



2024

**FRONT ENSEMBLE
AUDITION PACKET**

Instinct 2024 Front Ensemble

Exercises & Technique

Description: The following exercises rely on knowledge and proficiency in all 12 Major scales and arpeggios. Every exercise has a brief description of what's expected as we play through each one.

Throughout the season, we may experiment and branch out into other keys or variations depending on members' range and ability.

Come prepared to every rehearsal with these things:

Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, water (1 gallon), small towel, deodorant, rehearsal notebook, pencil/eraser, binder & sheet protectors, printed packet, printed music (once you have it), and a healthy mindset for learning and teamwork!

For questions and comments, contact: *isabell.inbox@gmail.com*

JAWS

Variations: With 2 mallets, All forte, Staccato movement, Legato movement, With 4 mallets.

16ths Variation: As written except add Right hand lead m.4-5 then Left hand lead m.9-10.

As tempos speed up, move to edges for check bars (m.1 & m.6).

Vibraphones: Pedal every measure on count 1.

BPM Quarter note = 50 to 90

The musical score is written in 2/4 time and consists of 11 measures. The tempo is indicated as BPM Quarter note = 50 to 90. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 5, and the second system contains measures 6 through 11. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The dynamics are marked as *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 11.

Measure 1: *f*
Measure 2: *p*
Measure 3: *f*
Measure 4: *f*
Measure 5: *f*
Measure 6: *p*
Measure 7: *f*
Measure 8: *f*
Measure 9: *p*
Measure 10: *p*
Measure 11: *f*

MY FAVORITE

M.1 starts on the Left hand.
BPM Quarter note = 80 to 100

♩=80

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

2 OCTAVE ARPEGGIOS

All Major keys.

All mezzo forte: Get an even sound across all ranges of the keyboard.

Shaping: Natural on m.1-4, crescendo m.4-5, decrescendo m.6-7, natural shaping on m.8-11.

M.4 starts on the L hand. M.8 starts on the Right hand.

BPM Quarter note = 70 to 85

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 80 BPM. It consists of 11 measures across three staves. The first four measures (1-4) are chords: measure 1 has a whole note chord, measure 2 has a half note chord, measure 3 has a quarter note chord, and measure 4 has a quarter note chord. A repeat sign is placed after measure 4. Measure 5 begins the left-hand arpeggio with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes in measures 6 and 7. Measure 8 begins the right-hand arpeggio with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes in measures 9, 10, and 11. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 11.

WATERSHRED

Variations: All forte, Alternating 8th notes, 16th note permutations, Laterals in and out

Variations in Time Signatures & Modulations (TBD)

BPM Quarter note = 50 to 80

The musical score is written in 9/8 time with a tempo of 70 BPM. It consists of 8 measures of music, each containing a triplet of eighth notes. The notes are grouped into pairs of beamed eighth notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and one flat (Bb). The dynamics are marked as *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). The first measure is marked *f*. The second measure is marked *p*. The third measure is marked *f*. The fourth measure is marked *p*. The fifth measure is marked *f*. The sixth measure is marked *p*. The seventh measure is marked *f*. The eighth measure is marked *f*. The score includes slurs and accents over the notes.

Permutations:

13/24

14/23

24/13

1324

1423

2314

2413

3142

3241

4132

4231

Motion Vocabulary:

Full stroke

Downstroke

Upstroke

Tap

Independent

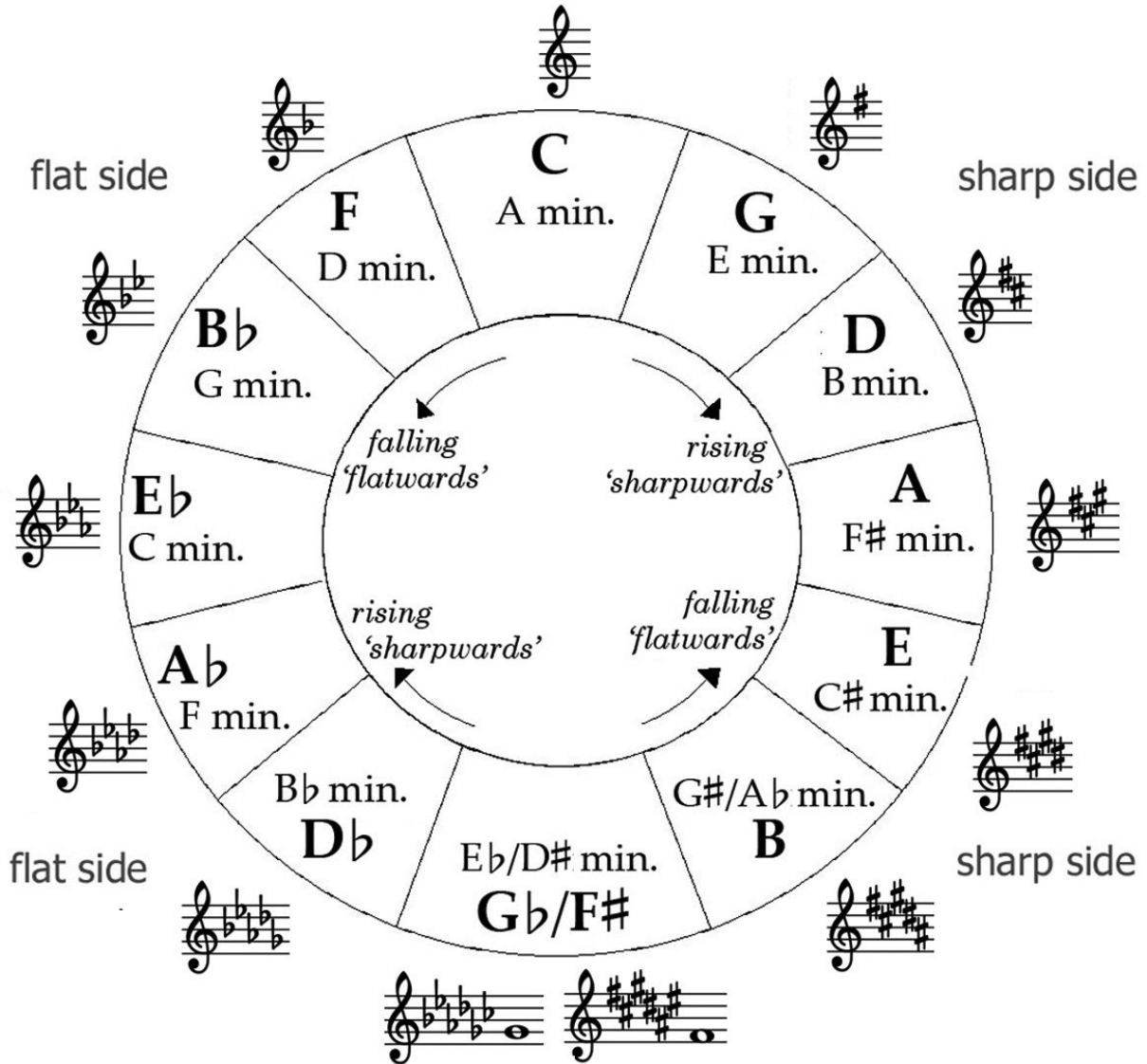
Vertical a.k.a. Block

Alternating

Double lateral

← Circle of Fourths

Circle of Fifths →



Additional Terms & Skills

Sound quality	Concert bass drum
Playing zone	Gong
Note accuracy	Crash cymbals
Front & Back Fulcrum	Cymbal rolls
Check pattern	Roll speed
Grid	Clapping on hands
Permutation	Splash choke
Subdivisions	Implement (noun)
Finger numbers 1-5	Tambourine
Mallet numbers 1-4	Triangles
Moeller motions	Windchimes
Verbalize rhythms & counts	Shakers
Burton cross grip	Castanets
Pulsing movement	Other accessory instruments

Technique

The following are examples of one method we'd like you to know. Several methods work well to play with good technique: with relaxed forms and lower impact stress on the hands.

We'd like you to have a good foundation in a few different methods to give you options to play well in a variety of musical contexts. Keep any methods you already know as options if they work for you.

2-Mallet Grip

Experiment with *placement* and *positioning* on your own time, and as you're figuring things out in rehearsal.

Aim for optimal sustainability of movement. You should be able to play at *forte* at a moderate tempo for quite a long time without feeling any sharp pains in the wrists/forearms/elbows/fingers/shoulders/back/anywhere really.

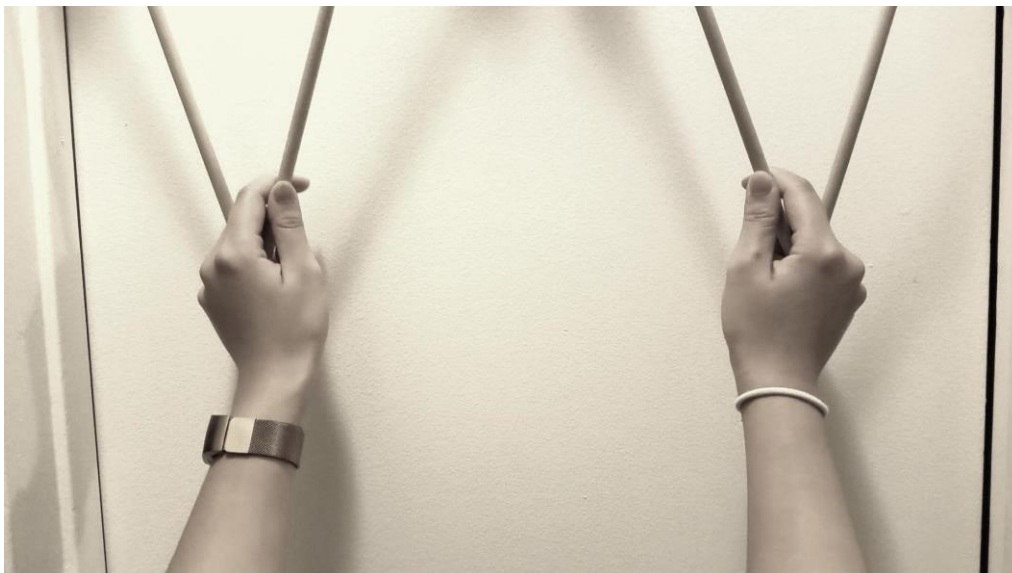
Grow your awareness of anywhere tension lies in your body, and breathe as you relax any tension areas. Let gravity command your shoulders.



4-Mallet Grip

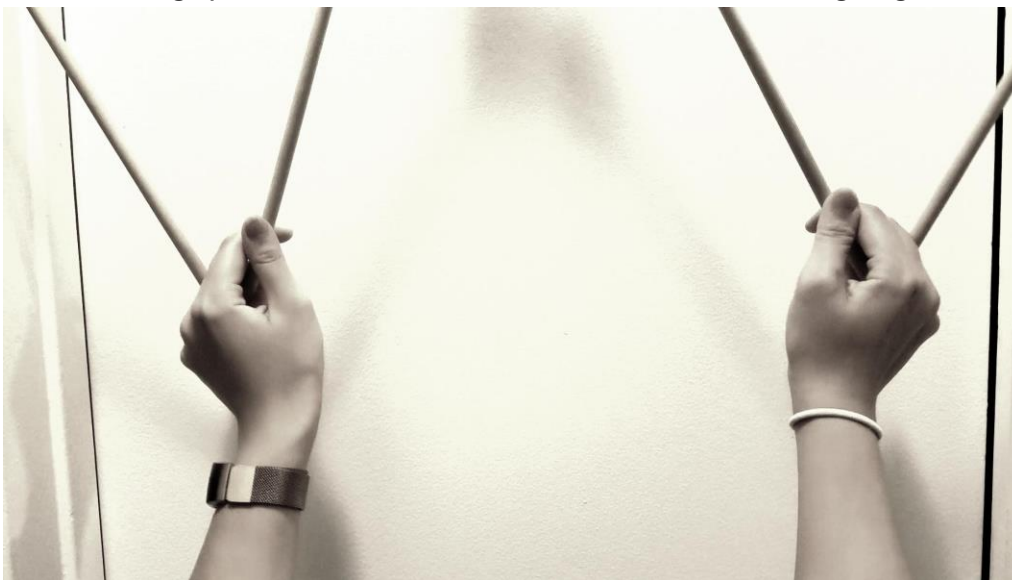
The Musser approach to independent 4-mallet technique allows the palm to spend a lot of time facing down. The purpose of that is so that most motions are as natural as possible.

Holding fifth intervals



Holding octave intervals

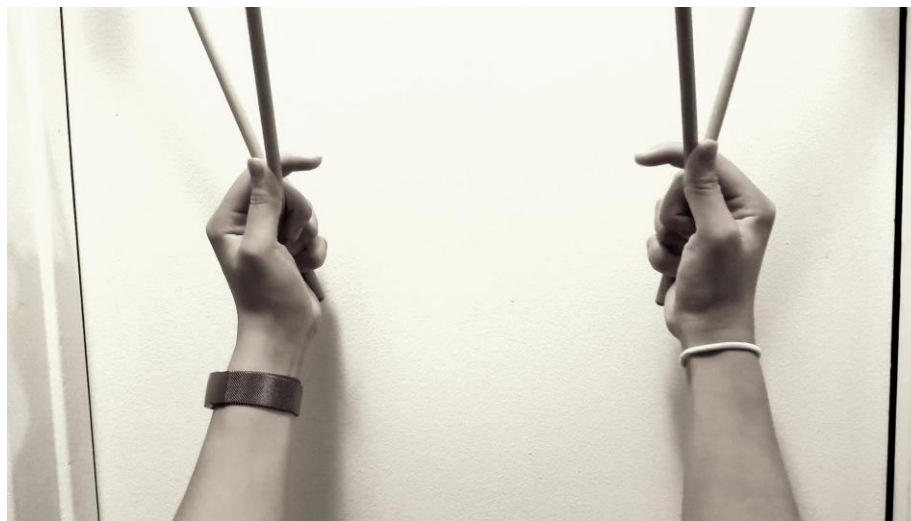
Lock extended grip - the base of the inside mallet meets the ring finger webbing



Holding seconds intervals



Inside mallets raised



Outside mallets raised

