



# Timpani Technique

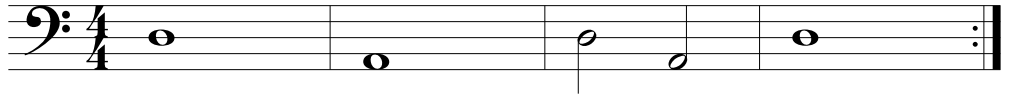
by J. R. Beck  
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## Slow Lift

Imitate or follow through the ring of the drum with your arm motion.

♩ = 112  
A D



## Medium Lift

Follow the bounce of the mallet off the head. Lift up.

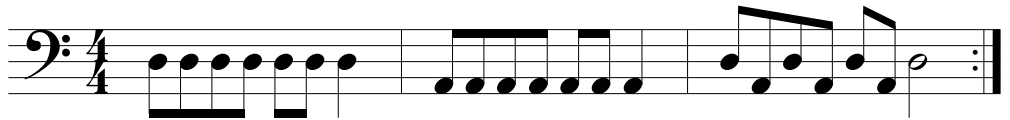
♩ = 112  
A D



## Fast Lift

Lift up and play lightly to get clean rhythms without pounding.

♩ = 116+  
A D



## Combination of All Lifts

Make the sound consistent in all rhythms.

♩ = 112  
A D





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## Warm up/Drum Position Exercise

Float over the drums. Continuous motion.

F A C F

L R L R

Detailed description: A single staff of music in bass clef with a 7/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes: F, A, C, F, F, A, C, F, F, A, C, F, F, A, C, F. The notes are grouped into four pairs, each with a letter below it: L, R, L, R.

## Cross Sticking

Make sure the beating spot is the same for both mallets.

A D X X X

R L R R L R

Detailed description: A single staff of music in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: A, D, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X. The notes are grouped into two pairs, each with a letter below it: R L R, R L R.

## Cross Sticking

Double stick only when absolutely necessary or between slower rhythms.

A D X X X X X

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

Detailed description: A single staff of music in bass clef with a 12/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes: A, D, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X, X. The notes are grouped into two pairs, each with a letter below it: R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L.

## Articulating Rolls and Rhythms

Accent the first note of the roll and relax the "body" of the roll. Lift the 16ths.

A D (relax) (fast lift) (relax) (fast lift)

Detailed description: A single staff of music in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: A, D, followed by a roll of 16th notes, followed by quarter notes: A, D, followed by another roll of 16th notes, followed by quarter notes: A, D. The rolls are marked with 'relax' and 'fast lift' above them.





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## Articulating Rhythms

Emphasize the first note of a 16th note pattern.

♩ = 132+  
A D "Lift"

## Articulation of Fast Rhythms on One Drum

Emphasize the 16th notes for clear articulation without pounding.

A, D

## Sticking Choices

Double sticking between drums allows for good lift and quality sound.

A, D

## Cross Sticking Fast Rhythms

Try to avoid double sticking on one drum to avoid pounding.

♩ = 100  
A, D X X