Daniel Schlep

[DS] Drum-Starters

digital rhythm workshop

iconBIT musiktotal SCHENKER

My name is Daniel Schlep.

I'm a drummer and cajonist, teacher and author.

With this digital workshop I would like to get you in contact with rhythm as easily and as quickly as possible. Everything you will see and learn can be used directly with several rhythm instruments as well as the modern media around you.

The notation that you will find here is deliberately simple and will show you the core of a beat. You can combine this core, exactly or approximately, with several rhythm instruments.

Modern media can help you. Use paint applications or digital markers, a cursor or a touchscreen in order to bring your beats to life as fast and creatively as possible.

If you are interested in more details and information beyond this workshop, just follow my work in music and videos or take a look at my publications. You will get in contact with the whole world of rhythm in your very own way.

Get it started!

First of all take a look at these lines and signs.

```
X X X X X X X X
      I       I
O         O
```

Now we will access the music in a way that's easy for everyone.

You will have to play all the lines from left to right simultaneously.

Play the upper line (X) with the right hand on your knees.
Play the middle line (I) with the left hand on your knees.
Play the lower line (O) with the right foot on the ground.

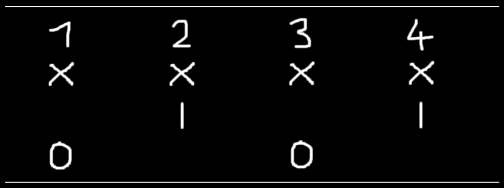
These are the Knee-Beats, one of the most important training methods for beginners as well as pros, suited for a child's room as well as backstage areas.

To get it all into the right musical context we will just add the "counting code".

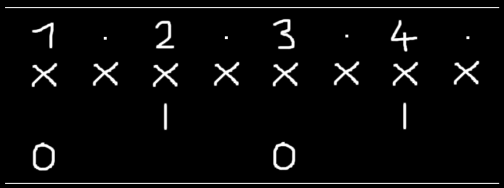
```
1 . 2 . 3 . 4 .
X X X X X X X X
      I       I
O         O
```

You want some more? Good.

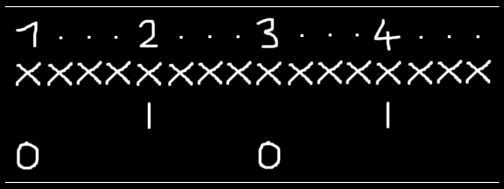
Example with 4th note character:



Example with 8th note character:



Example with 16th note character:



You've got the system? Very good.

Start to train all of these examples now on your knees. Transferring this onto special rhythm instruments (like A-Drums, E-Drums or Cajon) is easier than you might think. You just have to understand the particular instrument a little more, with all it's striking surfaces and possibilities. As a general overview for transferring your beats you can use the following key.

Knee-Beats:

X = Right Hand / I = Left Hand / O = Right Foot

A-Drums / E-Drums:

X = HiHat / I = Snare / O = Bass-Drum

Cajon:

X = Tip / I = Tone / O = Bass

As you can see: rhythm is universal. It's all about the point of view and the transformation. Whether you use your body or a special instrument in order to get your creativity going is secondary. The core stays the same.

At the end of this workshop you will get a short collection of different beats. Train these in order to improve your knowledge and your skills.

If you want to know more, follow my work and see for yourself how much there is to discover.

Use all the possibilities around you, instruments, modern media and especially:

yourself.

Beat with 4th note character:

```
1     2     3     4
×     ×     ×     ×
      |     |
0                 0
```

Beat with 8th note character:

```
1  ·  2  ·  3  ·  4  ·
×  ×  ×  ×  ×  ×  ×  ×
      |           |
0        0           0
```

Beat with 16th note character:

```
1 · · · 2 · · · 3 · · · 4 · · ·
×××××××××××××××××
      |           |
0         00         0
```

Beat with variation:

```
1 · · · 2 · · · 3 · · · 4 · · ·
×  ×  ×  ×  ×  ×  ×  ×
      |           | |
0         0    0
```

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