

# Extendo Triplet Diddle

Side to Side

Andrew Werst  
for SnareScience.com

TenorLine 

3 

6 

9 

12 

15 

18 

21 

24 

26 

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Down the Drums

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# Extendo Triplet Diddle

## **Purpose:**

This exercise focuses on diddle consistency. First, a single diddle is played on each partial on the triplet. Next, 5-stroke rolls are played with all possible permutations across the beat. Following the 5-stroke rolls, right hand diddles are isolated leading into a full roll, then left hand diddles are isolated leading into a tap roll. The exercise ends with 5-stroke rolls laid out across every four partials.

## **Stick Motion:**

This exercise should be very mono-height and very legato. Don't change the stick motion when switching from check to roll and vice versa. Be sure to keep the stroke motion vertical.

## **Sound Quality:**

The goal is to play the diddles with the same exact volume and quality of sound as the check patterns. Here are some common mistakes:

- Pounding the release of each roll
- Playing the second note of each diddle weakly
- Playing the check pattern higher than you can play the rolls
- Freezing the stick at any point in the exercise, especially the 'tap' note of a tap roll or tap drag
- Playing the right hand louder than the left; don't be the guy with the weak left hand!
- Playing outside of the correct playing zones; start slow to dial the zones really well
- Turning/tweaking the wrists over/out to play the outer drums

## **Rhythm & Timing:**

How perfect is your underlying eighth note rhythm? How about your diddle interpretation? Remember to play rhythms, NOT patterns (the diddle). Some common problem areas:

- First two notes of the exercise and first two notes after a roll measure: It is very easy to rush check patterns, especially right after playing a measure that is more difficult. Make a conscious effort to control the space between these two notes!
- 'Slurring' diddles: Don't think of diddles as just the pattern of RR LL. The diddles in this exercise are simply a 16th note RYHTHM. Try playing the exercise so slowly that you have to completely stroke out every single note. If you are not thinking about the rhythm of the diddles, it will be very difficult to play the exercise accurately.

## **Variations:**

- An 'Up the Drums' variation; instead of the split pattern being 1-2-3-4, as it is with the "Down the Drums" variation, play drums as 1-4-3-2.