

Diddle-Tap Variations

There are numerous ways in which you can modify an exercise to make it more challenging, to stretch your brain a bit, and to better understand and overcome the pitfalls of the original, as-written exercise. This packet should be taken as an example of how one can derive such variations from a stock exercise.

I have taken "Did Pat One," our basic diddle-tap exercise, and formulated 19 additional variations to it. Take the time to learn some of these variations; the ones that you can't play yet are clearly ones from which you can benefit. Practicing just a few of these variations will make it easier to sight-read and play other variations, as well as improve your comfort with double stroke speed, prep stroke, and accent-tap control.

I hope you find this packet useful and can understand the methodology enough to apply it to other exercises you encounter. Have fun, and don't forget to practice off the left as well!

Cheers,

Matthew D Lemieux

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Diddle-Tap Duple Variations

Diddle-Tap

4
R R L R R L R R L R R L R L L R L L R R L R R L R L L R L L
4
R R L R R L R L L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L
7
R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R

Backwards

4
R L L R L L R L L R R L R R L R R L R R L R L L R L R R L R R L
4
R L L R L L R R L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L
7
R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R

Inverted

4
R L L R L L R L L R L L R L R R L R R L R R L R L L R L L R L R R L R
4
R L L R L L R L R R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R
7
R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R

Inverted, Backwards

4
R L R R L R R L R R L R R L L R L L R L L R L L R L R R L R R L L R L L
4
R L R R L R R L L R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L
7
R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R

Diddle-Tap Duple Variations

Accent on Single

4/4

r r L r r L r r L r r L R l l R l l R l l R l l r r L r r L R l l R l l

4

r r L r r L R l l R l l r r L r r L R l l R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l

7

r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l R

Detailed description: This musical notation is for a 4/4 time signature piece. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is a duple pattern with accents on the single notes. The notation includes eighth notes and quarter notes. The second and third staves continue the pattern with similar notation and accents.

Backwards, Accent on Single

4/4

R l l R l l R l l R l l r r L r r L r r L r r L R l l R l l r r L r r L

4

R l l R l l r r L r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L

7

r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l R

Detailed description: This musical notation is for a 4/4 time signature piece. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is a duple pattern with accents on the single notes, played backwards. The notation includes eighth notes and quarter notes. The second and third staves continue the pattern with similar notation and accents.

Inverted, Accent on Single

4/4

R l l R l l R l l R l l R L r r L r r L r r L r r l l R l l R L r r L r

4

r l l R l l R L r r L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r

7

r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r

Detailed description: This musical notation is for a 4/4 time signature piece. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is a duple pattern with accents on the single notes, inverted. The notation includes eighth notes and quarter notes. The second and third staves continue the pattern with similar notation and accents.

Inverted, Backwards, Accent on Single

4/4

R L r r L r r L r r L r r l l R l l R l l R l l R L r r L r r l l R l l

4

R L r r L r r l l R l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l

7

R l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r

Detailed description: This musical notation is for a 4/4 time signature piece. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The rhythm is a duple pattern with accents on the single notes, inverted and backwards. The notation includes eighth notes and quarter notes. The second and third staves continue the pattern with similar notation and accents.

Diddle-Tap Slurred Variations

Diddle-Tap Slurred

12/8 R R L R R L R R L R R L R L L R L L R L L R L L R R L R R L R L L R L L
4 R R L R R L R L L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L
7 R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R

Backwards

12/8 R L L R L L R L L R L L R R L R R L R R L R R L R L L R L L R R L R R L
4 R L L R L L R R L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L R L L R R L
7 R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R

Inverted

12/8 R L L R L L R L L R L L R L R R L R R L R R L R R L L R L L R L L R R L R
4 R L L R L L R L R R L R R L L R L R R L L R L L R R L L R L R R L L R L R
7 R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R

Inverted, Backwards

12/8 R L R R L R R L R R L R R L L R L L R L L R L L R L R R L R R L L R L L
4 R L R R L R R L L R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L
7 R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R

Diddle-Tap Slurred Variations

Accent on Single

12/8
r r L r r L r r L r r L R l l R l l R l l R l l r r L r r L R l l R l l
4
r r L r r L R l l R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l
7
r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r

Backwards, Accent on Single

12/8
R l l R l l R l l R l l r r L r r L r r L r r L R l l R l l r r L r r L
4
R l l R l l r r L r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L R l l r r L
7
r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r

Inverted, Accent on Single

12/8
R l l R l l R l l R l l R L r r L r r L r r L r r l l R l l R L r r L r
4
r l l R l l R L r r L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r
7
r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r

Inverted, Backwards, Accent on Single

12/8
R L r r L r r L r r L r r l l R l l R l l R l l R L r r L r r l l R l l
4
R L r r L r r l l R l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l R L r r l l
7
R l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r l l r r

Diddle-Tap Slurred Variations

Drag on Single

R R LL R R LL R R LL R R LL RR L L RR L L RR L L RR L L R R LL R R LL RR L L RR L L

4 R R LL R R LL RR L L RR L L R R LL RR L L R R LL RR L L R R LL RR L L R R LL RR L L

7 R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R

Ruffs

R rr L R rr L R rr L R rr L R L || R L || R L || R L || R rr L R rr L R L || R L ||

4 R rr L R rr L R L || R L || R rr L R L || R rr L R L || R rr L R L || R rr L R L || R rr L R L ||

7 R rr L || R rr L || R rr L || R rr L || R rr L || R rr L || R

Hertas

RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL

4 RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL

7 RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL R

Paradiddles

R l r r L R l r r L R l r r L R l r r L R L r l l R L r l l R L r l l R L r l l R l r r L R l r r L R L r l l R L r l l

4 R l r r L R l r r L R L r l l R L r l l R l r r L R L r l l R l r r L R L r l l R l r r L R L r l l R l r r L R L r l l

7 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 R l r r L r l l R l r r L r l l R