

Inverted 16th Note Grid

Andrew Werst
for SnareScience.com

Variation 1

Variation 1

10

11

PURPOSE: - As with most grid exercises, this exercise presents some tricky accent pattern/pulse relationships.

The pattern that usually presents the most difficulty is when the accent is on the 2nd sixteenth note partial (the “e” of the beat). The key to this exercise is **MARKING TIME** and not letting the split patterns throw you off. Once you have this exercise mastered, you should know exactly how your feet (i.e. the pulse) line up with the accents as well as be able to play odd split patterns over any accent pattern.

Some things to think about:

STICK MOTION:

- Do sticks move exactly the same way for every tap? How about every accent? Are your shoulders moving when doing accents on the outside drums? Are your wrists/hands rotating in order to play the outside drums (which they **SHOULD NOT** be doing!)?

SOUND QUALITY:- Does every tap stroke sound the same? How about from left to right hand? Make sure you play every tap with the same exact volume. The same goes for all accents. Some common mistakes:

- Playing the first tap on a hand after an accent at too low of a height. You need to control the rebound of the stick so that it comes up to the correct tap height.
- Pounding every accent. Don't squeeze/slam the stick into the head. The accented stroke should be identical to an eight on a hand stroke. After the note has been played, control the rebound to the correct hand with **RELAXED** (not clenched) fingers.
- Pounding the very last note of the exercise.
- Playing one hand louder than the other.
- Letting the accent pattern make the split pattern awkward. Begin at a very slow tempo to understand the relationship between the two.

RHYTHM AND TIMING:

- How perfect is your 16th note rhythm? Some common areas where mistakes occur:
- First two notes of the exercise: The first note defines the exercise starting point and the second note defines the tempo. You must internalize the tempo before you start so that these two notes are 'perfect.'
- Underlying 16th note pulse: Don't let the accents affect the rhythm!

VARIATIONS:

- Variations 1 & 2: Switch drums so that the accents on the right hand are on drum 3, left hand accents are on drum 2, and taps are on drum 1.
- Play on one drum.