

Double Ditty

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In this lesson I'll teach you a fun yet effective way to develop your double strokes using an exercise I call the "Double Ditty". To start, learn each of the following examples. They all combine alternate eighth notes with double stroke 16ths. Play each example slowly, then, when you are comfortable with the rhythm and sticking, gradually increase your tempo. Practice with a metronome. It's an essential tool to help you develop the correct timing and feel for this exercise.

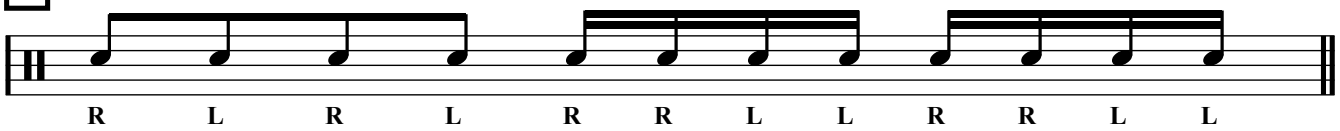
♩ = 100 - 200

1.



Musical notation for example 1, 4/4 time signature. The notation consists of two measures. The first measure contains four eighth notes with the sticking R L R L. The second measure contains four groups of eighth notes, each group consisting of a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L.

2.



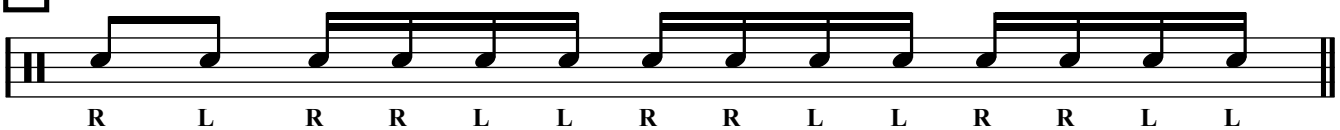
Musical notation for example 2, 4/4 time signature. The notation consists of three measures. The first measure contains four eighth notes with the sticking R L R L. The second measure contains a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L. The third measure contains a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L.

3.



Musical notation for example 3, 4/4 time signature. The notation consists of four measures. The first measure contains two eighth notes with the sticking R L. The second measure contains a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L. The third measure contains two eighth notes with the sticking R L. The fourth measure contains a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L.

4.



Musical notation for example 4, 4/4 time signature. The notation consists of four measures. The first measure contains two eighth notes with the sticking R L. The second measure contains a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L. The third measure contains a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L. The fourth measure contains a double stroke 16th note followed by an eighth note, with the sticking R R L L.

Once you are comfortable playing each of the examples, perform the "Double Ditty" as one continuous piece.

"Double Ditty"

#1

R L R L R L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L

#2

R L R L R R L L R R L L R L R L R R L L R R L L

#3

R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L

#1

R L R L R L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L

#2

R L R L R R L L R R L L R L R L R R L L R R L L

#3

R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R R L L R R L L R