



DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

TENORS

EXERCISES AND TECHNIQUE

2024/2025

TENORS

“Set” Position (mallets in)

- Leave the left index between the 2 mallets and hold them without squeezing with the other fingers and your right hand
- Keep your mallets flat over the snare drum

“Sat” Position (mallets out)

- Let your arms rest naturally at your sides, without any pressure from the neck down to your fingers. Elbows shouldn't be pulled in or pushed out
- This will create a natural angle that is close to be parallel to the floor
- The heads should be at ½ an inch from the drum heads
- Turn your forearms outward so your thumbs are at a 60-degree angle
- “Home base” will be drums 1 and 2



The Grip

The goal should be to get as much vibration as possible from the mallets to achieve the best sound quality.

- The fulcrum is located between the forefinger and the thumb
- Connect your thumb on top so it is parallel to the mallet, leaving no gaps with the side of your hand
- The main contact points are the thumb, the index and the middle finger
- The thumb and fingers should always remain on the mallets. Don't choke up on it!
- About an inch and a half should be showing behind your hand
- The tip of your fingers should never touch the inside of your palm

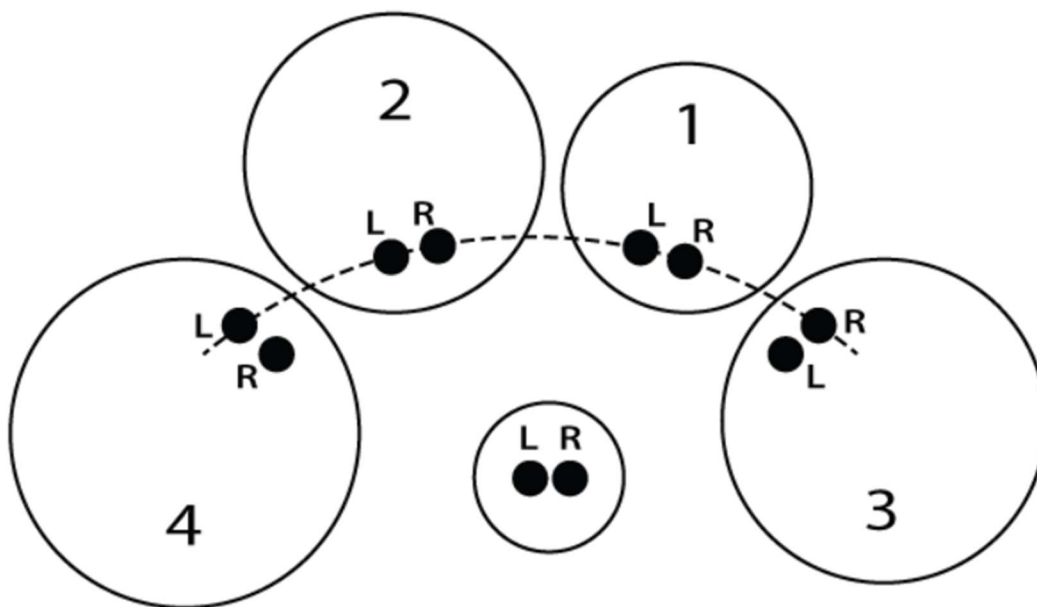


Playing Zones

We use specific playing zones to achieve maximum sound quality and get the best possible tones and sustain from the drumheads. Variations can be done with both left and right crosses. These create the least amount of distance traveled from your sticks on any given drum patterns.

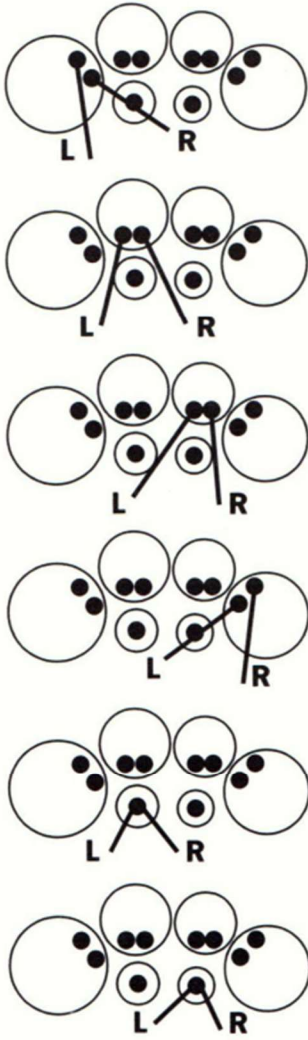
There are three types of cross patterns:

- 1- Sticks (drums next to each other)
- 2- Wrists (drums 1 and 4 or 2 and 3)
- 3- Forearms (drums 3 and 4 only)

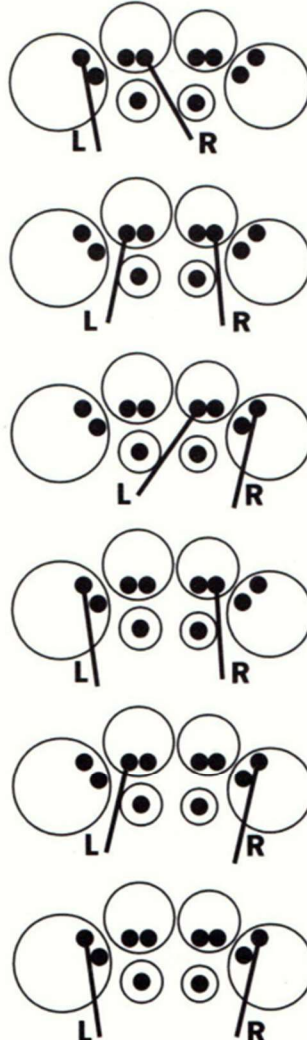


Variations and zones diagram

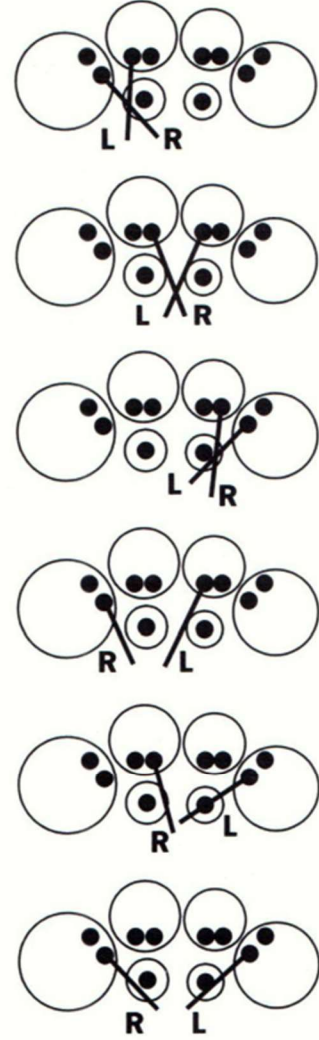
Hands on same drum



Hands on different drums



Crosses



Motion

All strokes are vertical. Basic strokes must be mastered on one drum before moving around the drums. The forearms provide lateral movement around the drums, while the wrists provide vertical movement.

Everything should feel the same on one drum as it does around the drums. A slicing or sweeping motion will lessen both quality of sound and rebound of the drum.

There must be a separation of vertical and lateral motion. To achieve this, the forearms must glide on an imaginary "glass surface" which rests about one inch off the surface of the drum. Forearms should carry the wrist from drum to drum while the upper arms rotate around creating a "windshield wiper" motion that will naturally place the beads in the correct playing areas on each drum.

Myrtle Singles

Myrtle Wavez 2024/2025

A

6

B

11

C

23

26

L... R/L... R/L... I R I R R L R L R L R L R

PARA-FLOW

Myrtle Wavez 2024/2025

musical score for TenorLine, featuring rhythmic notation and drum patterns.

Measures 1-4: *mf/f*

Measures 5-8: *mf/f*

Measures 9-12: stick click

Measures 13-16: *mf/f*

Measures 17-20: Skank! reach next drum

Measures 21-24: *mf/f*

Drum patterns (RL) are indicated below the staff.