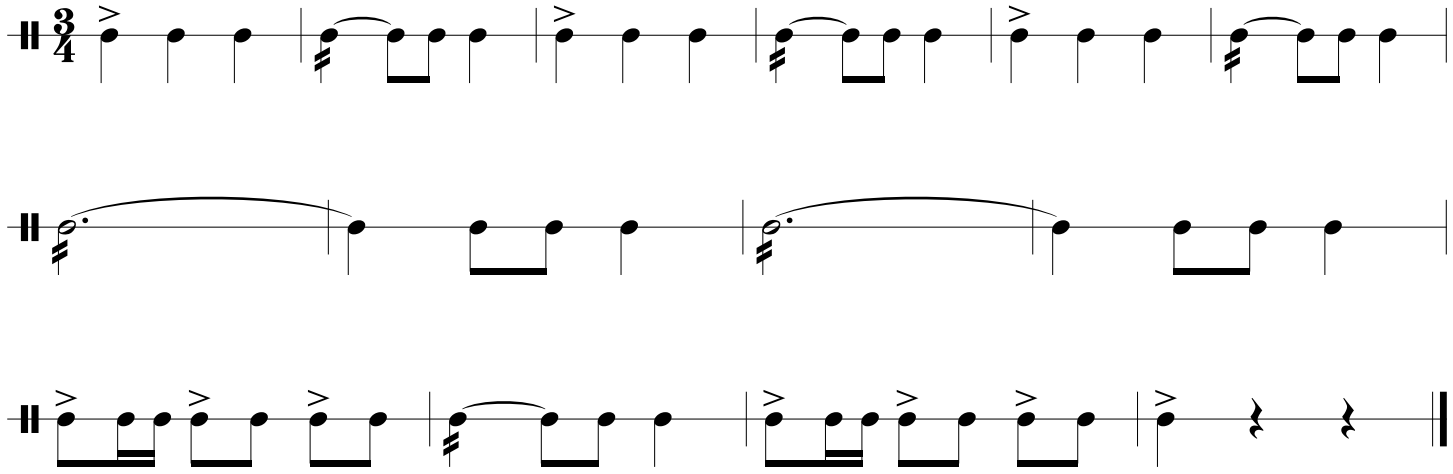
15.07 "Yankee Doodle"



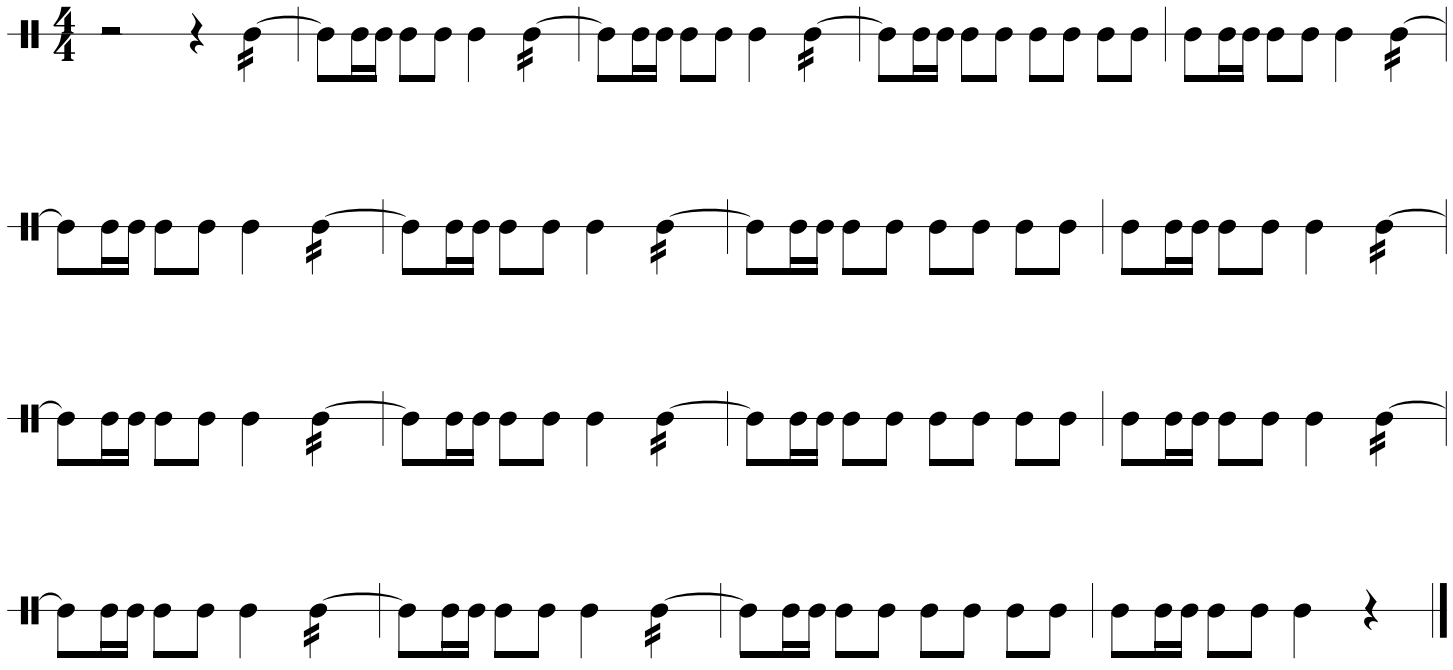
15.08 "Head Shoulders Knees And Toes"



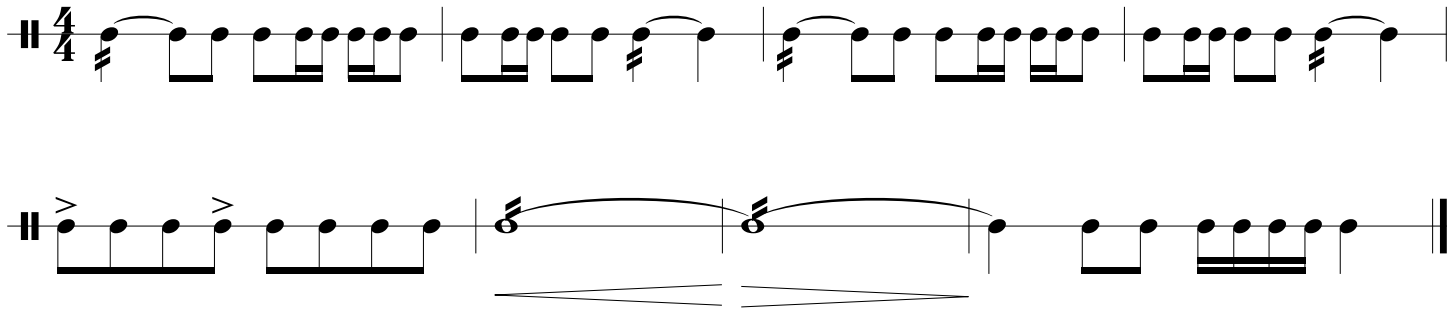
15.09 "My Country 'Tis Of Thee"



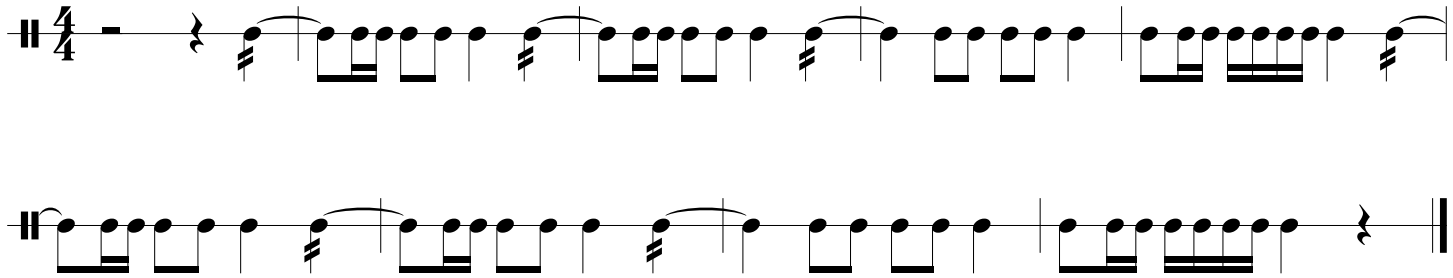
15.10 "America The Beautiful"



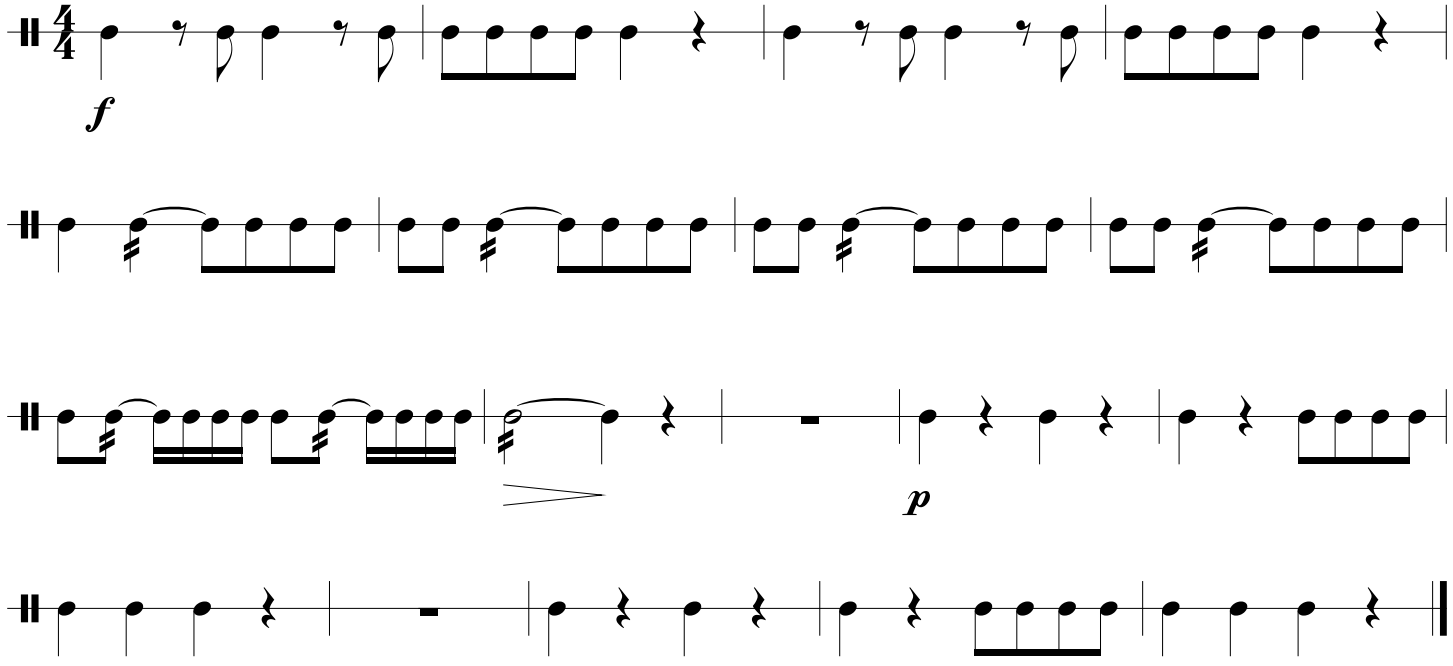
15.11 Etude



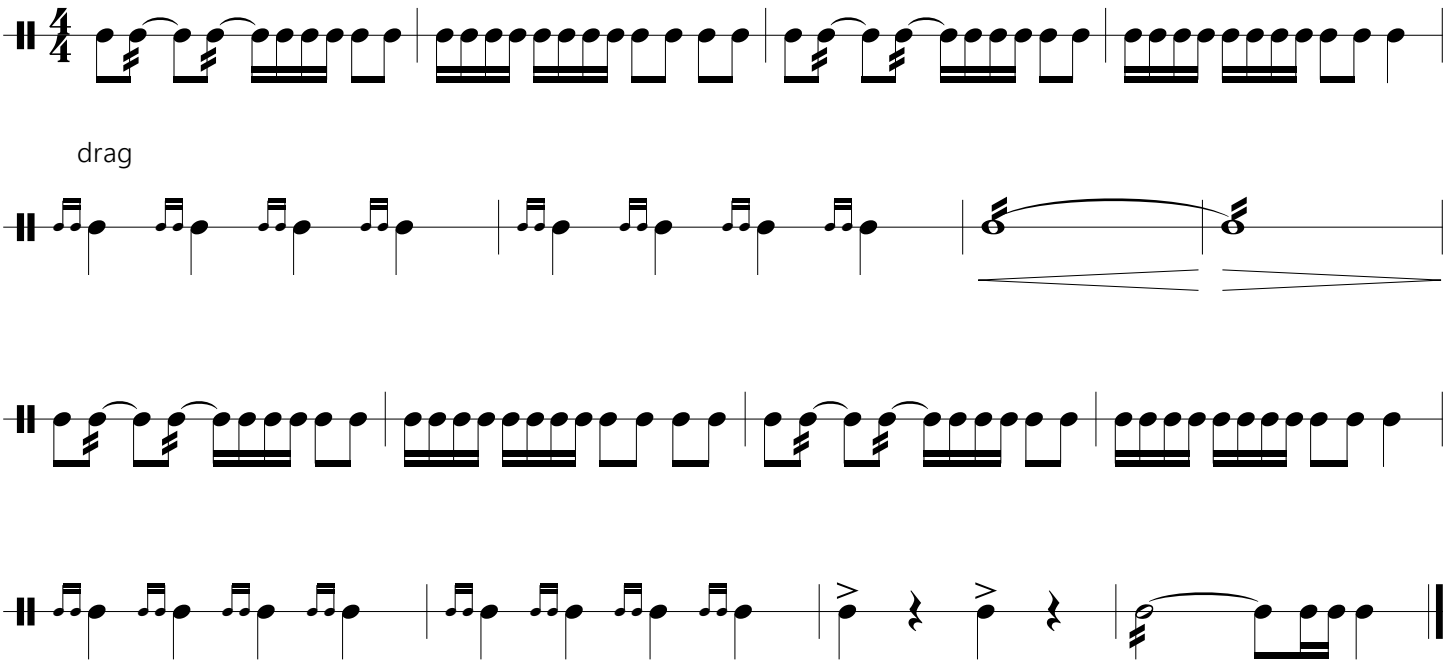
15.12 "Auld Lang Syne"



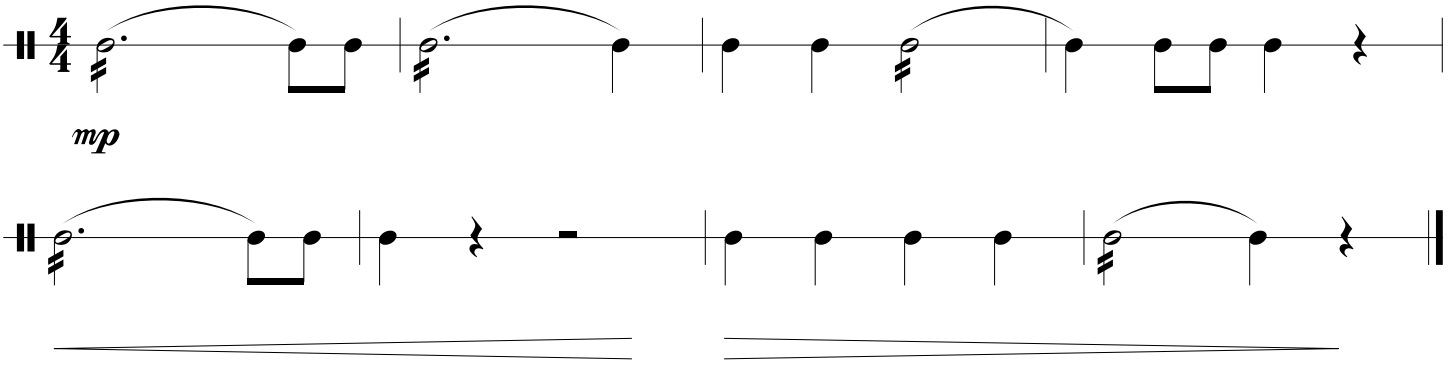
15.13 "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" melody, W.A. Mozart



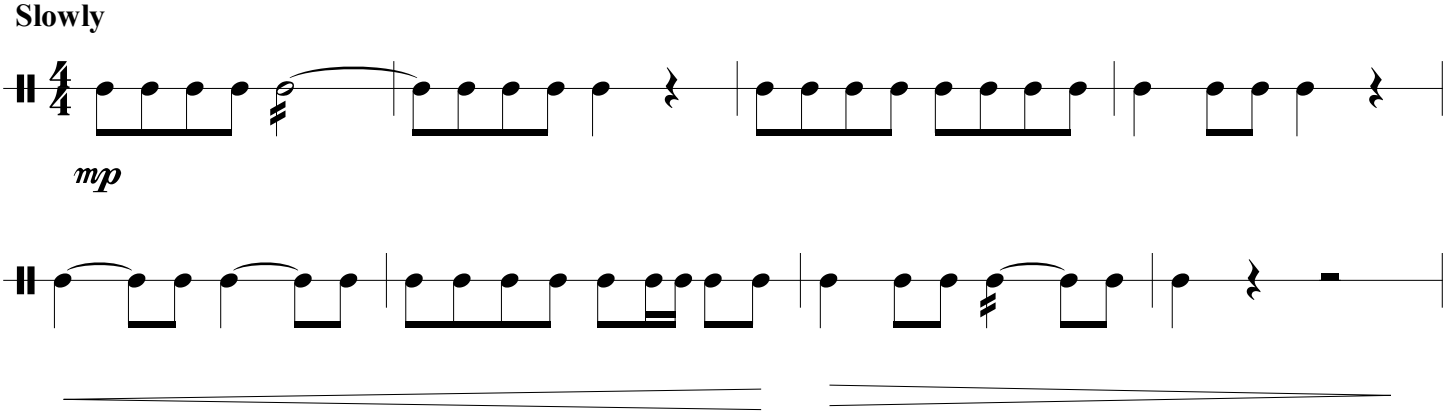
15.14 "Anchors Aweigh" U.S. Navy Song



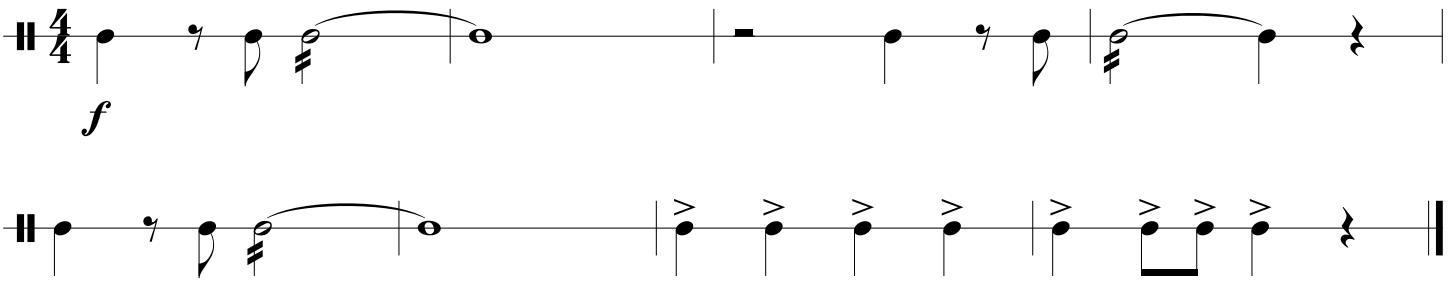
16.01 Etude: Phrasing



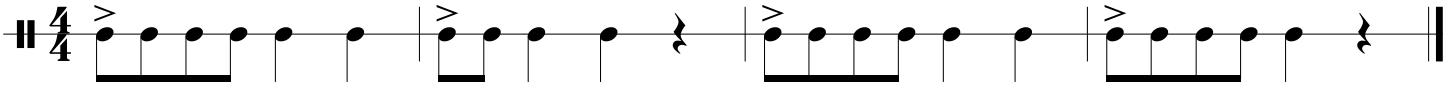
16.02 Etude: Phrasing

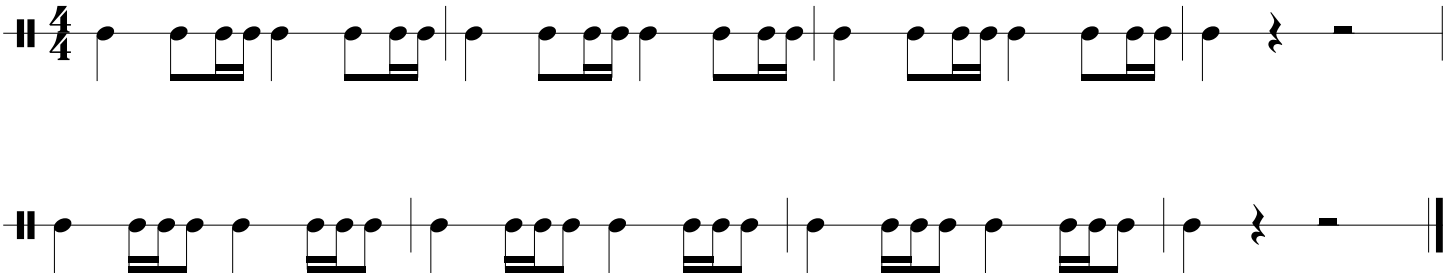


16.03 Etude: Phrasing



16.04 Etude



snares off

16.05 Etude: Ostinato