

The Paradiddle Polyrhythm Pyramid

by Peter Magadini

Manuscript and layout by Spiros Damianos

It was going to be the "Paradiddle Polyrhythm Rudiment" (#16) but finally I opted for another to replace it. Not that I don't like it, I really do, it's just too long to be one drum rudiment but it makes a formidable polyrhythm exercise in paradiddles.

Keep time with a metronome or your bass drum foot or both. If some of the polyrhythms are too difficult at first then skip over those. You will get 'em later.

♩ = 82 to 88 beats per minute
(suggested metronome tempos)

R L R R L R L L

Note: There are no repeats until the very end, however I suggest mastering each polyrhythm measure, one at a time, before attempting to connect them all as the completed 12 bar study (six measures repeated)

R L R R L L L R R R

L R L L R L R R L R L L L R L R R

L R L L R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L

R L R R L R L L etc.

2

A musical staff with a treble clef and a double bar line at the beginning. The staff contains seven measures of music, each consisting of a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note beamed to a sixteenth note. Above the staff, a bracket spans all seven measures with the number '7' centered above it. Above each measure, there is a greater-than sign (>) indicating an accent. Below the staff, the sticking pattern 'R L R R L R L L etc.' is written, with each letter aligned under its corresponding measure.

A musical staff with a treble clef and a double bar line at the beginning. The staff contains eight measures of music, each consisting of a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note beamed to a sixteenth note. Above the staff, a bracket spans all eight measures with the number '8' centered above it. Above each measure, there is a greater-than sign (>) indicating an accent. Below the staff, the sticking pattern 'L R L L R L R R etc.' is written, with each letter aligned under its corresponding measure. To the right of the staff, the text 'Sticking is reversed when repeated' is written in italics.

The following two sticking patterns are also recommended for application to the: "Paradiddle Pyramid" both of these have their own challenges of rhythmic and technical dexterity.
a) RLL RLL RLL b) RLLR LRRL

© copyright 2012 Peter Magadini (e-mail protected)