

Purpose:

This purpose of this exercise is to increase your paradiddle speed. The note 'density' starts low and slowly rises throughout the exercise.

1) Stick motion:

This exercise should be practiced a couple of different ways.

- a) Play very strict accent-to-tap heights. Playing the exercise with these heights will really increase your ability to control the stick from a high accent to a low diddle. Make sure that all of the taps are exactly at 3"
- b) Play a more relaxed, 'full bodied' paradiddles. I'm thinking 12" to 9" at moderate tempos and 9" to 6" at the fast tempos. You should be able to max out the tempo a lot more playing these heights.
- 2) Sound Quality:

If you are playing the strict height version, make sure you don't pound the accents when you freeze the stick. Also make sure the sound quality and volume of the non-lead paradiddle hand matches that of the lead hand. If you are playing the more relaxed version, make sure it isn't TOO relaxed. If you are playing 9" to 6", make sure that you are ACTUALLY playing exactly 9" to 6" so that the taps and accents will all have a consistent volume and quality of sound.

3) Rhythm and Timing:

The main tendency in this exercise will be to rush the 16th notes immediately following the 32nd paradiddles. The key here is to hold on with the back of the hand and play the correct rhythm. Another tendency, especially at high tempos, will be to drag the last one or two measures of the exercise. Push through! A really good test is to play this exercise with a buddy who is just playing rolls while you paradiddle.

- 4) Variations to this exercise:
 - a) Play all at one height.
 - b) Move the accent to the 2nd note of every paradiddle.
 - c) Play on low-rebound surface to improve muscle strength and endurance