Thank you for your interest in Palmetto Indoor Theatre! We want to make sure you can have as successful of an audition experience as possible, so we provided some guidelines to follow along with!

Auditions on cymbals will be majority in-person exercises that will be choreographed during audition camps. While this may be the case, we want you to make sure that you are familiar with certain terminology that will be thrown around during this process. Seavine's Cymbal Education online is an excellent free resource for cymbal players. We highly recommend becoming well acquainted with this information.

At the first audition, we will spend a majority of our time defining and teaching the foundations of our technique. This will include:

Playing positions: vertical, horizontal, etc.
Playing techniques: crashes, chokes, taps, sizzles, and other sounds.
Flips: variations, timing, pathways, quality of motion.
Short visual & musical phrases: unloads & reloads, simple to complex split patterns, visual sequences.

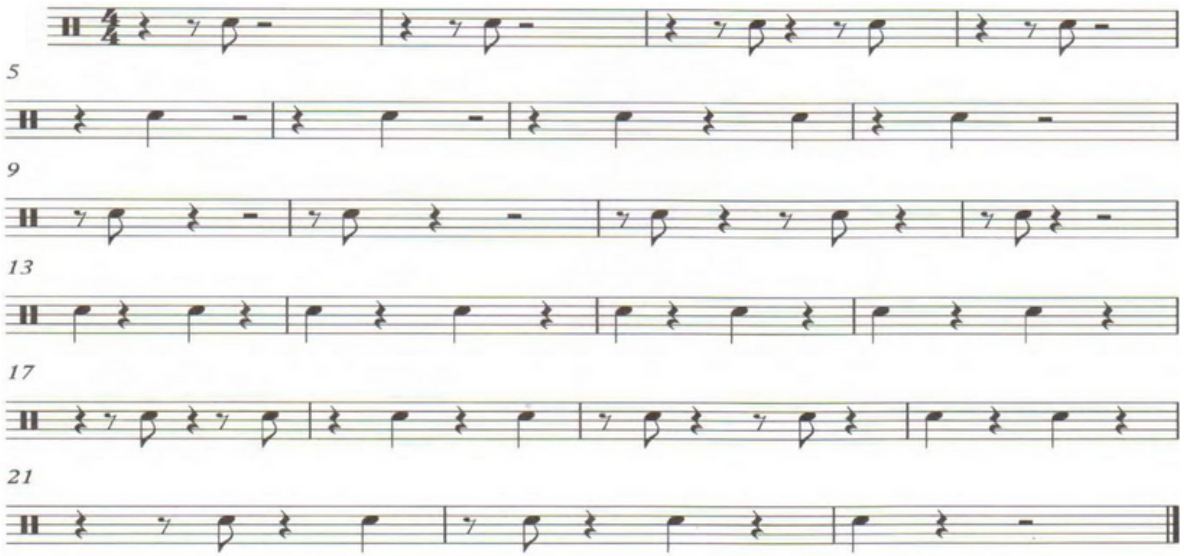
We will teach a few exercises that we use to break down and reinforce these visual and musical concepts

Included in this packet are 4 exercise/rhythm sheets. The first exercise starts with simple 8th note isolation ideas. Then some dotted quarter work. Next, a simple split exercise and the last exercise is a short warm-up, with various sounds and crashes involved.

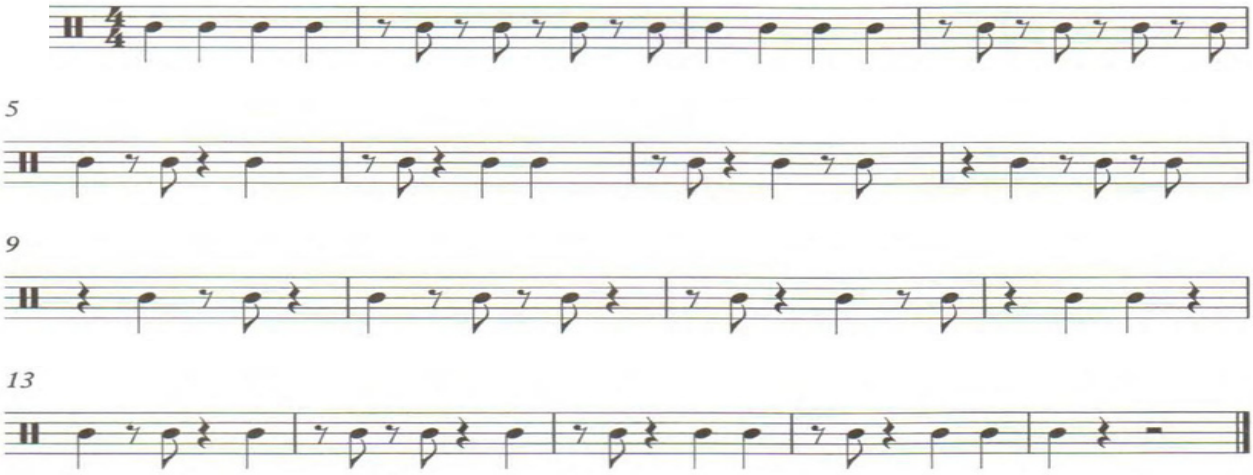
8th Note & Dotted Quarter Note Exercises
Practice these pieces starting at 140bpm, and work up in 10bpm increments to 150, 160, 170, and finish at 180. Play this at the Hi-Hat position.

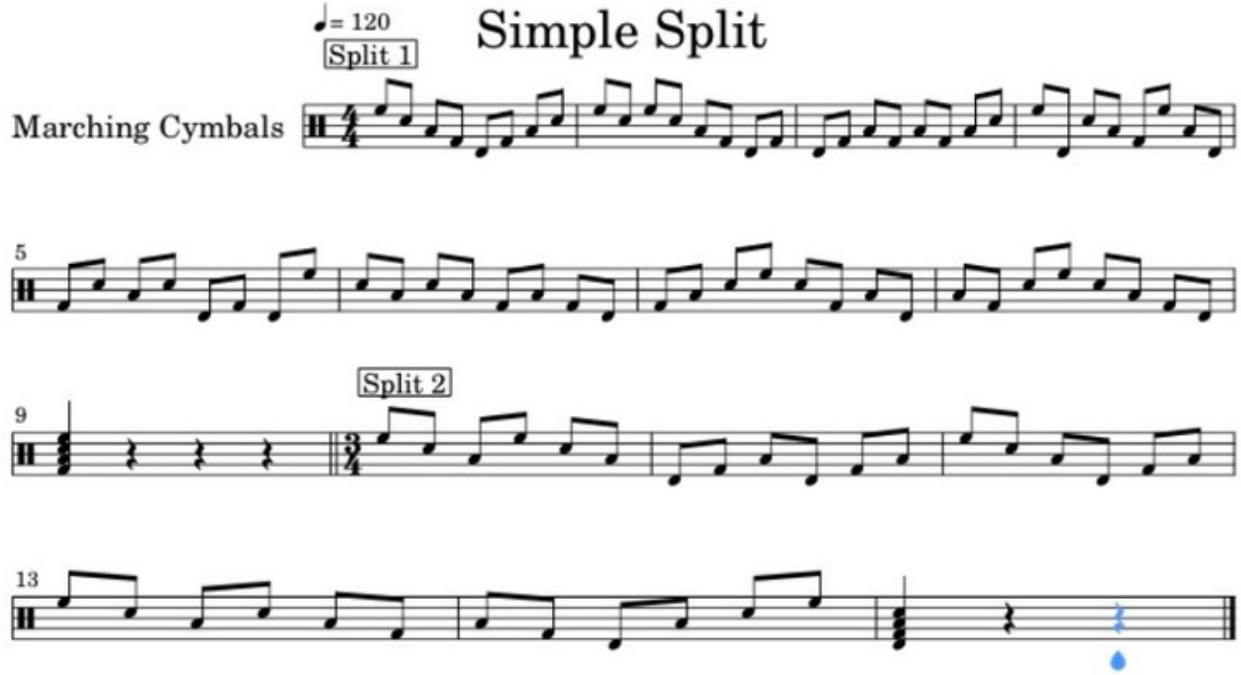
Simple Split & Paradiddal
Practice this piece at the same tempos as the previous exercises, but on this one, work staff by staff. For example, practice the entire 'E' staff, from measure 1 to the end of the piece, at all the tempos, and do the same for the 'C' staff, and again with the 'A' staff, and finish with the 'F' staff. So you will have one part at a time per repetition. Practice both pieces at hi-hat. We will add the correct sounds to Paradiddal later on.

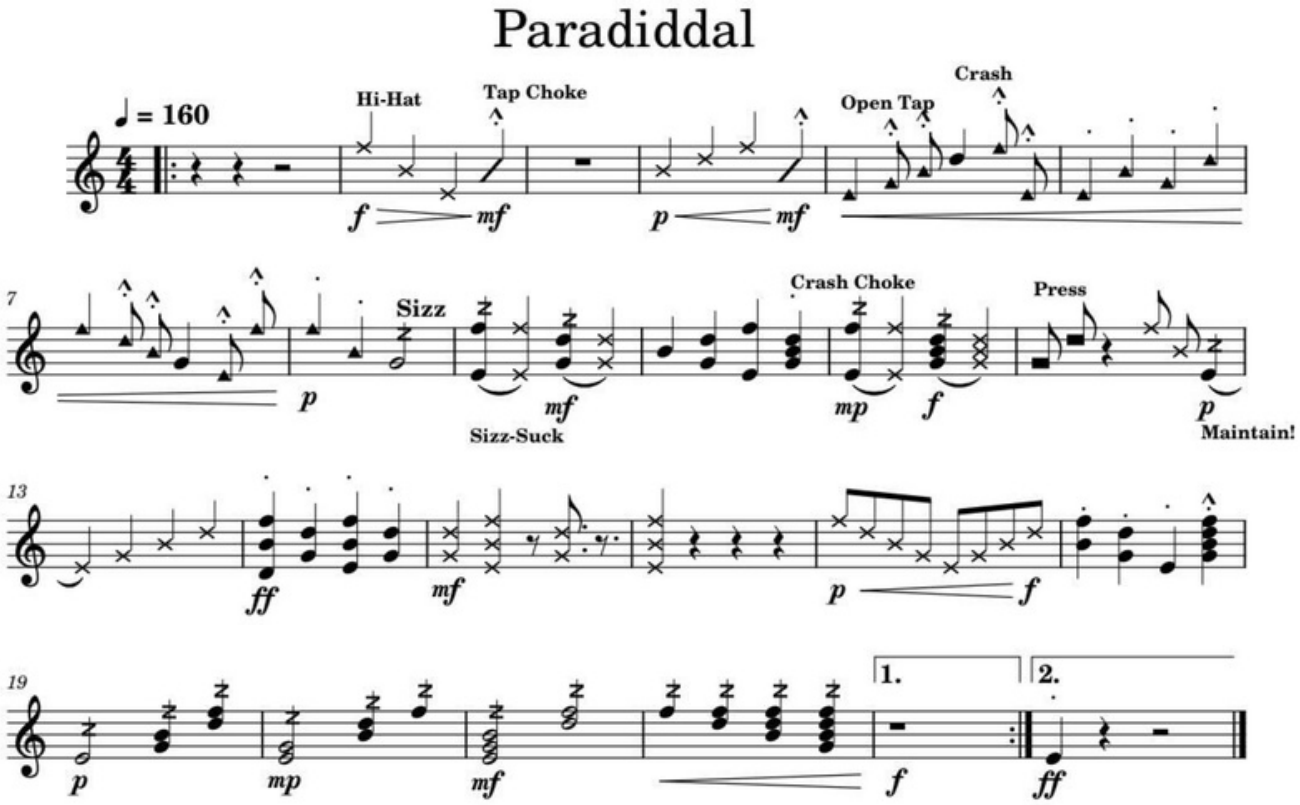
8th Note Exercise



Dotted Quarter Note Exercise




Simple Split
♩= 120
Split 1
Marching Cymbals
5
Split 2
9
13


Paradiddal
♩ = 160
Hi-Hat
Tap Choke
Open Tap
Crash
f
mf
p
mf
7
Sizz
Crash Choke
Press
p
mf
Sizz-Suck
mp
f
p
Maintain!
13
ff
mf
p
f
19
1.
2.
p
mp
mf
f
ff

Here are examples of just a few positions that we will be practicing at auditions:

Playing Positions:

1. Set – Cymbals are at the side but not resting on your body. These is a slight bend at the elbow. This will be the position we use when we are about to start a rep or exercise.

2. Hip Rest – This is mainly a transitional position that is part of an exercise that we use. Both cymbals are in front of your body making a "v" at your waist area.

3. Horizontal – Your cymbals are at a 45-degree angle to the left and placed at a comfortable distance in front of your body.

4. Vertical – The knots of your cymbals will be at eye level and are held out at a comfortable distance.

5. Tabletop – This is another transitional position that is used. Both cymbals are comfortably resting on your forearms and the palm of your hands completely flat. We will be using this position to go over a visual called a "crepe".