

Composition - Rhythm Etude 1

Write a short piece for solo percussion only.

Use pencil and paper.

Choose an ODD number of measures.

Divide piece into 2 parts: before and after climax.

Choose a time signature and tempo.

Start with one motif/idea.

Build a clear shape (louder/faster/more exciting or softer/slower/less exciting) in each half of the piece.

Add dynamics, articulation, tempo, and descriptive markings.

Choose any traditional or non-traditional percussive instrument, including hands, tapping, etc.

Perform piece.

Example: Syncopation

Marcato ♩ = 84

play using hands on lap or table

The musical notation is written on two staves. The first staff begins with a 4/4 time signature and a double bar line. It contains a sequence of notes with accents and slurs, including a triplet of eighth notes. Below the staff, the dynamic marking *mp* is followed by three slanted lines: a right-pointing chevron, a left-pointing chevron, and another right-pointing chevron. A horizontal line with a double underline spans the width of the staff. The second staff also begins with a double bar line and contains notes with accents and slurs, including a triplet of eighth notes. Below this staff, the dynamic markings *f*, *p*, and *ff* are placed under the first, second, and third measures respectively. A slanted line is drawn under the first measure, and a triangle is placed above the first note of the third measure. The piece concludes with a double bar line.