

READING RHYTHMS

Text and examples
by Norman Weinberg.

AS PROMISED, THIS month's column will be a special treat since June marks the first anniversary of *Reading Rhythms*. As a reader service, RHYTHM offers a supplementary package each month that contains seven drumkit exercises related to the notational values and figures presented during that month. As a special bonus, the booklet comes with a cassette tape which contains performances of every exercise at several different speeds, so you can apply your reading skills to the drumkit, compare your performances to the ones on the tape, or even play the exercises along with the tape. To give you an example of what you can expect from any of the supplements, this month I'm presenting four exercises from these additional materials.

The first exercise comes from Booklet Two (July '88). It focuses on several figures: groups of four sixteenth notes, the figures of two sixteenths and an eighth, and its close cousin — an eighth followed by two sixteenths.

In September '88, *Reading Rhythms* covered dotted and tied notes. The second example is Exercise #5 from the September booklet.

The third exercise, in 5/8 meter, is taken from the November '88 booklet covering various meters that use the eighth note as the value of the count. You should really have some fun with this one!

Last, but not least, is an exercise from Booklet Seven (November '88). This one is heavy into eighth note triplets.

In case you're wondering, each package containing the exercises and cassette tape, sells for \$5.00. You can order them directly from RHYTHM at the address listed in the masthead. Below is a complete listing of all the monthly booklets to date and the rhythms they cover.

1. June '88: Quarters, Quarter Rests, Groups of Two Eighths.
2. July '88: Sixteenths, Eighth Rests.
3. August '88: Sixteenth Rests.
4. September '88: Dots and Ties.
5. October '88: Odd Meters with a Quarter-Note Base.
6. November '88: Odd Meters with an Eighth-Note Base.
7. December '88: Eighth Triplets.
8. January '89: Quarter Triplets.
9. February '89: Syncopation.
10. March '89: Sixteenth Triplets.
11. April '89: Cut Time.
12. May '89: Thirty-second Notes.

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