



*Pipe Band Drumming*  
*'Starting from Scratch'*

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Scottish Schools  
Pipes and Drums Trust



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# 'Starting from Scratch'

## Introduction

To make the most of this book you should follow it from the beginning and complete all the levels. There are videos for all the exercises which can be found on the Preston Lodge High School Pipe Band YouTube channel.



- To find the channel go to YouTube and search for 'Preston Lodge Drum Corps'.
- You should then find the Preston Lodge PL logo with the channel title.
- Click on this to enter the YouTube channel.
- Once you're on the channel you need to click on 'Playlists'. This will take you to all the different playlists on the YouTube channel.
- Select the playlist titled 'SSPDT Drumming Manual – Book One'.
- You've done it! Now just select which exercise you want to play along to and go for it.

Your tutor will sign off each page when complete. By the end of this booklet you will be able to play all the essential basic rudiments in pipe band drumming also be able to play your first tune!! AWESOME!!

Have fun guys!!



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# How to Hold the Sticks

## Left Hand



1. Imagine you have a can of juice in your left hand (without holding the stick)
2. Place stick into your hand with the 'butt' of the stick coming away from your hand.
3. Make sure your ring finger (3<sup>rd</sup> finger) is UNDERNEATH the stick sitting on the nail.
4. Place your thumb on top of the stick so your thumb print is resting softly on top.
5. Relax your top 2 fingers and have them resting together but NOT over the stick.
6. Make sure EVERYTHING is loose and relaxed!

## Right Hand

1. Pick up the stick with your right fore finger and thumb and hold it in a 'pinch' style hold.
2. Lift your wrist towards you so you the stick is straight up and down vertically.
3. The place all the other fingers underneath the stick so each finger print is sitting directly underneath the stick. Your fingers should NOT be poking out of the side.
4. Make sure the 'butt' of the stick is sitting against the thumb muscles at the bottom of the underneath of your thumb.
5. Then pretend to be Harry Potter by casting a spell, shouting 'FLABAM' as you do so!
6. Keep your arm straight and point at whoever or whatever you cast the spell on and make sure the stick is in a perfect straight line through your arm.
7. Bring your arm back to a playing position whilst keeping your straight line.
8. Make sure EVERYTHING is loose and relaxed!

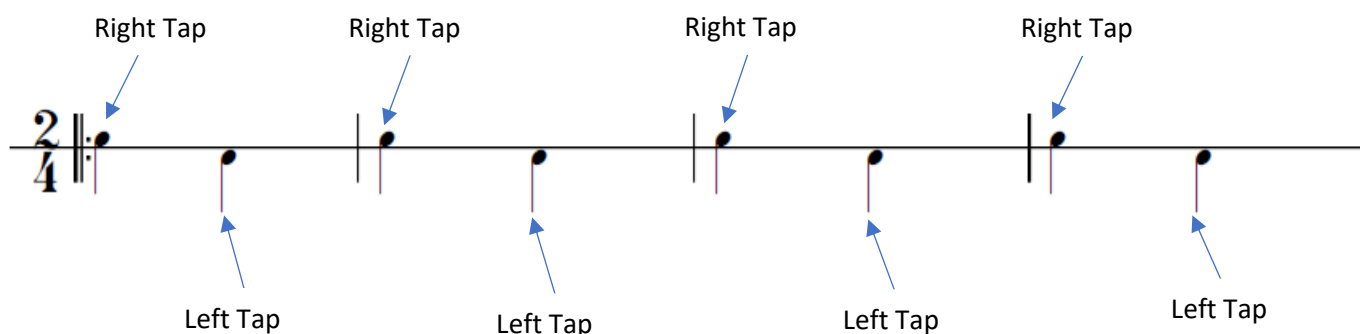
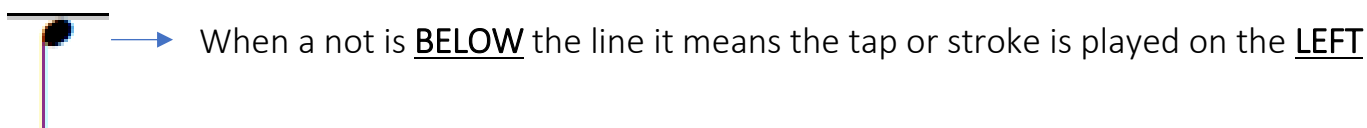
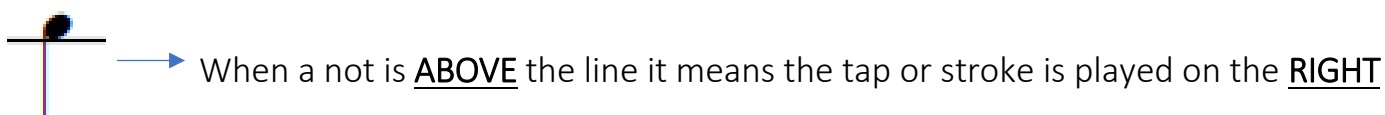


Make sure you come back to this page if you have forgotten how to hold the sticks or if it looks ad feels strange to play. I can't stress enough the importance of a solid grip and technique when playing. At the early stages we're trying build strength in your hands. If you're holding the sticks wrong, then the wrong muscles will get stronger and you won't improve. Follow the YouTube tutorial called 'How to hold your sticks'.

# Basic Music Reading

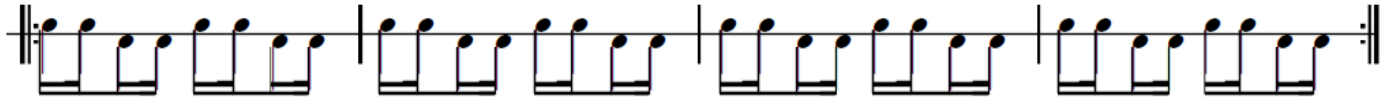
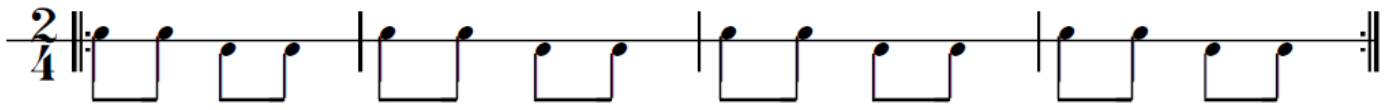


All the exercises in this book are written in pipe band snare drumming format. We will cover more technical aspects of reading and writing music but for now the basics is all you will need. We read music like a book, from the left of the page to the right. The line running through the middle is what keeps us correct, telling us either right hand or left hand.

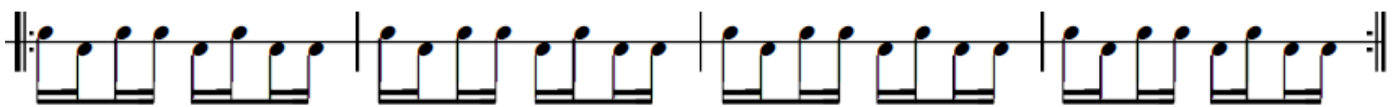
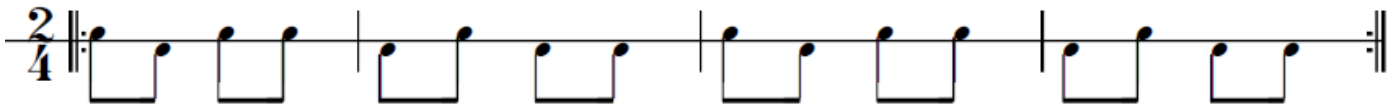


It's as easy as that for now. If you are unsure or lost always try to refer to this page. We will cover more in-depth music reading and writing at a further stage.

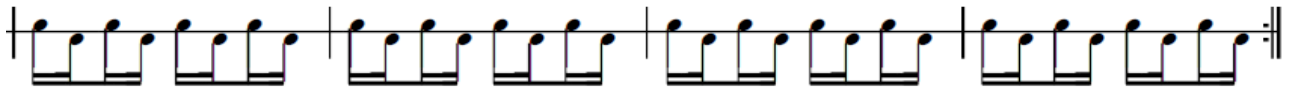
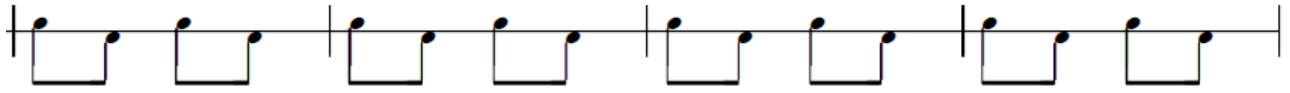
# Mummy Daddy / Doubles



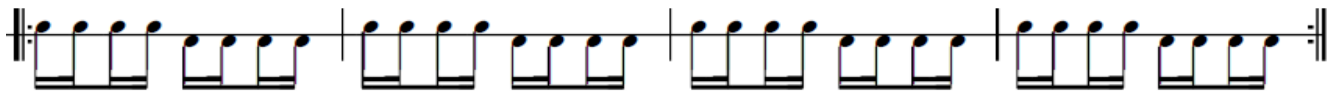
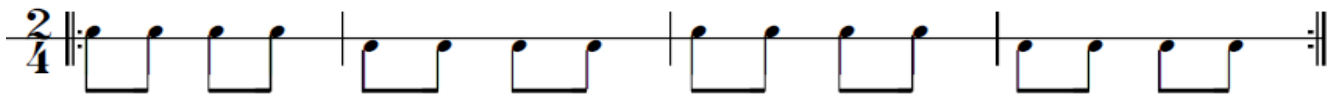
# Paradiddles



# Single Strokes



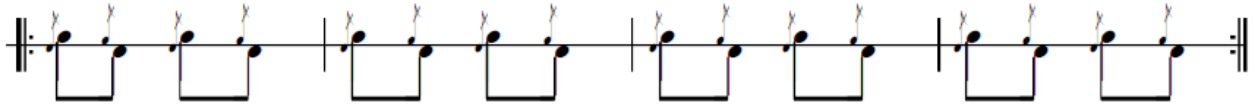
## Fours



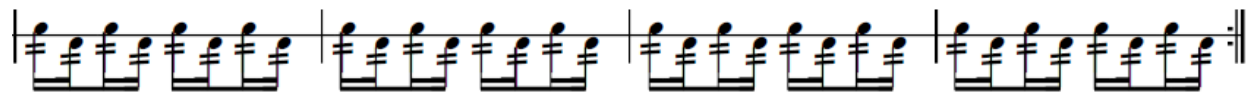
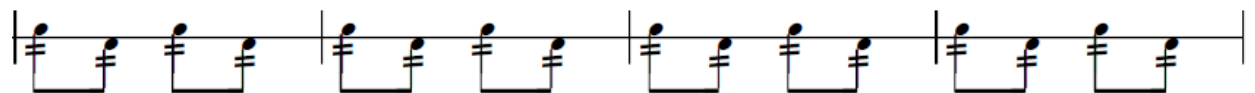




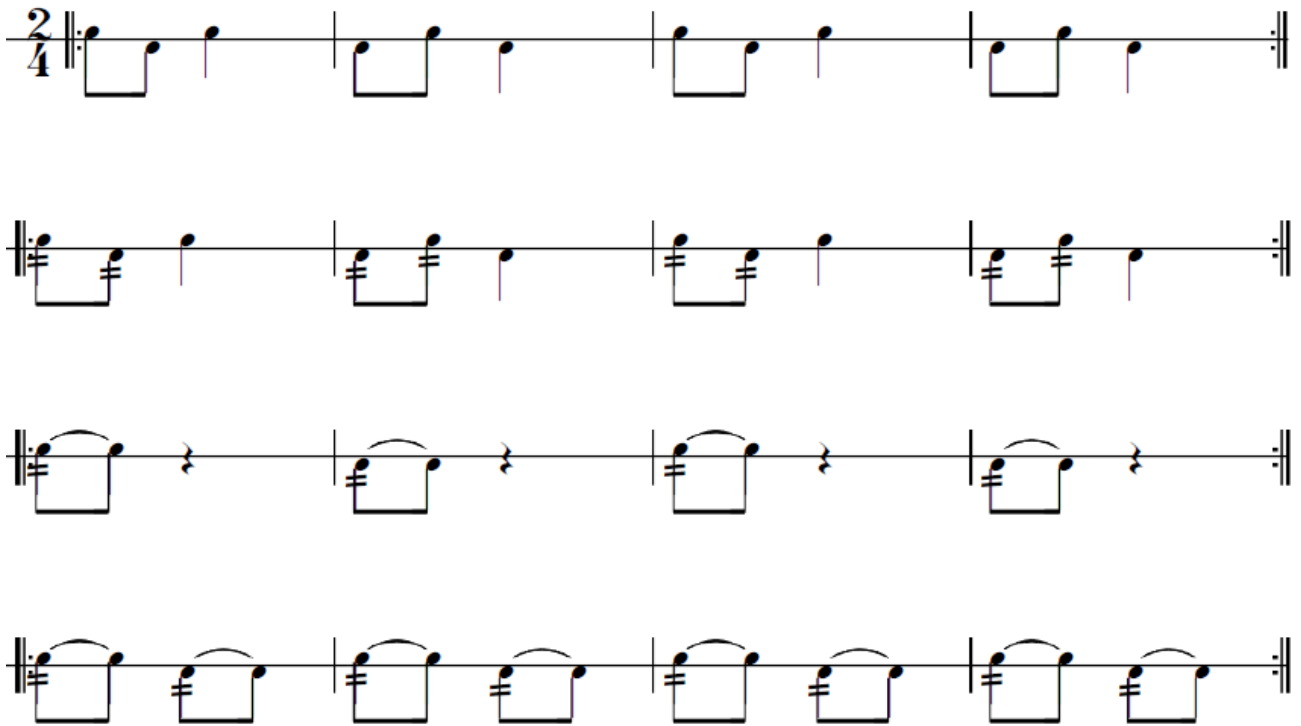
# Flams



# Buzzes

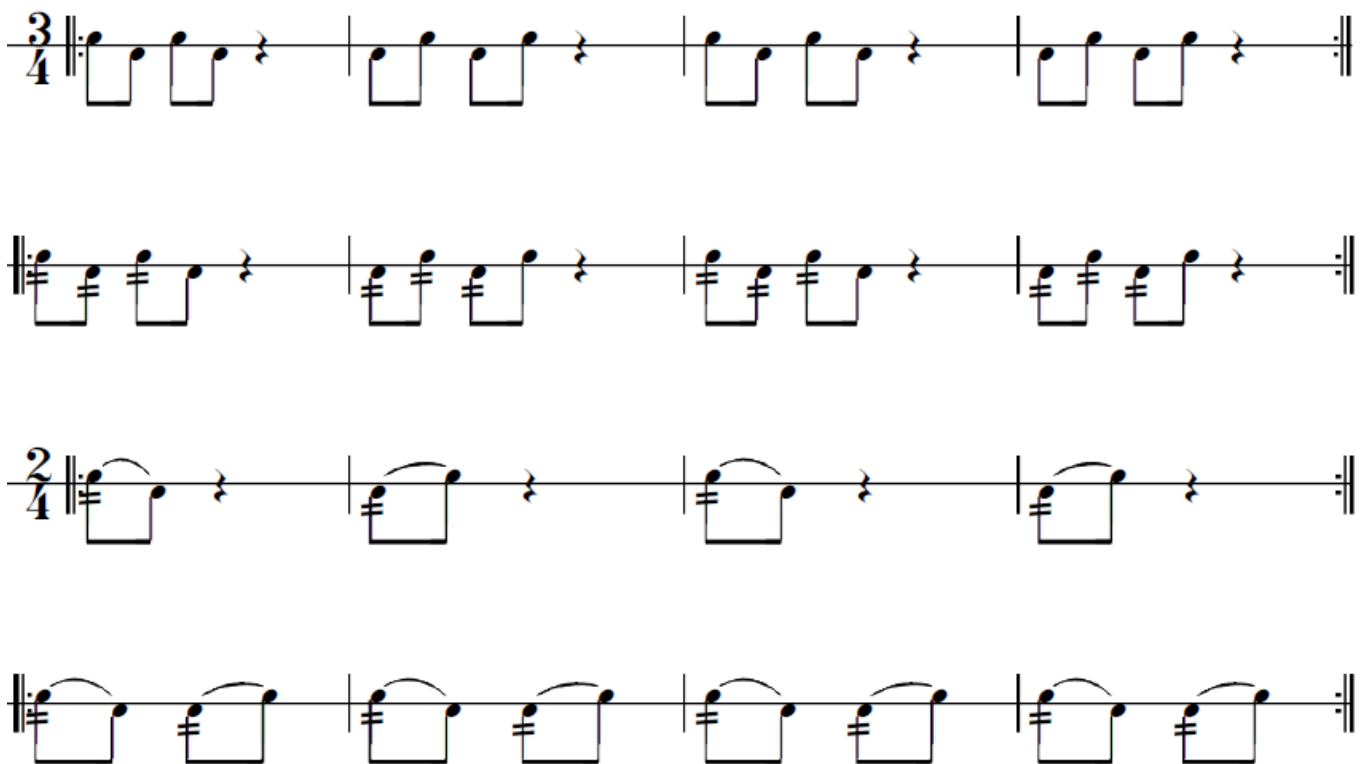


# 5 Stroke Roll



Musical notation for the 5 Stroke Roll, consisting of four staves. The first staff is in 2/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4. The second staff is in 3/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4. The third staff is in 3/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes with a slur over the first two notes and a fermata over the second note: C4, D4, E4, F4. The fourth staff is in 3/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes with a slur over the first two notes and a fermata over the second note: C4, D4, E4, F4.

# 7 Stroke Roll



Musical notation for the 7 Stroke Roll, consisting of four staves. The first staff is in 3/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4. The second staff is in 3/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4. The third staff is in 2/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes with a slur over the first two notes and a fermata over the second note: C4, D4, E4, F4. The fourth staff is in 2/4 time and contains four measures of quarter notes with a slur over the first two notes and a fermata over the second note: C4, D4, E4, F4.

# 9 Stroke Roll

The 9 Stroke Roll exercise is presented in 3/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains a sequence of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The second staff contains a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The third staff contains a sequence of quarter notes with a fermata over the first note: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The fourth staff contains a sequence of quarter notes with a fermata over the first note: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4.

# 13 Stroke Roll

The 13 Stroke Roll exercise is presented in 2/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth notes with a triplet bracket: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The second staff contains a sequence of eighth notes with a triplet bracket: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The third staff contains a sequence of quarter notes with a fermata over the first note: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The fourth staff contains a sequence of quarter notes with a fermata over the first note: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4.



Signed

# 3 Pace Rolls



# Triplets

2/4

First measure: two triplet eighth notes (marked with a '3' and a slur).  
Second measure: quarter note.  
Third measure: two triplet eighth notes (marked with a '3' and a slur).  
Fourth measure: quarter note.

Four measures of triplet eighth notes (marked with a '3' and a slur).

Empty musical staff with four measures.

Empty musical staff with four measures.

# Dot and Cut Triplets

The image displays six staves of musical notation, each containing four measures. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. The notation consists of eighth notes and quarter notes, with accents (>) placed above the first and second notes of each triplet. The notes are arranged in a sequence that alternates between eighth and quarter notes, creating a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes followed by quarter notes. The first two staves use a single treble clef, while the last four staves use a double treble clef. The notation is presented in a clean, black-and-white style with a white background.

# Dot and Cut Paradiddles

Musical notation for the first staff of a dot and cut paradiddle exercise in 2/4 time. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. It contains four measures of music, each starting with a repeat sign. The notes are quarter notes with stems pointing down, and each note has an accent (>) above it. The sequence of notes in each measure is: quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5.

Musical notation for the second staff of a dot and cut paradiddle exercise in 2/4 time. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. It contains four measures of music, each starting with a repeat sign. The notes are quarter notes with stems pointing down, and each note has an accent (>) above it. The sequence of notes in each measure is: quarter note C5, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4.

Musical notation for the third staff of a dot and cut paradiddle exercise in 2/4 time. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. It contains four measures of music, each starting with a repeat sign. The notes are quarter notes with stems pointing down, and each note has an accent (>) above it. The sequence of notes in each measure is: quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5.

An empty musical staff with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature, divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

An empty musical staff with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature, divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

An empty musical staff with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature, divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.