

Mini Three

SnareScience.com - Universal

Snare $\text{H } \frac{12}{8}$

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a snare drum exercise. The first staff is labeled 'Snare' and has a common time signature of 12/8. The notation consists of three staves of music. The first staff starts with a double bar line and a common time signature of 12/8. The music is written on a single-line staff with a treble clef. It features a series of eighth notes with accents, followed by groups of eighth notes with grace notes (flam rudiments). The second and third staves continue the pattern, with the third staff ending with a double bar line and a common time signature of 12/8.

Purpose:	This exercise focuses on developing consistent hybrid flam rudiments, namely the flam drag, cheese, and flam five.
1) Stick motion:	This exercise is designed to work on correct stick motion. It is very common for stick motions and technique in general to be thrown out the window when playing hybrid flam rudiments. Don't let this happen to you! In the exercise, before any flam rudiment is played, you have a chance to check your stick motion on an easier version without the grace notes. Make sure that there are two distinct heights in this exercise and nothing in between.
2) Sound Quality:	Do all of the taps sound the same? How about all the accents? Some common mistakes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Pounding the accents. Make sure that you don't squeeze the stick into the drum head. Use relaxed fingers to control the rebound back to a tap height.b) Harsh sounding cheeses and flam fives. Let these diddles breath! There should be a nice 'round' quality of sound, whatever that means.c) Playing the low diddles weakly. Make sure you are still putting velocity behind these notes. Check out flam accent breakdown to improve in this area.d) Playing the right hand louder than the left... don't be the guy with the weak left!
3) Rhythm and Timing:	How perfect is your underlying eighth note rhythm? How about on the rudiments? Some common areas where mistakes occur: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) 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!b) 'Slurring' diddles: Don't think of the 'diddles' as some nebulous rudiment. The diddles in this exercise are simply a 16th note RHYTHM. 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 impossible to play the exercise accurately.