

# Unit 09: Percussion Technique

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **ongoing**  
Status: **Published**

## Brief Summary of Unit

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In this unit, students will explore various drumming styles and rhythms, focusing on hand and stick coordination. They'll focus on rudiments, such as single and double strokes, and apply these skills to different percussion instruments. Techniques learned in this unit will foster both individual proficiency and ensemble cooperation.

## Standards

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ELD standards: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wdmsiGOdCHlrjU-WPvAtENnEgi0EStZXo0uiFYv1Nu4/edit>

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| MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr4b | Demonstrate, using music reading skills (where appropriate), how compositional devices employed and theoretical and structural aspects of musical works impact and inform prepared or improvised performances. |
| MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr4c | Demonstrate an understanding of context in a varied repertoire of music through prepared and improvised performances.  |
| MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr5a | Develop strategies to address expressive challenges in a varied repertoire of music, and evaluate their success using feedback from ensemble peers and other sources to refine performances.                   |
| MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr6a | Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.                |
| MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr6b | Demonstrate an understanding of expressive intent by connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.   |

## Essential Questions

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- How can percussionists effectively collaborate in an ensemble setting to achieve a cohesive and harmonious performance?
- How do different sticking techniques and hand positions affect the sound quality and rhythm consistency on various percussion instruments?
- In what ways do rhythmic patterns and rudiments contribute to the foundation of percussion performance?
- What role does dynamic control play in enhancing musical expression?

## Enduring Understandings

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- Collaboration and communication within the ensemble are essential for achieving musical cohesion and fostering a deeper appreciation for musicianship.
- Dynamic control and rhythmic accuracy are vital skills that enable percussionists to contribute effectively to both solo and ensemble works.
- Mastery of fundamental percussion techniques and sticking patterns enhances a musical performance.

## **Students Will Know**

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- How to perform the basic and intermediate rudiments for snare drum.
- The correct technique for performing on the mallet instruments.
- The correct technique for performing rolls and muting on the timpani.
- The correct way to perform on auxiliary percussion instruments.

## **Students Will Be Skilled At**

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- Performance of ensemble music within a standard drum line.
- Performance of rudiments, solos, and ensemble music on the snare drum.
- Performance of solos and ensemble music on various other percussion instruments.

## **Evidence/Performance Tasks**

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- Performance exams on solos, rudiments, and various techniques

## **Learning Plan**

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In the beginning of the year, focus will be mainly on drum line and snare drum music. Ensemble and solo pieces will be included, as well as a standard warm-up routine that will incorporate rudiments and important rhythm reading skills. As the year progresses, the focus will shift to other percussion instruments, including the timpani, concert bass drum, cymbals, tambourine, triangle, and other various auxiliary percussion instruments. Time will always be taken in the beginning of class to continue work on the fundamentals of music, including rudiments, rhythm reading, and dynamic control.

## **Materials**

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- A concert bass drum.
- A full drum line for "marching percussion"
- A Marimba, Vibraphone, Glockenspiel, and Xylophone
- A set of 5 timpani

- Snare pads and appropriate sticks.
- Various auxiliary percussion instruments.

## **Suggested Strategies for Modifications**

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<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DgqFNsPtzrUBI0ZNu-CLnoSqkthiJ0c-yr1qcUNOEoU/edit?usp=sharing>